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Saint Francis

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

A portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light brown hair, smiling slightly. He is wearing a dark navy blue suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a red tie with thin white diagonal stripes. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage.

Yours in the Bond

Jim Morhard '78 – his tale of survival

a message from the President

Yours in the Bond

Fr. Gabriel Zeis, T.O.R. '75

One can only imagine the bond that existed between the six founding friars who journeyed together from Ireland to establish an apostolate of Catholic education in the Allegheny Mountains that one day would be Saint Francis University. The work they accomplished can only be attributed to the bond of fraternity they brought to the task; no one person could have done this work. It took a community.

And it continues to take a community, a community of good faith, where all share in a common vision of goals and purpose to continue the work begun in 1847. It is evident over these one hundred sixty-six years that it is only through a community of faith, hope, and love that we can ever hope to fulfill this mission and I believe with all my heart that we do just this today.

"Yours in the bond" is a common closing used by the members of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity at Saint Francis University, but it is also a common sentiment shared by many in the Greek system of our University and others nationally. It speaks to the desire to remain close, to share a past, a present and a future. It speaks of a common pride in where we have been together and where we are going. When someone uses YITB and signs their name after it, it is an affirmation of connectedness and communal love.



In this issue of the *University Magazine* you will find stories about the power of this bond that can heal, transform and inspire. You will come to understand more clearly what we at Saint Francis University believe to be at the very root and heart of our being alumni, students, faculty, and staff. It means that we have not only shared in common experiences that have been significant to us all while attending Saint Francis University, but that we have encountered a common belief in the goodness we see in one another and the pride we have with those to whom we are bonded forever as members of this great community that is Saint Francis University.

I am so very proud to be yours in the bond; I am so very proud to be a member of this great community that is Saint Francis University. 🏡

EDITORIAL TEAM:

MARIE YOUNG | *Director of Marketing & Communications*

AMANDA STOEHR DRUMM '03, '08(M) | *Assistant Director of Marketing & Communications*

ANITA FUSCO BAUMANN '90 | *Director of Alumni Relations*

DESIGN & PRINTING:

FIREBRAND TRIBE | *Design*

GAZETTE PRINTERS | *Printing*

SEND STORY IDEAS TO:

Saint Francis University Magazine
c/o Office of Marketing & Communications
Saint Francis University
P.O. Box 600
Loretto, PA 15940-0600
(814) 472-3022
marketing@francis.edu

FOR ADDRESS CHANGES, CONTACT:

sfu-alumni-office@francis.edu
(814) 472-3015

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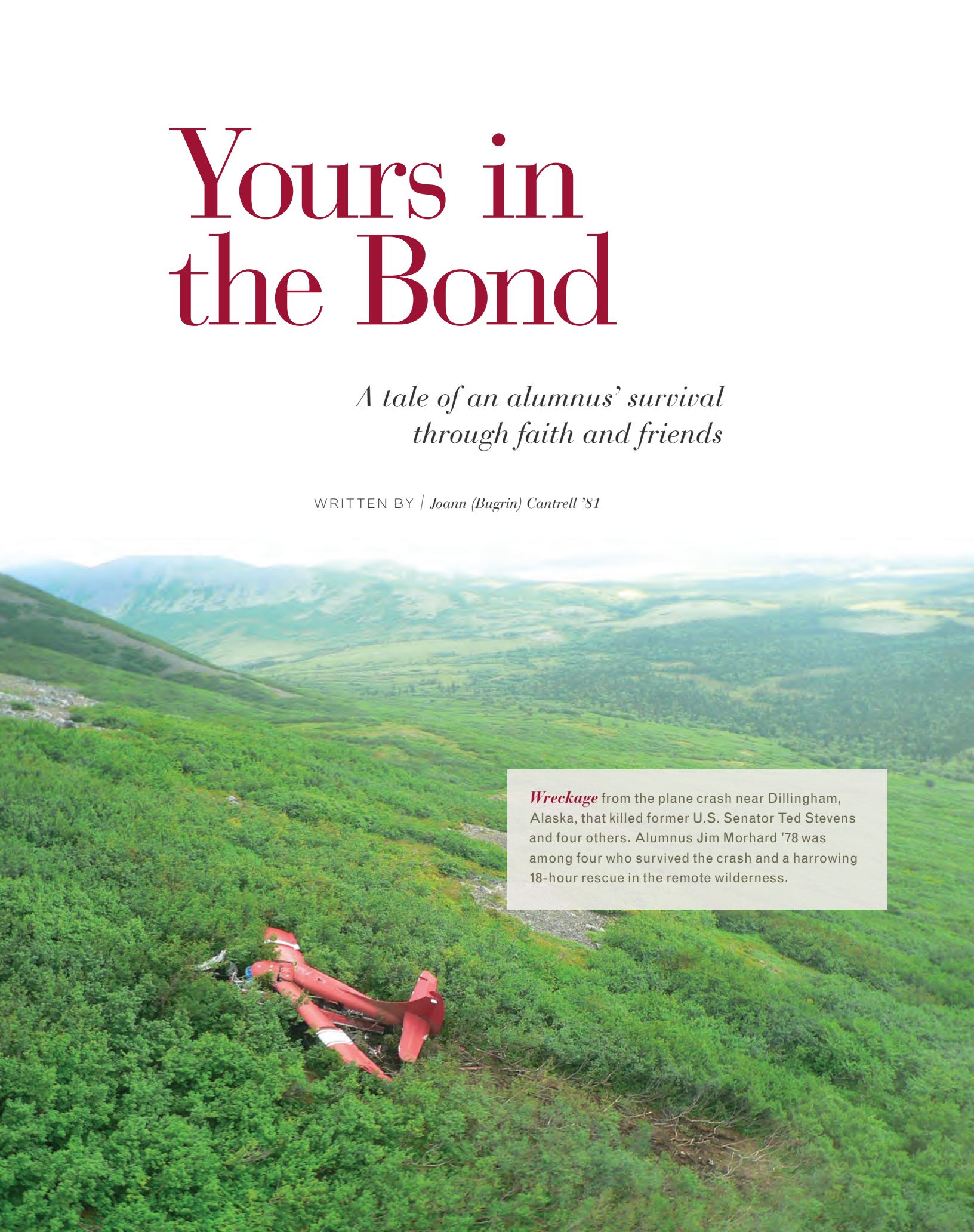
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Yours in the Bond

*A tale of an alumnus' survival
through faith and friends*

WRITTEN BY | Joann (Bugrin) Cantrell '81



Wreckage from the plane crash near Dillingham, Alaska, that killed former U.S. Senator Ted Stevens and four others. Alumnus Jim Morhard '78 was among four who survived the crash and a harrowing 18-hour rescue in the remote wilderness.



Jim Morhard and the late Senator Ted Stevens on a trip to China, just before boarding the high-speed “bullet train.”

By the time a rescue team finally reached the mangled wreckage from a plane crash on a desolate mountain-side near Dillingham, Alaska, spotty information was just reaching the East Coast.

As early news reports started to break on the morning of Tuesday, August 10, 2010, all that was confirmed was that former Alaska Senator Ted Stevens, the longest-serving Republican United States Senator in history, was killed in the accident and that Saint Francis alumnus **James Morhard Esq.** ’78, Saint Francis University Board of Trustee member, was a passenger on that flight.

Morhard’s close friends were all too familiar with his intense travel schedule and the high profiles he was associated with, yet a sick feeling hit John Libonati when he looked up to see a muted CNN report breaking the news from his Washington, D.C. office. He and Morhard were longtime friends, working together on Capitol Hill where Morhard had established 26 years of impressive congressional credentials

and served as Chief of Staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee prior to forming his own law firm and becoming an Adjunct Professor at the Naval Post Graduate School.

While managing a staff of 75, Morhard worked closely with House and Senate leadership and had become well-connected through the years to Ted Stevens, the President pro tempore, the former Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and one of the Senate’s most powerful members.

“I just knew,” said Libonati, a 23-year veteran of the Secret Service assigned to the Presidential Protective Detail for Ronald Reagan. “I knew right away without being told that Jim was on that plane – there was a pit in my stomach.”

Without hesitation, Libonati stopped at home to pack a light bag before driving to Arlington to be with Jim’s family. “Sketchy reports claimed that there were four alive and we realized there was a chance. For anyone who knew Jim, we had to believe in that chance.”

Tragedy strikes

A day earlier, on Monday, August 9, shortly after 3:00 p.m., Morhard and a group of close friends and colleagues boarded a 1957 DeHavilland DHC-3T propeller float plane and headed from a corporate lodge to a popular fishing camp on the Nushagak River, 52 miles away, in southwest Alaska. With high hopes of earning bragging rights for catching some arm-long silver salmon, each individual passenger was unaware that their random seat selection would seal their fate.

Unequipped with a radar system, 62-year-old veteran pilot Terry Smith waited for a break in the weather and flew the party of eight through the rain and wind, struggling as he guessed his way through the unstable air – far from ideal conditions, yet not uncommon to the region.

Without warning, minutes into the flight, in an untouched, desolate spot of the state, the single-engine plane plunged with such enormous impact into a rugged mountainside that it created a deep gash on the slope and hurled nine bodies and all contents of the aircraft forward. It was reported later that the passenger seats had been rated for 20 gs and all but one were completely sheared off.

The deafening silence that followed resonated in Morhard's own words as he described what he recollected: "One minute we were flying, and the next, we weren't."

In the minutes after the plane crash, Morhard's first moments of consciousness revealed his body on top Sean O'Keefe, now Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of EADS North America and former NASA Director. O'Keefe was still strapped in his seat, though uprooted in a forward and downward position and pinned in by miscellaneous bags, fishing equipment and mangled wreckage. The plane was stuck in an upward 30-degree angle. With all the strength he could muster, Morhard moved off of O'Keefe. His first thoughts were of Bill Phillips, his close friend and law partner, who lay dead next to him.

As Morhard was trapped with death around him, the words, "God is with me," came to him, almost as if he expected to see Him. Morhard recalled an incident years earlier when he was driving from the Capitol early in the morning on Interstate 95. He witnessed the car in front of him drift off of the highway and flip in mid-air, landing at the bottom of an embankment. When Morhard stopped and ran to the overturned car, the driver got out from under the car and said, "God is with me, right here – right now." Now Morhard had another opportunity to witness God's plan in

action but this time, it was his turn to feel the impact.

Knowing that Sean O'Keefe had very little room, Morhard grabbed his jacket, climbed over him and started to slide head first to the back of the plane where he would remain for the 17 ½ hours that followed.

Almost simultaneously, it became apparent through observation that the cockpit had been blown apart and the bodies of five passengers who had been catapulted from their origin had perished. Morhard knew that Bill Phillips died on impact, along with his other law partner and mentor, former Alaska Senator Ted Stevens; pilot Terry Smith; executive Dana Tindall and her 16-year-old daughter, Corey.

"One minute we were flying,
and the next, we weren't."

—James Morhard Esq. '78

A roll call confirmed O'Keefe and his 19-year-old son, Kevin and 13-year-old Willy Phillips as the only others to survive, all with a multitude of broken bones and the inability to move. Despite a shattered ankle, the youngest became the only one able to crawl through the wreckage in search of a radio, phone or medical kit, to no avail.

As if the dire situation could get no worse, the cold fact was that no one else knew at the time that the plane was missing.

As the reality of Bill Phillips' death hit his son, Willy, he quietly asked Morhard if his father was really gone. Morhard calmly confirmed the truth and suggested that he and Willy say the Rosary together. Soon after, all four men, who were Roman Catholic, were saying Our Fathers and Hail Marys to the sound of rain echoing through the fuselage. At the same time, Morhard was searching in his mind for the next Mystery so that there would be no pause for Willy.

Four hours passed before the operators at the lodge where the group had flown from called the fish camp to inquire when the party would be returning for dinner. The men at the fishing camp had assumed that the bad weather had turned the plane around and only now, at 6:00 p.m., was it discovered that the group had taken off, but never showed up to fish.

Rescue efforts begin

In large part, credit for the rescue was given to the youngest passenger on the flight, 13-year-old Willy Phillips, who had pushed his hand out of the broken fuselage and waved to a search plane passing overhead. At first glance from the air, rescuers would otherwise have assumed there were no survivors and efforts to reach the wreckage would have been delayed had they not seen his moving hand.

“We could hear the planes get close and then far away and the expectations and emotions would rise and fall with the noise level of the planes because we knew they were looking for us,” Morhard said.

The 6 hour time difference between Alaskan and Eastern Time zones made for difficult communication for Morhard’s family, friends and colleagues. Initial news reports claimed that along with Senator Stevens, one of his former congressional aides was among the four others killed in the crash. That confirmation meant that it was either Bill Phillips or Jim Morhard.

Katherine Gronberg, an Associate at the law firm Morhard & Associates, was vacationing in Maine and was 7 ½ months pregnant when she learned about the accident. The firm represented and advised a number of high-profile clients from the defense, aviation and homeland security sectors. Once news reports went public, it didn’t take long until Gronberg was bombarded with inquiries from the media.

“When I became bogged down with phone calls, I went across the street to the home where my parents were also vacationing, and I met my father in the street as he was on his way to see me. He was ghost-white and consumed with grief, assuming that Jim was dead. My family didn’t know him personally, but in their minds, Jim was my boss, my mentor, and the one responsible for my professional success. You could not find a better person than Jim and he is like a member of our family. They have so much respect and admiration for him, that when decisions need to be made, a common phrase has become, ‘What would Jim do?’ I can hardly remember that difficult day because it was so emotionally draining that I couldn’t come to terms with thoughts of his death.”

Back in Alaska, by the time first responders landed by helicopter nearly 1,000 feet above the crash site, six hours had passed since the plane crashed and nightfall was quickly approaching. In grave danger themselves, responders had to make their way through the rain-soaked thick woods, over giant boulders and through dense undergrowth while



(L to R) Jim Morhard, the late Senator Ted Stevens and Jim Mulva, chairman and CEO of ConocoPhillips on a fishing trip on the Kenai River in Alaska.

conditions continued to deteriorate. Worse, bears – some weighing nearly 1,500 pounds and standing over 10 feet tall – lived in the wilderness surrounding the crash site. To navigate through the rough terrain without being able to see the plane or know the exact location from the ground was a next to impossible task for even the most skilled rescue team.

And reaching the four survivors was only half of the battle. Getting them out alive would take nothing short of a miracle.

The scene was a living hell accompanied by the worst imaginable emotions for the four survivors while in their midst, their five companions lay dead in the mangled fuselage of the small plane. One of the first responders described the horror of seeing passengers still strapped in their seats covered in blood amidst the mangled debris of the wreckage. The nose of the plane disintegrated and the front of the aircraft was gone. The few ill-equipped responders spent the miserable night tending to survivors’ broken bones and injuries without the assistance of drugs, all the while amid a huge slick of fuel that coated a muddy mountainside.

“I could hear the rain. I could smell the jet fuel and the blood,” Morhard recalls, “And as the morning wore on, the smell of death engulfed the wreckage.” Thoughts of his own imminent death were prevalent during the long night. He

“They say where there is faith, there is no room for fear, and for whatever reasons, I was not afraid to die.”

—Morhard

remembers thinking, “I am either paralyzed or I am dying.”

The constant fight to remain conscious was combined with the more pressing battle to stay alive.

Aircrafts flying in the area of Dillingham, Alaska are in danger through the mountainous area even in good weather, but that fateful night in August was exceptionally rainy and cold with gusty winds. It was believed that the passengers’ hip-waders for fishing acted as an insulator, keeping body heat in and protected them when they went into shock as temperatures dropped into the 40s overnight.

Stuck in the rear cargo area with his head pointing downward since the impact, Morhard floated in and out of consciousness. Later, it was found that Morhard broke his neck, heel, 16 ribs, breast plate, and left arm. His left wrist was shattered into 20 to 30 pieces. He had multiple puncture wounds from flying metal. His right lung was collapsed and his left lung half full of blood. Breathing had become his greatest challenge. By midnight, nearly 9 hours after the crash, a disheartening verdict came in that it would be impossible for a fully equipped team of rescue workers to reach the scene until the next morning.

Dr. Dani Bowman was one of the heroic first responders. She spent the night tending to the living. Later, Dani would tell Morhard that her real concern had been his breathing and that she had considered using the knife in her pocket to bleed out his lungs. When the Air National Guard paramedics finally roped down from a hovering chopper at daybreak with the desperately needed supplies and equipment to airlift the injured, the survivors had been stranded for 18 hours.

A full day after the collision on the mountain, Morhard and the other survivors were flown first to a hospital in Dillingham, and then nearly 400 miles to Providence Hospital in Anchorage. Morhard’s long journey back to life was only just beginning.

The road to recovery

When John Libonati arrived in Alaska with Morhard’s family, the dark and dismal backdrop immediately set the tone of the critical circumstance. “We were greeted by a hospital

administrator and given a briefing about Jim’s injuries and it was absolutely amazing that when we saw him, he was conscious,” Libonati said.

“Jim was able to make eye contact and talk. I found it incredible that from those first moments, he was the one comforting everyone else. That is the remarkable man that Jim is! With all he had been through, he still had the ability to offer comfort with smile. You simply cannot meet a more unselfish human being.”

Libonati continued to say, “Clearly, there’s no doubt that his faith got him through this. He refused to be a victim, putting himself in God’s hands and repeatedly saying that he knew God had a plan.”

Morhard later discussed the foundation of his faith. “There is no question that much of my faith was quietly instilled in me at Saint Francis by the TORs such as **Father Richard Davis** and **Father Joseph Yelenc**,” he said. “It gave me such a resolve in that plane, while death was so very near. I peacefully knew I would be alright either way – live or die. They say where there is faith, there is no room for fear, and for whatever reasons I was not afraid to die.”

“Thirty years before, those two priests especially lead by example and we, as young men, followed. I remember Fr. Joe was our Resident Director at Giles Hall. He welcomed everyone to visit him after we were done studying. Before long he had us going to the noon Mass at the Chapel,” Morhard reflects.

“For some it may have been to get him to laugh while giving his homily – but one way or the other we were there looking forward to Mass and benefitting spiritually. Fr. Richard was the same, as he slowly infiltrated his way and God’s Word into the TKE house – which at the time needed both. There is no question that the influence of these men at Saint Francis prepared me for the event of the crash.”

In the immediate days that followed in the Anchorage hospital, thoughts of the close friends he lost and their grieving families weighed heavy on Morhard’s mind. The plane crash became a very charged and public story.

Regardless of his critical injuries, Morhard was insistent

on attending the funerals in Anchorage including Senator Stevens'. The former Senator was like a father-figure to Jim who persisted on being there to comfort others. When asked once about their relationship, Stevens described Morhard as "One of the truest great gentleman I have worked with all my life. He is absolutely loyal to the Senate and its processes."

For many of Morhard's friends from Saint Francis, the televised funeral became an emotional thanksgiving at the sight of a dear friend feared to have been lost. It was apparent how much Morhard meant to the Saint Francis community as many joined together in spirit and prayer, remembering the bonds that were formed as students.

"The funeral was the first glimpse of the magnitude of Jim's injuries as he was shown in the front row, in his wheelchair. He was banged up and bandaged almost beyond recognition and you could feel his pain both physically and spiritually through the television screen," said alumni and friend **Tinsy Labrie Lipchak '80**.

Almost a footnote to the many news stories, slight mention of Morhard included various depictions: a fisherman, an outdoorsman, a Washington lawyer, a former Appropriations Chief of Staff and an appropriator. And while Morhard fit all of those descriptions, the essence of his character was missing. The depictions did not capture the larger-than-life personality of a lifelong, loyal friend.

A TKE brother remembers

Art Cantrell '79 has known Jim for more than 35 years and remembers his leadership and strong character with fond memories.

"When I learned that Jim was in the plane crash, my heart literally sunk. I met Jim as I walked into my dorm in Giles Hall, on my first day of my freshman year, in September of 1975. My very first impression was that he was a leader – more mature and centered than most of us at that young age. Very friendly and outgoing, Jim had an irrepressible energy about him," Cantrell said. "We were brothers in the TKE fraternity, where Jim served as president and he became someone looked up to by everyone. Our bond of friendship grew even stronger, beginning with our first jobs out of college when Jim worked at the Pentagon and I was an officer in the USAF. Jim's passion for politics and interest in serving our country was present early on and continues today with his intuitive expertise and insightful knowledge on National Security. Jim is, no doubt, one of the most interesting and fascinating

people I've ever met. If a trial like the horrific accident is a true testament to character, I can say without reservation that even when Jim was suffering badly, he was always thinking of others. "

Another lifelong friend and fraternity brother, **Mike Corless '78** fondly remembers spending time with Morhard at Saint Francis.

"So many people have been made richer by knowing Jim Morhard," Corless said. "I initially pledged TKE simply for the food and our pledge class was a conglomerate of many different types – jocks, intellectuals, introverts and extroverts. Some were locals and others were from D.C. or Philly,

"I can say without reservation that even when Jim was suffering badly, he was always thinking of others."

—*Art Cantrell '79*

so I never imagined we would become very close during our college years and certainly not after graduation. However, Jim became TKE president and was the keystone in making sure that all those different personalities meshed together. I would say that because of Jim, our class has remained to be close friends for more than three decades. When we learned of his accident, a chain of e-mails, phone calls and a Caring Bridge Web site that was set up continually kept us all informed and you could feel the bond of our friendship with him. I knew that if anyone could be a survivor, it would be Jim."

Throughout his own physical sufferings, what was amazing to Morhard's family and friends was his unmatched resolve to be a source of strength and support to others and it was clear from the beginning that he was focused on mustering all of his energy for recovery. On August 21, less than two weeks after the accident, arrangements were made for Morhard to move from Anchorage to the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, D.C., one of the top facilities for physical rehabilitation in the country.

With so many friends and colleagues anxiously awaiting



Alumni friends reunited with Jim in Pittsburgh after his accident. Back row: **Marie (Tanda) Dixon '80**; **Art Cantrell '79**; **Mike Corless '78**; Beth Corless; Darlene and **John Schaffer '78**. Front row: **Joann (Bugrin) Cantrell '81**; **Jim Morhard '78** and **Tinsy (Labrie) Lipchak '80**.

Morhard's arrival, Joel Maiola planned his homecoming which could hardly take place inconspicuously. The two met when Maiola was the Chief of Staff for former U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, and through the years of working together, he had become perhaps Morhard's closest confidant.

"The day I learned of the plane crash was truly the longest day of my life," Maiola said. Distraught and tormented by waiting for news, Maiola contemplated all of the possible scenarios that could play out and poured his heart out by writing a premature eulogy for his best friend.

Jim Morhard's miraculous survival became a major press story. It became a media circus with Morhard's family being hounded by the networks, staff from the Oprah Winfrey Show, and journalists wanting to interview him as a survivor. When it came time for Morhard's return, Maiola flew to Washington to prepare for his arrival.

"There were 60 to 80 people who had come by to welcome him, not only his friends, but people all the way back through Jim's life who had been on the edge of their seats and just wanted to see him," Maiola recalled. "The medical professionals who were transporting him advised against it, but Jim was insistent on greeting everyone. Here is a guy who crashes in a plane and breaks just about every bone in his body and he's taking the time to make sure he reaches out to everyone who supported him. The trauma that Jim endured was

extraordinary and yet, those who are closest to him say that the event galvanized his spirit."

What few people knew was that Morhard had gone into atrial fibrillation on the plane somewhere over the Dakotas and the last thing he should do was to greet his friends. In Morhard's mind, passing up the opportunity to see his dear friends was not an option.

"He was a rock," Maiola continued. Therapy and rehab became almost a competition for Jim to get better. He had great therapists and an aggressive schedule, yet he was pushing himself on his own. The staff was amazed at how much he progressed in only a few days. Jim was treating this as if it was the Olympics and he was going to win!"

A transformational experience

The tragedy of the plane crash in Alaska has changed the rest of Jim Morhard's life. His friends have witnessed first-hand how he has found ways to turn the event into a life lesson, keeping a clear perspective by remaining positive. He is not one to dwell on the magnitude of his challenges.

Long before the accident, Morhard was known as a warm and sincere friend, speaking to everyone and listening about their life as if they were the most important person to him. Putting others first has become almost a vocation for Jim as reaching out and helping others has innately been part of his

“The way he told it and the incredible, intimate details of what he experienced and saw that night will stay with him and everyone that sat riveted around the table. He was open, honest and his faith was palpable.”

—Tinsy Labrie Lipchak '80

make up since his days as a young collegiate. Those familiar with Morhard from his years at Saint Francis know that he carries a special place in his heart for his alma mater and the bonds of friendship made there.

“He shares stories of his friends and the time spent at Saint Francis with everyone he meets, always speaking so highly of the school and the people he met there,” Maiola said. “It is evident in his conversations that the University has obviously meant a lot to Jim and he holds a special spot in his heart for Saint Francis as it has played a major part of his shaping.”

In his own quiet way, Morhard has always brought people together and connected individuals for good cause. After the accident, he contacted some of his fraternity brothers and close friends living in Pittsburgh to reunite. Over dinner, the friends learned the harrowing details of the accident and were inspired by his fortitude. It was evident that only a man of faith and conviction could have braved such trauma.

“Jim told us his story of that trip to Alaska, a story he had told, and will tell, many times. It was bone chilling,” said Tinsy Lipchak. “But the way he told it and the incredible, intimate details of what he experienced and saw that night will stay with him and everyone that sat riveted around the table. He was open, honest and his faith was palpable.”

Morhard summarized his experience with the strong belief, “I am damaged, but not broken.”

Morhard has transformed the events of the plane crash in Alaska into a way to help others in an open and honest way. One could say that he has become a motivational figure, yet everyone who has had the privilege of knowing Jim has always seen him that way. In his professional career, he’s developed solid relationships and close friendships, never differentiating between one’s political party affiliation. He is someone who could give strong advice and counsel and where ever he goes, people are inspired by him. His positive outlook and message of hope resonates with everyone.


Perseverance and faith

Jim Morhard has been described as “a man for others” who has lived a life of public service. His unbelievable and miraculous story is a remarkable tale of perseverance and faith that exemplifies the Franciscan values that had roots with the education received in Loretto more than three decades ago. One of the real miracles is that he is back to living a normal life – even a more accelerated life than most.

“Jim has an inner drive to do what is right and to serve,” said Katherine Gronberg. “I don’t know anyone who can match Jim in character. He’s young and healthy, and has much more guidance and service to offer. Jim is one of the greatest patriots that I’ve ever met and he has great potential as a leader.”

It may be ironic to learn that over a century ago, the founders of Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) developed the fraternity on the concept of acceptance. The spirit of inclusiveness and belief in the duty to assist others in reaching their highest potential was taken to heart by Morhard when he served as president of the Saint Francis chapter 35 years ago. It is only fitting that he continues to use the fraternity signature “yours in the bond,” when corresponding with classmates.

Jim Morhard’s unrivalled public service and stalwart desire to give back has not diminished and he has not allowed the pain or struggles from the plane crash in Alaska to dampen his enthusiasm for life. He is a grateful man who has overcome his trials by the sheer force of his personality, leaning on the support of others who have come to know and love him. How fortunate for all that he continues to seize life, agreeing with the words of author Hunter S. Thompson:

“Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming “Wow! What a ride!” 

A Farewell to our President

Fr. Gabriel Zeis, T.O.R. '75, completes his tenure as University President on June 30

The Saint Francis University community is preparing to say goodbye to our president, Fr. Gabriel Zeis, T.O.R. '75, at the end of this academic year. When Fr. Zeis took the helm as president of his alma mater in 2004, he did so with a strong vision of where he could lead the university within the next decade. Now nine years later, that early vision has solidified into a series of institutional accomplishments that will allow him to confidently transition the leadership role to a new president on June 30, 2013.

Inaugurated on October 23, 2004, Fr. Zeis succeeded Fr. Christian Oravec, T.O.R., and the University's 31st president. In the years that have followed, Fr. Zeis has focused on building upon the University's reputation for academic excellence while undertaking an ambitious capital campaign to support that mission.

"I am touched by the fact that I have been able to serve my alma mater and my Order in such a profound way," said Fr. Zeis. "It is humbling to watch our students become strengthened by their time here, and to know that the path that we have created as an institution will continue to strengthen students for many years to come."

Fr. Zeis has served as an agent of change on campus long before

beginning his presidency. From 1980 to 1987, he was a member of the Religious Studies Department at what was then Saint Francis College. During that time he developed the Outreach Program and was the first director of the University's Dorothy Day Center.

During his tenure as president, Fr. Zeis has overseen a period of strategic growth that has resulted in dramatic increases in both enrollment numbers and endowment value. From 2005 to 2011 the University's total enrollment increased from 2,022 to approximately 2,440 students. In roughly that same period, the market value of the University's endowment assets rose from \$17.5 million to \$37.4 million.


In terms of increasing academic distinctiveness, Fr. Zeis led the formation of a prominent academic school system comprised of the Schools of Arts & Letters, Business, Health Sciences, and Sciences. He also played an instrumental role in fundraising for academic facilities to enhance the school structure through the ongoing *Capital Campaign for Saint Francis University: Called to Serve...Fulfilling the Promise*.

The campaign has resulted in the addition of two new academic spaces: the 30,000 square-foot Joseph and Marguerite DiSepio Institute for Rural



Fr. Gabriel, T.O.R. '75
President of
Saint Francis University

Health and Wellness in 2009 and a new 70,000 square-foot Science Center to house the programs within the School of Sciences, slated to open for fall 2013. Additional renovated/expanded academic spaces are planned for each of the other schools as funds become available through the campaign.

Fr. Nicholas Polichnowski, T.O.R., chairman of the University's Board of Trustees and the minister provincial of the Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., Province of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, which founded the University in 1847, explained that the next president will be chosen from among the priests and brothers of the 139-member province. 

Addition *by Division:*

*English, Communication Arts & Foreign Languages
Department splits into separate units*

WRITTEN BY | *Pat Farabaugh, assistant professor of communications*

On Aug. 17, 1850, the “Saint Francis Academy for Boys” ran an advertisement in the *Pittsburgh Catholic*, the nation’s oldest Catholic newspaper. It read in part:

“This Institution will, on the first Monday in September, be opened for the reception of pupils, who will be instructed in any or all of the following branches of an elementary and liberal education: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English, Grammar, Ancient and Modern Geography, Use of Globes, Elements of Natural Philosophy, Ancient and Modern History, Book-keeping, a full course of Mathematics and of the Greek and Latin Classics ...”

While almost 163 years have passed since this ad ran in the *Pittsburgh Catholic*, Saint Francis remains dedicated to educating students in these disciplines. Looking specifically at two of the three “R’s of Education” – reading and writing – the University recently demonstrated its commitment

to rigorous instruction in these areas.

In September, **Provost Wayne Powell** announced that the University’s English, Communication Arts & Foreign Languages Department would be splitting into two stand-alone units – the Literature & Languages Department and the Communications Department.

The announcement was met with enthusiasm by faculty, students and alumni, including longtime communication arts instructor **Donna Menis**, who served as chair of the English, Communication Arts & Foreign Languages Department since 1998. A Saint Francis faculty member since 1978, Menis was elected chair of the newly formed Communications Department by a vote of that department’s faculty shortly after Powell announced the split.

“It opens the door for all kinds of possibilities,” said Menis, who also serves as director of the University’s



One department becomes two in an effort to provide enhanced learning opportunities.



Then: An editorial team, headed by **Grant Limegrover** and **Robert T. Maples**, publish a 1942 edition of the student newspaper, then called *The Loretto*.

Honors Program. “Splitting into two departments has been discussed for some time. We resisted it initially, partly because the English preparation is a strong background for communications students. We also liked working closely with our (English) colleagues. There is some separation anxiety now, although in many ways we are still together – in proximity and in spirit.

“But it made all kinds of sense to make this move. In order to do what we want to do in communications, we couldn’t do it with the number of credits we were having our students complete in English.”

Strategy for success

The division of the two departments was recommended to Powel and other members of the Saint Francis administration by Performa Higher Education. The North Carolina-based consulting firm conducted an 18-month institutional effectiveness study of Saint Francis before making recommendations on how the school might more effectively and efficiently meet its mission.

“Our goal is to provide both departments with the independence they need to grow,” said **Tim Whisler**, dean of the University’s School of Arts and

Letters. “We want to provide more professional development opportunities for our professors in both disciplines and we want our students to fully immerse themselves in their fields of study.

“When you have smaller departments, they become more nimble. They can adjust more quickly to changing events in the disciplines, so that both faculty and students can identify with the department, as opposed to being a part of a more amorphous, general-type department.”

The division of larger, consolidated academic departments into smaller and more-concentrated ones is not

“Our goal is to provide both departments with the independence they need to grow.”

—Tim Whisler, Dean of the University’s School of Arts and Letters.

unprecedented at Saint Francis. Within the School of Arts and Letters, the most recent division was in 2008, when the Psychology, Social Work and Sociology/Criminal Justice departments split from one entity into three separate units.

Like Menis and Whisler, newly elected Literature & Languages Department chair **Tim Bintrim** is excited about the opportunities he sees for his discipline to grow following the division.

“We were sort of a large and unwieldy entity, although largely happy,” said Bintrim, who joined the Saint Francis faculty in 2007. “We were always sort of struggling to set our fields apart – to establish our own identities and develop our own marketing strategies. Now we will be able to do that more effectively.”

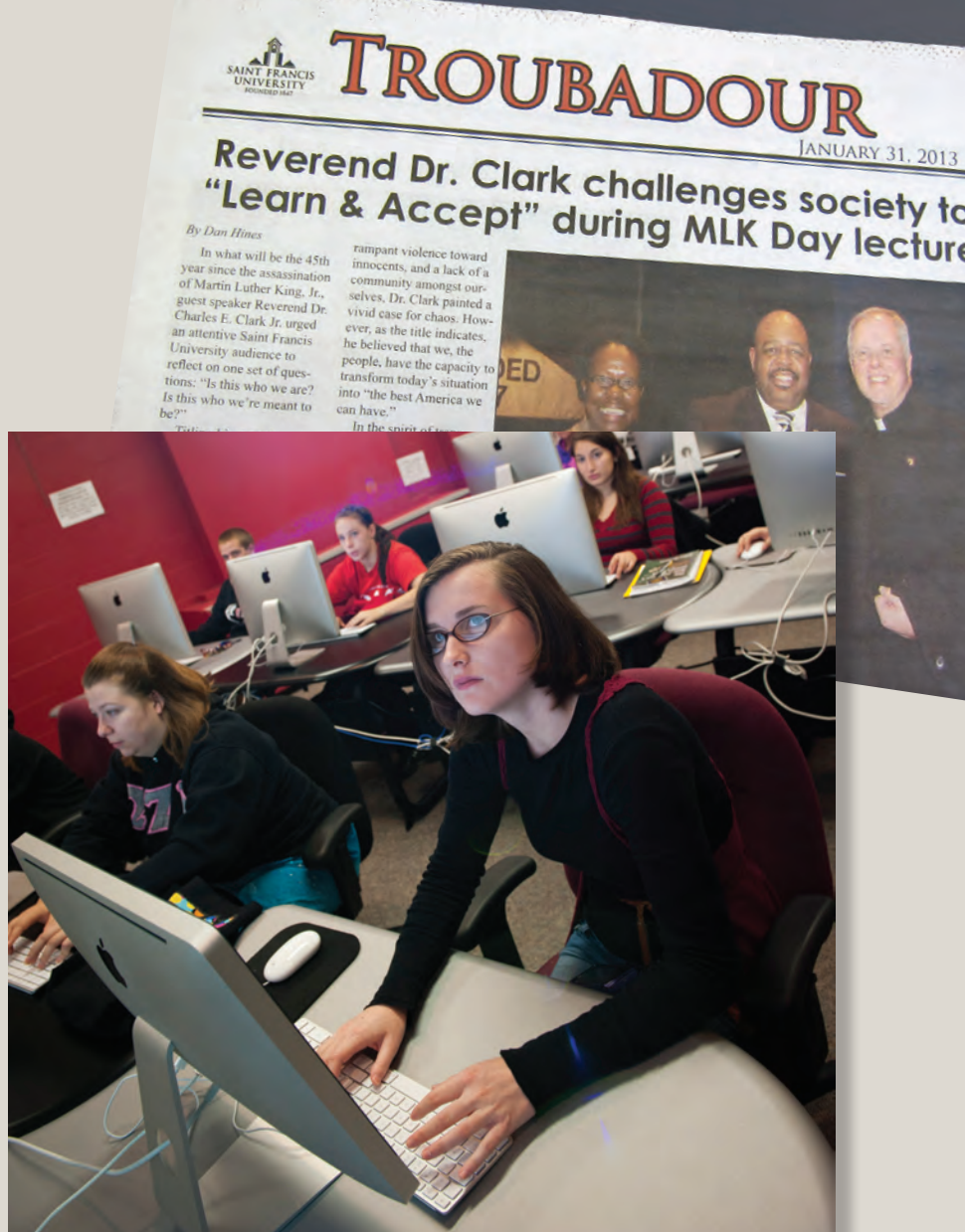
Bintrim and his English colleagues are currently in the process of reviewing the Literature & Languages Department’s curriculum. Longtime SFU English professors **Kirk Weixel** and **John Woznak** are overseeing this

internal review. The pair has plenty of familiarity with the curriculum, boasting a combined 75 years of teaching and service to the University.

“These types of situations don’t come along that frequently – thank God – because they take a lot of time and effort – but they also are good for us,” said Menis. “This internal review by the English Department will help them move forward in whatever

direction they choose.”

Anticipating Powell’s announcement, the Communications Department initiated its own internal review last summer and – pending approval by the University’s Faculty Senate – will introduce phase one of its new curriculum in the fall of 2013. This phase will include the introduction of digital media and strategic communications concentrations. The digital media track



Now: Editor **Rachel Vasilko '13** lays out an edition of *The Troubadour*, the Loretto's successor publication, in the Scotus Hall Communications lab.

will allow students to pursue either a bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree. Students who complete requirements in the strategic communications concentration will earn a bachelor of science degree.

In addition to its required and elective communications courses, the strategic communications track will also require students to complete a minimum of 12 courses in the University's School of Business in economics, marketing and management.

Phase two of the Communications Department's curriculum overhaul includes the addition of a bachelor of science degree in sports communications, tentatively slated to be introduced in the fall of 2014.

"What I am most excited about is the inter-disciplinary nature of the strategic communications track," said Menis. "It is a perfect fit for someone who is interested in communications and business. Many of our current students major in English & Communication Arts and minor in Marketing or Management and vice-versa."

Commitment creates opportunity

During their curriculum review last summer, Menis and her department colleagues reached out to a number of Saint Francis Communication Arts graduates, asking them what they believed were the most important skills newcomers need to find success within the industry. A "Communications Advisory Council" was established and several conference calls were conducted with this group during the internal review process.

"Many of them have been working for a long time - in senior positions

- and they were absolutely adamant about several things," said Menis. "Number one, they emphasized that we require writing, writing and more writing. In our proposal, all majors will have a minimum of three upper-level writing courses, which is more than they had to take when we were combined with English. The second thing the advisory group stressed was making sure our graduates understand the role that social media plays in today's communications industry and that they know how to utilize social-media tools.

the things we advertise is close, personal interaction. You can do that in a 'large' department, but splitting these departments will allow our faculty to work even more closely with individual students."

Bintrim, who taught at five different schools before arriving at Saint Francis, recognizes and appreciates the financial commitment the University has made to the Literature & Languages and Communications departments.

"At a time when so many academic programs are being weakened because

"Any initiative that we have asked to try out has been supported."

—Tim Bintrim, chair of the University's Literature and Languages Department

If you are going out and looking for a job today, you've got to have that.

"The third thing they emphasized was hands-on experience. An internship is required of all our majors and we also made it easy for future students to use department electives to pursue additional internships if they want. We went with every one of our advisory council's major suggestions and we incorporated them into our design."

Whisler is excited about the opportunities that the Literature & Languages and Communications departments will provide for Saint Francis students.

"I think students will see these departments as being what they want and I think that's key - that they can identify with a department," he said. "We are a small institution and one of

of lack of dollars, Dean Whisler and the University have been able to find money for us to make this move," said Bintrim. The Literature & Languages chair also noted that this type of financial support is not a recent development.

"Any initiative that we have asked to try out has been supported. I have never been rejected (for funding) with a good idea that included specifics. That is remarkable. My colleagues at other universities oftentimes don't have that kind of support."

Whisler credits the Saint Francis administration for recognizing the potential of the Literature & Languages and Communications departments.

"The University has invested in this initiative," said Whisler. "Academics is

Communications Advisory Council


The University's Communications Department recently completed an internal review of its curriculum. As part of this process, Saint Francis' communications faculty members solicited the advice of 13 alumni who have enjoyed success within the industry. Members of this advisory council include:

Name	Grad. Year	Company	Position
Sotiris Aggelou	1998	Crons Sports Apparel (Pittsburgh, Pa.)	Vice President of Brand Development
Clare Ansberry-Smith	1979	The Wall Street Journal	Pittsburgh Bureau Chief
Anita Baumann	1990	Saint Francis University	Director of Alumni Relations
Tim Hamilton	1992	Shiny Object (Annapolis, Md.)	Owner of public relations, marketing and videography company
Eric Hoppel	1985	WNYT-TV (Albany, N.Y.)	News Director
Tinsy (Labrie) Lipchak	1980	"Visit Pittsburgh" Convention and Visitors Bureau	Executive Director of Tourism and Cultural Heritage
David La Torre	1994	La Torre Communications (Harrisburg, Pa.)	Owner of media strategy and consulting company
Rick McGuire	1981	WCBS-TV (New York, N.Y.)	Vice President for Sports and Business Development
Rita (Thievon) Mullin	1974	Discovery Communications (Silver Springs, Md.)	Senior Vice President of Content Strategy for Discovery's Fit and Health Cable TV Network
Katrina (Martincic) Perkosky	2004	Forever Broadcasting	Advertising Copywriter/ On-air Personality
Tim Scheld	1981	WCBS-Radio (New York, N.Y.)	Director of News and Programming
Derek Sollosi	1999	American Geophysical Union (Washington, D.C.)	Video and Multimedia Specialist
Kent Tonkin	1995	CERMUSA (Loretto, Pa.)	Assistant Director for Information Technology

a long-term proposition. It takes years before you can see the payoff. The payoff is going to be down the road. Growth comes from faculty and student identification

and self-governance.

"There is a calculated risk in making this move and we have reflected on this. This is not some kind of dash for growth. What we are talking about is

measured, incremental growth, with an emphasis on student quality. We want students to come out of these departments and be successful in their fields." 

“Become *that Someone*”

*2012-13 Athletics Department theme
rooted in special friendship*

WRITTEN BY | *Amanda Stoehr Drumm '03, '08(M)*

Walking through the glass doors of the Stokes Athletics Center, it's impossible to miss the prominent, black banner hanging in the lobby. The white lettering simply states “Become that Someone,” the 2012-13 theme for the athletics department. It pays homage to the friendship between Saint Francis basketball legend **Maurice Stokes '55**, the namesake of the Athletics Center, and his NBA teammate Jack Twyman.

Stokes was a standout Red Flash basketball player who led Saint Francis to back-to-back National Invitational Tournament appearances in 1954 and 1955. The Rochester Royals drafted him pre-season to the NBA. He went on to become a three-time NBA All-Star. He was a shining star on the court, but his career was tragically cut short in 1958. He collapsed three days after hitting his head on the court during a game against the Minneapolis Lakers and was later diagnosed with post-traumatic encephalopathy.

The 24 year-old natural athlete was paralyzed and unable to speak; his only method of communication was blinking. This was a difficult blow for anyone who knew the larger than life man of whom Twyman once said, “No one had seen a guy with that combination of strength, speed, and size.”

Stokes was bedridden and the hospital bills began to mount. His mother worried about how they would be able to continue his around-the-clock care. Twyman, a busy athlete, selflessly volunteered to become Stokes' legal guardian.

Twyman cared for Stokes, helped with his medical expenses, and organized an annual charity game to raise money for Stokes and other former players in need. Stokes did not let his condition stifle his joy of life, and worked excruciatingly hard at physical therapy, gaining minimal movement that allowed him to type and paint.

“Maurice was on his own.
Something had to be done
and someone had to do it”

—*Jack Twyman*

“To see the way he conducted himself, I just stood in awe of him. It got so bad, when I would be having a bad day myself, I would go to see Maurice, selfishly, to say, I want to get pumped up. And he never failed to pump me up,” said Jack Twyman. Stokes and Twyman relied on each other for the next twelve years, until Stokes' 1970 death.

Twyman was asked during a 2008 interview with the *New York Post* why he took it upon himself to become Stokes' caregiver. Twyman replied, “Maurice was on his own. Something



Jack Twyman's grandchildren sporting the shirts and bracelets honoring their grandfather. From the right: Jay (19), Carly (17), Paige (15) and Andrew (13) Robbie (9), Katie (7) and Johnnie (5).

had to be done and someone had to do it. I was the only one there, so I became that someone.”

Twyman died in May 2012, and his death left a heavy sadness in Loretto. While perusing old articles about Twyman and Stokes, **John Krimmel '05, '12 (M)**, assistant director of athletics for student-athlete academic services, found the *New York Post* interview and the quote stuck in his mind. He immediately thought it would be a great theme for the athletics department, whose theme last year was “Dare to Be UNcommon.”

“I thought it would be unfortunate to not continue and honor the relationship between Stokes and Twyman. It is fitting for this year and is something we try to incorporate daily in the lives of the student-athletes,” said Krimmel.

To kick off the year-long campaign, Red Flash athletes learned about the special friendship between Stokes and Twyman. They received daily planners with inserts that explained what it means to “Become that Someone.” Everyone was given wristbands and shirts with the quote emblazoned on them.

“Our athletes showcase the theme and live it daily. They have a commitment of giving back to the community. They have a lot on their plates, with their commitment to academics and athletics, but they all participate in community activities for their teams and other organizations,” said Krimmel.



Red Flash athletes have “Become that Someone” by volunteering their time and services to local and national charities. For the past three years they raised close to \$10,000 for the Zack Hinich Foundation that helps children with cognitive or physical disabilities. They also raised money for the Think Pink Push Up Showdown for breast cancer research and Penny Wars for the Children’s Cancer Recovery Foundation. They volunteered their talents at the annual Alicia Richardson Sports 4 Kids Day that brings children from kindergarten through sixth grade to campus for a free day of activities and fun with Red Flash athletes.

Upcoming Athletics Department Service Activities

Mr. SFU benefitting the Zack Hinich Foundation

Wednesday, April 10

Sponsored by the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)


www.francis.edu/mr-sfu-competition-2013

Sports 4 Kids Day in Memory of Alicia Richardson

Sunday, April 21

Sponsored by the Student-Athlete Mentors (SAMs)

www.francis.edu/sports-4-kids-day-2013

Like Twyman, our Red Flash players have a commitment to their sports and to helping others. “Become that Someone” is a tribute to a special friendship and a reminder to help others. It also mirrors a quote from our patron, St. Francis of Assisi, who said, “It is in giving that we receive.” 

Cycling to a state near you

Br. Shamus McGrenra's 5-state charity ride for the Dorothy Day Center

July 29-August 2, 2013

Pa. • N.J. • Del. • Md. • Va.

WRITTEN BY | *Amanda Stoehr Drumm '03, '08(M)*

Br. Shamus McGrenra '72, T.O.R., and his annual cross-state cycling trip has proven to be a winning combination for raising funds for the Dorothy Day Center, the campus' outreach provider that gives food, clothing, and monetary assistance to underprivileged families throughout four counties in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Here's a little Q&A on his initiative:

Q. Why did you start the cycling fundraiser?

A. One day I was at the center and I witnessed a woman who wept when she was shown the pantry and told she could take what she needed for herself and her two small children. I don't mind doing this because I know I will not have a problem today or tomorrow getting breakfast, lunch, or dinner. The people I am raising money for don't always know where their next meal is coming from.

Q. How much money have you raised for the center so far?

A. "In 2011 we raised \$12,000. Last year we almost doubled that at \$22,264. We are hoping this year's total will be even more generous."

Q. Through what states will you be cycling?

A. "I'm starting off at my home in Havertown, Pa., right outside of Philly. Therefore: Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia."

Q. How many miles did you ride last year?

A. July 2012: 415



Joe Karpinski '80 met up with Br. Shamus in 2012 to make his donation in person.

Help out a friar

Brother Shamus will be putting in some serious time and sweat. Alumni from which state will raise the most donations for the Dorothy Day Center?

To donate visit:

www.francis.edu/brother-shamus-charity-ride-2013

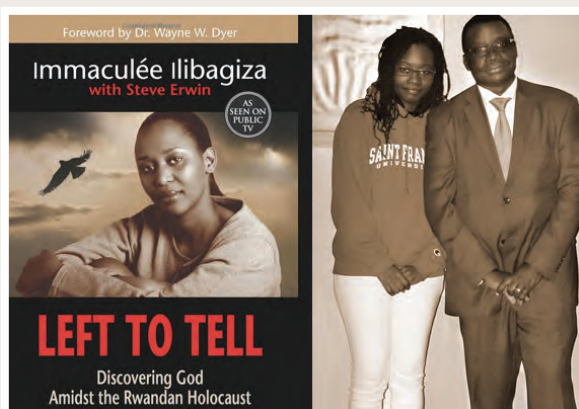
Q. How many miles you will ride next year?

A. "About the same as this past year, maybe a few more if I feel good at the end of the cycle trip. In fact, I just may keep going all the way to Florida, just like I did four years ago when I cycled from Pennsylvania to Florida. That trip was 1200 miles and took 30 days." 🏠

ON CAMPUS

our vibrant community

*Visit www.francis.edu/news-and-events
for all the latest campus news.*



Senior prosecutor of the UN speaks to students

The genocide in Rwanda in 1994 left more than 500,000 victims in its wake. The United Nations created The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UN-ICTR) to oversee the massive task of prosecuting the persons responsible.

The University was honored to have Alphonse Van, a senior prosecutor at the UN-ICTR, on campus in September 2012 to speak about his experiences. His address entitled “The Hill of the Enemy Brothers: Understanding the Rwandan Tragedy of 1994,” discussed the roots of the Rwandan Holocaust and the role

Alphonse Van with his daughter, **Makeya Jennifer Van**, a sophomore majoring in public health. She has chosen this major in the hope of being able to meaningfully serve her homeland, certainly a laudable goal for any young person and one that echoes her father's dedication to advancing African causes.

of the UN-ICTR in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

He related his work to the university's first-year summer reading book for 2012, *Left to Tell: Discovering God amidst the Rwandan Holocaust*, by Immaculée Ilibagiza. Her story puts a face to the atrocities of the Rwandan genocide. Through his work with the UN-ICTR, Van is well-acquainted with Ilibagiza's saga of terror, persecution, and survival.

Van's lecture and the first-year summer reading program are just a few of the activities that are part of the University's comprehensive General Education curriculum: Ethical Citizenship for the 21st Century.

Visit www.francis.edu/news-and-events for all the latest campus news.

New Science Center: Our students are encouraged to develop a healthy mind for exploration that goes far beyond the classroom. The new flagship facility (which opens for the fall 2013 semester) will provide the ideal space for students to engage, gather, study, and learn. Explore the facility at: www.francis.edu.science-center



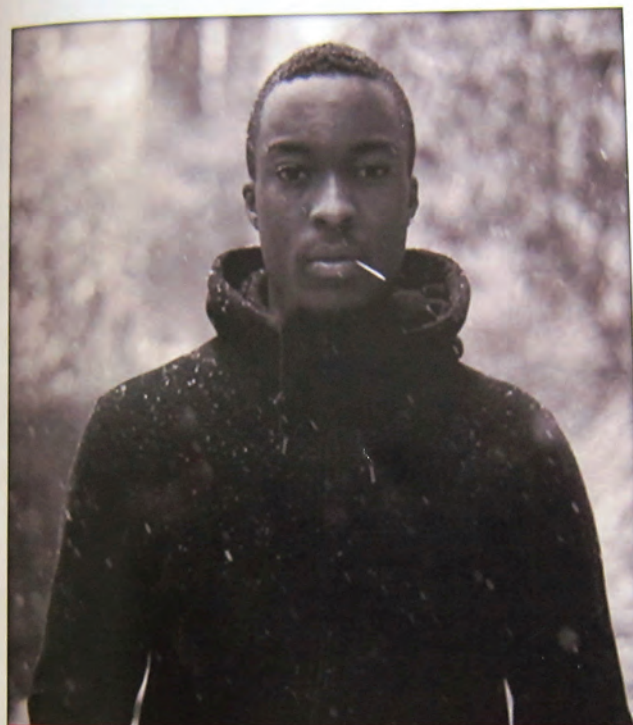
Sports for scientific minds:

In December, SFU hosted a regional segment of the FIRST LEGO League tournament, an international tournament for students in grades 4-8 designed as an introduction to the NXT LEGO Mindstorm Robot kit. Fifteen teams (10 students per team) from across southern and central Pennsylvania took to the DeGol Arena to compete in this event hosted by the University's Science Outreach Center. Learn more about Science Outreach programs for youth and teachers: www.francis.edu/science-outreach-center

Tapestries: SFU's Literary & Visual Arts Magazine

Between November 2011 and March 2012, more than 80 writing entries and 160 visual arts entries were submitted for the 38th Annual Gunard Berry Carlson Writing Contest. Written submissions varied from short stories and one-act plays to essays on innovative health care practices and the ethical dimensions of collegiate athletics.

Visual art entries were equally diverse, ranging from black-and-white photographs of outdoor scenes to explosive collages of colors and lights, from sculptures and sketches to oil and acrylic paintings. Needless to say, the judges had a difficult time selecting the winners from such an impressive array of literary and artistic talent. The result is the inaugural issue of *Tapestries*.



Tapestries

SFU's Literary & Visual Arts
Magazine

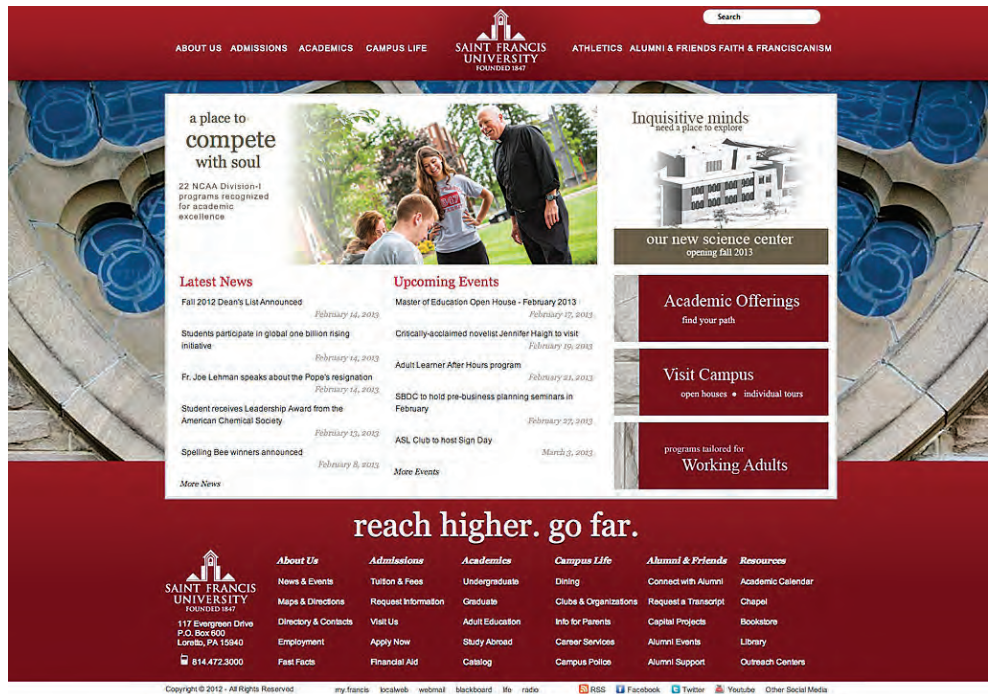
Tapestries: Read the inaugural issue of the new SFU literary and visual arts magazine at www.francis.edu/tapestries.



Torvian Dining Hall

celebrated a grand-reopening in January. In addition to a new look, students will enjoy healthier food options including a Flash Fitness station. At the ribbon cutting from left: Torvian Executive Chef Terry McMullen, Fr. Gabriel Zeis, Parkhurst Dining General Manager Leo Cavanaugh, Parkhurst Dining District Manager David Manz, and Torvian Chef Steven Gill.

Stay Connected



There are few great online resources to help you stay-up-to-date with everything that is happening on campus:

www.francis.edu

www.SFUathletics.com

www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisUniversity

www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisAlumni

www.francis.edu/social-media

Office of Admissions Establishes Red Flash Volunteer Network

Finding the next generation of Saint Francis University students is a fulfilling, yet weighty task. Recognizing that each potential student has a unique combination of God-given talents and abilities, the Office of Admissions approaches our work with an emphasis on encouraging and supporting individual students throughout the challenging college selection process. We continually seek new ways—and new volunteers—to broaden the University's recruitment reach. Volunteers help us extend this important mission, and we view them as an important part of our professional staff. Admissions volunteers can do many tasks such as:

- ✓ contacting prospective students for the purposes of encouraging them to consider admission
- ✓ conducting interviews in their local area with prospective students and their parents
- ✓ traveling and attending college fairs on behalf of the professional recruitment staff

Beginning in the Fall 2012, the Office of Admissions established an affiliation designed to record and recognize the hard work that volunteers give us. The Red Flash Volunteer Network will provide regular updates on the amount of service given by its members and will seek to provide recognition for their contribution. For additional information on how to become a member of the Red Flash Volunteer Network, please contact the Office of Admissions at (814) 472-3100.

Saint Francis University is proud to welcome a new marching band to campus. The band debuted at the start of the 2012 Football season. It has been a long time since the Saint Francis University students marched to the same beat. We thought you might enjoy seeing some photos of the current marching band and its predecessor, The Saint Francis College Band, from the 1940s.



Then: The Saint Francis College Band, featured in the 1942 edition of the yearbook, then known as the Pine Cone, was a highlight of the campus experience in the 1940s.

Now: Members of the newly formed Saint Francis University marching band are stepping up school spirit everywhere they perform.



Professors' articles accepted for publication

Dr. Ivan Mulligan, associate professor of physical therapy, and Mark Boland, director of physical therapy at the DiSepio Institute, received the 2012 JOSPT Excellence in Research Award for their article titled "Prevalence of Neurocognitive and Balance Deficits in Collegiate Football Players Without Clinically Diagnosed Concussion." The article appeared in the July 2012 issue of the *Journal of Orthopaedic & Sports Physical Therapy*.

The award recognizes the best article published in the JOSPT during a calendar year. Selection is based on the importance of the contribution to clinical or basic science related to orthopaedic or sports physical therapy, the relevance of the article to clinical practice, the quality of the research

and the quality of the writing. The award was presented to Dr. Mulligan and Mr. Boland during the American Physical Therapy Association's Combined Sections Meeting in San Diego, CA, on January 23.

Dr. Robin Cadwallader, associate dean of the School of Arts & Letters and associate professor of English/communications, had her article "Different Views of Life in the Iron-Mills or How the Welsh Experienced America" accepted for publication. It will appear in the spring issue of *Topic*, published by Washington & Jefferson College. The article looks at the differences in the way Rebecca Harding Davis depicted the Welsh in her short story "Life in the Iron-Mills" and the way the Welsh represented themselves in their own writings. Aaron Rovin, a graduate of Saint Francis, had an

article accepted for publication in the same issue of *Topic*. Dr. Cadwallader will continue her research on nineteenth-century Welsh immigrants by presenting a paper on Welsh labor in Pittsburgh, particularly Welsh participation in the Homestead strikes, at the 2013 MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature in the United States) conference; Mr. Rován is also presenting on this panel.

Dr. Rose Clark, professor of chemistry, had a research article published in the current issue of the *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry* (689 (2013) 284–290). The article is entitled, “Electrochemical titration of carboxylic acid terminated SAMs on evaporated gold: Understanding the ferricyanide electrochemistry at the electrode surface. Saint Francis student authors included on the manuscript are Colin J. Trout, Laura E. Ritchey, Agnieszka N. Marciniak, Mara Weinzierl, Catherine N. Schirra, and Christopher Kurtz.

Dr. Joseph Melusky, professor of political science and director of the Center for the Study of Government & Law, had an article published in the current issue of the *National Social Science Journal* (vol. 39, No. 1, 2012). The article is entitled, “From Burning at the Stake to Lethal Injection: Evolving Standards of Decency and Methods of Execution.”

Dr. Art Remillard, assistant professor of religious studies, authored “Between Faith and Fistic Battles: Moralists, Enthusiasts, and the Idea of Jack Johnson in the New South.” It appeared in the fall 2012 edition of *Perspectives in Religious Studies*. The article is set in the early twentieth century and examines white southern responses to the rise of black pugilist Jack Johnson. Specifically, it centers on the tensions between evangelical moralists who wanted to prohibit prizefighting, and boxing enthusiasts who had a profound bond to the sport and its white athletes. While these groups engaged prizefighting on different terms, both became part of national and international discourses on race, gender, sports, and nationality. Through the idea of Jack Johnson, then, the world came to the New South, and the New South went forth into the world.

Dr. William (Bill) Strosnider, assistant professor of environmental engineering, and sophomore student Rebecca

Peer had their article titled “Passive co-treatment of zinc-rich acid mine drainage and raw municipal wastewater” published in the *Journal of Geochemical Exploration*. The article builds off of previous laboratory studies to test this unique treatment approach with wastewaters from Potosi, Bolivia under ambient field conditions. The research was a collaboration with Dr. Robert Nairn at the University of Oklahoma and Dr. Brandon Winfrey at the University of Maryland. Dr. Strosnider is also the lead-author on an article titled “Co-Treatment of Acid Mine Drainage with Municipal Wastewater: A Promising New Approach” just published in the fall 2012 edition of the trade journal *Reclamation Matters*. The article was a collaboration with colleagues at Trinity College-University of Dublin, the University of Maryland, and the University of Oklahoma. Rebecca Peer, junior environmental engineering student at Saint Francis, was the third author as she contributed to a better understanding of the mechanisms of this wastewater treatment approach.

Dr. Edward Timmons, associate professor of economics, had his paper “Occupational Regulation in the European Legal Market” accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal, *The European Journal of Comparative Economics*. The paper will be published in an upcoming special issue of the journal focusing exclusively on the topic of occupational licensing. The paper was co-authored with Mario Pagliero, assistant professor of economics at the University of Turin and Collegio Carlo Alberto in Italy.

Dr. Lening Zhang, professor of sociology/criminal justice, had a new paper accepted for publication in the *Asian Journal of Criminology*. The paper analyzes the characteristics of relapsed drug users in contemporary urban China using data that Dr. Zhang collected from users in several mandatory treatment centers in a large city of China, 2009. It compares the characteristics with those discovered in the United States. Also, a chapter that Dr. Zhang has completed will appear in the Handbook of Chinese Criminology that will be published by Routledge. The chapter is entitled “Crime Data and Criminological Research in Contemporary China.” It assesses the current state of collecting unofficial crime data in China and the difficulties/challenges in collecting such data with discussion of the future direction and effort to collect high-quality crime data in China.

ATHLETICS

tales of the Red Flash

Save the Date...

SAINT FRANCIS UNIVERSITY GOLDEN ERA

2013 Hall of Fame Induction

Saturday, June 29
John F. Kennedy Center
Saint Francis University

Schedule of Events:
Cocktail Hour - 5 p.m.
Dinner - 6 p.m.
Induction Ceremony - 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$50 per person

For more information:
Contact Margie McHenry at:
mmchenry@francis.edu
Or: 814-472-3286

What is the Golden Era?

From the late 1940s to the early 1970s, Saint Francis College ranked among the upper tier of the nation's college basketball programs. Between 1947 and 1971, SFC teams turned in 19 winning seasons, six 20-win campaigns and were selected to participate in the elite National Invitational Tournament on three occasions. In an effort to preserve and promote the forgotten story of Saint Francis' men's basketball's heyday, University President Fr. Gabriel Zeis, T.O.R., created the Golden Era Men's Basketball Committee and charged it with identifying players and teams of that period to be inducted into an extension of the SFU Athletics Hall of Fame.

Visit www.sfuathletics.com for
all the latest Red Flash news.



ALUMNI

flashbacks

1950s

◆ **Joel Bower '58** was one of four recipients of the "Inspired Excellence in Health Care" Awards, given by the Southern Nevada Medical Industry Coalition. Dr. Bower worked as an OB/GYN during the 1970s and 1980s before becoming medical director of St. Rose Dominican Hospital. For years, he was involved in continuing education on health care ethics, addressing difficult

issues related to pain control, withdrawal of life support, and what he describes as "futility care." During retirement, Dr. Bower stays active in the medical profession and feels strongly that retired physicians should carry on their important roles through volunteerism. The Dr. Joel and Carol Bower



Joel Bower '58

School-Based Health Center was founded in 2004, in partnership with Nevada State College School of Nursing and Basic High School, to address significant unmet health needs of Henderson, Nev. school children. Since opening, more than 5,000 students have been served.

◆ In October 2012, **Robert Stratton '58** received the Monsignor Bonner Medal from Bonner Prendergast Catholic High School in Drexel Hill, Pa.



◆ **Above:** A group of alumni gathered in Loretto for a weekend of golf as well as a fundraiser for the men's golf team. Some of the alumni who participated were **Mike Baressi '68** and **Marshall Allu '67**, pictured with Derek Tyson, the head golf professional and men's head golf coach. **Right: Mike Baressi '68** (winner of low gross with a 79), **Marshall Allu '67** (winner of low net with a 69), and Derek Tyson (Saint Francis' head golf professional and men's head golf coach).



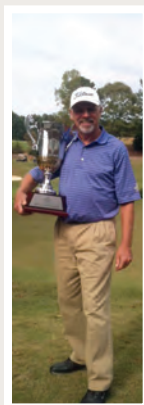
1960s



◆ **Richard Kwatnoski '68** recently retired after 44 years of federal service with the Department of Defense. He graduated from Saint Francis with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and later earned a master's degree in engineering sciences from Penn State. He held various technical positions with the Department of the Army, Frankford Arsenal in Pennsylvania, and Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. He went on to become a professor of engineering management with the Defense Acquisition University, Fort Belvoir, Va. His final position was in the Pentagon working for the director of international cooperation in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He resides in Fairfax County, Va with his wife, Ellen. They have one son, one daughter, and one grandson.

1970s

◆ **Alan Baranowski '72** participated in the Towne Lake Hills Golf Club event in October, taking first place this year after taking second for the past two years.



◆ Four members of the class of 1974—**Tom Brown '74**, **Tom Toth '74**, **Rich Hazard '74** and **Joe Bradis '74**—took this photo at their yearly Phillies game.

1980s

◆ **Steve Hessman '82** walked the 2012 Cleveland Half-Marathon and finished with the time of 2:41:52. He placed 17th of the 14,768 registered walkers and finished 8th among all of the males. He finished 3rd in the age group of 50-54.

◆ **Thomas J. Kristofco '82** has been named president of Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School in Altoona, Pa. He will now be responsible for the institution's financial viability and long-term sustainability, as well as continuing the school's tradition of educational excellence.

◆ **John (Jack) P. Goodrich '83** has announced the launch of his new firm Goodrich & Associates, P.C. in Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. Goodrich concentrates his practice in the areas of head trauma/concussions, personal injury, vehicular accidents, product liability, wrongful deaths, workers' compensation, and social security disability along with wills and estates.

◆ **John Travis '85** was diagnosed with stage four head and neck cancer in the spring of 2009. At that time he was married for 20 years and had 2 children, Johnny Jr. (15) and Brittany (13). After surgery and many months of chemotherapy and radiation, Travis has been cancer free for nearly three years. His daughter Brittany wanted to give back to the people who treated her dad at the Christiana Hospital, Helen F. Graham Cancer Center in Delaware so she started the B-Loose Foundation, which benefits the Center for Cancer research.

◆ **Paul Sansone '88** received the inaugural Fuqua School of Business Leader of Consequence Award from Duke's Business School. The award recognizes alumni with exemplary professional accomplishments.

◆ **Tom Garlitz '88 (M)** was recently

ALUMNI | *flashbacks*

appointed as director of the newly created Office for Human Dignity for the Catholic Diocese of Joliet in Illinois. Garlitz works with the ministries of Respect Life, Justice and Peace, and Missions. He also continues as executive director of the Partnership in Mission, sending medical, construction, and university teams to Bolivia, the Philippines, the Navajo Nation, and Kenya.

1990s

◆ **Frank Znidarsic '93** wrote a book entitled *Elementary Antigravity II*, which discusses "the emerging new technologies that will classically harness all of the natural forces."

2000s



◆ An alumni running team named SFCMXC (Saint Francis College Men's Cross Country), participated in the Reach the Beach Relay in New Hampshire at Hampton Beach State Park. **Brian Quinn '00**, a member of the team, was the first to cross the finish line. The team averaged 5 minutes, 50 seconds per mile and finished the course in 19 hours, 44 minutes, 59 seconds. **J.R. Bair '08** and **Kevin Doyle '02** were also members of the team.

◆ **Dr. Timothy Schaffner '06** graduated from West Virginia University School of Medicine in May 2012. He began his residency in general surgery at SUNY/University at Buffalo in July 2012.

◆ **Brittni Smallwood '08** joined the News 4 Team at WIVB-TV in Buffalo as a reporter in May 2012. She previ-

ously worked at WETM-TV in Elmira, N.Y. as the morning co-anchor and reporter.

◆ **Christina Medley '11** has relocated to Pittsburgh and works for Garda Cash Logistics. She also plays on the defensive line and as a linebacker for the women's professional football team, the Pittsburgh Passion.

Births



◆ A son, Nicholas Andrew, to **Chris Seymour '97**, and wife, Sarah, on September 14, 2012



◆ A son, Carson, to **Paul Sansone '88** and wife, Robin, on June 24, 2012



◆ A son, Noah Joseph Mehall, to **Katie (Skoner) Mehall '08** and '09, and husband, Jonas, on June 2, 2012; grandson of Peter Skoner, Saint Francis University Professor of Physics/Associate Provost



◆ A son, Noah John, to **Maria Pellegrino-Yokitis '96** and **Dr. John Yokitis '98**, on December 12, 2011.

Marriages

◆ **Tatum N. Tocco '09, '11(M)** and Andrew R. Brantner were married on June 23, 2012 in Pittsburgh, Pa.



◆ **Cara Williams '06, '07 (M)** and **Aaron Salotti '05, '08 (M)** were married on October 15, 2011 in Indiana, Pa, with many SFU alumni present.



◆ Fourteen alumni were together to celebrate the wedding of Art and Joann Cantrell's daughter, Colleen, who was married in Philadelphia on September 15, 2012. From left, front row: **Pat (Cavey) Sterbling '81**; **Marie (Tanda) Dixon '80**; **Pam (Daignault) Gleeson '81**; **Joann (Bugrin) Cantrell '81**; **Jeanette Bakon '81**; **Catherine (May) Gonzalez '81**; **Judy (Bugrin) Cobain '80**; and **Holly (Pollard) Walker '81**. Back row: **John Sterbling**; **Jim Morhard '78**; **Tim Gleeson '81**; **Art Cantrell '79**; **Joel Grosso '82**; **Paul Gonzalez '81**; and **Steve Cobain '80**.

Submitting a Flashback

We love to hear from our alumni! Please share with us information about career changes, promotions, relocations, volunteer work, engagements, marriages, births, and interesting things.

How to submit a Flashback:

- **Email:** sfu-alumni-office@mail.francis.edu
- **Fax:** 814-472-3044
- **Mail:** Flashbacks
Office of Alumni Relations
Saint Francis University
PO Box 600
Loretto, PA 15940

We welcome photos and will publish them as space permits. Digital files are best as long as they are high quality. A larger file size (300 dpi or higher) is better than a smaller file size. Photos submitted by mail will not be returned.

Deaths

William J. Butler '70
Donald R. Burke '57
James Coan '72
Peter N. Duranko '79
George Fedore '51
Tracy Lynn (Marchu) Golden '93
Father John "Jack" Grinnen, T.O.R. '68
Lori (Lubinsky) Hannan '85
Michael J. Heldt '74
Neale Hooley '53
Margaret "Peggy" (King) Houser '74
Anthony G. Kneafsey '78
Dr. Joseph Kirkpatrick '54
Raymond R. Lahr '55
Mary T. (Scanlon) Lawrence '70
Victoria B. Lingenfelter '11, '12 (M)
Ralph Lovette
Donald W. Matts '54

Patricia (Burley) Maus '48
William "Bill" Maus '49
Father Louis McIntyre, T.O.R. '53
Father Aidan M. Mullaney '49
Rocco C. Musso '56
Jan P. Nadolsky '92
Virginia Lee (Meden) Osif '66
Edward Ott '65
Father Paul Pavlik, T.O.R. '55
Thomas R. Roseberry '85
Victor C. Scarpello '59
Elizabeth (Lengel) Schlachte '60
Beverly J. (Sinegal) Scott '57
Joseph G. Seliga
John P. Sirianni '56
Thomas Raymond "Ray" St. John '50
Henry Joseph Sullivan '51
Joseph M. Wesolosky '65

In memoriam



Victoria Brooke Lingenfelter

On September, 27, 2012, the University mourned the loss of current nursing student (and alumna) "Torie" Lingenfelter who was killed in an auto accident. Her family is working with the Office of Advancement to set up a scholarship fund in her memory. If you are interested in donating,

please contact the Vice President for Advancement, Robert Crusciel, at 814-472-3021.

Torie's family submitted a touching open letter to the University community on the impact of Torie's life and her passing. You may read the letter on our website: www.francis.edu/lingenfelter-memorial.

In memoriam

Alfred A. Perfett M.D., '49, Former Trustee and Alumni Association President, Dies at 87

The University community was saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Alfred Perfett on January 9, 2013. Perfett served as a member of the Alumni Association board of directors from 1971 to 1979 and was president of the Association from 1975 to 1979, after which he was appointed to a position on the University's board of trustees.

Dr. Perfett was born on July 18, 1925 in Sharpsville, Pa., the son of Anthony F. and Lucille Williams Perfett. Following graduation from Sharpsville High School in 1943, he served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946 as a Radioman, 2nd Class. After his discharge from the Navy, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Saint Francis in 1949. While at Saint Francis, he served as president of his senior class and was a charter member and officer of the Omega Phi Chi Fraternity, life member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, and member of the student council.

After leaving Saint Francis, he studied biochemistry at the Pennsylvania State University, and later graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine in 1955.

After completing his residency at Magee-Women's Hospital from 1961 to 1964, he returned to the Shenango Valley where he began a successful medical practice as an obstetrician and gynecologist. Over a medical career that spanned more than four decades, Dr. Perfett delivered 5,528 babies. He also served as a clinical instructor and teaching fellow at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University Of Pittsburgh School Of Medicine. He was the chief resident at Magee-Women's Hospital from 1963 to 1964. He was a past president of the University of Pittsburgh Medical School Alumni Association and was a member and past president of the Mercer County Medical Society and numerous other committees.

Dr. Perfett was active in the community and served on the Mercer County Cancer Society board of directors, United Fund of Mercer County board of directors, Catholic Social Services, Rotary International, Sharon Rotary Club and the Social Concerns Commission of Erie Catholic Diocese; and was a member of the Serra Club.

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Italy: *Pilgrimage & Tour* November 5-15, 2012



1. The tour group visited the Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore, known as the Duomo, while in Florence.
2. For Saint Francis alumni, visiting the Portiuncula, where the Franciscan movement began, was a special treat. This small chapel is located within the Basilica of Santa Maria degli Angeli, about two miles from Assisi.
3. The romance and allure of Venice was truly memorable.
4. **Stacy Trice '98, '00(M)** and **Melissa Morrison '03** strike the familiar "Reach Higher, Go Far" pose in the plaza near the Basilica of Saint Clare in Assisi.
5. Members of the tour enjoyed a four-course "opera dinner," featuring these three singers, at Le Terme Del Colosseo, a restaurant located in the ruins of a Roman Bath near the Coliseum.
6. Patricia Gill, Patricia Zackowski, **Tom Gill '67**, and **Bill Zackowski '67** enjoyed a gondola ride in Venice.



10

7. **Jane (Kavanaugh) Williams '68** (front row, far left) travelled with five friends on the adventure of a lifetime.

8. **Father Gabriel Zeis, T.O.R. '75**, president of Saint Francis and spiritual leader of the pilgrimage, said mass outside the tomb of St. Peter in the crypt of St. Peter's Basilica.

9. **Janet (Steinbicker) Sadowski '69** traveled with her sister Joyce Ford.

10. The group assembled in front of Saint Peter's Basilica for an official group photo.

11. **Daniel Drumm '90**, Barbara Drumm, Kathy Dumm, and Robert Dumm dined together at one of our group dinners.

12. **Chris Collins '73**, president of the Saint Francis Alumni Association, and Robert Kulikowski had a wonderful open air lunch at Campo San Stefano in Venice.

13. John Forney and **Sherry (Landis) Forney '93** were part of a large contingent of alumni from Blair and Cambria counties who participated in the trip.

14. Joseph Nyhuis and **Jean Fabian '72** left behind the drama of Super Storm Sandy for an Italian vacation.

15. Deborah Mallinson, one of our two tour escorts, posed for a farewell photograph with Fr. Gabriel.

16. **Jacqueline Xavier '05**, who earned her Master of Medical Science degree without ever

setting foot on campus in Loretto, and **Tinamarie DelValle '11**, our most recent graduate on the trip, became good friends and traveling buddies.



11



14



12



15



13



16



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**Your
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Roots!**

**ALUMNI WEEKEND
JULY 25-28, 2013**



Alumni Weekend is a great opportunity to return to your Saint Francis roots, and we hope you will plan to join us.

In addition to celebrating the anniversaries of **CLASSES ENDING IN 3 AND 8**, we also invite all Greeks (social, service, honorary, or academic) to return to campus for an **ALL-GREEK REUNION!**

LET US KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.

Fill out the "Hope to Attend" form at
<http://francis.edu/alumni-weekend-hope-to-attend>.

Until early May, we'll post names of all alumni who plan to attend on the Alumni Weekend website.

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED?

We are also looking for alumni from anniversary years and Greek organizations to serve as representatives who will help generate enthusiasm. Please indicate on the form if you would like to volunteer. The Alumni Office will follow up with class contact lists and more information.

Please note: Registration for the weekend will open after the brochure is mailed in early May 2013.