• **Prof. William Kresse** discusses ex-Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick’s fraud conviction in the Christian Science Monitor

• **Executive Director for University Ministry Graziano Marcheschi** interviewed about the Papal Election on CBS 2, CLTV, and FOX 32

• **Graziano Marcheschi** discusses Pope Francis’ election in SouthtownStar

• **Prof. Chris Appelt** discusses climate change on WBBM 780-AM

• **Prof. Graham Peck** writes column about the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln" for SouthtownStar

• **Paul L. DeVito, Ph.D.**, appointed provost

• **SXU and WGN-TV's Teacher of the Month for March, 2013 – Cyndi Sulak**

• **SXU Football's Shane Zackery** named NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Day

• **SXU Women's Basketball team** plays in NAIA Division II Tournament
Analytics
(return to top)
Saint Xavier University Print Media Coverage – March, 2013

News by Date Chart

3/1/2013 to 3/31/2013

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<td>Beverly-Mt. Greenwood Patch</td>
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**Note:** The values in the columns represent views, shares, and comments respectively.
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>Saint Francis women advance to NAIA quarterfinals</td>
<td>News-Sentinel - Online</td>
<td>386,631</td>
<td>90,086</td>
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>Saint Francis women advance to NAIA quarterfinals</td>
<td>News-Sentinel - Online</td>
<td>386,631</td>
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>ON CAMPUS: Krutwig gives Parkside lift from outside</td>
<td>Northwest Herald - Online</td>
<td>985,735</td>
<td>85,493</td>
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>Tiger earns his stripes in cheap seats</td>
<td>Sioux City Journal - Online</td>
<td>4,950,115</td>
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>Peck: ‘Lincoln’ reminds us of ideal of liberty</td>
<td>SouthtownStar - Online</td>
<td>1,333,912</td>
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<td>3/9/13</td>
<td>WBB: USF Advances To Elite Eight</td>
<td>WANE-TV - Online</td>
<td>2,384,194</td>
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<td>3/10/13</td>
<td>Kwame Kilpatrick guilty: For destitute Detroit, downfall of ex-mayor complete</td>
<td>Christian Science Monitor</td>
<td>56,083</td>
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<td>REGION COLLEGIANS: Lew Wallace’s Flournoy and Gardner a dandy duo</td>
<td>Times of Northwest Indiana - Online, The</td>
<td>4,698,236</td>
<td>261,116</td>
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<td>3/10/13</td>
<td>experts Besecker sirocco from Saint Xavier University and Professor</td>
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<td>professor Christopher Appell from Saint Xavier University and Professor</td>
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<td>3/11/13</td>
<td>Former mayor of Detroit, Kwame Kilpatrick, found guilty</td>
<td>AlaskaDispatch.com</td>
<td>350,785</td>
<td>51,475</td>
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<td>3/11/13</td>
<td>Kwame Kilpatrick guilty: For destitute Detroit, downfall of ex-mayor complete</td>
<td>Christian Science Monitor - Online, CSMonitor.com</td>
<td>7,095,239</td>
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<td>3/11/13</td>
<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
<td>Oak Forest Patch</td>
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<td>3/11/2013</td>
<td>Full South Side Irish Parade Lineup</td>
<td>Oak Lawn Patch</td>
<td>20,911</td>
<td>7,910</td>
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<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
<td>Oak Lawn Patch</td>
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<td>3/11/2013</td>
<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
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<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
<td>Beverly-Mt. Greenwood Patch</td>
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<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship</td>
<td>Beverly-Mt. Greenwood Patch</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Careers in Public Service</td>
<td>Beverly-Mt. Greenwood Patch</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Careers in Public Service</td>
<td>Rockford Register Star - Online</td>
<td>1,980,861</td>
<td>142,973</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Kwame Kilpatrick guilty: For destitute Detroit, downfall of ex-mayor complete</td>
<td>MinnPost.com</td>
<td>397,064</td>
<td>99,570</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Five new troopers join State Police</td>
<td>sauvalley.com</td>
<td>247,210</td>
<td>18,881</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>2013 WBCA NAIA Coaches' All-America Team</td>
<td>SportsPageMagazine.com</td>
<td>349,082</td>
<td>24,890</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>WBCA Coaches' NAIA All-America Team</td>
<td>They're Playing Basketball</td>
<td>3,162</td>
<td>1,793</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Rockford Police officer Dalke promoted to assistant deputy chief</td>
<td>WAOW-TV - Online</td>
<td>439,028</td>
<td>66,379</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>Rockford Sergeant promoted to ADC of Administrative Services</td>
<td>WREX-TV - Online</td>
<td>271,102</td>
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<td>3/12/2013</td>
<td>What Happens In The Papal Conclave To Pick New Pope?</td>
<td>Yahoo! India</td>
<td>2,085,582</td>
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<td>Southland's faithful, clergy back pope pick</td>
<td>Beacon-News - Online</td>
<td>419,742</td>
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<td>CBS 2 News at 5:00AM</td>
<td>CBS 2 News at 5 AM - WBBM-TV</td>
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<td>3/13/2013</td>
<td>Malori Dixon Named WBCA Honorable Mention NAIA All-American</td>
<td>gocugo.com</td>
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<td>3/13/2013</td>
<td>CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition</td>
<td>Hawaii News Now</td>
<td>703,416</td>
<td>109,582</td>
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<td>KAZT-TV - Online</td>
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<td>23,148</td>
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<td>CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition</td>
<td>KFMB-AM (760 AM Talk Radio) - Online</td>
<td>496,751</td>
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<td>CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition</td>
<td>KHGI-TV - Online</td>
<td>156,587</td>
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<td>CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition</td>
<td>Markets.financialcontent.com</td>
<td>327,961</td>
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<td>3/13/2013</td>
<td>Naperville hires new communications manager</td>
<td>Naperville Sun - Online</td>
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<td>3/13/2013</td>
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<td>CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition</td>
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<td>Courier News - Online</td>
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<td>SouthtownStar - Online</td>
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<td>Daily Telegram - Online, The</td>
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<td>3/18/2013</td>
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<td>Doings - Hinsdale Edition - Online, The</td>
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<td>Lunch provider cut</td>
<td>Chicago Tribune - Online</td>
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<td>Tennessean - Online, The</td>
<td>5,103,762</td>
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<td>Obituary: Lillian Lorraine Harwood</td>
<td>Wauwatosa Patch</td>
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<td>Cook County State's Attorney and other local elected officials visit SXU students</td>
<td>Beverly-Mt. Greenwood Patch</td>
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<td>Southland's faithful, clergy back pope pick</td>
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<td>Times of Northwest Indiana - Online, The</td>
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<td>Aaron J. Ripperda, 26</td>
<td>Belleville News-Democrat</td>
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<td>Good Day Tampa Bay @ 8AM</td>
<td>FOX 13’s Good Day Tampa Bay - WTVD-TV</td>
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<td>Saints Sweep Holy Cross, Extend Win Streak to Five</td>
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<td>What's Your RESPONSE?</td>
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<td>Loyola to Erect New Business School Building, Turn Old One into Library</td>
<td>Examiner.com</td>
<td>61,113,449</td>
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<td>New Nursing Research Study Findings Recently Were Reported by Researchers at St. Xavier University</td>
<td>NewsRx.com</td>
<td>5,938</td>
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SXU Women's Basketball to play in NAIA Division II Tournament in Sioux City, Iowa
03/05/2013    KCAU

Prof. Chris Appelt on climate change
03/10/2013    WBBM 780-AM

Graziano Marcheschi on selection process for the Pope
03/12/2013    CBS 2

Graziano Marcheschi on selection process for the Pope
03/13/2013    CBS 2

Graziano Marcheschi on Pope Francis' election
03/14/2013    CBS 2 and CLTV

Graziano Marcheschi on Pope Francis' election
03/19/2013    FOX 32

SXU study abroad trip interviewed on Romanian news
03/21/2013    Romanian News

SXU and WGN-TV's Teacher of the Month for March, 2013: Cyndi Sulak
03/27/2013
Peck: ‘Lincoln’ reminds us of ideal of liberty
03/01/2013  SouthtownStar

Raising Confident Youth
03/01/2013  Today's Chicago Woman

State Reps. Kelly Burke and Renee Kosel visit SXU students
03/04/2013  Patch

Storm Central: Updated School Closings, 7 to 10 Inches Possible
03/04/2013  Patch

SXU honors future teachers at School of Education Pinning Ceremony
03/04/2013  Patch

SXU to host sixth annual STAR NET early childhood conference
03/04/2013  Patch

WSCR 670 "The Score" Program Director Mitch Rosen to speak at SXU’s Breakfast with the Experts
03/04/2013  Patch

Charity Briefs for March 5, 2013
03/06/2013  SouthtownStar

Bulletin Board - STAR NET Conference
03/04/2013  The Beverly Review

Community Briefs - "Issues in Domestic Violence" Panel Discussion
03/06/2013  The Beverly Review

Gym packs punch for music video
03/06/2013  The Beverly Review

South Side Irish Parade Line of March
03/06/2013  The Beverly Review

Mother McAuley to Host Celebration 2013
03/06/2013  Patch

Get Up and Go! for March 6, 2013 - "Issues in Domestic Violence" Panel Discussion
03/06/2013  SouthtownStar

Religion Briefs For March 8 - "Revelations" Art Exhibit
03/06/2013  SouthtownStar

Scientists: Severity Of Recent Storms More Proof Of Climate Change
03/08/2013  CBS 2
Lisa N. Pleskach and Brandon J. Wheeler
03/08/2013 Watertown Daily Times

Full South Side Irish Parade Lineup
03/09/2013 Patch

Kwame Kilpatrick guilty: For destitute Detroit, downfall of ex-mayor complete
03/11/2013 The Christian Science Monitor

Swing into Spring event at Gilhooley’s
03/11/2013 Patch

SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship
03/11/2013 Patch

Rockford Police officer Dalke promoted to assistant deputy chief
03/11/2013 Rockford Register Star

What Happens In The Papal Conclave To Pick New Pope?
03/12/2013 CBS 2

Careers in Public Service
03/12/2013 Patch

Five new troopers join State Police
03/12/2013 Sauk Valley.com

Rockford Sergeant promoted to ADC of Administrative Services
03/12/2013 WAOW

Bulletin Board - Senior Fellows Program/Alumni attend Spring Training Game in Arizona/"Binders Full of Women" Symposium
03/13/2013 The Beverly Review

Naperville hires new communications manager
03/13/2013 Naperville Sun

CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition
03/13/2013 PR Web

Southland’s faithful, clergy back pope pick
03/13/2013 SouthtownStar

Bulletin Board - Breakfast with the Experts with Mitch Rosen
03/14/2013 The Reporter

Health fair at SXU
03/14/2013 The Reporter

SXU plans annual health fair
03/14/2013 The Reporter
Religion Briefs For March 15 - "Revelations" Art Exhibit
03/14/2013 SouthtownStar

Women and gender symposium on tap at SXU
03/14/2013 SouthtownStar

Hinsdale District 86 divisions reflected in board race
03/18/2013 The Doings

Election 2013: Nneka R. Obasi
03/18/2013 Patch

Election 2013: Ramona Stephens-Zemaitis
03/18/2013 Patch

Charity Briefs for March 19, 2013 - Digging for Donna
03/18/2013 SouthtownStar

St. Xavier University plans free health fair
03/19/2013 SouthtownStar

'Revelations' to open at BAC
03/20/2013 The Beverly Review

St. Xavier University to hold annual health fair
03/20/2013 The Beverly Review

Obituary: Lillian Lorraine Harwood
03/20/2013 Patch

Holy Cross Hospital Names New Senior Executive
03/21/2013 Lawndale News

Annual Volleyball Tournament for Park Lawn Charity
03/21/2013 Patch

Cook County State's Attorney and other local elected officials visit SXU students
03/21/2013 Patch

NLSD122 Candidate Bio: Bill Pender
03/21/2013 Patch

Oak Lawn mayor's clerk candidate faces big challenge in race against incumbent
03/21/2013 The Reporter

Religion Briefs For March 22
03/21/2013 SouthtownStar

SXU assistant nursing professor receives fellowship
03/21/2013 SouthtownStar

Election 2013: Diane Bolos
03/23/2013 Patch
Election 2013: Sandra Wagner
03/26/2013  Patch

Aaron J. Ripperda, 26
03/27/2013  Belleville News Democrat

Bryson to give free lecture at SXU
03/27/2013  The Beverly Review

Calendar of Events - SXU Film Series: "Basquiat"
03/27/2013  The Beverly Review

Theology South to host Valente
03/27/2013  The Beverly Review

Loyola to Erect New Business School Building, Turn Old One into Library
03/27/2013  Examiner

A Day in the Life of a Mercy Volunteer Corps Volunteer: Stacy Konow
03/27/2013  Catholic Volunteer Network

Local Voices: Orland Park
03/28/2013  Daily Pilot

Bulletin Board - "Parenting with the Brain in Mind" with Dr. Tina Bryson/Theology South with Judith Valente/"Poetry and Politics" with Kevin Stein
03/28/2013  The Reporter

New SXU provost comes from Philly
03/28/2013  The Reporter

Ten candidates state cases for why they're good for Oak Lawn
03/28/2013  The Reporter

Volley for Charity
03/28/2013  The Reporter

Religion Briefs For March 29 - Theology South with Judith Valente
03/28/2013  SouthtownStar

Obituary - SISTER MARY CATHERINE DALY
03/30/2013  Chicago Tribune
SHANE ZACKERY - NFF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE DAY, PRESENTED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
03/02/2013 National Football Foundation

SXU men return to NAIA national hoops tourney
03/06/2013 The Beverly Review

Girls soccer previews: Downers North, South welcome new coaches; Westmont building
03/06/2013 MySuburbanLife

College Basketball: St. Xavier women advance in NAIA tourney
03/06/2013 SouthtownStar

Broski Tough, SXU Advances to NAIA Second Round Defeats STU, 70-49
03/06/2013 Victory Sports Network

Area colleges: Benedictine names men's soccer coach
03/06/2013 State Journal-Register

WBB: USF Wins Opening Round Game 62-42
03/06/2013 WANE

Community sports news - SXU's Yanule headed to ESCC Hall of Fame
03/07/2013 The Reporter

SXU sports summary
03/07/2013 The Reporter

ON CAMPUS: Krutwig gives Parkside lift from outside
03/08/2013 Northwest Herald

WBB: USF Advances To Elite Eight
03/08/2013 WANE

Saint Francis women advance to NAIA quarterfinals
03/09/2013 News-Sentinel

Tiger earns his stripes in cheap seats
03/09/2013 Sioux City Journal

REGION COLLEGIANS: Lew Wallace’s Flourney and Gardner a dandy duo
03/10/2013 Northwest Indiana Times

2013 WBCA NAIA Coaches' All-America Team
03/12/2013 Sports Page Magazine

SXU sports summary
03/14/2013 The Reporter
COLLEGE ROUNDUP: Adrian College ACHA D3 men's hockey wins national title
03/17/2013  The Daily Telegram

SXU sports summary: Stuut, Karp, Green selected to All-America hoops teams
03/21/2013  The Reporter

REGION COLLEGIANS: Andrean’s Norton stellar for Fighting Irish
03/24/2013  Northwest Indiana Times

Ebersole jumps to next level
03/25/2013  The Doings

Park Lawn seeks volleyball teams
03/27/2013  The Beverly Review

Five vying for three trustee seats in Chicago Ridge
03/28/2013  The Reporter

SXU sports summary
03/28/2013  The Reporter
The Saint Xavier University Women's Basketball team was highlighted in Sioux City KCAU's coverage of the NAIA Division II Tournament. Sophomore guard/forward Morgan Stuut, who recently was named the 2012-13 CCAC Women's Basketball Player of the Year, was interviewed about SXU's role in the tournament.

The clip aired at 5:08 p.m. CST on Wed., March 6 on KCAU's Eyewitness News at 5.

-Top-
Prof. Chris Appelt on climate change

03/10/2013

Saint Xavier University Department of Biological Sciences Professor Christopher Appelt was interviewed on the show "At Issue" about how society can ease the threat of climate change. WBBM-AM Reporter Craig Dellimore is the host of the show. The segment aired on March 10.

-Top-
Saint Xavier University Executive Director for University Ministry Graziano Marcheschi, D.Min., discusses the selection process for the Pope during four different segments from 5 to 7 a.m. on March 12 on CBS 2 Chicago.
Saint Xavier University Executive Director for University Ministry Graziano Marcheschi, D.Min., discusses the selection process for the Pope during four different segments from 5 to 7 a.m. on March 13 on CBS 2 Chicago. Marcheschi also appeared on CBS 2 on March 12.

-Top-
Saint Xavier University Executive Director for University Ministry Graziano Marcheschi, D.Min., discussed the election of Pope Francis during three segments from 5 to 7 a.m. on March 14 on CBS 2 Chicago. Marcheschi also discussed the appointment via phone at 6:08 p.m. on March 13 on CLTV's "Politics Tonight."

Additionally, Marcheschi discussed the selection process for the Pope during eight more segments on March 12 and March 13 on CBS 2.

-Top-
Saint Xavier University Executive Director for University Ministry Graziano Marcheschi, D.Min., discussed the importance of Pope Francis’ Installation Mass at 8:04 a.m. on Tues., March 19 on FOX’s Good Day Chicago.
Saint Xavier University School of Nursing Professor Evelyn Norton and Graham School of Management Professor Cheryl Luczak recently conducted a study abroad trip to Romania. Six nursing students and three business students attended the trip, the purpose of which was to study Romania's non-profit businesses and health care system.

Students met with entrepreneurs and directors of several institutions, including the director of the Bistrita Hospital, the director of Bistrita's nursing school, and the director of a nursing home in Cluj.
Saint Xavier University has partnered with WGN-TV Chicago to highlight the Teacher of the Month program, which honors educators who make a difference in their communities.

The program recognizes outstanding kindergarten, elementary, junior high, high school, vocational, and special education teachers in Chicagoland and northwest Indiana. Cyndi Sulak, who teaches history at St. Charles North High School in St. Charles, is March's Teacher of the Month. This segment appeared on WGN Chicago's News at Nine on March 27. Teachers of the Month also will appear on the SXU and WGN-TV websites.

One teacher will be selected each month through June 2013 for a total of 10 honorees. Teachers of the Month are chosen based on educational achievements in the classroom, community contributions and innovativeness of the program/techniques used by the teacher. Each Teacher of the Month is featured on the WGN-TV news and will receive a certificate of recognition. Additionally, each Teacher of the Month will receive a $1,000 donation from SXU to purchase school supplies for his or her classroom.
Steven Spielberg’s film “Lincoln” arrived with the nation in the middle of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, again facing the challenge of sifting through the past.

Remembering the Civil War has never been easy for Americans. Post-war Northerners deemed it a necessary evil, one justified and perhaps even hallowed by the nation’s purification through blood.

Southerners bitterly recollected Northern aggression that destroyed their families, society, economy and political system.

Black Americans mixed the joyous memories of emancipation with the painful and portentous failure of Reconstruction.

The nation’s memories are perhaps more complicated now than they were during the Civil War’s centennial 50 years ago. While defenses of the old South are rare today, so too is the confident Northern nationalism that celebrated the ending of slavery in a nation dedicated to freedom.

Instead, in a society more critical of national shortcomings, the Northerners’ motives are frequently considered suspect, devoid of any great moral purpose. Consequently, we find it hard to celebrate even icons such as Abraham Lincoln.

Although never universally admired — Northern Democrats during the war and Southerners long after considered him a tyrant, and more than a few historians consider him culpable for the outbreak of the war — Lincoln now is under fire from Americans who accuse him of being insufficiently committed to emancipation. The title of Lerone Bennett Jr.’s book about Lincoln’s road to emancipation says it all — “Forced into Glory: Abraham Lincoln’s White Dream.”

Into this mix comes Spielberg’s movie, a story about the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in early 1865, shortly after Lincoln’s re-election.

Once ratified, the amendment permanently abolished slavery in the United States and hence stands as a crowning achievement of Lincoln’s presidency and a turning point in the nation’s history. Spielberg uses it as a prism to judge Americans’ commitment to national ideals.

Spielberg’s judgment carries weight because feature films are perhaps our most powerful historical narratives. They draw in millions of people who do not wish to read complex explanations of a seemingly alien past.

Scripted dialogue, memorable performances, mesmerizing visuals and evocative soundtracks seduce viewers by making the past come alive in a way that no historian can. And, unsurprisingly, Spielberg employs his medium to masterful effect, dramatizing history with enviable skill to drive home his point.
Yet Spielberg also tells a great historical truth. He knows that Southern slaveholders launched the Civil War to preserve slavery and that many Northerners embraced emancipation only to preserve the Union.

Spielberg shows this ugly side to our national history by showcasing Northern Democrats’ vehement resistance to passage of the Thirteenth Amendment. Their visceral contempt for black people is starkly portrayed and accurately reflects most mid-19th century white Americans’ racial views.

But it’s precisely for this reason that Spielberg’s ultimate judgment rings true. In contrast to Lincoln’s modern detractors, Spielberg understands the political challenge that Lincoln and other antislavery Americans faced — Southerners’ implacable determination to maintain slavery combined with Northern Democrats’ unshakable commitment to white supremacy.

By contrast, Lincoln advocated a “new birth of freedom.” His commitment to antislavery politics flowed from the Declaration of Independence, which proclaimed human equality to justify consent of the governed. And he sought to preserve liberty in America so it could remain a hope for people everywhere.

This was a noble goal and remains so. The cause of liberty is still our cause, and “Lincoln” should renew our devotion to that cause for which Northern soldiers “gave the last full measure of devotion.”

Graham A. Peck is an associate professor of history at St. Xavier University in Chicago.
Women and girls are under tremendous pressure to focus on beauty rather than brains in a world far too preoccupied with sex and sexuality. From steamy music videos, commercials, and video games, to the Internet and TV shows, we’re bombarded with images of scantily clad women enticing us to buy products or watch some show. It’s all about money. Sex and female body parts can sell anything. But what does this constant proliferation of sexual imagery do to the psyche of young girls and boys?

Mass media is a very powerful medium that I believe contributes to eating disorders, sexism, violence against women and low self-esteem. Low-self esteem can also lead to unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. Some boys and men will view women as sex objects needed for vague sexual hook-ups, arm pieces or simply to gawk at as you stroll by half naked. Some men will take their sexist attitudes to the office, so fields viewed as intellectual like philosophy, science, technology, and math will be viewed as too difficult for women since we’re seen as objects, not intellectuals.

Young people must understand they’re being manipulated to look, act and dress a certain way. In addition to seeing far more sexually aggressive women on TV, current pop stars (Beyoncé, Rihanna, Madonna, Katy Perry) promote the sex kitten/Dominatrix image to the point where most of their videos are soft porn. Katy Perry stated: “I like to play the sexy card because it’s fun.” Thanks a lot, Katy, and the rest of you pop stars for your willingness to exploit your bodies for money and then claim your music empowers women. I can only imagine how confusing these mixed messages are to young girls who want to view these women as role models.

Below are tips to help young people thrive in a world that values a woman’s sexuality over her intellect:

- Educate girls about their power to shape their own image by developing self-esteem classes as early as kindergarten. Teach children that women and girls offer more to this world than beauty and sex appeal.
- Educate young boys that they don’t have to be tall, good looking and maintain a body chiseled out of stone.
- Teach children to block out the noise of the world and be brave, bold, and confident.
- Position obtaining a college degree as an expectation, not a choice.
- Organize a women’s film festival so children hear different perspectives from women who are aware of these image issues.
- Teach children to think critically about the images they see and how it makes them feel.
- View positive programming that tells the story of our intellectual achievements.
• Look for teachable moments in everything from the unrealistic body proportions of Barbie dolls to the overtly sexual Bratz dolls or the action and aggression type toys for boys. Make young ones aware of the gender differences in the type of toys available to them.

Karla Thomas is executive director of media relations for Saint Xavier University in Chicago. She serves as the university spokesperson who directs and develops the university’s comprehensive media relations efforts and is the primary point of contact for all media queries and requests for information. Ms. Thomas has over 20 years of PR/marketing experience with a proven track record in securing media coverage locally and nationally on behalf of for profit and nonprofit organizations throughout Chicago.

-Top-
State Reps. Kelly Burke and Renee Kosel visit SXU students

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 4, 2013

State Representatives Kelly Burke (D-36) and Renee Kosel (R-81) visited Saint Xavier University's (SXU) Chicago campus on Tues., Feb. 12 to give a presentation to students in Senior Fellow and former 19th Ward Alderman Virginia Rugai’s class. Other recent guests included Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, 34th Ward Ald. Carrie Austin and 39th Ward Ald. Margaret Laurino. Rugai’s class explores the historical evolution of the role of women in the U.S. political system, with particular emphasis on Chicago and Illinois governments. This course will examine how this history has impacted women’s entry into government and election to political office, and includes presentations from many notable female politicians and executives. Students will study how and why women have organized to have a greater role in politics, as well as the skills women need to fully participate in politics and policy making.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Beverly-Mt Greenwood Patch, Orland Park Patch, Evergreen Patch, Oak Forest Patch and Oak Lawn.

-Top-
Storm Central: Updated School Closings, 7 to 10 Inches Possible

Three area high schools have already closed for Tuesday. Snowfall of up to 10 inches possible.

By Dan Lambert

March 4, 2013

Tuesday, 10:55 a.m. - Saint Xavier University will shut down at 2 p.m. today and all classes after that time have been canceled.

-Top-
SXU honors future teachers at School of Education Pinning Ceremony

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 4, 2013

Saint Xavier University’s (SXU) School of Education hosted its first Pinning Ceremony on Tues., Feb. 5 in honor of SXU’s teacher education students earning candidacy status in the School of Education, the first major benchmark in their program leading to teacher licensure. State Superintendent of Education Dr. Christopher Koch attended the ceremony, which was held at the University's Chicago campus. “This ceremony is a way to celebrate the achievements of more than 200 SXU education majors that have reached the first major benchmark in their educational journey,” said School of Education Dean Beverly Gulley, Ph.D. Each student pledged to follow the Illinois Educator Code of Ethics throughout their careers, which contains five core principles providing a foundation for the responsibilities and commitments of all Professional Educators. These core principles, including meeting the educational needs of all students, are considered fundamental to the profession SXU candidates have chosen to enter. For an online gallery of photos from the event, please visit the "Saint Xavier University News" Facebook page. For more information about SXU’s School of Education, please visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: education. Photo 1: President Christine M. Wiseman, J.D., with State Superintendent of Education Dr. Christopher Koch. Photo 2: School of Education Dean Beverly Gulley, Ph.D., with State Superintendent of Education Dr. Christopher Koch. Photo 3: (L to R) School of Education Dean Beverly Gulley, Ph.D., Director of Teacher Education and Certification Officer Larry Sondler, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Christopher Koch, and President Christine M. Wiseman, J.D. Photo 4: Student Aldo Quinones of Oak Lawn at the SXU School of Education Pinning Ceremony.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Beverly-Mt Greenwood Patch, Orland Park Patch, Evergreen Patch, Oak Forest Patch .
SXU to host sixth annual STAR NET early childhood conference

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 4, 2013

Saint Xavier University will host the sixth annual Support and Technical Assistance Regional Network (STAR NET) Region VI conference from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wed., March 13 at its Orland Park Campus, 18230 Orland Parkway. The conference, titled “Early Childhood Today: Achieving Standards That Support All Children,” is geared toward parents, caregivers and professionals who shape the lives of children ages birth to eight. It will include workshops addressing six themes, including: social/emotional; speech and language; accommodations; early literacy; health and wellness; and best practices. Child development specialist Kathey Chvostal-Schmidt, MA, will be this year's keynote speaker and will deliver a talk titled "Nobody Told Me About the Parents..." Chvostal-Schmidt works with at-risk families with infants and toddlers at an Illinois State Board of Education-funded Prevention Initiative program at the SPEED Early Learning Center in Chicago Heights. Pre-registration is required, and all participants must register online. On-site and phone registration is not allowed. Seats are limited, and registration is accepted based on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration costs $35, which includes session and workshop materials, continental breakfast, and lunch. Sign-in begins at 8 a.m. the day of the conference. Please note that child care is not available at the conference, but parents of children with disabilities under age 6 can apply for a family fellowship for a reimbursement stipend by calling (708) 342-5370 or by visiting www.swcccase.org/starnet and clicking "Fellowship Info." STAR NET is an approved provider for Continuing Professional Development Units through the Illinois State Board of Education and continuing education for speech-language pathologists, social workers, occupational therapists, and physical therapists through the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. This event is co-sponsored by Saint Xavier University and STAR NET Region VI, in collaboration with South Sound Association for the Education of Young Children, SPEED Cooperative, Good Shepherd Center, Child and Family Connections 12, and the Early Intervention Training Program. For more information, please contact STAR NET at (708) 342-5370.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Beverly-Mt Greenwood Patch, Orland Park Patch, Evergreen Patch, Oak Forest Patch and Palos Patch.***
WSCR 670 "The Score" Program Director Mitch Rosen to speak at SXU’s Breakfast with the Experts

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 4, 2013

WSCR 670 "The Score" Program Director Mitch Rosen will be the next guest speaker at the 2013 Breakfast with the Experts series on Tues., April 23 at Saint Xavier University. Rosen’s talk, titled "Chicago Sports Radio 2013," will examine how content interaction with sports fans has changed the way they follow Chicago teams. The event, which is jointly sponsored by SXU and the Beverly Area Planning Association (BAPA), begins at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast and networking followed by the keynote address. It will be held in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center at SXU’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. Registration is $10 for the general public and free for BAPA Members. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to register, contact BAPA at (773) 233-3100 or www.bapa.org. Rosen embarked on a radio career that started at WGN in December 1988. Rosen produced the late night radio show of the legendary "Chicago Eddie" Schwartz, and later followed Schwartz to WLUP in 1992. Two years later, Rosen was named general manager of the Continental Basketball Association’s Chicago Rockers. But he soon returned to his first love of radio and was placed in management at WKTU in New York. Later that year, Rosen was named Program Director at WMVP. Following a successful run at WMVP, he was named Program Director of WSCR in 2005. Under Rosen’s leadership, WSCR acquired the broadcast rights for the Chicago White Sox and has without fail remained one of the nation’s most popular sports talk stations. Rosen lives with his wife Mary and their son Ben in Beverly. He is involved in numerous charitable activities, including serving on the American Diabetes Association's Board of Directors. SXU’s Breakfast with the Experts speaker series brings notable business, community and civic leaders together to share insights, experience, and industry knowledge with area business people. To suggest a speaker or learn about sponsorship opportunities, please contact (773) 298-3748 or specialevents@sxu.edu.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Beverly-Mt Greenwood Patch, Oak Lawn Patch, Evergreen Patch, Oak Forest Patch and Palos Patch.

-TOP-
Charity Briefs for March 5, 2013

March 4, 2013 1:26PM

Text to Give: St. Xavier University’s Department for University Advancement has announced a new “Text to Give” mobile giving campaign to benefit the university’s Class Gift Fund and the St. Xavier Fund. The program allows donors to make $10 donations using their mobile phones through Give by Cell. You can make a gift to the Class Gift Fund by texting CLASSGIFT with your first and last name to 20222, or make a gift to the St. Xavier Fund by texting SXU with your first and last name to 20222. Donors can give multiple times a month depending on your carrier. Donations are tax-deductible, and pledges are billed through your monthly cell phone bill. Messaging and data rates may apply. For information, visit www.givebycell.com.

-Top-
St. Xavier University will host the sixth annual Support and Technical Assistance Regional Network (STAR NET) Region VI conference from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13, at its Orland Park campus, 18230 Orland Parkway.

The conference, “Early Childhood Today: Achieving Standards That Support All Children,” is geared toward parents, caregivers and professionals who shape the lives of children ages birth to eight. It will include workshops addressing six themes, including social/emotional; speech and language; accommodations; early literacy; health and wellness; and best practices.

Child development specialist Kathey Chvostal-Schmidt, MA, will be the keynote speaker.

Pre-registration is required, and all participants must register online. On-site and phone registration is not allowed. Seats are limited, and registration is accepted based on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration costs $35, which includes session and workshop materials, continental breakfast and lunch. Sign-in begins at 8 a.m. the day of the conference.

Childcare is not available at the conference, but parents of children with disabilities under age six can apply for a family fellowship for a reimbursement stipend by calling (708) 342-5370 or by visiting swcccase.org/starnet.

For more information, call STAR NET at (708) 342-5370.
Community Briefs

Published as part of the March 6, 2013 edition.

An “Issues in Domestic Violence” panel discussion will be held on Wednesday, March 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., at St. Xavier University (SXU), in conjunction with A New Direction, at McGuire Hall, 3700 W. 103rd St.. Admission is free. Panelists include Rita Ryan, Jessica McCariha and Judge Timothy Murphy, of A New Direction; Steve English, of Blossom Boys; Gwen Spragg, of Nimble Digital Media, survivor; Itedal Shalabi, executive director of Arab American Family Services; Susan Hampson, MS, RN, NP-C, ER nurse, SXU assistant professor; Officer Claretha Cross, CPD; Leslie Landis, JD, court administrator, DV division; and Kristy Arditti, AM, LCSW, ICDVP. For more information, call SXU, (773) 298-3000.

-Top-
Gym packs punch for music video

Published as part of the March 6, 2013 edition.

by Caroline Connors

A Chicago-based film group took advantage of some local talent to film a music video that will hit the Internet later this year.

Rhapsody Productions Chicago set up shop at McGarry’s Boxing Club in Beverly to shoot a music video for singer/songwriter Jason Myles Goss on Feb. 23. The crew filmed all day in the gym and picked up a few pointers from local boxing legend Martin McGarry, who operates the boxing club in a converted garage behind his home.

Becki Pikula, a 2007 graduate of Mother McAuley High School who runs Rhapsody Productions with Kyle Dunleavy, a 2006 graduate of Br. Rice High School, said the gym was the perfect setting for filming the “Black Lights” video.

“The video is about a down-and-out boxer who street fights to pay the bills but wants to be a champion,” Pikula said. “The actors we used for the video had some boxing skills, but Martin gave them some lessons for doing proper technique.”

Pikula said she and the rest of the crew were overwhelmed by McGarry’s hospitality during the filming process, which also included another day of filming Goss performing the song.

“Kyle knows one of the trainers at McGarry’s gym, and he hooked us up with Martin,” Pikula said. “We were worried that he would say no, but he was just amazing—not only did Martin let us use the gym and give the guys boxing lessons, but every few minutes he was checking on us and asking if we needed anything.”

The actors and crew spent 11 hours at the gym, filming scenes inside the ring and in the alley behind the McGarry’s home. The video stars Jeffrey Michael Hoover, who drove in from Lincoln, Neb., to film, and Drew Rowe, an actor who also graduated from Br. Rice, Pikula said.

Beverly resident Martin McGarry (center) enjoys a moment with actors and crew from Rhapsody Productions Chicago after they filmed a music video at his gym. Joining him are Becki Pikula (from left), Kyle Dunleavy, Jeffrey Michael Hoover and Drew Rowe.
Pikula and Dunleavy have been friends since they met through the theater program at McAuley, Pikula said. They both graduated from DePaul University and formed Rhapsody Productions in 2009, using their videography and editing skills to produce videos of live performances such as concerts, recitals and musical theater.

“That’s our bread and butter,” Pikula said. “But music videos is what we really like to do.”

The group connected with Goss, Pikula said, after listening to his music a couple of years ago and “falling in love with it.” “Black Lights” is the third music video they have filmed for Goss, Pikula said; the first one featured former Miss Illinois Erin O’Connor, who graduated from McAuley a year ahead of Pikula.

Pikula, a behavioral therapist for children with autism, and Dunleavy, a digital media specialist at St. Xavier University and technical director at McAuley, said they hope to be able to work on music videos full time within a few years. They are building a fan page on Facebook, she said, and have also filmed music videos for Archie Powell and the Exports, Noise FM, State and Madison, and Ted Wulfers.

“All the bands we work with are unsigned—they haven’t signed with a record label—so we’re doing these videos on a tight budget,” Pikula said. “It can be challenging; but it’s also really rewarding, and we’re having a lot of fun.”

-Top-
South Side Irish Parade Line of March

Published as part of the March 6, 2013 edition.

Lead Off Merrionette Park Fire Department
1 Chicago Fire & Police Pipe Band
2 Color Guard Police & Fire
3A Grand Marshall - First Responders
3B Police Officer Michael Flisk Family
3C Fire Captain Herbie Johnson Family
3D Firefighter Walter Patmon, Jr. Family
4 Chicago Fire Fighters Local 2
5 Fraternal Order of Police
6 Bucks-for-Burn Camp
7 Cook County Sheriff Cadets
8 100 Club of Chicago
9 Emerald Society Bagpipes & Drums
10A Guests of Honor - State Champs
10B Brother Rice Rugby
10C Leo Track & Field
10D Marist Softball
10E Mt. Carmel Football
10F St. Rita Hockey
11 Knights Of Columbus 4th Degree
12 Windy City Veterans Association
13 Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band
14 Wee Folks of Washtenaw & Talman
15 CTA Mini L
16 Misericordia Home
17 Rose of Tralee
18 McNamara Irish Dancers
19 St. Cajetan Parish
20 St. Barnabas Parish
21 St. Linus Parish & School
22 Mother McAuley H.S./Bridget Cullen
22 Scholarship Fund
23 St. Christina’s Parish
24 St. John Fisher Parish
25 St. Catherine of Alexandria
26 Morgan Park H.S. Band
27 Sheriff Tom Dart and Family
28B Blackhawk YMCA Adventure Guides
28A YMCA Indian Guides & Indian Princesses
29 Gainer Clan
30 Sheahan Family
31 Trinity Irish Dancers, Ltd.
32 Hennessy Clan
33 Maeve McNicholas Memorial Foundation
34A St. Rita High School Band
34B Sponsored by Chicago Regional Council
34B of Carpenters
35 Quinn-O’Connor Family
36 Duignan Clan
37 Prudential Biros Real Estate
38 Little Company of Mary Hospital
39 Mercy Home for Boys & Girls/sponsored by US99
40 US 99.5 Radio
41 Morgan Park Academy
42 Kevin Kennelly Jr Scholarship Fund
43 OneMain Financial
44 104.3 K-Hits
45 McNicholas/Cole/Leavy Clans
46 Queen of Peace High School
47 Band of Brothers Pipes & Drums
48 Irish American Alliance
49 Gaelic Park
50 Irish American Heritage Center
51 Tooromeen School of Irish Dance
52 Beverly Bank & Trust Co.
53A Brother Rice HS Marching Band
53B Sponsored by Saint Xavier University
54 Hawthorne Race Course
55 Pipefitters Association Local Union 597
56 Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
57A Shannon Rovers Pipe Band-sponsored
57A by Plumbers Loc 130
57B Chicago Journeymen Plumbers-Local 130
58 IBEW 134
59A Chicago Caledonians
59B Sponsored by IBEW Local 134
60 Int’l Union of Operating Engineers-Local 150
61 Sprinkler Fitters & Apprentices Union
62 Mt. Greenwood Chamber of Commerce
63 Running Excels
64 93XRT Chicago’s Finest Rock
65 Standard Bank and Trust Co
66A Marist High School Band
66B Sponsored by Standard Bank
67 Chicago State University
68 501st Legion, Midwest Garrison
69 Beverly Arts Center
70 City of Chicago Pipe Band
71 Christmas Without Cancer
72 Claddagh Foundation - The Hughes Clan
73 Cross Keys School of Irish Dance
74 The Keith, McGreal & Morgan Families
75 Tunes of Glory Pipe Band
76 TGIF Restaurant
77 Flood Brothers
78 R.J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home
79 Pioneer Drum & Bugle
80 Home Run Inn Pizza
81 Letz Stop Inn
82 Cook County Commissioner John Daley
83 Congressman Daniel Lipinski
84 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
85 Bill Conway Memorial
86 Shamrock Chicago
87 Beverly Environmental

88 St. Andrew Society

89 Check Into Cash “The Cashdales”

90 Fire Museum of Greater Chicago
Mother McAuley to Host Celebration 2013

Posted on March 6, 2013 at 1:07 pm

The Board of Trustees of Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School will host Celebration 2013 on Saturday, April 20, 2013. This annual event benefits the Mother McAuley Endowment for Student Scholarship and Financial Aid. The event will take place at Mother McAuley High School and begins with cocktails at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Music and entertainment provided by The Mix. Mark Nilsson, contributor on the ABC7 Chicago television program, 190 North, will serve as master of ceremonies.

A raffle and auction will feature items such as Disney World Park passes, a table for eight at the annual Misericordia Christmas Brunch, Chicago White Sox tickets, autographed sports memorabilia and more.

The Celebration 2013 co-chairs are José and Kathleen Garcia of Oak Lawn, Michael and Peggy Evans Rourke ’76 of Beverly, and Timothy and Kathleen Sterk of Evergreen Park, all parents of McAuley alumnae and witnesses to the benefits of a McAuley education.

This annual endowment fundraiser celebrates individuals who exemplify the charism and values of Catherine McAuley, continue the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, and demonstrate an ongoing commitment to our mission. This year, Frances Robinson ’74 will be honored with the Catherine McAuley Leadership Award and Jennifer Costello Fortner ’94 with the Distinguished Alumna Award. The Sister Agatha O’Brien Catholic Service Award will be presented to Sr. Sheila Lyne, RSM.

Catherine McAuley Leadership Award

As the recipient of the Catherine McAuley Leadership Award, the school pays tribute to the Fran Robinson ’74 for her demonstrated leadership and constant support of the mission of the school in providing a quality Catholic, liberal arts education for young women. Fran’s own McAuley education remains a source of immense pride. In 2008, Fran established The John V. and Mary Anne Robins on Scholarship in honor of her parents, who sent five daughters to Mother McAuley High School. Two tuition scholarships are awarded to incoming McAuley freshmen and are renewable for up to four years.

Following her 1974 McAuley graduation, Fran attended Boston College, graduating with honors. She returned to Chicago to attend Chicago Kent College of Law and began her legal career as an Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Subsequently, she became partner in the law firm of Davis and Robinson and continued her career as a trial lawyer. Fran has tried more than 20, first-degree murder cases and has lectured at Boston University, Harvard University, and Suffolk Law School. She has been a frequent guest commentator regarding legal matters on Boston television. Additionally, Fran has served as a member of the Massachusetts Judicial Nominating Commission. She lives outside of Boston with her husband, John Donohue, and is the proud mother of three sons: Matthew, Kevin and Jack Donohue.
Distinguished Alumna Award

As the recipient of the Distinguished Alumna Award, the Mother McAuley community honors Jennifer Costello Fortner ‘94 for her exemplarily work in furthering the ministry of Catherine McAuley. In 2010, Jenny and her husband, along with Mary Anne Smrz, established the Jan Malloy Scholarship Fund in memory of Jan Malloy, former McAuley Alumnae Coordinator. Jan passed away in 2009 after a long battle with ovarian cancer.

Jenny is a private wealth advisor in the Investment Management Division (IMD) at Goldman Sachs in Chicago. She joined Goldman Sachs in 1998 as a financial analyst and was named managing director in 2011. Jenny is also the co-head and founder of the Goldman Sachs Chicago Women’s Network, and a member of the firm-wide Women’s Network and IMD Women’s Network Steering Committees. She served as a mentor for Goldman Sachs 10,000 Women, an initiative to offer a business and management education to women entrepreneurs.

Jenny serves on the board of the Big Shoulders Fund, providing support to the Catholic schools in the neediest areas of inner-city Chicago. She is on the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of Special Olympics Illinois. Jenny also volunteers on the Program Committee for Aspire and on the Advisory Committee for ARZU Studio Hope, helping women in Afghanistan break the cycle of poverty. Jenny is a member of The University of Chicago Women’s Board and has served on the Visiting Committee for The University of Chicago. In 2008, she was awarded the Highest Leaf Award for leadership and entrepreneurship from the Women’s Venture Fund. Jenny and her husband, P. Jay Fortner, have three children and live in Tinley Park.

Sister Agatha O’Brien Catholic Service Award

Sister Sheila Lyne, RSM, is honored as the recipient of the Sister Agatha O’Brien Catholic Service Award, for her commitment to the Catholic mission through her leadership and service to the Church.

Sister Sheila has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Mercy Medical Center in Chicago since 2000. Previously, she served in the role of President of Mercy Medical Center, and Director of the Diagnostic and Treatment Center. Sister Sheila has been on the board for the American National Bankand Trust Company, American National Corporation, DePaul University, El Valor Corporation, Mercy Medical Hospital and Medical Center in Chicago, Mercy Center in Aurora, the Illinois Hospital Association, the State of Illinois Guardianship and Mental Health Advocacy Commission and The Cook County Health System Board. She has been the recipient of numerous honors, including the Shield of St. Xavier Award from Saint Xavier University, and The Excellence in Public Service Award awarded on behalf of Crain’s Chicago Business, Motorola and the North Business and Industrial Council. Sister Sheila holds a bachelor of Science in Nursing and master of Science in Psychiatric Nursing from Saint Xavier University, and a master of business administration from the University of Chicago’s Booth School of Business.

For more information, call Tom Geraghty, Director of Institutional Advancement, at 773-881-6557.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ISSUES: A free panel takes place at 6:30 p.m. in McGuire Hall in St. Xavier University’s Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago. A question-and-answer session follows. Information: Elijah Ward at (773) 298-3453, eaward@sxu.edu.
Religion Briefs For March 8

March 7, 2013 11:38AM

Revelations: The East Gallery at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 11th St., Chicago, will host a juried exhibit March 19 through April 18 that explores ways in which religion is becoming less significant in post-Christian culture. An opening reception is 5 to 7 p.m. March 23. The exhibit will be curated by Maureen Riley, a senior at St. Xavier University, Chicago. Gallery admission is free. Information: (773) 445-3838 Ext. 210, or www.beverlyartcenter.org.

-TOP-
Scientists: Severity Of Recent Storms More Proof Of Climate Change

March 8, 2013 2:15 PM

CHICAGO (CBS) – Scientists in the Chicago area said Friday the kind of tumultuous weather we’ve been having is just more evidence of global warming, and a reason to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

WBBM Newsradio Political Editor Craig Dellimore reports AccuWeather chief forecaster Elliot Abrams said long-term data show global temperatures are rising; it’s indisputable.

“We’ve seen some of the effects of that, I think. The atmosphere in a warmed world will be able to accommodate more water vapor, and if there’s more water vapor available to a given storm, perhaps it can get stronger," Abrams said.

DePaul University environmental science professor Mark Potosnak said Chicago area residents can see that for themselves.

“Whether it was the snowstorm last week, or Superstorm Sandy, we find out that these weather events are very consistent with what we expect to happen in a warming world,” he said.

Chris Appelt, an associate professor of biological sciences at St. Xavier University, said there’s clear evidence of climate change leading to the melting of the Arctic ice cap.

“When we see all that happening, we see a lot of biological things happening as well. We see various animals and plants changing where they live, changing their behaviors, and we have species interacting with each other who normally wouldn’t encounter each other,” he said.

Wild weather, climate change and politics are the subjects of this weekend’s “At Issue” program, airing at 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Sunday on WBBM Newsradio 780 and 105.9 FM.
Lisa N. Pleskach and Brandon J. Wheeler

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2013

LOWVILLE — Lisa Nicole Pleskach and Brandon John Wheeler, both of Minot, N.D., were married Oct. 6 at St. Peter’s Catholic Church with the Rev. Chris Carrara officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Larry and Joyce Pleskach, Brantingham. The groom is the son of John and Karen Wheeler, Keuka Lake.

Heidi Abbey, Lowville, was her sister’s matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Kinsey Wolf and Lyndsay Gilman, both of Chicago, and Cheslee Morrison, White River Junction, Vt. Anna Millard, Turin, cousin of the bride, was flower girl.

Luke Moseley, San Francisco, was best man. Groomsmen were Ryan Pleskach, Liverpool, cousin of the bride, Paul Welsh, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and Ben Kumpf, Minot. Aiden Goodhines, Constableville, cousin of the bride, was ring bearer.

Ushers were Eric Pleskach, Brantingham, brother of the bride, Britt Abbey, Lowville, brother-in-law of the bride, Andy Hutson, A.J. Fleck and Jon Gilman, all of Chicago.

A reception was held at the Lowville Elks Club. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii.

Mrs. Wheeler graduated in 2001 from South Lewis Central School, Turin, in 2005 from Champlain College, Burlington, Vt., and in 2008 from St. Xavier University, Chicago, with a master’s degree in counseling. She is a school counselor.

Mr. Wheeler graduated in 2002 from Unadilla Valley High School, New Berlin, and in 2006 from Clarkson University, Potsdam. He is a B-52 pilot in the Air Force, stationed at Minot Air Force Base.

-Top-
Full South Side Irish Parade Lineup

Find out when to expect all your favorite marchers.

By Dan Lambert

March 9, 2013

The South Side Irish Parade steps off at noon on Sunday, March 10. View our Parade Survival Guide to find all the details on the big event.

Here is the full lineup for all of Sunday's participants:

1 Chicago Fire & Police Pipe Band
2 Color Guard Police & Fire
3A Grand Marshall - First Responders
3B Police Officer Michael Flisk Family
3C Fire Captain Herbie Johnson Family
3D Firefighter Walter Patmon, Jr. Family
4 Chicago Fire Fighters Local 2
5 Fraternal Order of Police
6 Bucks-for-Burn Camp
7 Cook County Sheriff Cadets
8 100 Club of Chicago
9 Emerald Society Bagpipes & Drums
10A Guests of Honor - State Champs
10B Brother Rice Rugby
10C Leo Track & Field
10D Marist Softball
10E Mt. Carmel Football
10F St. Rita Hockey
11 Knights Of Columbus 4th Degree
12 Windy City Veterans Association
13 Chicago Stockyard Kilty Band
14 Wee Folks of Washtenaw & Talman
15 CTA Mini L
16 Misericordia Home
17 Rose of Tralee
18 McNamara Irish Dancers
19 St. Cajetan Parish
20 St. Barnabas Parish
21 St. Linus Parish & School
22 Mother McAuley H.S./Bridget Cullen
22 Scholarship Fund
23 St. Christina’s Parish
24 St. John Fisher Parish
25 St. Catherine of Alexandria
26 Morgan Park H.S. Band
27 Sheriff Tom Dart and Family
28B Blackhawk YMCA Adventure Guides
28A YMCA Indian Guides & Indian Princesses
29 Gainer Clan
30 Sheahan Family
31 Trinity Irish Dancers, Ltd.
32 Hennessy Clan
33 Maeve McNicholas Memorial Foundation
34A St. Rita High School Band
34B Sponsored by Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
35 Quinn-O’Connor Family
36 Duignan Clan
37 Prudential Biros Real Estate
38 Little Company of Mary Hospital
39 Mercy Home for Boys & Girls/sponsored by US99
40 US 99.5 Radio
41 Morgan Park Academy
42 Kevin Kennelly Jr Scholarship Fund
43 OneMain Financial
44 104.3 K-Hits
45 McNicholas/Cole/Leavy Clans
46 Queen of Peace High School
47 Band of Brothers Pipes & Drums
48 Irish American Alliance
49 Gaelic Park
50 Irish American Heritage Center
51 Tooromeen School of Irish Dance
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54 Hawthorne Race Course
55 Pipefitters Association Local Union 597
56 Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
57A Shannon Rovers Pipe Band-sponsored
57A by Plumbers Loc 130
57B Chicago Journeymen Plumbers-Local 130
58 IBEW 134
59A Chicago Caledonians
59B Sponsored by IBEW Local 134
60 Int’l Union of Operating Engineers-Local 150
61 Sprinkler Fitters & Apprentices Union
62 Mt. Greenwood Chamber of Commerce
63 Running Excels
64 93XRT Chicago’s Finest Rock
65 Standard Bank and Trust Co
66A Marist High School Band
66B Sponsored by Standard Bank
67 Chicago State University
68 501st Legion, Midwest Garrison
69 Beverly Arts Center
70 City of Chicago Pipe Band
71 Christmas Without Cancer
72 Claddagh Foundation - The Hughes Clan
73 Cross Keys School of Irish Dance
74 The Keith, McGreal & Morgan Families
75 Tunes of Glory Pipe Band
76 TGIF Restaurant
77 Flood Brothers
78 R.J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home
79 Pioneer Drum & Bugle
80 Home Run Inn Pizza
81 Letz Stop Inn
82 Cook County Commissioner John Daley
83 Congressman Daniel Lipinski
84 Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
85 Bill Conway Memorial
86 Shamrock Chicago
87 Beverly Environmental
88 St. Andrew Society
89 Check Into Cash “The Cashdales”
90 Fire Museum of Greater Chicago
Kwame Kilpatrick guilty: For destitute Detroit, downfall of ex-mayor complete

Kwame Kilpatrick, once seen as a fresh hopeful face for Detroit when he became the financially troubled city's youngest mayor, was found guilty of enriching himself while in office.

By Mark Guarino, Staff writer / March 11, 2013

Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick leaves federal court after being convicted Monday, in Detroit, of corruption charges, ensuring a return to prison for a man once among the nation's youngest big-city leaders.

Ryan Garza/Detroit Free Press/AP

Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was found guilty Monday under federal corruption charges of scheming to enrich himself and his close confidants during his tenure in public office.

The verdict, which was announced after 15 days of jury deliberations, concludes a saga that has gripped the destitute city for over two years and represents the staggering downfall of Mr. Kilpatrick.
Kilpatrick, the youngest mayor in Detroit’s history, was once heralded as a fresh face to politics in the city, which is saddled with a staggering debt and has seen its industry, population, and tax revenues plummet and its crime rate soar.

The tales of personal excess resulting from systemic graft arrives one day before the city tries to make a last-ditch attempt to fight the takeover of its troubled finances by an emergency financial manager. Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder says that decades of corruption and mismanagement have created a financial burden for the city it cannot handle on its own and that the only way out is to cede temporary control to the state, which will allow it to create structural changes that would lead it to solvency.

The five-month trial dates back to December 2010 when Kilpatrick, his father Bernard Kilpatrick, his childhood friend Bobby Ferguson, and former water department director Victor Mercado were charged with 45 counts of racketeering conspiracy, bribery, extortion and tax evasion.

Kilpatrick was convicted on 24 of 30 counts. On three counts, he was found not guilty, and on three no verdict was reached. Mr. Ferguson was convicted of 9 of 11 counts. Bernard Kilpatrick received a conviction of a lesser tax charge. Mr. Mercado struck a plea deal in November and awaits sentencing.

The primary thrust of the government’s case, which resulted from a six-year investigation, was that all four conspired in what prosecutors described as “the Kilpatrick enterprise,” a multi-year extortion scheme to strong-arm city contractors working for the city’s water and sewerage department to funnel a total of $84 million in city contracts to shell companies operated by Mr. Ferguson.

Prosecutors described Bernard Kilpatrick as the middleman who contractors were forced to hire as a consultant in order to secure city contracts, some of which were for the biggest public work projects during Kilpatrick’s tenure, such as the demolition of Tiger Stadium and the partial demolition of the Book Cadillac Hotel.

Kwame Kilpatrick, who was charged with the majority of the counts, was portrayed as the ringleader who wielded influence to reap millions of dollars in kickbacks. Kilpatrick served as mayor of Detroit between 2002 and 2008 after serving as a state representative between 1996 and 2001. Prosecutors said his wrongdoing spanned the tenure of both offices.

The case made in the trial against Kilpatrick and his cohorts was overwhelming. Prosecutors rested after four months of testimony. Witnesses included a roll call of former Kilpatrick friends or aides. In total, 90 witnesses took the stand in the trial for both sides.

The most serious guilty verdict for Kilpatrick is for the single racketeering charge, a felony that can bring 20 years in prison.

Most often used to target organized crime, the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) law is increasingly used in high-profile public corruption trials, including the federal case against former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich in 2011. While Kilpatrick’s defense attorneys argued that their client was innocent because the gifts he received were unsolicited, or that others in his office approved the expenses, under the law, all the government had to prove was that Kilpatrick had knowledge of the bribe.

“Either you need solicitation of the bribe or the giving or receiving of something of value,” says William Kresse, director of the Center for the Study of Fraud and Corruption at Saint Xavier University in Chicago.

“We know what a bribe is: When a politician asks for money in exchange he will grant the favor. But it doesn’t have to have all of those elements, it needs one of them,” Mr. Kresse says. “Part of the rationale for the law is it is so hard to prove all of the elements. All prosecutors needed to show was there was an acceptance of the gift.”
One tool prosecutors used in their case were text messages between Kilpatrick and Mr. Ferguson and others that Assistant US Attorney Mark Chutkow says described “a crime scene frozen in time.” The messages showed Kilpatrick knowingly held contracts to help Ferguson.

The trial documented Kilpatrick’s opulent lifestyle, which was funded primarily by a foundation meant to support voter education and youth programs. Instead the fund was used to expense lavish family vacations, college tuition for relatives, and personal items. Several businessmen testified they were forced to provide Kilpatrick with expensive jewelry, suits, and vacations in order to maintain their multimillion dollar contracts.

Mr. Chutlow said in his closing arguments that Ferguson shared more than $125 million in spoils with Kilpatrick and that the mayor spent $840,000 past what his salary covered during his time as mayor.

“Mr. Kilpatrick lived way beyond the means of a public official,” he told jurors.

Detroit Mayor Dave Bing released a statement shortly after the verdict saying he was “pleased that this long trial has ended,” which will allow the city to “finally put this negative chapter in Detroit’s history behind us. It is time for all of us to move forward with a renewed commitment to transparency and high ethical standards in our city government.”

The guilty verdict is not the first in Kilpatrick’s troubled political career. He resigned during his second term as mayor in 2008 to plead guilty to lying in a civil case involving a sex scandal with a top aide. He ended up serving a 14-month prison term in 2008 on two obstruction of justice felonies.

This article also appeared in the following sources: Alaska Dispatch, MinnPost.
Swing into Spring event at Gilhooley’s

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 11, 2013

The Office of Alumni and Parent Relations and Gilhooley’s Grande Saloon are teaming up for a special Swing into Spring celebration from 1 to 5 p.m. on Fri., March 15!

Stop in Gilhooley’s during lunch or after work for food and drink specials while watching the White Sox vs. Cubs Spring Training match on the big screen T.V.! While there, greet (via Skype) President Christine M. Wiseman, J.D., and more than 130 SXU alumni and friends gathered at the Camelback Ranch Stadium in Glendale, Ariz. to cheer on their favorite Chicago team! Free raffles will be held every hour.

Whether you are a Cubs fan or a Sox fan... we are all SXU fans! What a great way to swing into spring! For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (773) 298-3316 or alumni@sxu.edu.

-Top-
SXU nursing professor receives $9,000 IBHE Fellowship

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 11, 2013

School: Saint Xavier University

Award: IBHE Fellowship

Saint Xavier University School of Nursing Assistant Professor Mary S. Haras, Ph.D.(c), MBA, APN, NP-C, CNN recently received a $9,061 Nurse Educator Fellowship from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The Fellowship will support Haras’ study of perceptions of nephrology nurses toward advance care planning for persons with chronic kidney disease.

The Nurse Educator Fellowship program aims to ensure retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher education that award nursing degrees. The fellowships supplement recipients’ salaries and help defray professional development and continuing education expenses.

Haras, a Chicago resident, will use this award to help complete her Ph.D. in Nursing at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. Her dissertation focus is an important area of research because the number of persons with chronic kidney disease continues to grow, and a valid and reliable method of assessing the advance care planning process in nephrology nurses is needed.

“The support from the Illinois Board of Higher Education validates the importance of end-of-life research for persons with chronic kidney disease,” Haras said. “It is critically important that nurses are comfortable participating in advance care planning discussions so that patients’ end-of-life wishes are known, respected, and followed. Receiving this award will enable me to complete my dissertation research on this important issue.”

Haras’ expertise is in the field of nephrology, and her teaching responsibilities focus primarily on medical-surgical nursing. She earned her BSN at Rush University in Chicago and her MS/Adult Nurse Practitioner degree from North Park University in Chicago. She also holds a MBA from the Keller Graduate School of Management.

Haras joined SXU’s School of Nursing as an Assistant Professorial Lecturer in 2007. Today, as an assistant professor on a tenure track, she teaches in the undergraduate classroom and clinical settings, and in the online Clinical Nurse Leader master’s program. Outside of SXU, Haras remains active as a nurse practitioner in Evergreen Park, and serves as American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) Project Director for the America Kidney Foundation Medicare Kidney Disease Education Project. She is an active member of ANNA.
Rockford Police officer Dalke promoted to assistant deputy chief

By Chris Green

RRSTAR.COM

Posted Mar 11, 2013 @ 11:28 PM

ROCKFORD — Sgt. Michael Dalke has been promoted to assistant deputy chief in the Rockford Police Department’s Administrative Services Bureau.

He will oversee the recruiting and training unit, personnel, accreditation, evidence and property and all administrative matters, Rockford Police Chief Chet Epperson said in a news release.

“Assistant Deputy Chief Dalke will enhance the recruitment and leadership development of our organization and its relationship to our citizens,” Epperson said. “His combination of experience and education will be a strong asset to our department.”

The position was created after the May retirement of Deputy Chief Michael Booker.

The Rockford police union balked at Epperson’s initial desire to turn the position over to a civilian and filed a grievance over the matter.

“We’re just glad they realized that position needed to come from within,” union President Terry Peterson said. “We’ll withdraw the grievance.”

Peterson said it is important to promote from within when possible if the department is to groom future leaders. He added Epperson was deputy chief of the Administrative Services Bureau when he was selected to be chief.

“To restrict people from having that same benefit is wrong,” Peterson said.

Dalke, 40, is a 16-year veteran of the department. He was promoted from patrol officer to investigator in 2006 and sergeant in 2008. He is a member of the department’s Special Weapons and Tactics Team and Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System Special Response Team.

Dalke who has a master’s degree in teaching and leadership is a graduate of MacMurray College and St. Xavier University.

Chris Green: 815-987-1241; cgreen@rrstar.com; @chrisfgreen
The first vote for a new pope will be taken on Tuesday in the Sistine Chapel, and the world will be watching and waiting for the white smoke signaling a new pontiff has been elected. Graziano Marcheschi, executive director of ministry at St. Xavier University, explains the process.
Saint Xavier University Senior Fellow and former Chicago Alderman Virginia Rugai, and State Senator Bill Cunningham (D-18) will discuss their paths into public service at the Careers in Public Service discussion from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Mon., March 25 in the Butler Reception Room.

Students pursuing any career path or major will benefit from the insight and expertise of these two esteemed professionals.

For more information, please contact SXU Career Services at (773) 298-3132.
Five new troopers join State Police

By STAFF REPORT news@saukvalley.com 800-798-4085, ext. 501

Created: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 1:15 a.m. CDT

STERLING – Five new troopers joined Illinois State Police on Monday, the department said in a news release.

The troopers were among 56 cadets who graduated from the ISP academy on Friday. The new troopers completed a 25-week regimen of physical training and classroom instruction.

The new troopers are: Richard Francis, from Chicago, a graduate of Saint Xavier University. Jordan Jackson, from Kincaid, a graduate of Illinois State University. Jackson is a former correctional officer with Illinois Department of Corrections. Michael Rudden, from Chicago, a graduate of Northern Illinois...
ROCKFORD (WREX) - A sixteen year veteran of the Rockford Police Department is celebrating a promotion.

Sergeant Michael Dalke was named Assistant Deputy Chief (ADC) of the Administrative Services Bureau. In that role, he will oversee the Recruiting and Training Unit, Personnel, Accreditation, Evidence and Property, and all administrative issues.

After the retirement of Deputy Chief Michael Booker last year, Chief Chet Epperson restructured the leadership team at the department, and had considered giving administrative duties to a civilian prior to picking Dalke for the role.

"Assistant Deputy Chief Dalke will enhance the recruitment and leadership development of our organization and its relationship to our citizens," Chief Epperson said. "His combination of experience and education will be a strong asset to our department."

Dalke started with Rockford Police as a patrol officer in 1997, was promoted to investigator in 2006, and named sergeant in 2008. He currently serves on the SWAT Team and Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System Special Response Team.

He has a Master of Arts in Teaching and Leadership from Saint Xavier University.

***This article also appeared in WREX.***
Bulletin Board

Published as part of the March 13, 2013 edition.

St. Xavier

Kathleen Therese Meany, president of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD), visited St. Xavier University’s (SXU) on Jan. 29 to give a presentation, “Women, Government and Politics,” to students in Senior Fellow and former 19th Ward Ald. Virginia Rugai’s class.

State Reps. Kelly Burke (D-36th) and Renee Kosel (R-81st) were guests on Feb. 12. Other recent guests included Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez, 34th Ward Ald. Carrie Austin and 39th Ward Al. Margaret Laurino.

Throughout the course, students enjoy presentations from many notable female politicians and executives including Meany who is the first female president of MWRD.

Rugai’s class explores the historical evolution of the role of women in the U.S. political system, with particular emphasis on Chicago and Illinois governments. The course examines how this history has impacted women’s entry into government and election to political office. Students study how and why women have organized to have a greater role in politics, as well as the skills women need to fully participate in politics and policy making.

* * *

SXU alumni and friends will witness the Cubs battle the White Sox during a spring training preseason game on Friday, March 15, at Camelback Ranch Stadium in Glendale, Ariz.

President Christine Wiseman, JD, will welcome more than 120 guests to the Legends Deck, which will be exclusively designated for SXU.

Admission includes exclusive seating, food and soft drinks. A portion of the proceeds supports student scholarships.

For more information, call (773) 298-3316 or e-mail alumni@sxu.edu.

* * *

The department of women and gender studies at SXU will host a symposium, “Binders Full of Women: Examining Gender on Campus and Beyond,” in honor of Women’s History Month on Friday, March 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The symposium will be held in the student lounge, located in the Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St.
Following a presidential campaign season where the phrase “binders full of women” prompted a revival of the debate about women’s position in society, the women’s studies program at SXU invites the community to reflect on gender issues on campus and beyond during a full-day informal conference featuring SXU students, faculty and staff.

The event, which is free and open to the public, will feature a variety of educational panels and roundtable discussions about the role of women and gender in the education system and the professional world.

For more information, call (773) 298-3550.
The city of Naperville has announced that Linda LaCloche, who most recently served as the assistant director of the Department of Building and Zoning Services and a policy advisor to Mayor Michael B. Coleman of Columbus, Ohio, has been named Naperville’s new Communications Manager.

Her first day will be April 1.

“At a time when the city is looking to enhance communications and community outreach, Linda is absolutely the right person to lead our communications team,” Deputy City Manager Marcie Schatz said. “Her strong background working for the city of Columbus in a variety of roles over the last 12 years, coupled with her expertise in media relations and policy development, will help strengthen the Communications Division and provide outstanding leadership on critical projects like a complete city website redesign and mass notification system rollout.”

LaCloche will oversee the recently renamed Communications Division, which will consist of two communications specialists, a web content coordinator and a communications assistant. LaCloche will report to the deputy city manager.

“I am excited to bring a fresh perspective to communications at the city of Naperville,” LaCloche said. “I believe I can bring a wealth of experience to this outstanding community through my years of experience in relationship-building and media communications. There are so many crucial projects on the horizon, including the creation of solid communication policies, that I am honored to be able to assist with from inception to development to execution.”

Prior to serving as the assistant director of the Department of Building and Zoning Services for the city of Columbus, LaCloche served as a policy advisor to Coleman and held the positions of communications director and communications specialist in the Columbus Department of Development.

From 1999 to 2000 she served as communications director for the City of Falls Church, Va.; prior to that time she was employed as communications associate for the International Research & Exchange Board in Washington, D.C., and a community relations specialist for Waste Management Inc. in Chicago.

LaCloche is a native of Illinois and holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and history from St. Xavier University in Chicago.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Naperville Patch, Trib Local Naperville, and Waste Management World.***
CFA Society Chicago Names DePaul University Champion in the CFA Institute Research Challenge Local Level Competition

DePaul University team advances to Americas regional final in Toronto, March 20-21

Chicago, IL (PRWEB) March 13, 2013

The DePaul University team was selected as the winner of the CFA Institute Research Challenge, hosted by CFA Society Chicago on Feb. 20. The DePaul University team had the highest overall score, defeating teams from Illinois Institute of Technology, Loyola University Chicago, Northern Illinois University, Northwestern University, Saint Xavier University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and University of Notre Dame.

The DePaul University Kellstadt Graduate School of Business team will compete in the CFA Institute Americas regional competition March 20-21 in Toronto. The winner of the regional competition will then vie for the global title April 10-13 in London.

DePaul team members, Deepika Bhandary, Tim Bloklander, Chris Howe, Nick Khalaieff and Meng Yu, worked with DePaul faculty advisor Sanjay Deshmukh, CFA and industry mentor Grady Burkett, CFA on their winning project.

“The local competition was a fulfilling experience. It brought to light the tools taught through the CFA Institute curriculum. The investment research application and critique from highly regarded judges are aspects that I will carry with me on my career path,” said Chris Howe, DePaul Kellstadt Graduate School of Business student.

Nine teams were judged on a written equity research report, and the field was narrowed to four teams based on their scores. These final four teams gave an oral presentation that summarized their research and recommendation of AptarGroup, Inc (NYSE: ATR), a leading global supplier of a broad range of innovative dispensing systems for the beauty, personal care, home care, pharmaceutical, food and beverage markets.

A CFA charterholder and CFA Chicago member mentored each participating team, and all participants were introduced and held to the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct. The teams’ research and conclusions were based on interactions with senior executives at AptarGroup, Inc, investment thesis and risks analysis, financial modeling, valuation, comparable benchmarking and scenario creation.

The DePaul team winners and the first, second and third place teams received various prizes sponsored by CFA Chicago.

For more information on the Research Challenge and its participants visit http://www.cfainstitute.org/programs/cfaprogram/challenge.

CFA Society Chicago

CFA Society Chicago, http://www.cfachicago.org, aims to lead the investment profession by promoting the highest standards of ethics, education, and professional excellence; to shape an investment industry that serves the greater good; and to serve as the premier local resource for Chartered Financial Analyst designees, candidates, other investment
professionals and our communities. Founded in 1925, CFA Society Chicago has more than 4,000 members and is the world's oldest investment analysts' society.

CFA Institute

CFA Institute is the global association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence and credentials. The organization is a champion for ethical behavior in investment markets and a respected source of knowledge in the global financial community. The end goal: to create an environment where investors’ interests come first, markets function at their best, and economies grow. CFA Institute has more than 113,000 members in 140 countries and territories, including 102,000 CFA charterholders, and 137 member societies. For more information, visit http://www.cfainstitute.org.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: 19 Action News, ABC 13, AZTV, Hawaii News Now, KLJB, KLTV, KPLC, KPTM, KPTV, KRHD, KUAM, KTEN, My Fox napa, NTV, Toledo News Now, Virtual Strategy Magazine, WDRB, WFSB, WFXR, WICU, WMBB, WMC TV, WNEM, WOWK, WRCB, WRIC, and WUPV.

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Half a world away from the jubilant scene at St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City, Crete resident Paula Vandermeer on March 13 started spinning in her office in Grant Park out of joy for a newly elected pope.

“He’s going to be a unifier,” Vandermeer said hours after Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, of Buenos Aires, became the new worldwide leader of the Catholic Church. “I know he’s going to be a unifier.”

Vandermeer was one of about 30 parishioners celebrating by attending a special Mass for the new pope on the evening of March 13 at St. Liborius Church in Steger.

“It’s a great day to rejoice for the church,” Pastor Dennis Spies said. “It’s a great day to rejoice for the Americas.”

Many parishioners at the service agreed.

“For me, it was very overwhelming,” Patty Heiss said. “For the first time, I got chills when the white smoke came out of the chimney.”

Schererville resident Dave Evanseck said he agreed with the new pope’s ideology.

“He’s on the conservative side, and I’m happy about that,” Evanseck said.

Governors State University professor Taida Kelly said she enjoyed hearing the new pope knows how to do the Tango.

“Just watching the crowd on TV, I had tears in my eyes. I felt so blessed that I’m a Catholic,” she said. “It takes away some of the stings going on in the Catholic Church.”

Kasia Kulchawik, a freshman at Marian Catholic High School who met with a youth group after the Mass, said, “We can get a different perspective from the other side of the world.”

Spies had opened his homily asking how many people prayed for the cardinals to select a new pope. About three-fourths of the crowd raised their hands.

“We had a billion people praying for the decision that was made. That’s incredible to consider,” Spies said.

Catholic leaders throughout the Southland also reacted positively, though most were surprised that Bergoglio was chosen.
Many were excited by what the choice might mean for the future of the Catholic Church.

Edward Weston, principal of St. George School in Tinley Park, was interviewing confirmation candidates in his office about 1 p.m. when he heard shrieks coming from the school’s office staff.

“I opened the door and heard, ‘We have a pope, we have a pope,’” he said. “It makes me proud to be a Catholic.”

A new regime will bring a new look and new hope for the church, he said, and help it move beyond recent scandals and bad publicity.

Graziano Marcheschi, executive director of ministry at St. Xavier University, called Bergoglio, 76, a “genius choice” and thought the cardinals were looking for an “evangelizer.”

“What’s most attractive is by coming from South America, ... the Holy Father is very much aligned with the poor,” Marcheschi said. “Most Catholics are not First World people, they’re Third World people. Here is a pope who can identify with people from the Third World, who can speak their language, who has shared a lot of their heritage. That will speak volumes.”

Joliet Bishop R. Daniel Conlon said he, too, “thinks it’s wonderful that the pope is Hispanic.” But where the pope is from is not so important to Conlon. He believes the cardinals chose the man who has taken the name Pope Francis I because he is “the right pope of the church at this time.”

There are more than 655,000 Catholics in the Diocese of Joliet, which stretches over seven counties. Asked if the number has been growing or declining, Conlon said, “That’s always a difficult question to answer because it’s hard to know what standard to use to measure.”

In marriages and baptisms, the numbers are up, Conlon said.

“You also have to look at the number of people who stop practicing the faith for various reasons. These are people we have to reach, too,” Conlon said. “Is the number of active Catholics up? I’m not so optimistic about those numbers.”

Conlon’s priority of having the “right pope” probably will mean more after the excitement of having a Hispanic pope has subsided.

One problem facing Pope Francis I is how to deal with sexual abuses of minors committed by priests. Even as cardinals met in Rome this week, the Joliet diocese announced a court settlement in a case involving allegations from three people who said they were abused as minors in the 1970s and 1980s.

Although he is from the liberal order of Jesuits, Bergoglio is “straight down the party line” of Catholicism when it comes to opposing gay marriage or ordaining women as priests but also is known for his compassion, Marcheschi said.

The Rev. William Malloy, pastor of St. Barnabas Church in Chicago’s Beverly community, said he was surprised by how quickly the election occurred.

“It is a great thing that they elected someone from outside Europe, someone from the Third World,” Malloy said. “It’s a sign of the church’s growth and universal reach.”

The Rev. Jay Finno, pastor of St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr in Tinley Park, said the election of Bergoglio is both exciting and symbolic of good things to come.

“Any time there is new leadership, it’s an opportunity for a fresh start,” Finno said. “He can build on his predecessors, but I think he’ll bring a new perspective, being from South America.”
Mary Kay Burberry, director of religious education at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Orland Park, was thrilled that Bergoglio adopted the St. Francis name.

“How can you forget that name if you’re (in our parish)?” Burberry said. “I don’t think we’ll ever forget who the pope is here.”

Contributing: Bob Okon

***This article also appeared in the following sources: The Beacon News, The Courier News, The Herald News, The Naperville Sun, and The Post-Tribune,

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Bulletin Board

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Saint Xavier

WSCR 670 “The Score” program director Mitch Rosen will be the guest speaker at the 2013 Breakfast with the Experts series on Tuesday, April 23 at the Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.” Chicago Sports Radio 2013” will examine how content interaction with sports fans has changed the way they follow Chicago teams. The event, jointly sponsored by SXU and the Beverly Area Planning Association, begins at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast and networking followed by the keynote address. It will be held in the Butler Reception Room, in the Warde Academic Center. Registration is $10 for the general public, free for BAPA members. Reservations are required. For more information or to register call (773) 233-3100 or visit bapa.org.
Health fair at SXU

Published as part of the March 14, 2013 edition.

Free health screenings, assessments, and information will be available at Saint Xavier University’s 10th annual Health Fair on Friday, March 22.

The fair, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled to be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Shannon Center at the University’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. The fair drew more than 500 attendees last year, and will feature free screenings and assessments for blood pressure, blood glucose, bone density, hearing and vision, feet, spinal cord, injuries, cholesterol, stress and body mass index. Other activities will include free chair massages, healthy cooking demonstrations at 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.; 15-minute exercise classes featuring chair yoga from 9 to 10 a.m.), beginner strength training at 11 a.m., and zumba at noon and 1 p.m.

There will also be a blood drive hosted by Heartland Blood Centers. To register call (773) 298-3592. Donors will receive a $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card.

Area vendors at the fair will include Accelerated Rehab Physical Therapy, Advanced Eyecare Professionals, Advocate Christ Center for Breast Care, Chicago Foot and Ankle, Chiro One Wellness Center, Core Fitness and Physical Therapy/Beverly Spinning, CrossFit Beverly, Curves, Great Lakes Health and Wellness, Greenwood Chiropractic Clinic, MetroSouth Medical Center, Oak Ridge Family Dental, Overeaters Anonymous, Palos Health & Fitness Center, and Running for Kicks.

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SXU plans annual health fair

Published as part of the March 14, 2013 edition.

Free screenings offered

Free health screenings, assessments, and information are available at Saint Xavier University’s 10th annual Health Fair on Friday, March 22.

The fair, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Shannon Center at the University’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.

The fair, which drew more than 500 attendees last year, is a “one-stop shop” of free health services. It includes free screenings and assessments for the following: blood pressure, blood glucose, bone density, hearing and vision, feet, spinal cord, injuries, cholesterol, stress, body mass index and more.

The fair also includes a wide variety of other activities, including free chair massages; healthy cooking demonstrations at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m.; 15-Minute exercise classes featuring Chair Yoga (9 a.m. and 10 a.m.), Beginner Strength Training (11 a.m.), and Zumba (noon and 1 p.m.); and comprehensive kidney screening (which includes analysis of blood pressure, sodium, calcium, glucose, liver, and more) for $25 per person. Call (773) 298-3592 for more information and to pre-register.

A blood drive will be held by Heartland Blood Centers. To donate blood, register by calling (773) 298-3592. Receive a $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card when you donate.

Neighborhood vendors will be at the fair to share health information with the community, including health-care providers and retailers.

Free samples and refreshments will be served by 5 Hour Energy; Chartwells; Gatorade; Great American Bagel; Honest Tea; Muscle Milk; Starbucks; and Subway.

For more information, call (773) 298-3592 or visit sxu.edu, keyword: health fair.

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Religion Briefs For March 15

March 14, 2013 1:20PM

Revelations: The East Gallery at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 11th St., Chicago, will host a juried exhibit March 19 through April 18 that explores ways in which religion is becoming less significant in post-Christian culture. An opening reception is 5 to 7 p.m. March 23. The exhibit will be curated by Maureen Riley, a senior at St. Xavier University, Chicago. Gallery admission is free. Information: (773) 445-3838 Ext. 210, or www.beverlyartcenter.org

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St. Xavier University’s Department of Women and Gender Studies is hosting a symposium in honor of Women’s History Month, called “Binders full of women: Examining gender on campus and beyond.”

The symposium is scheduled for March 22 in the student lounge at the Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago.

The program invites the community to consider gender issues on campus and beyond. The event is free to the public.

The schedule of events includes:

Welcome and coffee, 8:30 to 9 a.m.

Panel I: “Women in the Classroom: History and Philosophy of American Education” with professor David Hibbs (education), 9 to 9:50 a.m.

Panel II: “The Clashing of the Titans: Perception, Narcissism, and Self-esteem” with professors Michael Bathgate (religious studies), Troy Martin (religious studies) and Josephine Ebomoyi (biology), 10 to 10:50 a.m.

Round Table I: “Gender Disparity in Academic and Professional Fields” with professors Bindhu Varughese (chemistry), Liane Cochran-Stafira (biology), and students Jackie Sarna (chemistry), Leanne Fischler (biology) and Ewa Lindgren (math), 11 to 11:50 a.m.

“Brown-Bag Lunch: Women in Politics” with former 19th Ward Ald. and SXU senior fellow Virginia Rugai, noon to 12:50 p.m.

Panel III: “Trailblazers and Intellectual Leaders” with information technology director Rola Othman and associate director of corporate, government and foundation relations Ruth Hansen, 1 to 1:50 p.m.

Round Table II: “Gender Disparity in Academic and Professional Fields” with professors Larry Meneghini (nursing) and Peter Hilton (education), and student Annalisa Guerrero (communication sciences and disorders), 2 to 2:50 p.m.

Panel IV: “Her-story Throughout the Ages” with professor Peter Kirstein (history and political science), executive director for media relations Karla Thomas, and professor Joanna Nemeh (religious studies), 3 to 3:50 p.m.

Wrap-up and reception, 4 to 4:50 p.m.

For more information, call (773) 298-3550.
The race for Hinsdale High School District 86 Board reflects the split that has existed for several years.

Among the eight candidates running for four seats, some focus on the district’s successes, others on its shortcomings.

Candidates Claudia Manley, Ed Corcoran and Victor Casini are campaigning together on a platform of community collaboration, better financial management, educational excellence and transparency.

“The current board could improve its fiscal responsibility, especially with regard to the transparency of its spending decisions,” Casini said.

Incumbents Dennis Brennan, Kay Gallo, Deirdre (DeeDee) Gorgol and newcomer Roseanne Rosenthal also are campaigning together, citing upgrades of facilities without a major tax increase, and consistent improvement in academic achievement.

Both Brennan and Gallo cite as accomplishments the renovation of the science classrooms as a significant accomplishment. Gallo also includes the master facility plan, which had the school entrances redesigned to make them more secure and improved the traffic flow around the schools, and the vision/strategic plan.

Rosenthal said the academic success of District 86 students is “astonishing for a public school that admits every single student regardless of ability or language barrier.”

A music education teacher for more than 30 years, Rosenthal said, she was delighted with the education her children received and she wants to protect and preserve that quality.

Roger Kempa, the only candidate not running as part of a slate, criticizes the relationships on the board and its attitude to the public, which he considers “arrogant.”

He opposed the board’s decision to levy the maximum amount of taxes the district legally can under the tax cap, and said board members treat taxpayers as “a machine to be turned on once a year to pull the lever and get every dime they can. That’s wrong, especially in this economy with people out of work, (or) earning less than they did four years ago.”

Corcoran wants “no-bid” contracts eliminated. Both he and Manley want committees formed that would include community members.

“Populate the committees with skilled citizens focused on clear scopes and missions,” such as budget review, facilities, curriculum, taxes and the teachers’ contract, Corcoran said.
Ironically, while Brennan said the board works well together for the community and the students, Gallo said she wants to improve interaction among board members, because it seems as though some members “espouse personal agendas over what was best for the students. I would like to think this was primarily due to a lack of communication.”

This story was updated March 23 to show Deirdre (DeeDee) Gorgol is campaigning together with Dennis Brennan, Kay Gallo and Roseanne Rosenthal.

Just the facts

DENNIS BRENNAN

Resident of: unincorporated Hinsdale

Education: Bachelor’s degree from St. Xavier University; law degree from John Marshall Law School

Occupation: Managing member and general counsel of Illinois Energy Aggregation LLC

School board experience: completing second four-year term on District 86; Maercker Elementary District 60 School Board member from 2003 to 2007.

VICTOR CASINI

Resident of: Burr Ridge

Education: Finance Degree from University of Illinois; law degree from Northwestern University

Occupation: Corporate attorney and senior vice-president of LKQ Corp.

School board experience: Gower Elementary District 62 School Board member 2007-11

ED CORCORAN

Resident of: Clarendon Hills

Education: Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering and master’s in finance from Northwestern University

Occupation: Owns and works for Green Tech Overseas; has managed large construction projects in five countries

School board experience: None

KAY GALLO

Resident of: Clarendon Hills

Education: Attended Prairie State College and DePaul University

Occupation: Owns WorryFreePC, a computer consulting firm
School board experience: completing her first four-year term on District 86; member of Maercker Elementary District 60 School Board, 2001 to 2005.

DEIRDRE (DEEDEE) GORGOL

Resident of: Willowbrook
Education: Bachelor’s degree in computer science from North Central College
Occupation: Data specialist and internal auditor at United Parcel Service
School board experience: Completing her first four-year term on District 86

ROGER KEMPA

Resident of: Darien
Education: Bachelor’s degree in finance from Arizona State University; master’s in finance from Benedictine University
Occupation: Retired, chief financial officer for Geneva Public Schools and Morton Community College
School board experience: Illinois Association of School Business Officials Board member

CLAUDIA MANLEY

Resident of: Darien
Education: Bachelor’s degree from Illinois State University; law degree from IIT Chicago Kent Law School
Occupation: Labor and employment attorney
School Board experience: Four-year term on Darien District 61 School Board, ending April 2013

ROSEANNE ROSENTHAL

Resident of: Hinsdale
Education: Master’s degree and doctorate in music education from Syracuse University
Occupation: Teaches education classes at VanderCook College of Music (on the IIT campus) to current and future music teachers

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Election 2013: Nneka R. Obasi

Nneka R. Obasi is one of five candidates running for five open seats in District 180.

By Lauren Williamson March 18, 2013

Name: Nneka R. Obasi
Position Sought: Seat on Board of School District 180
Email Address: nobasi2012@gmail.com
Address: Burr Ridge
Education: MA Education, St. Xavier University, Chicago; MS Nonprofit Management, The Spertus Institute, Chicago
Occupation: Director of Advancement, Chicago Region, International Aid INC.
Experience: I am hopeful that my studies in education and my experiences as a mother, student, and homeowner in Burr Ridge will prove useful to the board and the district it serves.
Reason for Running: To serve my community

What will be your single most important priority if you get elected?
To do my utmost to give the best service I can possibly give as a board member?

How long have you lived in the district?
I have lived in District 180 since 2003.

What do you believe is the district's greatest strength?
The district is made strong, among other things, by dedicated staff in our schools, a faithful board and wonderful families.
Election 2013: Ramona Stephens-Zemaitis

Ramona Stephens-Zemaitis is one of five candidates running for four open seats on the Gower District 62 School Board.

By Lauren Williamson Email the author March 18, 2013

Name: Ramona Stephens-Zemaitis

Position sought: Member of Board of Education, Gower School District 62

Home address: Burr Ridge

Family: Husband Alexis Zemaitis; Son Aurelius Zemaitis (8 years old, 3rd grade at Gower West)

Education: Saint Xavier University, B.A., French and International Business; Certificat pratique de français commercial et économique, Paris Chamber of Commerce; Also: School of the Art Institute of Chicago, visual communications courses; National Louis University, M.A.T. course

Occupation: Primarily, I am a full-time mother and elder caregiver, but I also work part-time as the recording secretary for the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Public Library District (2001-present). I have ten years previous professional experience in public relations, sales, marketing and management in travel, hotel and publishing industries.

Previous elected offices: Only non-governmental—I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Lithuanian Foundation, Inc. by its membership.

Applicable experience qualifying you for the position:

I have 18 years of relevant experience serving on the Board of the Lithuanian Foundation, Inc., an $18 million, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization which supports educational and cultural endeavors. Working in a complex organization which bears accountability to nearly 8,000 members worldwide as well as to state and federal authorities was challenging but rewarding. It required reconciling the adamant views of 18 board members and learning to cooperate, despite varying perspectives, to achieve the foundation’s goals. I first worked as Chairman of LF’s Scholarship Subcommittee, then as a member of its Grants Committee, eventually becoming its Chairman, responsible for evaluating hundreds of requests and allocating $500,000 to $1,000,000 in project grants and scholarships annually.

My employment with the Lemont Public Library District has involved me in the often esoteric workings of local government, including its obligations to the State of Illinois, financial responsibility to district taxpayers, and the constant need to update and incorporate technological improvements and respond to the ever-changing demands of resident patrons.
Nurturing creative, conscientious children and preparing self-assured, trustworthy future leaders has always been among my primary concerns. I have been a Boy and Girl Scout counselor for over 20 years, most recently enrolling to continue my training in the BSA Wood Badge program.

Over the past four years, I have become increasingly involved in District 62. Starting as an in-class volunteer, I soon joined the Gower PTO, became its Manna fundraiser coordinator, taught the third grade Junior Achievement program, and began to attend Board meetings regularly. I also participated in interviewing the final candidates for the District Superintendent’s position. My being elected to the Board would be an extension of my commitment to the Gower community.

What is the primary reason you are running for this office?

I am running in a slate with the three incumbent candidates (current Board President Ryan Asmus, Secretary Young Ra-Hurka and board member Joe Schulte) because I hold their accomplishments in high regard. I hope to contribute new ideas and considerations, while finishing crucial improvements which the Board has already initiated: i.e. updating facilities to make them even safer and better equipped to meet 21st century educational goals, and transitioning from “No Child Left Behind” to the more comprehensive “Common Core” standards.

What will be your single most important priority if you get elected?

There is no simple answer to this question. The Board’s single, all-encompassing priority is to serve the district’s children well. The success of the district’s two schools is determined by the extent to which its students not just meet but exceed goals and expectations, develop their natural talents and abilities, and gain the skills and confidence to lead meaningful, productive adult lives.

What sets you apart from the other candidates?

I am a firm believer in maintaining a network of open communication. A small school district such as ours can only benefit from strengthening already existing bonds amongst parents, students, teachers, support staff, administration and board members. Everyone entrusted with the protection and upbringing of our community’s most valuable resource, our children, should be well-informed and their input—often sought and highly valued.

How long have you lived in District?

I have lived in the district since 1995.

What do you believe is District 62’s biggest strength?

District 62 is no unwieldy monolith. Comprising two schools with approximately 900 students, the district is small and attentive enough to address the educational, social and developmental needs of every child entrusted to its care. The schools are well-funded and consistently high-performing, with an experienced, compassionate teaching and support staff and considerable parental involvement.
What do you believe is District 62’s biggest weakness?

With its impressive, nationally recognized record of academic excellence, it would be all too easy for Gower to rest on its laurels. Fortunately, the district shows no sign of succumbing to that temptation. The bar is continually raised, as exemplified by the recent hiring of a dynamic new administrator and the regular monitoring of parental opinion and student achievement.

In terms of a school district, how would you describe a board that is fiscally responsible? Does District 62 currently have a fiscally responsible board?

Gower School District’s reputation speaks for itself: it recently received the highest recognition given by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) on its 2011 Financial Profile of 868 districts in the state. District 62 finances have been confirmed fiscally sound by an independent source.

Trustees who are fiscally responsible treat the district’s monies as they would their own families’: they prepare a balanced budget, prioritize their goals, plan for the short term and the long haul, take no unnecessary risks with the public trust, and remain responsive to current financial capabilities as well as periodic economic fluctuations which limit spending.
Digging For Donna: The 10th annual Digging For Donna Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament is slated for Saturday (March 23) at St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago. The event honors Homewood resident Donna Farbak Barker, who lost her battle to Ewing’s Sarcoma eight years ago. Proceeds benefit Dani’s Foundation and the Donna Farbak Barker Ewing’s Sarcoma Research Fund. The entry fee is $300 per team, with six- to 10-member teams playing in three competition categories. Players are encouraged to seek pledges. Teams that raise the most money are eligible for prizes to be awarded at the post-tourney party from 7 to 10 p.m. at 115 Bourbon Street, 3359 W. 111th St., Merrionette Park. The entry fee includes an event T-shirt, breakfast, lunch, and a $10 admission to the post-tourney party. The party is open to the public. The $35 admission includes unlimited food, pop and bottled beer. There will be a silent auction. For more information or to register, visit danisfoundation.org/digging4donna/ or contact Joyce Farbak Condon at (773) 576-0877 or email joycecondon@sbcglobal.net.

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St. Xavier University plans free health fair

March 19, 2013 3:48PM

Free health screenings, assessments and information are available at St. Xavier University’s 10th annual health fair 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday in the Shannon Center, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago.

Among the free screenings are blood pressure, blood glucose, bone density, hearing and vision, feet, spinal cord, cholesterol, stress and body mass index. Other activities include chair massages; cooking demonstrations; exercise classes; CPR demonstrations; and a children’s activity corner.
St. Xavier University senior and honors program member Maureen Riley will serve as curator for “Revelations: Interrogating the Sacred” art exhibit on display through Monday, April 8, at the Beverly Arts Center (BAC) East Gallery, 2407 W. 111th St.

An opening reception and a panel discussion about the intersections between religion and art in contemporary times will be held on Saturday, March 23.

As part of her honors senior project, Riley solicited works that explore how religion or spirituality inspired contemporary artists. Thirteen artists from across the country will be displayed in the exhibit.

The opening reception will be from 7 to 8 p.m., and the panel discussion will be held from 8 to 9 p.m. in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center at SXU, 3700 W. 103rd St.

Attendees can view the exhibit at the BAC from 5 to 7 p.m., and transportation will be provided from the BAC to the university. Refreshments will be provided.

Panel participants will include Dr. Jaime Lara, SXU department of art and design visiting professor and former Yale University religion and the arts program chairman; Pamela Ambrose, Loyola University museum of art director of cultural affairs; Frank Piatek, School of the Art Institute of Chicago painting professor; Dr. Zora Carrier, executive director/curator of Open Concept Gallery.

“I started from the question of what role religion plays in modern society,” Riley said. “I hear young people like millennials are slowly distancing themselves from religion and faith. But at the same time, there’s this whole renewed interest in it by artists. I wanted to display works that reference piety and spirituality by people who are really devoted to their faith, but also works that are more controversial and address why religion isn’t serving people the same way it has in the past.”

Artists Wayne Adams, Keith Barker, Aaron Lee Benson, Roz Dimon, Robert Eustace, Charles Hoffman, Peg Carlson-Hoffman, Patrick Luber, Allison Luce, Linda McCray, Thomas McMillen-Oakley, Anthony Santella and Helen Zajkowski will also be included in the exhibit.
Riley, of Alma, Mich., is the first student in department history to curate an exhibit. She is studying art history and communications, and plays on the women’s basketball team.

For more information, call the department of art and design at (773) 298-3081.
St. Xavier University to hold annual health fair

Published as part of the March 20, 2013 edition.

Free health screenings, assessments and information will be available at St. Xavier University’s 10th annual Health Fair on Friday, March 22. The fair, which is free and open to the public, is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Shannon Center, 3700 W. 103rd St.

The Fair, which drew more than 500 attendees last year, is a “one-stop shop” of free health services. It includes free screenings and assessments for blood pressure, blood glucose, bone density, hearing and vision, feet, spinal cord, injuries, cholesterol, stress, body mass index and more.

The fair will also include a wide variety of other activities, including:

•Free chair massages.

•Healthy cooking demonstrations at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

•15-Minute Exercise Classes featuring Chair Yoga (9 a.m. and 10 a.m.), Beginner Strength Training (11 a.m.), and Zumba (noon and 1 p.m.).

•Comprehensive kidney screening (which includes analysis of blood pressure, sodium, calcium, glucose, liver, and more) for $25 per person. Call (773) 298-3592 for more information and to pre-register.

•A blood drive hosted by Heartland Blood Centers. Those interested in donating blood, pre-register by calling (773) 298-3592. Receive a $5 Dunkin Donuts gift card for donating.

•Demonstrations on child and adult CPR, pilates, spinning, CrossFit, acupuncture and more.

•A raffle, as well as a children’s activity corner and face painting.

Neighborhood vendors will also be at the fair to share health information with the community. For more information, call (773) 298-3592 or visit sxu.edu, keyword: health fair.
Obituary: Lillian Lorraine Harwood

Lillian was active in social and volunteer activities in Wauwatosa. In lieu of flowers memorials have been established in her name with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and the San Camillus Foundation.

March 20, 2013

Lillian Lorraine Harwood

September 22, 1928 - March 16, 2013

Resided in Wauwatosa, WI

(Nee Sattler) Entered Eternal Life on Saturday, March 16, 2013. Lil was born September 22, 1928 in Wauwatosa, WI to Jacob and Rose Sattler. She graduated from Wauwatosa High School and St. Xavier University School of Nursing. She worked as a registered nurse at Mercy Hospital in Chicago, the Milwaukee Veterans Administration Medical Center and 23 years at the Home for Aged Lutherans in Wauwatosa. She married James Richard Harwood on August 25, 1951 in Milwaukee.

Lil was active in social and volunteer activities in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin and Fountain Hills, Arizona. She and Jim enjoyed bridge, curling, golf and traveling. Friendships were important to Lily and she had many friends, including; Kindergarten pals, Group pals, St. Pius X pals, Friday coffee pals, Brandy bunch pals, Desert Teresian pals, Fountain Hills pals, Girl Scout Troop pals, St. Vincent de Paul pals, and many others.

Lillian is survived by her seven children; Beth (Stephen Raymonds) of Menomonee Falls, WI; Jane (Bob Petrosik) of Sturgeon Bay, WI; Timothy of Milwaukee; Thomas (Linda) of Scottsdale, AZ; Peggy Heuler of Elm Grove, WI; Daniel (Vibeke) of Barrington, IL; and Nancy Nedland (Jon) of Libertyville, IL; nineteen grandchildren: Adam Raymonds (Sonia), Lindsey Harwood (fiancé Graham Thieren), Laura Raymonds, Maryann Harwood (fiancé Richard Neward), Charles Petrosik, James Raymonds, Robert Petrosik (Brittany), Timothy Harwood, Michael Raymonds, Jamie Heuler, Sally Harwood, Madeline Harwood, Lily Nedland, Joey Nedland, Kennedy Harwood, Sophie Harwood, Derek Nedland, Emily Harwood, Isabella (Ivy) Raymonds and by her sister Margy Van Beckum, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Lil was preceded in death by her husband Jim, parents Jacob and Rose Sattler, sisters, Rose Mary Pluckhahn and Pauline Ruskusky.

In lieu of flowers memorials have been established in her name with the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and the San Camillus Foundation. The family would like to express their gratitude to the staff at Froedtert, especially her "A-team" and at St. Camillus Skilled Care for their superior care during her illness.

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Holy Cross Hospital Names New Senior Executive

Posted by Editor on March 21, 2013 in Business

Sinai Health System announced Lori Pacura will become Senior Vice President, Holy Cross Hospital, effective immediately. Pacura joined Sinai Health System in 2001 and has held a progression of significant roles in the areas of clinical leadership, most recently as Vice President, Patient Care Services/Chief Nursing Officer. She played an important role in activities associated with Holy Cross Hospital’s affiliation with Sinai Health System, a transaction that was complete on January 16, 2013. A published author, as well as national speaker on topics of recruitment/retention and health partnership models, Pacura received her Master of Science in Nursing from Saint Xavier University and completed the Health Services Management Program through the Kellogg Graduate School of Management.
Annual Volleyball Tournament for Park Lawn Charity

Posted by Kristen Bonk

March 21, 2013

Volleyball players and teams are needed for the Volleyball for Charity 33rd Annual Coed Volleyball Tournament and Party on Saturday, April 6. Games will be played at select locations including the Chicago Ridge Park District, St. Xavier University, and Marist High School.

All proceeds from Volleyball for Charity will benefit individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn.

Last year’s tournament had 50 coed teams participating (over 500 players) and the after tournament party at Beverly Country Club had a standing room crowd of over 200 guests, players and supporters! In 2012, Volleyball for Charity was able to donate $14,000.00 to Park Lawn. Over the thirty-two years of VFC’s fund raising efforts, they have donated over $445,000 to benefit programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Players and non-players are welcome to attend the After Tournament Party from 6:30 PM to 10:30 PM at Beverly Country Club 87th S. Western Ave. Chicago, IL 60620. Party attendees must be 21 years of age. There will be an open bar all evening, two hours of assorted food and hors D’oeuvres, cash raffles, music and dancing. NCAA Final Four games will be televised at the party.

The tournament team fee is $300.00, which includes up to eight T-Shirts. The tournament and party package is $400. This entitles the team to the volleyball games, T-shirts, plus up to eight tickets to the after tournament party. Regular after tournament party tickets can be purchased in advance for $30.00 online or call 708-802-1123 or at the door. To register for this event or to find out more information, visit Volleyball for Charity’s website at www.volleyballforcharity.org or call 708-802-1123.

Volleyball for Charity will benefit Park Lawn, a non-profit agency, located in Chicago’s southwest suburb that provides vocational services, supported employment, adult developmental training, and residential services to individuals with developmental disabilities.
Cook County State's Attorney and other local elected officials visit SXU students

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

March 21, 2013

Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez recently visited Saint Xavier University's (SXU) Chicago campus to give a presentation to students in Senior Fellow and former 19th Ward Alderman Virginia Rugai’s class. Other visitors to the class included: State Rep. Kelly Burke (D-36), State Rep. Renee Kosel (R-81), 34th Ward Ald. Carrie Austin, and 39th Ward Ald. Margaret Laurino.

Rugai’s class explores the historical evolution of the role of women in the U.S. political system, with particular emphasis on Chicago and Illinois governments. This course will examine how this history has impacted women’s entry into government and election to political office, and includes presentations from many notable female politicians and executives. Students will study how and why women have organized to have a greater role in politics, as well as the skills women need to fully participate in politics and policy making.

Read more about SXU's Senior Fellows program on SXNews.

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NLSD122 Candidate Bio: Bill Pender

Bill Pender, of New Lenox, is running for a 4-year term of office on the New Lenox School District 122 Board of Education.

By Ann C. Piasecki March 21, 2013

Running for a 4-year-term on the New Lenox School District 122 Board of Education is Bill Pender, of New Lenox. Pender was appointed in July 2012 to fill a vacancy left by Sue Gillooley, who resigned in June 2012.

Get to know Pender. He and wife Jen have three daughters, 10-year-old Audrey, 9-year-old Caroline and 5-year-old Sophie.

Pender's educational background:

St. Xavier University 1998, BA in Social Science with a minor in education.

Governors State University 2005, MA in Educational Administration

Governors State University 2010, MBA

Pender's Occupation and Employer:

High School Assistant Principal

Joliet Catholic Academy

What will be your single most important priority if you get elected?

My single most important priority is to seek out alternative sources of funding. The state continues to decrease their contributions to the local school districts and we need to be ready as we move forward and the funding continues to decrease.

Why Are You Seeking Office?

I am running because I believe I have a great deal to offer. I was raised and taught to volunteer in my community. I feel this is a great way to do so, but if I am not elected I will find another way to be of service to my community.
What sets you apart from the other candidates?

I feel my experience in the classroom, as well as in the administrative aspect of school. I feel my experience brings a unique perspective from the view of the parents, taxpayers, teachers, and school administrators.

How will you lend stability to the board?

In my short time on the board I have worked with all members of the board. I feel I have made decisions that I felt were best for the district. When I have had concerns with anything, I have contacted district administrators to express my reservations rather than creating a scene at the meetings.

How will you work to balance the budget?

I will continue to work with the board and administrators to make sure we continue to look for alternative sources of income as well as to make sure that we look for cuts that do not have negative effects on student learning.

How will you represent all taxpayers in the district?

As a taxpayer from a single income family, I will continue to make sure there is no waste in the district. Also, I will continue to do my best to avoid a deficit in the district. Nobody wants to raise taxes but if the tax levy is not passed, we would likely see a major deficit a few years down the road which would be a much worse for all taxpayers.

There are eight candidates running for 4-year terms.

The incumbents for the 4-year term are:

Patrick Martino, incumbent
Deborah Kedzior, incumbent
Sue Smith, incumbent
William Pender, who was initially appointed in August to fill the remaining two years of a term left by resigning Member Sue Gillooley.

The four newcomers are:

Thomas Hottinger
Philip Adair
The candidates running for a 2-year term are:

Kathy Miller (incumbent)

Todd Hyatt (write-in candidate)
Oak Lawn mayor's clerk candidate faces big challenge in race against incumbent

Published as part of the March 21, 2013 edition.

By Laura Bollin

A first-grade teacher from St. Germaine School is challenging the incumbent village clerk in Oak Lawn on next month’s election ballot.

Melissa Moran is running on Oak Lawn Mayor Dave Heilmann’s Independent Party ticket against village Clerk Jane Quinlan. The incumbent clerk was first elected in 2005 and re-elected in 2009, both times as a member of Heilmann’s political party. Quinlan is running this year as an independent.

Jane Quinlan

Quinlan, 56, is a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn. She earned registered and municipal clerk certifications through the University of Illinois-Springfield, and has been working on earning a master municipal clerk certification since 2006. She is the vice president of the South and West Clerks Association, which includes 75 municipalities.

“|I want to continue serving the people of Oak Lawn,” Quinlan said. “It is important for the village to have working relationships with other communities, which I do.”

Quinlan’s eight years as clerk have helped her create bonds with residents, she said.

“It takes years to build up the relationships that I have with residents, you just don’t walk in and know everybody,” Quinlan said. “People get to know you and they trust you.”

Quinlan believes she has made the right decision in running as an independent candidate. She ran in 2005 and 2009 with Heilmann and Trustee Alex Olejniczak. The officials have since gone their separate ways, with Heilmann siding with former adversary Trustee Bob Streit and Trustee Carol Quinlan, and Olejniczak aligned with Trustees Tom Phelan and Tom Duhig.

“I have been working with an adversarial board for years,” Quinlan said. “I can best serve the village as an independent candidate. You can work effectively with an adversarial board, the key is that I work for the full board.”

Quinlan is self-described as a “hands-on” clerk.

“If people have a problem with something, I will stop in on my way to work in the morning,” she said. “If someone calls and tells me there’s a big hole in their street, and they don’t know if it’s their responsibility or on the village property, I’ll
take a ride by there. I know what department to call to help. People see me at night, on the weekends. I’m always driving around the village. You have to know your village.”

Melissa Moran

Moran, 38, earned a bachelor’s degree in history with an education concentration and a master’s degree in elementary education from Saint Xavier University. She has served on the St. Germaine Family Association Board, the St. Germaine Athletic Association Board, the parish transformation committee and the parish fundraising committee. She has lived in Oak Lawn for 14 years.

Moran said she wants to be part of a board that works together.

“I’m running because I think our government can do better than what it is doing right now,” she said. “We need officials that are working together, and when they are not working together, it hinders progress. We don’t get as much accomplished as we should.”

Moran said the organizational skills she has as a teacher will also help her if she is elected as village clerk. She also believes being clerk will be her way of giving back to Oak Lawn.

“I’m used to a changing pace,” Moran said. “I am used to multitasking and dealing with whatever comes my way.”

Safety and crime are some of the big issues in the village, Moran said.

“I am currently working with the mayor to be part of a safety committee to talk to residents to see what our safety issues are, and what we think can be done about them,” she said.

Moran also wants to see more revenue brought into Oak Lawn.

“We are losing shoppers to other areas,” Moran said. “We don’t have enough retail in Oak Lawn. We need to talk about how to bring in clothing retailers and different types of restaurants in Oak Lawn.

“We are a wonderful community next to the city with Beverly to the east of us – how do we pull that traffic into Oak Lawn? Communities around us will turn to us as a place to stop and shop. Let’s attack the areas we are losing out on.”

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Revelations: The East Gallery at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 11th St., Chicago, is hosting a juried exhibit through April 18 that explores ways in which religion is becoming less significant in post-Christian culture. An opening reception is 5 to 7 p.m. March 23. The exhibit will be curated by Maureen Riley, a senior at St. Xavier University, Chicago. Gallery admission is free. Information: (773) 445-3838 Ext. 210, or www.beverlyartcenter.org.
An assistant nursing professor at St. Xavier University has been awarded a nurse educator fellowship from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Mary S. Haras recently received a $9,061 fellowship to support her study of perceptions of nephrology nurses toward advance care planning for patients with chronic kidney disease.

Haras, of Chicago, will use the fellowship money toward completing her doctorate in nursing at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

Haras is a nurse practitioner in Evergreen Park, and serves as an American Nephrology Nurses Association project director. She is an active member of the association.
Election 2013: Diane Bolos

Diane Bolos is one of five candidates running for three open seats on the Burr Ridge Board of Trustees in 2013.

By Joe O'Donnell March 23, 2013

Name: Diane Bolos
Position sought: Burr Ridge Board of Trustees
Email: dianebolos@aol.com
Phone: 630-654-1998
Address: 14 Deerpath Trail Burr Ridge IL 60527
Family: Husband Hercules; children Jennifer, Michael and Michelle; grandson Mason.
Education: BA from St. Xavier University
Occupation: Director and executive vice president, LNB Bancorp
Director Lemont National Bank,
Member of the Executive, Asset/Liability, Policy, Lending, and Regulatory Committees
Director of Information Technology
Years in Burr Ridge: 34
Previous elected offices: Gower school board member, 1997-2005 (vice president, 2001-2005).

Applicable experience qualifying you for the position:

- Village of Burr Ridge Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Commissioner (2005-present)
- Gower school board member (1997-2005), and vice president (2001-2005)
- Member of the Gower Finance, Construction and Technology Committees, chair of Communications Committee
- Board liaison Gower PTO and Gower Citizens Advisory Committee
- Founding member and president of the Hinsdale South Foundation (1999-2001)
- Founding member and president of the Gower Foundation (1993-1999)
What is the primary reason you are running for this office?

I am seeking a position as trustee because I have the experience and knowledge to balance business development while maintaining the village’s well-deserved reputation as a premier residential community. If elected I will represent my neighbors with honesty and integrity and ensure open, respectful, two way communication. I believe it is important to preserve the past while protecting the future. I am fiscally responsible and have the expertise to analyze budgets and look for ways to contain costs while maintaining the high level of services we have all come to expect. I want to work with the village president and board to guarantee the long term financial well-being of the village.

What will be your single most important priority if you get elected?

- Maintain and improve Burr Ridge’s standing as an upscale safe residential community.
- Promote new businesses that serve the needs of our residents and are compatible with the character of our village.
- Ensure fiscal responsibility and stay within a balanced budget.
- Work within our balanced budget to maintain an independent and strong police department.
- Ensure we stay within the scope of the I-55 bridge project and within the dollar amount of the grant we received for the enhancements to the bridge and landscaping.
- Not risk taxpayer money to attract new business by guaranteeing business loans.

What sets you apart from the other candidates?

My commitment of service to our community in many diverse capacities for over 20 years, have prepared me to serve Burr Ridge as an effective trustee.

I have the experience and knowledge to balance business development while maintaining the Village's reputation as a premier residential community.

I am fiscally responsible and have the expertise to analyze budgets and contain costs while maintaining the high level of services we have come to expect. In all I do I lead with honor and integrity and as trustee I will ensure governmental transparency and make sure our tax dollars are being spent wisely.

What is your favorite thing about Burr Ridge?

I believe it is the residents that make Burr Ridge a very special place. Over the last 34 years I have volunteered and worked with some of the most passionate and dedicated people who truly care about Burr Ridge. Because of the commitment of our residents to the village and its schools, Burr Ridge is a sought after community to raise a family. It is open honest communication at the board level, along with the involvement of our residents that needs to continue so that future generations will choose Burr Ridge as the place they call home.

What is your least favorite thing about Burr Ridge?
While there isn’t anything about the Village of Burr Ridge I don’t like, I see a great opportunity for better transparency in village decision-making. The residents deserve this and that is why I support the formation of the new ethics committee created by acting village president Robert Sodikoff.

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Election 2013: Sandra Wagner

Sarah Wagner is running for the Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees in the April election.

By Ben Feldheim Email the author March 26, 2013

Position Sought

Moraine Valley Community College District Board of Trustees, District 524

Campaign Contact Information

n/a

Hometown

Palos Hills

Family Members

Husband: Eugene Wagner

Children: Sarah, Matthew, and Susan

Education

St. Xavier University, B.S. Clinical and Counseling Psychology

Current Occupation and Employer

I was a fitness instructor in the Southwest Suburbs for 30 years.

Political Party Affiliation

None.
Why are you seeking the position?

As a current member of the Board of Trustees at Moraine Valley Community College, I am committed to helping maintain the growth and excellent reputation of Moraine Valley Community College. I would like to be re-elected and continue to serve the community as its representative to the Board.

What will be your single most important priority if you get elected?

To represent the citizens of the communities the college serves, keeping in mind the educational needs and financial concerns of Moraine's students and community members.

What sets you apart from the other candidates?

My 12 years as a current Trustee at Moraine Valley Community College sets me apart from most of the other candidates. I served four years as Chairman of the Board, followed by four years as Vice-Chairman. The approval of the recent referendum and consequent building projects (which finished on time, and under budget) took place during this time.

Unique to my candidacy is my 20-year affiliation with the MVCC Foundation. As a Foundation Board Member, and supporter, I have worked to help raise money for scholarships, underwrite programs at the Fine and Performing Arts Center, and support other college endeavors.

What facilities would you like to see added to campus?

Currently, I am looking forward to the completion of the Health Education and Wellness Center on campus. It will replace outdated facilities and equipment and provide needed classroom and fitness spaces for students, and all residents of the communities Moraine serves. Future building projects will be considered according to the College Master Plan, which is required by the State of Illinois, and projects the growth of the campus.

What could be done to improve campus safety? Does anything need to be done?

Since Moraine has one of the lowest crime rates for any college campus in Illinois, I am not aware of this being an area of concern right now. The college has recently upgraded its camera system thanks to Federal grant money received.

Raising tuition costs is a big concern for students. What could be done to keep tuition from rising?

The simplest answer to this question is for the State of Illinois to pay their portion of the funding for MVCC. Currently, the state pays 9% (down 6% since 2009), local taxes account for 31%, and tuition 57%. Ideally, each should pay one third.

The burden should not continue to fall on the students and their families. Since it doesn't look like the state will come through soon, exploring additional funding sources and paying careful attention to all expenditures is crucial. The goal should remain, however, to maintain the excellent education and top notch campus for which Moraine is known.
Have you ever been arrested or sued? If yes, please say what the charge was, and the case's and/or lawsuit's outcome.

No.

Any other information pertinent to your campaign.

I have been a resident of Palos Hills for 37 years and I live less than a mile from the campus. Each of my children, my husband and I have attended the college at one time or another.

Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. on April 2 from and again from 8 to 9:15 a.m. on April 3 at Meridith Funeral Home in Highland. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on April 3 at St. Paul Catholic Church in Highland, with Father Scott Snider, parochial vicar, officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery in Carlyle.

He was born Jan. 6, 1987, to Kent and Tina (Lesicko) Ripperda at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Breese.

Mr. Ripperda graduated from Highland High School in 2005. After one year at St. Xavier University in Chicago, he enrolled in and graduated from L’Ecole Culinaire in St. Louis, Mo. He enlisted in the Marines in 2008.

He loved people and loved life. He was known to be a generous, honorable, trustworthy, and courageous human being who lit up the room with his infectious laughter, ornery smile and adventurous spirit. He treasured his relationships and would go out of his way to put others first, making them feel welcomed, valued and loved. In his 26 years, he lived more than most do in a lifetime. He, beloved son, brother and friend will be missed dearly.

Thank you, Aaron, for loving us. Semper Fidelis.

He is survived by his father, Kent (Tina) Ripperda of Marine, IL; his mother, Tina (Jeff) Sutton of Santa Rosa, Calif.; a sister, Kendall (significant other Charlie Swaim) Ripperda of Santa Rosa, Calif.; paternal grandmother, Rita Ripperda; maternal grandfather, Ronald (Jackie) Lesicko; special friend, Jessica Iskrzycki; aunts and uncles, Kurt (Lynn) Ripperda, Cara (significant other John Zerkle) Tomasek, William (Beverly) Lesicko and Patrick (Julie) Lesicko; and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Clarence “Louie” Ripperda; and maternal grandmother, Dorothy Lesicko (nee Williams).

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warriors or Injured Marine Semper Fi fund.
Bryson to give free lecture at SXU

Published as part of the March 27, 2013 edition.

Dr. Tina Bryson, co-author of “The Whole-Brain Child,” will visit St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., on Wednesday, April 10, at 7 p.m. The free lecture will be held in the Butler Reception Room. Bryson will discuss strategies for raising happy, resilient, emotionally intelligent children based on the latest brain research. The event is open to the public. For reservations, visit beverlyyogacenter.com. The Beverly Yoga Center, 1917 W. 103rd St., will host book discussions of “The Whole-Brain Child” on Thursday, March 28, at 7:30 p.m., and Friday, April 5, at 8 p.m. Bryson holds a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. For more information, e-mail beverlyyogacenter1@me.com.
Calendar of Events

Published as part of the March 27, 2013 edition.

SXU Movie

St. Xavier University (SXU) will screen the 1996 film “Basquiat” on Monday, April 1, as part of its 2012-2013 Film Series, “Hollywood Paints.” The screening is free and open to the public, and will begin at 7 p.m. in McGuire Hall in the Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St.

For more information, call (773) 298-3081 or visit sxu.edu.

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Theology South to host Valente

Published as part of the March 27, 2013 edition.

St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., will host Theology South on Thursday, April 4, in the Butler Reception Room, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. A question-and-answer session will follow. Coffee will be served at 9 a.m. The speaker will be Judith Valente, award-winning print and broadcast journalist, poet and essayist. The topic will be “How to Live A Contemplative Life.” The event is open to the public. The cost is $6. For more information, call Donatta Yates at (708) 422-1635.
Loyola to Erect New Business School Building, Turn Old One into Library

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO MARCH 27, 2013

BY: SEAN O’CONNOR

Yesterday, the Chicago City Council’s Zoning Committee approved Loyola University Chicago’s plans to erect a new ten-story business school building at the northeast corner of State Street and Pearson Street at Loyola’s Water Tower Campus in the Gold Coast neighborhood. In a related move, the Zoning Committee also approved the construction of a thirty-five-story residential building, as Tribune Reporter Jim Byrne reported today in the Chicago Tribune (“Loyola project gets city panel OK”).[1]

The Quinlan School of Business will move across the street and the building that currently houses it will become the Water Tower Campus library. Loyola will finance the construction of the new building in part through a $40,000,000 gift from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees Michael R. Quinlan, a Loyola alumnus who had earned two degrees at Loyola, a Ph.B. in 1967 and a M.B.A. in 1970. He and his wife, Marilyn, had previously donated approximately one-third of the $40,000,000 Loyola raised to open a new life sciences building on Loyola’s Lake Shore Campus in Rogers Park on the Far North Side of Chicago. This building, which houses the Biology Department, was dedicated as the Michael R. and Marilyn C. Quinlan Life Sciences Education and Research Center on December 3, 2004.

Quinlan was the Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O.) of McDonald’s Corporation, which is headquartered in west suburban Oak Brook, Illinois, from March of 1987 to July of 1998 and Chairman of the Board of Directors from March of 1990 to May of 1999. He was a member of the Board of Directors of McDonald’s Corporation from 1979 to 2002.

On Sunday, June 3, 2012, Loyola announced that at the annual Founders’ Dinner the previous night Reverend Michael J. Garanzini, S.J., President & C.E.O. of Loyola University Chicago announced Quinlan had donated $40,000,000 to Loyola’s business school. Consequently, Loyola would rename the School of Business Administration and its affiliated Graduate School of Business the Michael R. Quinlan School of Business.

“This is a momentous occasion for Loyola and for our students,” Father Garanzini said. “We are very grateful to Mike Quinlan for his continued generosity and for his enduring commitment to his alma mater. Mike’s leadership and service—in business, in the community, and as chairman of our Board of Trustees—exemplify the best of a Loyola University Chicago education. His support of Loyola’s mission, and this gift for our current and future business students in particular, will have a transformative impact on business education for years to come.”

The first member of his family to attend college, Quinlan, who grew up on Chicago’s West Side, joined the McDonald’s Corporation as a mailroom clerk in 1963, while an undergraduate student at Loyola. Four years later, he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and psychology.

Along the way, he was initiated into the Alpha Delta Gamma National Fraternity. He went on to earn his master’s in business administration in 1970.
Quinlan worked his way up from the mailroom to senior management at McDonald’s Corporation. He became President & CEO of McDonald’s Corporation in 1987 and Chairman of the Board of Directors in 1990. When he retired as Chairman of McDonald’s Corporation in 1999, he became Chairman of Loyola University Chicago.

During his chairmanship, Father Garanzini was appointed President & C.E.O. of Loyola University Chicago, enrollments have increased, and there have been major capital improvements to all of Loyola’s campuses. Loyola stated, “Quinlan’s gift will help grow the business school’s endowment to attract top faculty, support students, and create cutting-edge programs to meet market demands.”

“The power of a naming gift far exceeds its monetary value,” said Dr. Kathleen A. Getz, the school’s dean. “This vote of confidence sends a clear message to our students and to the business community that our school is a sound investment with bold plans for the future. We are so grateful to Mike Quinlan for helping us write our next chapter.”

In 2005, Quinlan was awarded the Sword of Loyola. [It would not surprise me if he received a papal knighthood or some other honor from Pope Francis.] Loyola stated, “With this most recent gift—the largest from an alumnus to Loyola and the largest ever to the business school—Michael Quinlan has displayed outstanding generosity and dedication to his alma mater.”

“Much of the success I may have achieved can be traced directly back to my time at Loyola University Chicago,” Quinlan said. “I have received far more from Loyola than I have given. I hope my gift inspires support from other alumni; we have great plans in store for this school.”

Construction of the new Quinlan School of Business building will also be paid for in part through the sale of land, as Byrne related. Wayne Magdziarz, Vice President of Capital Planning, explained Loyola plans to sell property adjacent to the proposed building to real estate developers for $67,000,000.

The real estate developers plan to erect the above-mentioned thirty-five-story building, which will have 367 apartments. In order to avoid clogging up Chestnut, the loading and unloading at the apartment building will take place in an alley.

To encourage residents to use public transportation, the building will have only 162 parking spaces. Second Ward Alderman Robert Fioretti supports the plan, and will continue to do so as long as Loyola follows through on its commitment “to try to alleviate traffic congestion and to station campus security officers nearby to keep an eye on the area,” as Byrne explicated.

In Chicago, neighborhoods where campuses are located are safer, at least in theory, because the jurisdictions of university police departments are no longer limited to campus buildings and grounds. As explained on the Web site of St. Xavier University, “Pursuant to the authority of the Illinois Private College Campus Police Act, …members of the campus police department shall have the powers of municipal peace officers and county sheriffs, including the power to make arrests… for violations of state statutes, municipal or county ordinances, officers [sic] have county-wide jurisdiction and the authority to regulate and control traffic on the public way adjacent to all University owned or controlled property.”

The full Chicago City Council will vote on Loyola’s plan in April. Magdziarz hopes Loyola will break ground for the new building this autumn.

Jesuits founded Loyola University of Chicago as St. Ignatius College in 1870.[2] The other Catholic universities in Chicago are DePaul University in Lincoln Park on the North Side of Chicago, founded by the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentian priests and brothers) in 1875, and St. Xavier University on the South Side of Chicago, founded by the Sisters of Mercy as the Saint Francis Xavier Academy for Females in 1847.
[1] Note that the article has another name on-line, “Loyola business school project gets city panel backing.”

Ya’ at’ eeh!! Greetings from the Navajo Nation! I hope you enjoy a “Day in the Life” Rez Style! I am currently living in Window Rock, AZ with 3 other Mercy Volunteers (our community actually totals 7, but we live in separate homes). My days usually start at about 6 or 6:15. I wake up, get myself together, and munch on some breakfast. Most mornings are spent with my housemate Jake (pictured below!). He teaches 6th grade at the local Catholic school, which is a different work site than me, so we like to chat in the morning. Since we are a decently large community, we do a lot of car-pooling amongst ourselves. As a result, I drive Jake to work and then pick up a fellow co-worker/Mercy Volunteer!

Before I dive into my work, please meet my wonderful housemates who I spend most of my time with. NaShia (top) is both a community member and fellow worker at SMASE! Mary Rose (bottom left) works with me in the Nursing Office at SMASE, too. And, like I said, Jake (bottom right) works at the Catholic school in St. Michaels. He also teaches 4th and 5th grade science. I spend a majority of my free time with my community members. They are a truly great group of people. I am blessed to have had such awesome community members. Although community living is challenging at times, every time we face struggle, we grow stronger as individuals and as a community.

Here I am at work. My position at St. Michaels Association for Special Education (SMASE) is a Registered Nurse. SMASE is the only school on the Reservation specifically designed for Special Needs. A majority of my time is spent managing care for my clients. We schedule and take our clients to appointments, complete health assessments, draw blood, distribute medication, and are constantly on our toes! Our clients’ disabilities range from high-functioning to complete-care. I included a picture here of just our noon dose of medications for our clients to give you an idea of how many medications our clients take on a daily basis!

My day at SMASE ends at 4:00. From there, I head over to St. Michaels Indian School to coach the high school Track and Field team. There are 5 coaches total (4 of which are Mercy Volunteers!!). Our team has about twenty athletes; they are a joy to be around. Track and Field meets can be anywhere from thirty minutes to 3 hours way. Therefore, when we
have meets they are usually all-day affairs. Here is a picture of a few of my athletes at our first meet. The athletes have already progressed so much. I cannot wait to see what they can do by the end of the season!

On Thursdays, my day wraps up with a visit to St. Michaels Mission for Bible study. Attending these classes (with Mary Rose and NaShia) has been a lot fun. We always leave slightly exhausted, but full of energy. I think one of the most interesting aspects of the class is hearing how many of the Native people combine their traditional Navajo practices with their Catholic ones. Everyone comes with an open heart willing to listen to each other and share their own stories. Some of the best sessions have ended up in discussions about current events or beliefs we have.

Finally, here is a photo of all the Mercy Volunteers working in St. Michaels this year! There are 7 total, starting from the left (Diane, myself, Allison, Jake, Jamie, NaShia, Mary Rose). As a group of 7, we share in dinner and spirituality twice a month. We also have been able to do a lot of fun things together—like visit the local jail on Thanksgiving and serve a meal to the inmates there.
Local Voices: Orland Park

March 28, 2013

Letters to the editor from Orland Park residents:

Thoughtful students

Tribune columnist Barbara Brotman's "A philosophical experiment: College-level program offers students a new angle on education" (News, March 14) is a wonderful breath of encouragement about what is happening in schools. This program offers a connection between the classics and the everyday lives of students so that they can visit the world of intellectual stimulation.

The students can also enjoy the aspects of critical thinking that will allow them to use these skills in other venues.

The schools in which this program is working are considered underserved schools. From the dialogue that Brotman gives us, we can see the depth and breath of the students' thinking.

It reminds me that we can fill ourselves with hope for these thoughtful adolescents.

— Eileen Quinn Knight, Orland Park, professor of education, St. Xavier University
Saint Xavier

Saint Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St. in Chicago, will present Tina Bryson, parenting educator and co-author of the best-selling book “The Whole-Brain Child,” at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 10. The event, free and open to the public, will be in the Butler Reception Room in the Warde Academic Center.

Bryson will discuss strategies for raising happy, resilient, emotionally intelligent children. Find out how children’s brains actually work and how to give them the tools to help with self-understanding that can lead to good choices, resilience and happiness.

Registration is required through the Beverly Yoga Center’s website, beverlyyogacenter.com. The Yoga Center, 1917 W. 103rd St., will host discussions of “The Whole-Brain Child” at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28 and 8 p.m. Friday, April 5. Email beverlyyogacenter1@me.com to register.

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Award-winning print and broadcast journalist, poet, and essayist Judith Valente will discuss living a contemplative life on Thursday, April 4 at the next lecture in Saint Xavier University’s Theology South series. The program will take place in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center at SXU’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.

“How to Live a Contemplative Life” begins with coffee at 9 a.m. and the lecture and question-and-answer session are scheduled from 9:30 to 11 a.m. It is open to the public, cost is $6.

Valente began her work in journalism as a staff reporter for The Washington Post, and later joined the staff of The Wall Street Journal, reporting from its Chicago and London bureaus. She was twice a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, first in the public service category as part of a team of reporters at The Dallas Times Herald investigating airline safety in the 1980s. In 1993, she was a finalist for the Pulitzer in the feature writing category for her front page article in The Wall Street Journal chronicling the story of a religiously conservative father caring for his son dying of AIDS. For more information call Donatta Yates at 422-1635.

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Saint Xavier will present “Poetry and Politics: A Reading by Illinois Poet Laureate Kevin Stein” in honor of National Poetry Month at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 9. The event, free and open to the public, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Butler Reception Room on SXU’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.
Stein primarily will read from “Wrestling Li Po for the Remote,” his recently released collection of poems. This collection and others by Stein will be available for purchase and autographing after his presentation.

Appointed Illinois Poet Laureate in 2003, Stein regards the responsibility to be the state’s “ambassador of the arts” as an opportunity to bring poetry into the lives of everyday people and to draw them into the delight and sheer fun of words that resonate with beauty and insight.
New SXU provost comes from Philly

Published as part of the March 28, 2013 edition.

Saint Xavier University has named Paul L. DeVito its new provost, effective July 1.

DeVito, a professor of psychology, comes to Saint Xavier after a career at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, where he is vice provost of academic affairs and dean of the College of Professional and Liberal Studies.

During his 30-plus year tenure at Saint Joseph’s, DeVito has received a number of merit awards for teaching, scholarship and service. He is the recipient of extramural grants and contracts totaling over $15 million. He has authored more than 40 articles, chapters and research presentations, and coauthored a graduate/trade-level textbook on “Psychotherapy and Cognition.” He also has extensive experience as a media spokesperson in discussing the psychological consequences of terrorism and natural disasters, including several nationally broadcast appearances for the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack and ensuing anthrax crisis.

DeVito received a PhD in psychology from the University of Pittsburgh, where he also earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in science. He holds an institute for educational management certificate from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education.

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Ten candidates state cases for why they're good for Oak Lawn

Published as part of the March 28, 2013 edition.

By Laura Bollin

Ten candidates are seeking four trustee seats up for election on the Oak Lawn Village Board.

Oak Lawn voters on April 9 will select their choices for trustee in four representative districts, including District 1, which is typically only voted on during even-numbered years. The seat is up for election because Trustee Cynthia Trautsch was appointed to fill an open seat less than two years ago following the resignation of Jerry Hurckes.

District 1

Trautsch is running for election for the first time. She was appointed in August 2011 after Hurckes resigned. Trautsch is running as a member of incumbent Oak Lawn Mayor Dave Heilmann’s Mayor’s Independence Party against Oak Lawn First Party candidate Timothy Desmond. The Oak Lawn First Party is headed by mayoral challenger Sandra Bury.

Trautsch, 55, is a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn. She owns a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Saint Xavier University and works as a sales tax accountant for the California Board of Equalization. Trautsch serves on the Village Board’s public works committee and as the board’s police department liaison.

“I’m running because my constituents said I was doing a good job,” Trautsch said. “I’m trying to do what is best for the village of Oak Lawn. I am not working with an adversarial board, I am working with the village of Oak Lawn. I want to know what the village needs and how we are going to get it. I want to make Oak Lawn prosperous. I don’t want my own little corner of the world, I just want to be in Oak Lawn.”

The biggest issue for Trautsch is the village’s infrastructure.

“We need to get our infrastructure taken care of, and get funding for to keep the streets moving along,” Trautsch said. “The district’s streets are bad, and need help. We have to look at all six districts, and get funding every year so we can do the streets. It sounds stupid, but if you have streets that crack, now you have a community in disarray. Why do you want to live in a community where the streets have potholes? If people don’t live here, we don’t have businesses. It is a circle.”

Bringing development into the village is something else Trautsch wants to work on if she is elected to the village board.

“We have the Mariano’s [grocery store to be built at 111th Street and Cicero Avenue], and I want to work on bringing in businesses that generate sales tax into the village, so we do not constantly have to raise the sales tax,” Trautsch said. “That will probably never happen, but it is a goal. In order to do that, we need good infrastructure.”
Trautsch envisions a village with a lot of different businesses to bring people into the village.

“We need a good mix of things,” Trautsch said. “There are a lot of places that have one dollar store at the end of town, but we have five or six. We have TGI Friday’s, but we need a couple higher end restaurants to bring in more people.”

Desmond, 47, has lived in Oak Lawn for 27 years. A native of County Cork, Ireland, he moved to the United States in 1986. He is the owner of Jack Desmond’s Irish Pub in Chicago Ridge and a stationary engineer with Local 399, and is working toward a facilities degree at Triton College.

As a business owner, Desmond says he has ideas to bring business development to Oak Lawn.

“One of the things I want to do is introduce a program where we can offer incentives to businesses that want to move here and existing businesses, so they will hire Oak Lawn High School seniors and graduates and train them in a career.”

Desmond said his idea extends beyond seasonal employment for those in high school.

“I want all businesses to hire our students and train them in a career that will keep them in Oak Lawn,” Desmond said. “Hawkinson Ford can hire students to be mechanics and finance managers for kids that will not be going to college. It would give them a start in Oak Lawn.”

Desmond would also like to developers hire Oak Lawn contractors for new construction in the village.

Desmond said raising six children has helped him learn to compromise, a skill that will be valuable on the board.

“The art of politics is compromise, and as a family man, I have had to learn to work with people every day,” Desmond said. “I can bring it real world experience. We have a board right now that spends most of their time bickering back and forth, and there doesn’t seem to be a whole lot being achieved.”

District 2

Incumbent trustee Alex Olejniczak is running as a member of the Oak Lawn First Party. His challenger, Julie Misner, is running as a member of the Mayor’s Independence Party.

Olejniczak, 47, has lived in Oak Lawn for 40 years. He graduated from Oak Lawn High School. He works as vice president of operations for Dearborn Wholesale Grocers in Chicago. He is a member of the technology and quality control committees, and served on the public works committee and as the police liaison for seven years.

Olejniczak was elected for the first time in 2005 and was re-elected in 2009, both times as a member of Heilmann’s ticket. The two have since parted ways.

“I’m running because we need to continue addressing the issues the residents have brought forward and improve the quality of life in the village of Oak Lawn, whether that is our infrastructure, streets, water, or alleys.”

Safety is a huge issue in Oak Lawn, Olejniczak said.

“People talk about safety in our village, but we have to go from talking to doing, and put together a plan,” Olejniczak said. “We need to get manpower up in the police department, and continue to look to advance the gang and tactical unit. The people that are doing crimes will think twice if they know the police department has the tools and weapons necessary to fight crime.”

Olejniczak said he does not think of Oak Lawn as unsafe, and says there have been gangs in the village since the 1980s.
“My mother, she’s 87, she was mugged coming out of her doctor’s office,” Olejniczak said. “It has nothing to do with the neighborhood we live in. I have been to every neighborhood safety meeting, and I commend the mayor for doing it.”

Unoccupied homes are also a concern because of the issues can arise, like tenants in pre-foreclosure not cutting their grass or not maintaining swimming pools in the backyard. Olejniczak said the village’s responsible landlord tenant ordinance is important, to make sure people who are renting are conducting themselves well.

Olejniczak also wants to improve safety at the village’s schools.

“We need to bring in more advanced cameras, and bring in a centralized monitoring system to protect our schools.”

The role of the board is to be active in the community and listen to the needs of the constituents, Olejniczak said.

“We can’t be financially irresponsible,” Olejniczak said. “I think we as a board have done a good job of towing the line. The proposals being talked about are concerning to me. Using $1 million to update the Village Green, that is financially irresponsible to me. I would like to see that money go to infrastructure projects, like streets and sewers.

Olejniczak also wants to see more development come to the village.

“The Mariano’s development has been a long time coming,” Olejniczak said. “I would love to see some more businesses that the residents have said they want to see. The village deserves to have a Trader Joe’s somewhere in it. I want to see more variety in our restaurants. I do not want to see the continued advancement of gambling parlors. They are using the ability to get a liquor license to have gambling, and then saying they are going to have food. If we ask if the business can exist on food sales alone, and they say they need gambling, I don’t want to see that. I want to see businesses that will bring a positive change to the village.”

Olejniczak said programs he has implemented, like the green team and the senior snow shoveling program show that he has worked hard for the village of Oak Lawn.

“It would be an honor for the residents to vote me in as trustee for another term,” Olejniczak said.

Julie Misner, 46, is the Mayor’s Independence Party candidate for trustee in District 2. Misner is a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn. She attended Oak Lawn Community High School and works as an administrative assistant for an accountant. She has been on the Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 board of education for four years, and currently serves as the board secretary.

“I’m running because I think it is important that the village maintains a positive direction and I want to be a part of that,” Misner said. “I want to give back to the community that I have grown up in and raised my family in.”

Misner believes her experience on the board will help her serve the village as a trustee.

“I believe that the four years I have served on the school board have given me a great understanding of how boards work and how boards should work. I have learned a lot, and I think the board can use a little collaboration.”

Misner said the board’s role is to govern, and that she believes the current board may have lost sight of that.

“I don’t know that the role is always clear, and I have a very good understanding of the expectations of a good board member. The expectations are to listen, to understand that it is not about power and ego, it is about the people and what is in the best interest of the community. That has to be your priority.”

One of the important issues in Oak Lawn learning what residents need in the village, Misner said.
“There are residents that may not want to run for office that have great ideas to share,” Misner said. “I want to create a format that allows people to share ideas, whether that is a committee or a roundtable discussion that allows people to bring their input and let people know we value what they say. In my district alone, there are 9,000 residents. One representative cannot see through every resident’s eyes without hearing from them. It is important to hear from your people because people have so much to offer.”

Keeping businesses in town is another important concern.

“People are concerned with the economic state of the village and with foreclosures,” Misner said. “People are concerned with all the business comings and goings.”

Misner believes she would make a good trustee because she will focus on the residents.

“I have always put people ahead of myself,” Misner said. “I work on a board, and we agree to disagree. In the end, we focus on the community and while we might offer our personal opinions, that doesn’t impact our final vote.”

District 4

Incumbent trustee Tom Duhig, a member of the Oak Lawn First Party; Tim Reilly, running as a member of the Mayor’s Independence Party; and Terry Vorderer, who is running as an independent candidate are in the race for District 4 trustee.

Duhig, 69, has lived in Oak Lawn for 40 years. He works as the administrative assistant to the chief of court services for the Cook County Sheriff’s Department. He has been a trustee since 2009.

“I am running for reelection because I think I can make a difference,” Duhig said. “My record has shown that. I have pretty much been an independent since I started serving. I bring a lot of common sense to the board. I like to work behind the scenes. I’m quiet, but I like to get things done.”

Duhig said the role of the board is to monitor the issues going on in the village that the board is supposed to vote on.

“You have to do your homework and use common sense,” Duhig said. “You have to listen to the residents and listen to what they are asking. If something is good for my district, it is probably good for all of Oak Lawn; but just because something is good for Oak Lawn doesn’t mean it is good for my district. That is how I have guided my term in office.”

Finances are a big issue in the village, Duhig said.

“One of the big issues is going to be pension funds,” Duhig said. “It if wasn’t for [Trustee] Tom Phelan several years ago, who guided our pension funds to get us out of the stock market, we would be $35 million under water. Our debt is a big issue, but it is no different than the federal or state debt, it is just down to the local level. We have to manage our money wisely.”

Duhig wants to see the village maintain its character while adding new development.

“We have big box and mom and pop stores here,” Duhig said. “It holds the village together. We have a lot of businesses where people do not have to travel far. The key thing to attract new businesses, the problem with that, is that property taxes are so high. If we get a little shoe store or a tailor, everyone wants to be on 95th Street or Cicero, and they just can’t afford it.”

Duhig would like to see the village develop the Southwest Highway corridor, from Southwest Highway between 95th and 99th streets.
“That hospital is not going to stop growing,” Duhig said. “We will get banks and doctor’s offices, which have no retail sales tax. What we need to do is create a corridor on Southwest Highway, and put banks and doctor’s offices there. We want to keep them off of 95th Street so more retail can go there. The hospital has big expansion plans. It will bring in retail stores and restaurants, because people will be going there on their lunch hour. A combination of small and big stores is the key to a healthy community.”

Tim Reilly, 45, has lived in Oak Lawn for 14 years. He owns a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts from St. Xavier University. He owns a steel company. Reilly has been a member of the Oak Lawn Planning and Development Commission for five years.

“I am running because I think residents of the fourth district are not having their voices heard,” Reilly said. “I think the current trustee is an absentee trustee, and I want to change that.”

Reilly claims Duhig held one meeting about the expansion of Advocate Christ Medical Center, but did not invite residents that live south of 95th Street, which included Reilly and his neighbors.

“I think I will make a good trustee because I communicate well with people, and I have been involved in different organizations, like St. Germaine Church and Oak Lawn Baseball.”

The board should work to give direction to move the village forward, Reilly said.

“A lot of times, the trustees overstep their bounds,” Reilly said. “We have to get past the infighting and lack of governing. It is all political. I am levelheaded.”

One of the biggest issues in the village is safety, Reilly said.

“There have been safety issues, some at Chuck E. Cheese’s, and then there was an armed robbery a couple of blocks away from my house,” Reilly said. “I think it is always the fringe of Chicago coming to Oak Lawn.”

Vacant businesses are another one of Reilly’s concerns.

“We have to help small businesses move into Oak Lawn by offering incentives,” Reilly said. “If you move in, Oak Lawn will pay a month or two of your rent, something like that, or a reduced cost for garbage disposal, or offer small business loans for people that want to move into Oak Lawn. There are plenty of ways to help. Mariano’s is a great start, but we need to focus on filling up the storefronts that are vacant.”

If he is elected, he will focus on resident input, Reilly said.

“I will communicate with residents via email,” Reilly said. “I will hold quarterly or monthly meetings with residents, and I would be available for people to talk to.”

Terry Vorderer is an independent candidate running for trustee in the fourth district. Vorderer, 66, is a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn. He served as an infantryman in the U.S. Marines. He earned an applied sciences degree from Moraine Valley Community College, took classes at Governors State University, and attended the Northwestern University Staff and Command School. He served as a police officer in Oak Lawn for 34 years, and retired in 2003 as the chief of patrol. He was an Oak Lawn Park District Commissioner for six years, and served as the president and vice president of the park district board.

“Oak Lawn has given me so much over the years,” Vorderer said. “I have the energy, knowledge, and desire to serve the village.”
Vorderer believes the board serves as a liaison between the residents and the village, and sets the direction and financial obligations of the village.

Vorderer believes some of the issues that need to be addressed are political attacks between village trustees, finances, and safety.

“Political attacks are hurting Oak Lawn, and they are unprofessional,” Vorderer said. “I have spent most of my career as a police officer working in adversarial environments. I can work with whoever gets elected to present a more positive image of the village.”

Vorderer wants village trustees to be vigilant of property taxes.

“Many residents are taxed to their maximum,” Vorderer said. “We need to be financially sensitive of that and use the limited dollars we have to deliver services. People are attracted to Oak Lawn because of the good schools and good public services, like the police department.”

Safety is another important issue.

“An armed robbery occurred directly across the street from my house,” Vorderer said. “I believe that the fourth district is uniquely affected by the population that Christ Hospital brings. It is world-class and we are lucky to have it, but I think we do pay an additional price for that. As a result, I think village services, especially the police, need to pay special attention to this district.”

Vorderer wants the village and the hospital to work together on a partnership to address safety and quality of life issues.

“I will not be a part-time politician,” Vorderer said. “I see myself as a public servant. I want to run because I love this place. It’s been my home since the day I was born, and I want to be part of its future.”

District 6

Three people are running for the trustee seat in District 6. Incumbent trustee Tom Phelan is not seeking reelection. Carol Sheahan is running as a member of the Mayor’s Independence Party. Joseph Sorrentino is running as an independent candidate. Michael Carberry is running as the District 6 candidate with the Oak Lawn First Party. Carberry did not return several phone calls seeking comment for this story.

Sheahan, 43, is a lifelong resident of Oak Lawn. She owns a bachelor’s degree in journalism from Northern Illinois University. She is a stay at home mom who volunteers with the Oak Lawn Green Team, Oak Lawn Baseball, and the Oak Lawn Lions Club.

“I decided to run because I wanted to be involved,” Sheahan said. “I’ve always volunteered or contributed to my neighborhood in Oak Lawn. I have the same concerns other people do. I want to keep my taxes low, keep the streets safe, and do what is best for Oak Lawn.”

One of the biggest issues is business development.

“I want to involve residents’ input regarding stores that are going into their neighborhood,” Sheahan said. “The 111th and Cicero development is practically in my backyard, and I will be doing a lot of shopping there. We also need to address vacancies and draw in small businesses. I want to get ideas from residents on what they would like to see.”

Safety is another concern for Sheahan.
“Having grown up here, I am from the era where you left your back door open, and you can’t do that anymore,” Sheahan said. “I want to keep the neighborhood as safe as I can. I am on the team to kickstart a neighborhood watch program, and have residents be the eyes for the police department. People will walk through neighborhoods and see graffiti, beer cans, or if you see unruly kids in a park and it’s past 11 p.m., let them know it is time to leave.”

Sheahan also wants the board to work together.

“The board working together is what is going to carry the board forward,” Sheahan said. “They are not working together right now. Everything is at a stop point. If you don’t like my idea, it just gets squashed. Everything should be able to have input and work it out amicably.”

Sorrentino, 48, has lived in Oak Lawn for 41 years. He holds a business administration degree from St. Xavier University. He is the owner of the Step Up Logistics company, which sells transportation services. He is the current president of Oak Lawn-Hometown School District 123 board of education.

“I’m running because I think it is time for a positive change,” Sorrentino said. “I think I have the qualifications. I am a successful business owner. I am the president of the largest school district in Illinois, and I am an independent candidate.”

Sorrentino said the role of the board is to set the vision for the village, support the growth of the village, improve public safety and manage key development projects. The board is also in charge of making sure residents have basic services, like police, fire, and garbage pickup.

He is concerned about the public fighting amongst Village Board members.

“We have to make good decisions for the residents,” Sorrentino said. “The divisiveness is not a way to run a government. People should not be so committed to whatever his or her beliefs are. You have to understand what the residents feel. There are a lot of good, smart people in Oak Lawn and they need to be listened to. Everybody is disgusted by what is going on.”

Sorrentino said residents have gotten more and more concerned about public safety.

“One of the things that is a hot topic is making sure our kids are safe when they are at school,” Sorrentino said. “One person or one district cannot do that. what Oak Lawn has been about since I was a little kid living here is everyone working together. Now, everyone is working to appease a political party.”

Sorrentino said his experience on the school board has given him the tools to restore order on the board and help trustees develop a sense of respect with one another.

“Having the business background that I have, I have experience and am objective,” Sorrentino said. “I can analyze data and make the best decision. My credibility and my sense of ethics is how I grew my business. My business experience will help me ensure financial progress in the village. We have to get back to basics, restore order on the board, and debate issues in a healthy forum.”

-Top-
Volley for Charity

Published as part of the March 28, 2013 edition.

Volleyball players and teams are needed for the Volleyball for Charity 33rd annual Coed Volleyball Tournament and Party to be held Saturday, April 6 at the Chicago Ridge Park District, Saint Xavier University and Marist High School.

All proceeds from the event will benefit individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn. Players and non-players are welcome to attend the After Tournament Party from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at Beverly Country Club 87th S. Western Ave. in Chicago. Attendees must be 21 years old. There will be an open bar all evening, two hours of assorted food and hors D’oeuvres, cash raffles, music and dancing. NCAA Final Four games will be televised.

Tournament team fee is $300 and which includes up to eight T-shirts. The tournament and party package is $400 and includes games, T-shirts and up to eight tickets to the after-tournament party. Regular after tournament party tickets can be purchased in advance for $30 online, by calling 802-1123, or at the door. To register or for more information visit volleyballforcharity.org.

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Religion Briefs For March 29

March 28, 2013 12:16PM

Coffee And...: From 9 to 11 a.m. April 4, St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago, will host Judith Valente, print and broadcast journalist, poet and essayist, who will discuss “How to Live A Contemplative Life.” Cost for the program in the Butler Reception room is $6. Information: (708) 857-8495.

-Top-
Sr Mary Catherine (Devota) Daly 1936 - 2012. Born, September 13, 1936 in Chicago, IL, Sister Mary Catherine entered the Sisters of Mercy September 8, 1953. She was a graduate of little Flower Elementary, a 1953 Mercy High graduate, then graduated from St. Xavier University (Chicago) and the University of Illinois (Champaign/Urbana). Sister ministered as a junior high school teacher at Resurrection, St. Ethelreda, and St. Frances Cabrini Schools in Chicago, and as principal at St. Eugene (Fox Point, WI), Resurrection (Chicago, IL), and St. Joseph (Aurora, IL) elementary schools. In Aurora, IL she helped to create Hesed House and Joseph Corporation. Sister Mary Catherine was preceded in death by her parents, John and Mary, and by her brother, Jack. She is survived by her sister Helen, and brother-in-law, Jim Brown; her nephew, Jim Brown and his two children (Jenna and Jacob); and her niece, Kathy and nephew-in-law, Guy Loucks and their two children (Daniel and James); and many cousins in the USA, Ireland, and Australia. Visitation will be at McAuley Chapel, 400 West Sullivan Road, Aurora, IL on Monday, April 1, 2013 from 2:00 PM until 7:00 PM and in state viewing at St. Mary Church, 430 East Downer Place, Aurora, IL on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 Noon. Mass of Christian burial will be at St. Mary Church on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 12:00 Noon, Interment will follow at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Aurora, IL, Donations may be made to Hesed House, P.O. Box 2022, Aurora, IL 60507, 630- 891-2156 or the Sisters of Mercy of America. Funeral arrangements by The Daleiden Mortuary, 220 North Lake Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506. 630-631-5500. Visit www.daleidenmortuary.com to sign the online guest book.
SHANE ZACKERY - NFF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE DAY, PRESENTED BY FIDELITY INVESTMENTS

Published: 3/2/2013 8:00:00 AM

Each NFF Scholar-Athlete of the Day is selected from the list of candidates for the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Awards, presented by Fidelity Investments. Nominated by their school as the absolute best all-around scholar-athlete on their team, 147 candidates met the high standards needed for consideration this year. As part of its effort to highlight the best of the gridiron, the NFF separately highlights each of these 147 candidates on its website. These outstanding individuals must be a senior or graduate student in their final year of eligibility, have a GPA of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale, have outstanding football ability as a first team player or significant contributor, and have demonstrated strong leadership and citizenship.

Shane Zackery
Saint Xavier (Ill.)
Wide Receiver
Rockford, Ill.
Business Management, Marketing & Finance
3.71 GPA
Additional Information:

2012 NFF National Scholar-Athlete
2013 NFF Chicago Chapter mental Toughness Award
2012 Daktronics NAIA National Scholar-Athlete
2012 CoSIDA First-Team Academic All-America
2012 CoSIDA Academic All-District III
2012 Academic All-Mid-State Football Association
2011 Daktronics NAIA National Scholar-Athlete
2011 CoSIDA First-Team Academic All-America
2011 CoSIDA Academic All-District III
2011 Academic All-Mid-State Football Association

Community Service:

Coordinated team activates for annual SXU Service Day; Volunteered time to host free football clinic for underprivileged kids in conjunction with the Salvation Army Community Center in Chicago; Visited elementary school kinds and spoke to classroom in local area; Volunteers time and service at Providence Baptist Catholic Church in hometown over the summers, hosting Vacation Bible School and helping with annual church picnic; Participates in events with campus church, St. Patrick’s, helping with set-up of annual festival.

To watch highlights from Zackery’s trip to New York for the NFF’s Annual Awards Dinner, click here.

-Top-
SXU men return to NAIA national hoops tourney

Published as part of the March 6, 2013 edition.

After a three-year absence, Coach Tom O’Malley and the No.-7 nationally ranked St. Xavier University (SXU) men’s basketball team are back in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division II men’s national basketball championship.

The Cougars, seeded sixth in the tournament, will take on University of St. Mary (Kansas) in the first round of the 2013 NAIA Division II championship in Point Lookout, Mo.

The 32-team, single-elimination tournament is divided into four, eight-team brackets with the top 16 teams seeded. The Cougars will match up against the Spires in first-round action on March 6 with a scheduled 9:45 p.m. tip at the Keeter Gymnasium on the campus of the College of the Ozarks.

University of St. Mary (USM) comes into the tournament ranked just outside of the top 25 in the final NAIA Division II poll.

The Spires enter the contest with a 22-8 record and qualified for the tournament after claiming the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) regular-season title. USM fell to McPherson University (Kan.) in overtime, 91-82, in the quarterfinals of the KCAC conference tournament.

SXU has enjoyed an impressive season thus far, posting a 28-5 overall record and finishing as Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) runner-up after an 84-75 loss to No.-2 ranked Cardinal Stritch University in the conference championship on Feb. 23. This marks the first time since the 2009-10 campaign that the Cougars have advanced to the NAIA championship. The Cougars fell in the first round that year to Oklahoma Baptist University, which went on to claim the national title.

SXU is led by Brad Karp, CCAC Player of the Year. The junior guard is a three-time all-CCAC first-team selection. He averages 21.6 points, 8.6 rebounds and 2.1 steals while shooting at a blistering 56.7-percent clip. Karp was named CCAC Player of the Week seven times this season.

Senior point guard Roosevelt Green joined Karp as a first-team selection, while senior point guard Anthony Grant and sophomore shooting guard Jack Krieger earned honorable mention all-league status.

Green led the conference in assists at 7.1 per contest, while Krieger is the Cougars’ second leading scorer at 13.9 points per game. Grant chips in with 13.4 points per game.
Girls soccer previews: Downers North, South welcome new coaches; Westmont building

Solid foundations in place for Trojans and Mustangs; Sentinels have a new look after most successful season.

By JASON ROSSI - jrossi@shawmedia.com

Created: Wednesday, March 6, 2013 1:41 p.m. CDT

DOWNERS GROVE SOUTH

The Mustangs aren't starting with a totally clean slate this season, but it's close to that.

Gone is longtime coach Barry Jacobson, who took the Mustangs to five state trophies in 29 years as head coach. Abby Anderson, who had high school coaching stints at Mother McAuley and Tinley Park and was recently an assistant at St. Xavier University, takes over as head coach.

Seven seniors have also departed from last year's third-place state team, including the top three goal-scorers — Sarrah Ludwig (29), Flo Beshiri (15) and Jessica Bronke (10). That trio and Jessica Pikul (six goals) were all captains.

"The girls who are up with the varsity team, I told them nothing is set in stone," Anderson said. "It's going to be a battle for our starting spots. I preach the idea of daily competition in practice."

Anderson, who left SXU as the program's all-time leading scorer, hopes to play an attacking brand of offensive soccer based on speed, finesse and possession, but not at the sake of defensive responsibilities. In that regard, forward Emily Wauer (the leading returning scorer with six goals and five assists), midfielder Brittany Dietz and defender Lori Niehaus, who head the group of returning players, will fill crucial roles this spring as the Mustangs look to continue their tradition of success.

"Hopefully that continues with our new coaching staff," Anderson said. "We're looking pretty balanced so far so not just one thing is standing out."

Nickname: Mustangs
Coach: Abby Anderson
2012 record: 20-6-3
Top players

Brittany Dietz sr. M/D
Lori Niehaus jr. D
Emily Wauer jr. F
Jenny Adams so. M
Jamie Furio jr. GK
College Basketball: St. Xavier women advance in NAIA tourney

From Submitted Reports March 6, 2013 12:30PM

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — St. Xavier’s women’s basketball team will take on the No. 2 team in the country Friday after winning its opening-round game Wednesday in the NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championship.

The fifth-seeded Cougars rolled to a 70-49 win over No. 4 St. Thomas behind 24 points from Suzie Broski and 12 points and 11 rebounds from Lincoln-Way East graduate Caitlin McMahon.

SXU (25-6) faces the top-seeded University of St. Francis (Ind.) at noon Friday.

The Cougars beat St. Francis 78-61 in a December contest at SXU’s annual holiday tournament.

-Top-
Sioux City, Iowa – Sophomore guard Suzie Broski (Rockford, Ill./Boylan Catholic) led the way for the No. 5 seeded Saint Xavier University women's basketball team with a game-high 24 points on 12-of-20 shooting en route to a 70-49 victory over No. 4 seed St. Thomas University (Fla.) in the first round of the State Farm-NAIA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Iowa. Freshman forward Caitlin McMahon (Frankfort, Ill./Lincoln-Way East) had one of the best games of her young career posting a double-double of 12 points and 11 rebounds on the morning in her first national tournament appearance. SXU advances to the second round and faces No. 1 seed University of Saint Francis (Ind.) at noon on Friday, March 8 at the Tyson Events Center.

Junior point guard Jordan Brandt (Winamac, Ind./Winamac) narrowly missed her career-high scoring total (16) after dropping 15 points in the win over the Bobcats hitting five of her seven attempts from beyond the three-point arc. Sophomore guard/forward Morgan Stuut (Marcellus, Mich./Three Rivers) pulled down a game-best 13 rebounds and chipped in six points. SXU held the St. Thomas offense in check not allowing any of its players to reach double figures in points and holding the Bobcats to just 30-percent shooting (18-of-59). The Cougars found themselves down 8-2 after the opening four minutes of play, but used a 9-3 run to tie the game, 11-11, with 13:34 remaining in the half. SXU took a 20-14 lead after a three-pointer by Brandt capped a 7-1 run, but the Bobcats responded with a 5-0 run to trim the Cougar lead to a point, 20-19. Saint Xavier pushed its lead to double figures, 33-22, with just under three minutes remaining in the half. The girls went into the break ahead, 39-25, and ended the first half shooting a stellar 52 percent (14-of-27) from the field.

SXU came out firing again in the second half boasting a 7-0 run to open the frame and extending its lead to 46-25 capped by another three-pointer from Brandt. The Cougars increased their lead up to 30 points, 62-32, with 10:13 left to play after a three-pointer by Stuut. From that point, Saint Xavier never looked back building as high as a 31-point advantage and never letting it get closer than 23 points the rest of the way. SXU turned the STU miscues into points throughout the contest converting 18 Bobcat turnovers into 22 points for the Cougars on the other end highlighted by a game-best five steals from senior point guard Romisha Taylor (Chicago, Ill./Von Stueben).

Saint Xavier (25-6 overall/17-5 CCAC) will play University of Saint Francis (Ind.) Friday in the second round of the NAIA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship. SXU already played USF earlier this season logging a 78-61
victory over the then-No. 7 ranked Cougars from Fort Wayne, Ind., on December 29, 2012, in Saint Xavier's annual Holiday Tournament. The game is slated for a noon start at the Tyson Events Center in Sioux City, Iowa.

-TOP-
Area colleges: Benedictine names men's soccer coach

Posted Mar 06, 2013 @ 10:39 PM

Last update Mar 06, 2013 @ 10:55 PM

Benedictine University at Springfield women’s soccer coach Drew Lenhardt is taking over the men’s soccer program at the school and will coach both sports next fall.

He replaces former men’s head coach Mo Cato, who was hired as the Brescia University men’s soccer coach last week. Lenhardt inherits a team that had a 7-11-1 record in 2012.

Lenhardt joined the Benedictine staff last fall. He is from the Chicago area and was an All-American at McHenry County College. He also played at St. Xavier University.

In his first season as the women’s coach, Lenhardt led the Bulldogs to a 1-16-1 mark.

-Top-
WBB: USF Wins Opening Round Game 62-42

Published : Wednesday, 06 Mar 2013, 3:46 PM EST

Bill Scott - Saint Francis SID

SIoux City, Iowa -- Senior guard Kayla Drake buried 4 3-pointers and finished with 21 points to lead second-ranked University of Saint Francis to a 62-42 win over Reinhardt University (Ga.) on Wednesday morning in the first round of the NAIA Championship.

Freshman Brooke Ridley added 11 points and four blocked shots, junior Skylarr Shurn scored nine points and Meghan Slusher added eight in the balanced USF offensive. USF won its seventh consecutive game and 16th game in the last 17 to run its record to 31-3. The win improved USF to 23-13 in 14 NAIA Championship appearances and snapped a two-game first-round losing streak. The Lady Cougars are 11-3 now in first-round games.

USF took a 3-o lead on Drake's 3-pointer and after a tie and two lead changes, the Lady Cougars took the lead from the Lady Eagles (19-15) and continued adding to that lead through most of the rest of the game.

USF earned a 1 p.m. rematch on Friday against St. Xavier University (25-6). SXU handed USF its first loss of the season in Chicago, 78-61, in the championship game of the SXU Holiday Tournament on Dec. 29, 2012.

"Oh yes, we remember (SXU) and we are looking forward to playing them again," Drake said. "We did some good things today, but we can play better than we did today."

-Top-
SXU’s Yanule headed to ESCC Hall of Fame

Mark Yanule, the offensive coordinator for St. Xavier University’s football program, will be among four individuals inducted into the East Suburban Catholic Conference Hall of Fame in a ceremony on March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Crystal Sky Banquet Hall in McCook.

Yanule was an all-state and all-conference lineman at Notre Dame High School and later attended the University of St. Francis, where he also earned all-conference honors in football. Other new inductees to the ESCC Hall of Fame are former NFL draft pick Dan Santucci (St. Patrick), Benet Academy athletic director and former Redwings football coach Gary Goforth, and longtime wrestling assignment chair Jon Schaus.

In addition, seven anniversary state-championship teams will be recognized at the eighth annual event, including Marist’s 1983 wrestling squad.

Tickets are $50 and may be purchased through any ESCC member school. For more information, call Mike Hennessey at (847) 779-8652.

-Top-
Dean takes fourth for Cougars

A fourth-place finish by senior Rachael Dean in the mile run highlighted St. Xavier University’s three-day stay at the women’s portion of the NAIA Indoor Track & Field National Championships, which concluded Saturday in Geneva, Ohio.

Dean’s school-record time of 5 minutes, 1.97 seconds earned her All-America status for the second year in a row. She wasn’t the Cougars’ only high placer at the meet, however.

Turning in ninth-place efforts for SXU were senior Jackie Ott in the 1,000-meter run (school-record 3:00.70) and senior Ashley Shares in the 5,000 (18:06.70), while senior Mercedes Mancha — a 2012 All-American — was 10th in the 3,000-meter race-walk (career-best 16:28.92). Also occupying the No. 10 position was the Cougars’ distance-medley relay unit (school-record 12:20.76), which was comprised of Ott, Dean and juniors Leslie Rosario and Anna Galvez.

“What a great way to end our indoor track season, easily one of the most successful track seasons this program has ever had,” SXU coach Lisa Ebel said. “We finished in the top 10 nationally in five different events and set a number of school records. The girls came out focused and ran great races. I could not be more proud of their efforts this [past] weekend.”

The Cougars have some time off before beginning their outdoor season on March 28 at the Goshen (Ind.) College Track & Field Invitational.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Coach Tom O’Malley and his No. 7-ranked Cougars were scheduled to meet the University of St. Mary (Kan.) this past Wednesday in a first-round game at the NAIA Division II Men’s Basketball National Championship in Point Lookout, Mo.

Tip-off was slated for 9:45 p.m. at Keeter Gymnasium on the campus of the College of the Ozarks.

St. Mary (22-8) entered the tournament ranked just outside of the top 25 in the final NAIA Division II Coaches poll. The Spires qualified for the national event by claiming the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference regular-season title.

SXU brought a 28-5 ledger into the contest after finishing second to Cardinal Stritch during the regular campaign and again in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Tournament. The Cougars are making their first national appearance since 2009-10, when they dropped a first-round game to eventual champion Oklahoma Baptist University.
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The 18th-ranked Cougars, who received a No. 5 seed in the NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championships, open play today in Sioux City, Iowa, where they clash with No. 4 seed Saint Thomas (Fla.) University in a first-round matchup.

Saint Thomas University (27-3) after receiving one of 11 at-large bids. The Bobcats had their 15-game win streak snapped by Webber International in the semifinals of the Sun Conference Championships.

SXU (24-6) lost to Indiana University-South Bend in a CCAC Tournament quarterfinals game, but also secured an at-large berth round due to its national ranking. This marks the 11th straight season the Cougars have advanced to the NAIA national event, and they will be seeking to move past the opening round for the sixth time in the past eight years.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL

Junior outside hitter Justin Cousin produced 26 total kills as the Cougars rolled to a pair of victories at last weekend’s Robert Morris University Tri-Match at Attack Athletics in Chicago.

SXU took the first match against its Mid-America Men’s Volleyball Intercollegiate Conference rival, the host Eagles, in just three sets by scores of 25-17, 25-18, 25-23. The Cougars then went toe-to-toe with No. 6-ranked Cardinal Stritch University in nonconference action and came away with a five-set win, 14-25, 25-20, 25-18, 21-25, 15-13.

SXU had its offense clicking over the two matches, racking up 85 total kills to just 26 attacking errors. The victory over the Wolves was the Cougars’ third straight.

Sophomore setter Dan French was tough as well for SXU on Friday as he passed out 63 assists, to go along with 12 digs, five block assists and three service aces. Freshman middle blocker Sam Kull and junior middle blocker J.T. O’Connell (Brother Rice) aided the Cougars’ cause with 16 and 13 total kills, respectively, and the former also registered 11 total blocks, including two solos.

Cousin’s 18 kills in the victory over Cardinal Stritch tied his career-best effort for a single match.

SXU (5-13, 3-7) hosted NCAA Division III Carthage College this past Tuesday at the Shannon Center.

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Cousin’s 16 kills topped the Cougars and helped them notch a 25-23, 23-25, 25-19, 25-27, 15-7 MAMVIC triumph over Johnson & Wales (Colo.) University last Monday night at the Shannon Center.

French recorded a career-high 45 assists, plus five digs, three total blocks and two aces to ably support Cousin. SXU also received a double-digit number of kills from O’Connell (15) and Kull (14), and the latter augmented his performance with six total blocks and five aces.

Sophomore middle blocker Sean Blackwood provided the Cougars with nine kills and eight digs, while junior right-side hitter Jacob Siska (Oak Lawn) tied the program’s record for aces in a match with six. Junior right-side hitter Sean Martin paced the Wildcats with 25 kills.
WOMEN’S SOCCER

Mariana Hoerr, a senior forward/midfielder at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Louisville, Ohio, recently signed a letter of intent to continue both her education and athletic career at SXU as a member of the Cougars soccer program.

The Canton, Ohio, native will pursue a degree in a health-focused field. SXU coach Evan Strehlau is excited about the speed Hoerr will bring to the Cougars after being a member of Ohio’s top 400-meter relay team at St. Thomas.

“Mariana is a great signee for us,” Strehlau said. “Her speed, skill and finishing touch make her a very dangerous player. Being a part of some of the top 4x100-meter relay teams in the state of Ohio makes her speed even more dangerous.

“Mariana will add to our speed and finishing, which we are developing in the attack. She will be one to watch over the next four years and we can’t wait to get her here in August.”

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Also new to the Cougars’ roster in the fall will be Amber Pringle, currently a senior midfielder at McHenry East High School.

Pringle recently signed a letter of intent to continue her education and athletic career at SXU. She will major in psychology.

“My decision to have Amber as a Cougar didn’t take long after I saw her play,” Strehlau said. “She has average size [at 5-foot-6], but plays like she is 6 feet [tall]. Her strength in the air, and the quick and precise decisions she make with the ball will be valuable to our program.

“Amber will be utilized in many ways this fall and I’m excited to see what she can do against our opponents.”

MEN’S SOCCER

Erik Diaz, a senior center back at Chicago Academy, recently signed a letter of intent with the Cougars.

The Pena, Mexico, native was an honorable mention on the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association All-Sectional team in 2012. He will study business administration at SXU.

Cougars coach Ed Vucinic loves that fact that not only is Diaz impressive on the soccer field, but is also a very focused and talented student as well.

“Erik’s decision to continue his education and soccer career at St. Xavier has us pretty excited around here,” Vucinic said. “He’s got a long list of great attributes, starting with the fact that he is a fantastic student who has shown a focus and dedication to his education. That naturally leads to the great leadership qualities he possesses, which is a necessary component for a quality center back.

“From there, you can add in great athletic ability that begins with great speed to start and a second gear when needed. What I really like about Erik is that all of those qualities are wrapped up in a fiery competitive spirit. I think he’s got a huge upside and can’t wait to see how his time as a Cougar unfolds.”

-Top-
Ott sets record: Marian Central grad Jackie Ott of St. Xavier set a school record and finished 10th in the 1,000-meter event March 2 at the NAIA indoor national preliminaries in Geneva, Ohio.

Ott ran a school-best time of 3:00.7 seconds in the event, narrowly missing the finals.

Ott also ran the 800 leg on SXU’s distance medley relay team, which posted a school-record time of 12:20.76 to finish third in its heat and 10th overall in the prelims.
SIoux City, Iowa -- Defending NAIA Champion Northwestern College is the next hurdle for the University of Saint Francis after the second-ranked Lady Cougars got even for one of their three losses with an 82-69 decision over 18th-ranked St. Xavier University on Friday afternoon.

USF freshman Brooke Ridley scored the first six points of the game for a 6-0 Lady Cougars lead and USF were in control the entire State Farm-NAIA Division II Women's Basketball National Championship second round game. NC (25-7) won its 17th consecutive NAIA Championship game earlier in a 92-60 victory over 10th-ranked Concordia (MI).

The Lady Cougars' 32nd win of the season avenged a 78-61 loss at SXU (25-7) on December 29 in the championship game of the SXU Holiday Tournament.

"We really set the tone with our defense," USF Head Coach Gary Andrews said. That loss to SXU back in December served as additional incentive for USF.

"We talked about it before the game . . . Bethel beat us, we came back and beat BC twice and Indiana Wesleyan beat us and we came back and beat them, so the fact we lost earlier in the season (at SXU) was a huge motivator. Give SXU credit, they won the first meeting. We were a decent team then, but Kayla Drake has gotten healthier, and our defense has gotten so much better since the first time we played them."

"We played decent the first game (Wednesday), we had to bring our 'A' game today against SXU and we did. Our posts played well today -- Brooke, Jessica and Kalah had eight points. SXU is a very good team, they are very well-coached and we played well today."

USF led 44-25 at halftime and opened up a 25-point lead in the first four minutes of the second half.

Ridley, who recorded her second double-double of the season with 10 rebounds, and Kayla Drake led USF's balanced scoring with 14 points apiece. Skylarr Shurn added 11 points, Jenelle Wilson scored 10 and Jessica Harrison came off the bench to score a career high 10 points. Ridley finished with three blocked shots and Drake dished out four assists, Wilson three.

"I just wanted to figure out how to contribute and help the team," Ridley said. "Comin' into it I was a little nervous, but hittin' that first shot and blockin' some shots calmed me down. We got good contributions from everybody."

Ridley, Harrison and Baer combined for 32 points and 19 rebounds, all critical contributions for the USF cause.
"We knew it was a big game and would need contributions from the bench, from everybody so I just played hard and stepped up," Harrison said. "I got rid of the butterflies when I saw how hard everybody was playin' on defense. Defense is what I do best, so just like that, they were gone."

In the first meeting, Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year -- Morgan Stuut -- scored 20 points for SXU as did Suzie Broski.

On Friday, the tenacious USF defense held Stuut to 13 points and Broski to nine.

"We knew we had to play better on defense than we did the first time," Slusher said.

"Jenelle and Meghan played great defense, Kayla and Skylarr were active on the perimeter," Andrews said. "I thought today we played more like the way we've played in 2013."

Slusher, who also grabbed 10 rebounds along with Ridley, gave USF its first double-digit lead of the game scoring at 15:07 for a 13-2 lead. SXU whittled the deficit to seven twice, but Harrison converted a 3-point play at 10:26 for a 20-10 lead and SXU never got within single digits again.

SXU shot .290 (9 for 31) in the first half, USF .429 (15 for 35). USF outrebounded SXU 30-16 in the first half, 55-27 for the game and 18-8 for the game on the offensive boards. USF shot .552 (16 for 29) in the second half, SXU .429 (15 for 35).

"We gave up 69, but it was important to get some players some rest and get some others playing experience in the championship," Andrews said.

Ten of the 11 Lady Cougars who played scored including senior Nora Gibbons, who had a special reason to savor the victory. Her cousin is an assistant coach for SXU.

"Technically, it was a deep two," Gibbons said chuckling. "I just caught it in rhythm and hit it, plus I heard my teammate-co-captain on the bench yelling to 'shoot it' . . . I thought time was running out or something. I didn't know how far out I was."

Now a win away from tying the women's record for victories at 32-3, the Lady Cougars have won eight consecutive games and 17 of their last 18 games. USF advances to the Elite 8 for ninth time in 14 appearances at NAIA Championship . . . USF is 3-5 in Elite 8 . . . USF is now 9-2 in second round games . . . 24-13 in NAIA Championship competition . . . USF improved to 64-22 in post-season play.

-Top-
Saint Francis women advance to NAIA quarterfinals

News-Sentinel staff reports

Saturday, March 9, 2013 - 4:18 am

Brooke Ridley and Kayla Drake scored 14 points each to lead Saint Francis to an 82-69 win over St. Xavier in the second of the NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championships on Friday at Sioux City, Iowa.

The Cougars, 32-3, were scheduled to play defending national champion Northwestern (Iowa), 25-7, in the quarterfinals at 3 p.m. today. Friday’s win came against a team that had handed the Cougars one of their three losses – a 78-61 decision on Dec. 29 at the SXU Holiday Tournament.

USF wasted no time gaining an advantage on St. Xavier as Ridley scored the first six points of the game. They eventually led 13-2 with 15:02 to play in the first half. The lead continued to grow and Saint Francis led 44-25 at halftime.

A basket by Ridley with 13:30 remaining gave Saint Francis its largest lead, 60-35. St. Xavier was able to cut into the lead but it was too much to overcome.

The Cougars had balanced scoring as five players reached double figures. Besides Ridley and Drake, Skylarr Shurn had 11 while Jenelle Wilson and Jessica Harrison scored 10 each.

Ridley had a double-double as she hauled in 10 rebounds to share team honors with Meghan Slusher. Ridley also had three blocks.

USF dominated the boards as they outrebounded St. Xavier 55-27. The Cougars allowed SXU eight offensive rebounds while collecting 18 off of their offensive glass.

-Top-
Tiger earns his stripes in cheap seats

March 09, 2013 8:00 pm

TIM GALLAGHER tgallagher@siouxcityjournal.com

SIOUX CITY | Matt Kearney was raised as a Lion cub. Changed to stripes, becoming the fiercest Tiger patrolling the bleachers for his Olivet Nazarene women's basketball team.

His twin sister, Rachel Kearney, was a Lion and Tiger, too, oh my. And genesis for this brotherly love.

"ONE, TWO, THREE: LINE CHANGE!" Matt Kearney roars from the first row of the seats, just behind the hockey penalty box (appropriate hockey reference), at the Tyson Events Center on Wednesday afternoon. Twin sister Rachel Kearney heads to the court with four teammates, replacing five who had just zipped up and down the floor as the Tigers "ball" against the Concordia University Cardinals of Ann Arbor, Mich., in the opening round of the NAIA Division II Women's Basketball Championship.

The Tigers, who trail by 8, attempt to "claw" their way back. Matt Kearney, sporting a full-body tiger pajama suit, offers encouragement. Loudly.

"Come on, girls! Rebound!" he hollers.

He's hard to miss, this Tiger terror standing alone and waving over-sized white gloves as the action sizzles.

"These are Mickey Mouse gloves," Kearney says. "Got 'em at Disney World. The tiger hat is from a Los Angeles swap meet."

So, what got this Olivet Nazarene junior into his Tiger skin? The Lions did, that's what. Or who. The Kearneys come from Marion, Iowa, where Rachel played girls basketball for the Linn-Mar Lions. Brother Matt competed in football and track.

"The boys basketball team at Linn-Mar had quite a following," Matt Kearney says during a break in the action. "The team had a black-out (where everyone wears black at a game) and it was very successful."
The girls' team at Linn-Mar then began making strides as perennial all-staters such as Jaime Printy (now at the University of Iowa) and Kiah Stokes (now at the University of Connecticut) started their basketball careers with the Lions. Kearney worked with a buddy to come up with a "black dot" fan scheme. At the time, he and Rachel were seniors.

"We didn't have enough for a black-out, so two of us did a black-dot and it worked," he says.

When he and Rachel headed to Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Ill., Matt pledged to keep his fan fervor aflame. Of course, he had to go from Lion to Tiger.

"It's been a lot of fun watching my sister and her teammates and cheering them on," says Matt, who runs track for these Tigers. "There are some places who don't treat me so well, but that's part of it."

The Saint Xavier University Cougars from Chicago sat behind Matt Kearney on Wednesday, chanting "ONE TWO THREE, LINE CHANGE!" with him as the Tigers came in and out of the game. The Cougars come from the same Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference.

"It's neat to have the Saint Xavier girls here supporting us," he says.

The Tigers show their appreciation to the biggest Tiger of all by presenting him a framed collage of photos prior to the national tournament game. Each Tiger player signs the back, including twin sis.

"Dear twin," her message reads, "...I am so thankful for your and Tim's (another brother) support over the years. It's meant more to me than words can say. You've made my games so much more fun and it's gonna be one of the things I miss most. I love you so much! Your favorite twin -- #24."

Matt Kearney examines the message and pauses as the game clock ticks down and with it any chance of a Tiger comeback. The final horn sounds with the Tigers on the short end of a 90-80 contest.

He takes his Tiger cap off, maybe for the last time. Matt Kearney now focuses on completing his communications degree at Olivet Nazarene. He's considering a career in ministry. His work as a fan -- always encouraging, loudly -- may help him shepherd a different flock someday.

"It was a tough loss today," says Kearney, "but I'm so grateful I had the opportunity to come support them. I'm going to miss this."

With that, the Olivet Nazarene super fan walks away. And gives his sister a heartfelt hug.

Bump, set, video...

Keeping an eye -- and an ear -- on all of the NAIA basketball action this week is a team of 18 broadcasting students from Hastings College in Hastings, Neb. This edition of the NAIA Division II Women's Basketball Championship marks the 10th straight year Hastings students have broadcast games while also preparing post-game video packages, statistics and more for participating schools and their media outlets.

Melissa Ninemire, a junior, participated last fall in the national volleyball tournament at the Tyson Events Center. She's back this week in a different capacity, working 6:45 a.m. to midnight.

"I do video recaps, that's my specialty," says Ninemire, who takes a seat behind the bleachers to edit video and audio from just-completed contest. "I'll edit the work with a commentator and we'll post it on YouTube."

The crew does the same kind of work for all of Hastings College's home games. The Broncos, a frequent participant in this basketball tournament, missed out on a berth this season.
The volleyball team, however, captured sixth place in the national meet, finishing with a 30-7 overall mark. Ninemire hopes to return to this facility come fall. She's positioned herself to get time on the court as a setter.

Before then, she hopes to set herself for an internship opportunity in this trade. She's applied for one at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in her hometown, Colorado Springs, Colo.

A dream job? "My dream job would be doing video highlights for the Colorado Avalanche," she says.
Men’s basketball

Saint Xavier University’s Brad Karp (Valparaiso) saw his season end Friday in an 83-73 loss to Indiana Southeast in the second round of the NAIA Division-II Championships in Point Lookout, Missouri.

Karp hit a milestone along the way. The junior guard went over the 2,000-point mark in the tournament, becoming just the fifth player in Illinois college basketball history to reach the milestone in three or less seasons.

“It is a pretty cool accomplishment, especially to know that not a lot of people have done it in the history of Illinois college basketball,” Karp told the SXU website. “Personally, I never thought I would reach 1,000 points in my college career, because I was not much of a scorer in high school.”

SXU finished 29-6, with Karp averaging 21.4 points and 9.0 rebounds. Senior teammates Anthony Grant (Thornridge) and Dominique Harvey (Homewood-Flossmoor) were also key members of the team. Grant averaged 13.2 points, while Harvey chipped in 10.7 points and 6.3 rebounds a game. Sophomore Sean Crary (Crown Point) averaged 2.1 points a game.

* Calvin College is heading to the NCAA Division-III Sweet Sixteen and Dyer’s Jordan Brink is a big reason why. Brink (Illiana Christian) scored a game-high 21 points — including 5-of-5 from 3-point range — in Calvin’s 67-58 victory over host Wisconsin-Stevens Point on Saturday in the second round of the tournament.

Brink, a sophomore guard, has started 26 games and is averaging 10.3 points and 3.2 rebounds a game. He’s also hit 42 of 44 free throws this season.
2013 WBCA NAIA Coaches' All-America Team

By the WBCA
MARCH 12, 2013

ATLANTA (March 12, 2013) – The Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced today the 2013 WBCA National Intercollegiate Athletic Association (NAIA) Coaches’ All-America Team. The 10-member team was selected by a vote of the selection committee. The committee is comprised of one representative from each of the nine geographical regions and a chairperson.

The members of the 2013 WBCA NAIA Coaches’ All-America Team are as follows:

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<td>Brittney Carter</td>
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<td>Westminster College</td>
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“The WBCA congratulates the members of the 2013 NAIA Coaches’ All-America Team,” said WBCA CEO Beth Bass. “These 10 student-athletes have helped trigger their teams’ success this season and have propelled their game to a level that is deserving of such recognition.”

The following have been recognized as Coaches’ All-America Team Honorable Mentions for NAIA:

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<td>Mount Marty College</td>
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SXU sports summary

Published as part of the March 14, 2013 edition.

Basketball teams make second-round exits

Sixteen wasn’t all that sweet for St. Xavier University’s basketball teams.

Both squads had designs on longer runs in their respective NAIA Division II national tournaments, but neither the Cougars’ men nor women could make it past the second round of action.

After routing the University of Saint Mary (Kan.) 82-60 in last Wednesday’s opening-round contest at the 32-school event in Point Lookout, Mo., SXU’s men ran afoul of No. 10-seeded Indiana University Southeast in Round 2. The Grenadiers rode 55 percent shooting in the first half to a sizable lead and the Cougars could never make up all the ground as they eventually suffered a season-ending 83-73 setback on Friday at Keeter Gymnasium on the College of the Ozarks campus.

“Unless you win it all, you’re going to get a game like this,” SXU coach Tom O’Malley said. “I tried to tell that to the kids. They’ve got to go away feeling good about themselves because we had guys who played exemplary all year.”

O’Malley admitted, though, that the loss didn’t go down that easily even for him.

“If somebody would have told me we’d be 29-6 [this season], I’d take that in a heartbeat,” he said. “[But] the more you win, the easier it is to believe in what you’re doing. And when you get there [to the national tourney], you’d like to go a little further.”

O’Malley sensed things probably wouldn’t run as smoothly for his team as they had during the first two months of 2013 when junior standout Brad Karp encountered early foul trouble. With their main weapon limited to less than 25 minutes of on-court time, the Cougars were operating at a disadvantage.

But Karp still managed to contribute 15 points and seven rebounds, and the trio of Jack Krieger (team-best 19 points, including five 3-pointers), Dominique Harvey (14 points, game-high 11 rebounds) and Anthony Grant (10 points, six rebounds) all lent a big hand as well. In most instances this season, that kind of balance has been enough to carry SXU to prosperity.

Not here, however. IU Southeast countered with its own group of contributors, most notably Cameron Mitchell, who torched the Cougars for a game-high 31 points on 11-of-16 shooting.
Behind Mitchell and their aforementioned hot first-half shooting (17-of-31), the Grenadiers raced out to a 12-2 lead and forced SXU into pursuit mode. The locals’ deficit grew as large as 21 points during the second half before they embarked on a 19-5 run that closed the gap to six with 3:17 to play.

Krieger sparked the surge with a trio of 3s, while Karp also hit thee baskets and Grant nailed a pair, but the comeback stalled there. IU Southeast rebuffed the Cougars by sinking eight free throws down the stretch.

SXU took 19 more shots than the Grenadiers (80-61), in part because it owned a hefty 20-8 edge on the offensive glass. However, the Cougars misfired a total of 49 times, which resulted in a below-par 39 percent success rate from the floor.

“We saw this team play and knew they were talented, but we just didn’t put the ball in the basket [often enough],” O’Malley said. “I think if we could have gotten past this game, we could have reached the Final Four because of the matchups.

“We didn’t play as well as we could have, but they had five guys who could take the ball to the basket, and that’s something that was difficult to defend. That was a talent part [for them].”

Although SXU must bid farewell to steady contributors such as Grant, Harvey and point guard Roosevelt Green (eight assists versus IU Southeast), the return of Karp, Krieger and 6-foot-7 freshman Josh Mawhorr gives the Cougars some solid building blocks for 2013-14.

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It was SXU’s offense that was on fire last Wednesday, and the Cougars’ 19-of-33 shooting in the second half paved the way for their romp past Saint Mary.

SXU’s 16-5 tear to open the game put it in control right away. The Spires hung around, drawing as close as 31-28 late in the opening half before Green’s 3-pointer and Grant’s buzzer-beating hoop provided the Cougars with some cushion.

Four more points to begin the second half re-established a double-digit lead for SXU.

Saint Mary rallied again and climbed within eight, but an 11-2 run that featured a three-point play by Tony Core pretty much decided things in the Cougars’ favor.

Green paced SXU in both points (18) and assists (game-high six), while Karp (15 points), Grant (12), Krieger (12) and Core (11) also chipped in with double-figure scoring. Karp’s first field goal was a landmark one, as it pushed him up to the 2,000-point plateau for his career.

He became only the fifth Illinois collegian to ever reach that level in no more than three seasons, joining Trinity Christian College’s Kevin Koeman, Bradley University’s Hersey Hawkins, Loyola University’s Alfredrick Hughes and Southern Illinois’ Charlie Vaughn on that short list. Karp is just the fourth Cougar to tally 2,000 points, following in the footsteps of Mike Walaszek, Mark Telander and Gary Hickerson.

“It is a pretty cool accomplishment, especially to know that not a lot of people have done it in the history of Illinois college basketball,” Karp said in a press release. “Personally, I never thought I would reach 1,000 points in my college career because I was not much of a scorer in high school. Right now, it is hard for me to focus on the magnitude of such an accomplishment.”

The Cougars wound up connecting on 49 percent of their shots against the Spires while holding the latter to a 31 percent success rate from the field for the game. — Ken Karrson

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
After coaching for more than 40 years, Cougars coach Bob Hallberg has learned quite a bit about keeping things in perspective, especially in the wake of discouraging setbacks.

And after SXU was eliminated Friday by the University of St. Francis (Ind.) 82-69 in the second round of the State Farm-NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championship Sioux City, Iowa, the Hall of Fame coach chose to dwell on the positives of a successful season rather than the negative of the Cougars’ final game.

“When you’ve coached for as long as I have, what’s the sense in talking to your team about what we didn’t accomplish when you get back to the locker room after a loss that ends your season?” Hallberg said. “I’d rather reflect on what we were able to accomplish.

“We finished 25-7 and reached the Sweet 16 this season, and we’ve now reached the NAIA national tournament for the past 11 seasons as program. In addition, we still haven’t had a year since the program began where we haven’t won at least 20 games in a season.”

To begin play, SXU grabbed a 70-49 first-round win over St. Thomas University last Wednesday. Sophomore guard Suzie Broski led the way for the Cougars with a game-high 24 points on 12-of-20 shooting.

Freshman forward Caitlin McMahon had one of the best games of her young career, posting a double-double of 12 points and 11 rebounds, and junior point guard Jordan Brandt fell one point shy of equaling her single-game career high as she used 5-of-7 3-point accuracy to total 15 points. Also contributing was sophomore Morgan Stuut, who pulled down a game-best 13 rebounds and scored six points.

The Cougars held St. Thomas’ offense in check, as they did not allow any of its players to reach double figures in points. SXU’s defense limited the Bobcats to 30 percent accuracy from the field.

Still, the Cougars found themselves trailing 8-2 at the outset and locked in an 11-all tie 6 ½ minutes into the contest. One of Brandt’s 3s capped a 7-1 SXU run, but St. Thomas answered with its own 5-0 spurt to keep things tight.

From there, though, the Cougars asserted themselves. SXU soon built a 33-22 lead, and it entered halftime ahead by 14 (39-25) after connecting on 52 percent of its first-half field-goal attempts.

Another 7-0 surge, which Brandt again topped off with a long ball, extended the Cougars’ advantage to 21 points and ended any comeback dreams the Bobcats might have still housed. Stuut’s 3-pointer made 62-32 in favor of SXU midway through the half and St. Thomas never drew closer than 23 points the rest of the way.

The Cougars forced 18 Bobcats turnovers and converted them into 22 points. Highlighting SXU’s defensive effort was Romisha Taylor’s five steals.

“We were pleased with the result, especially with a third and fourth player who filled it up offensively for us,” Hallberg said. “Brandt and McMahon combined to give us 27 points and 14 rebounds. We’ve been needing games for others to step in and support Morgan and Susie offensively, and we received that against St. Thomas.

“Going 7-for-15 from the 3-point line was big for us, too. Morgan didn’t shoot so well, but she was relentless again, as she has been all season, on boards for us. And we out-rebounded our opponent 44-16, so that was also a big highlight.”

***

In the round of 16 against USF, the Cougars faced a team they had previously defeated 78-61 at their holiday tournament on Dec. 29. Unfortunately for SXU, it was unable to repeat that performance as top-seeded and No. 2-ranked USF jumped out to a 13-2 lead in the first five minutes of play and never looked back.
USF was dominant in the lane throughout the game, as it held a 55-27 rebounding edge and outscored the Cougars 48-20 in the paint. Stuut led SXU on the day, recording team-best totals of 13 points and six rebounds.

Junior guard Niara Harris was the only other Cougar to tally in double figures as she notched 10 points off the bench on 4-of-7 shooting. USF built momentum throughout the first half, pushing its early lead all the way up to 19 points and taking a 44-25 edge into the locker room at intermission.

USF increased its advantage to 25 points (52-27) early in the second half before SXU made some inroads with a 7-0 run. Senior guard Maureen Riley’s 3-pointer sparked the flurry.

The Cougars would get no closer until the final minute, when 3-pointers from Harris and Riley reduced the margin to 13.

“We had beaten St. Francis previously, but that game, ultimately, didn’t mean anything,” Hallberg said. “We were not excited with our performance. Morgan gave us 13 rebounds, but her and Susie didn’t have the best shooting performance.

“It was nice to see all 10 [players] score in the last game, but we didn’t have anybody step up when the game was on the line. We just didn’t play well early -- we got behind early and we were too far behind late. You can’t get down 20-to-25 points against a team like St. Francis and expect to survive.”

SXU ended the season ranked 18th in the final NAIA Division II top 25 poll and wound up in a four-way tie for second in the CCAC.

“A lot of times, with our success, you might be tempted to look at the bad things during the course of a season,” Hallberg said. “But there are a lot of coaches out there that wish they had 25 victories under their belt and a team that reached the Sweet 16.

“One undeniable fact I say about this team: The effort was there all the time. It was the jump shot that was missing on many occasions for us, but we never laid down or played a soft ballgame once this season.

“The losses were the result of either being out-shot or out-rebounded. [Our players] never came out of the locker room not prepared to play or having no desire to play, and I’m very proud of that.” — Anthony Nasella

WOMEN’S TRACK

After placing fourth overall in the mile with a school-record time of 5 minutes, 1.97 seconds at the NAIA Indoor Track & Field National Championships and claiming All-America honors for the second year in a row, Cougars senior Rachael Dean was selected as the World Hyundai-St. Xavier February Athlete of the Month.

Dean, a nursing major at SXU, was publicly recognized at last Tuesday’s men’s volleyball match between the Cougars and Clarke (Wis.) College at the Shannon Center. She was presented with a certificate from World Hyundai-Matteson.

In addition to her feat in the mile, Dean also ran a leg of SXU’s distance-medley relay at the national meet and helped the Cougars finish 10th in that event in a school-record time of 12:20.76.

Dean got the month started with a bang at Illinois Wesleyan’s Keck Invitational, where she clocked an “A”-standard qualifying time of 5:06.07 in the mile. With her latest All-America recognition, Dean has now achieved that status a total of six times during her collegiate career, doing so as both a track and cross country runner.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Junior outside hitter Justin Cousin racked up 18 total kills and three service aces, but that couldn’t help the Cougars avoid a pair of losses versus Missouri Valley College on Saturday.

SXU (5-13) dropped both encounters in four sets, the first by a 23-25, 25-13, 25-10, 25-17 score and the second by a count of 25-21, 25-11, 21-25, 25-23.

Sophomore setter Dan French backed Cousin’s performance with a total of 34 assists, 15 digs, seven kills, four aces and four blocks (one solo). Freshman middle blocker Sam Kull (13 kills, five assisted blocks), junior middle blocker J.T. O’Connell (nine kills, four total blocks) and sophomore middle blocker Sean Blackwood (nine kills, 12 digs, two block assists) were other key figures for the Cougars.

SXU hosts Warner (Fla.) University tonight at 7 p.m.

BASEBALL

After having their first four games of the season cancelled due to inclement weather, the Cougars officially kicked off their 2013 campaign with six games in Babson Park, Fla., to begin their annual spring-break trip.

SXU split its first six contests, playing the first four at Heart of Florida Field in Babson Park on Friday and Saturday, and then playing two more on Sunday in Winter Haven. The Cougars beat Spring Arbor (Mich.) 4-2 in their season-opener, but then lost 7-2 to Webber (Fla.) International.

Saturday featured another split, with the Cougars rallying for a 4-3 victory over Webber International before dropping an 11-0 decision to Spring Arbor. Sunday’s doubleheader against Concordia (Neb.) concluded with yet another split, as SXU lost the opener 8-5 and then bounced back with a 5-4 triumph.

Junior right-hander Lucas Fritsch (Sandburg) got the season going in the right direction in the Cougars’ opener against Spring Arbor by throwing six innings and allowing just six hits and two earned runs while striking out two and walking a pair.

SXU trailed 2-0 heading into the top of the seventh inning before a two-run double by junior first baseman Thomas Keating (St. Laurence) tied the score. The Cougars were not finished, either, as freshman center fielder Jim Augle (Richards) stroked an RBI single and senior catcher Tony O’Shea recorded another RBI on a fielder’s choice later in the frame.

In Friday’s late game against Webber International, SXU led 2-1 going into the bottom of the fifth before the Warriors scored six unanswered runs over the next two innings to pick up the 7-2 victory.

Keating went 2-for-3 with a double and a run scored to lead the Cougars’ offense. Sophomore lefty Scott Koziol (St. Laurence) took the loss after throwing 4 2/3 innings on a yield of four hits and four earned runs. Koziol struck out seven, but issued nine free passes.

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SXU gained some revenge on Webber in Saturday’s opener by scoring four runs over the final two frames to erase a 3-0 deficit.

Augle went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI, while junior left fielder Brad Myjak doubled, scored once and drove in a run. Freshman shortstop Alec Barnhart (Oak Lawn) tallied twice for the Cougars.

Junior righty Scott Vachon threw a seven-inning complete game and scattered four hits while fanning six and walking four.
SXU could not carry that momentum into the second game against Spring Arbor, though, as the Cougars suffered an 11-0 defeat. Myjak accounted for two of the Cougars’ three hits in the game, while senior pitcher Mike Stirling took the loss on the hill despite striking out five batters.

Spring Arbor reached Stirling for eight hits and seven earned runs.

***

Senior third baseman Mike Pokers and junior right fielder Chris Klein had the hot bats in Sunday’s first game against Concordia. Both players went 2-for-4 at the plate, with each of Klein’s safeties going for extra bases.

Along with his homer and double, Klein registered a pair of RBI and scored two more runs. Pokers included a double among his hits, knocked in one run and crossed the plate once himself.

SXU came out strong, scoring all five of its runs in the first two innings, but Concordia notched seven over the final four stanzas to get the victory. Junior right-hander Dan Maton suffered the loss after working all six innings on the mound and surrendering nine hits. Maton whiffed four and walked one.

An RBI single by Augle in the bottom of the seventh gave the Cougars a 5-4 victory over Concordia in Sunday’s nightcap. Klein got the win on the mound by pitching all seven frames on a yield of six hits and one free pass. He struck out eight.

Augle went 2-for-4 with a double and pair of RBIs to pace SXU’s attack, while O’Shea was 2-for-4 with a run scored and an RBI.

**SOFTBALL**

Behind the strong pitching performances of junior right-hander Megan Nonnemacher and freshman righty Nicole Nonnemacher, the No. 25-ranked Cougars went 4-2 in the first six games of their annual spring-break trip at the National Training Center in Clermont, Fla.

SXU began with a tough 2-1 loss to Hannibal-LaGrange (Mo.) College on Friday, but then bounced back with a big 8-0 win over Point Park (Pa.) University in that day’s late game. On Saturday, the Cougars split a doubleheader with Saint Anselm College (N.H.,) winning the first game 2-0, but dropping the nightcap 3-2.

SXU swept a twinbill from Grace (Ind.) College on Sunday, capturing both games by 3-1 scores. The Nonnemacher sisters combined to throw 38 of the 41 total innings over the first six games and allowed a total of just 21 hits, three earned runs and 11 walks while striking out 45.

Megan Nonnemacher got the starting assignment in Friday’s opener against Hannibal-LaGrange and threw well, going all seven frames on a yield of six hits and one earned run. She whiffed eight and walked no one.

Sophomore DH Megan James (Marist) went 2-for-3 with a triple and run scored to pace the Cougars’ offense. SXU led 1-0 after five innings, but two runs by HLC in the top of the sixth proved to be the difference.

In Friday’s late game against Point Park, Nicole Nonnemacher was a force as she fired a three-hit shutout with 14 strikeouts and just two walks. She also went 2-for-4 with a double at the plate.

Junior DH Ariel Hinton slugged a two-run homer for the Cougars, while senior third baseman Kate Mollohan went 2-for-2 with a run scored.

***
Hinton was tough again in Saturday’s first game against Saint Anselm as she went 2-for-3 with a run scored. Junior left fielder Katie Houlihan homered for SXU.

Megan Nonnemacher matched her sister’s Friday effort by pitching a three-hit shutout while giving up two walks and fanning five.

In Game 2 on Saturday, the Cougars fell behind 3-0 after five innings of play, but got two runs in the top of the sixth off Hinton’s RBI single and a bases-loaded free pass to Nicole Nonnemacher. However, SXU could not plate another run the rest of the way.

Nonnemacher suffered the loss despite getting nicked for only three hits and one earned run. She whiffed four and walked three.

***

Mollohan paced the Cougars’ offense in their first 3-1 victory over Grace College by going 2-for-2 with an RBI. Freshman Kasey Kanaga chipped in with a clutch RBI single in the fifth that enabled SXU to erase a 1-0 deficit.

Megan Nonnemacher picked up the win by throwing all seven innings and scattering five hits. She struck out five batters and issued one base-on-balls.

An RBI single by Hinton and sacrifice fly from James in the first inning of Game 2 proved to be all the production SXU needed as Nicole Nonnemacher threw the final four frames in relief of freshman starter Shannon Pedersen to pick up her second victory of the year.

Nonnemacher allowed just one hit and no runs, walked three and whiffed nine.

-Top-
COLLEGE ROUNDUP: Adrian College ACHA D3 men's hockey wins national title

By Daily Telegram staff

Posted Mar. 17, 2013 @ 12:00 pm

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Saint Xavier (Ill.) at Siena Heights: At Adrian, Juan Paternina-Villero had 23 kills, 10 aces and eight digs as the Siena Heights men's volleyball team celebrated Senior Day with a 18-25, 20-25, 25-13, 25-18, 15-9 comeback win over Saint Xavier in Mid-America Men's Volleyball Intercollegiate Conference East Division play.

Brandon Bowers added 12 kills and Juan Sierra finished with 42 assists and eight digs for the Saints (10-11, 2-9)>

SXU (5-18, 3-9) broke a 6-all tie and led the rest of the way in the first set before closing the second with a 7-0 streak. In the third, the Saints grabbed the lead and then Paternina-Villero aided the closing effort with five consecutive aces.

During the fourth set, SHU broke a 13-13 knot with a 12-5 stretch to force the deciding set.

The Saints took a 2-0 lead in the final stanza and never trailed in closing out the win. SHU will finish out its regular season on Tuesday, Mar. 26, with a MAMVIC East contest at Lourdes (Ohio) beginning at 7 p.m.

-Top-
SXU sports summary: Stuut, Karp, Green selected to All-America hoops teams

Published as part of the March 21, 2013 edition.

The 2012-13 basketball season is over for St. Xavier University, but the individual honors attached to it haven't yet run their course.

Receiving the most recent recognition were women’s team member Morgan Stuut and male players Brad Karp and Roosevelt Green. Stuut capped her sophomore year by gaining a berth on the 10-member NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball All-America first team. Junior guard Karp was a second-team pick on the All-America men’s squad, while senior guard Green earned honorable mention status.

In addition, Stuut remains in contention for NAIA Player of the Year honors. She is among four players being considered for the award, which is sponsored by State Farm Insurance and the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association. A Player of the Year award is given to one individual in each of five WBCA membership divisions: NCAA Division II and III, NAIA, junior/community college and high school.

The winners will be announced April 8 in New Orleans.

“These women have dedicated a lot of time and effort to developing their game over the years and have helped lead their team[s] to an accomplished season,” WBCA CEO Beth Bass said of Stuut and the other three NAIA finalists. “I wish each of these women the best of luck at the WBCA Awards Show in New Orleans.”

Stuut, who earlier was chosen as Player of the Year in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference, averaged 17.8 points, 11.3 rebounds and 1.3 blocks per game, the board work representing the No. 1 showing in the CCAC and ranking as fourth-best nationally. Stuut’s scoring average was second in conference and 16th nationally, while her per-game blocks ranked sixth and 39th, respectively.

With Stuut leading the way, the Cougars compiled a 25-7 record and reached the second round of the NAIA national tournament. SXU occupied the No. 18 position in the final top-25 poll.

Stuut’s awards come on the heels of senior guard Maureen Riley’s selection as a Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athlete. To be eligible for that honor, a student-athlete must have attained at least junior academic status and carry a minimum grade-point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

***

Karp was one of 10 second-team members on the All-America men’s squad after being an eight-time winner of the CCAC Player of the Week award during the 2012-13 campaign and picked as the conference’s Player of the Year.
He was second in scoring in the CCAC (21.4 points per contest) and tied for the rebounding lead (8.8). Nationally, those marks ranked eighth and 19th, respectively. During the season, Karp became just the fifth Illinois collegian to surpass the 2,000-point plateau in three seasons or less and also climbed into the No. 4 spot on the Cougars’ all-time scoring list.

Earlier, Karp and teammate Shane Zackery were named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

In his final season, Green led the CCAC in assists with seven per game, which was the third-highest figure nationally, and he was also the conference’s top thief with 2.2 steals per contest. That latter statistic was 23rd in the country.

For good measure, Green averaged 11.6 points per game for SXU, which finished with a 29-6 ledger and among the nation’s top-16 clubs. The Cougars were ranked as high as No. 7 in NAIA Division II during the regular season.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL

Freshman middle blocker Sam Kull delivered a combined 17 kills, five service aces and five total blocks, but the Cougars still dropped two Mid-America Men’s Volleyball Intercollegiate Conference road matches last weekend.

SXU (5-18, 3-9) lost to Lourdes (Ohio) College, 25-21, 25-18 and 25-10, on Friday evening in Holland, Ohio, and then fell short of Siena Heights (Mich.) University by an 18-25, 20-25, 25-13, 25-18, 15-9 score on Saturday in Adriana, Mich.

Junior outside hitter Justin Cousin led the Cougars’ offensive attack in the latter match with 14 kills and finished the weekend with a total of 19. Sophomore setter Dan French distributed 49 assists, put down six kills and had six digs in the two matches, while sophomore middle blocker Sean Blackwood registered 14 kills and seven digs.

SXU hosted Milwaukee School of Engineering in a nonconference match this past Wednesday.

***

Cousin amassed eight kills and four digs for the Cougars, but No. 5-ranked Warner (Fla.) University had the final say last Thursday night at the Shannon Center as it downed SXU 25-18, 25-17, 25-20 in a nonconference match.

The Cougars also got nice outings from French (20 assists), Kull (six kills, two aces), junior middle blocker J.T. O’Connell (four digs) and senior right-side hitter Nick Piccirillo (four digs). Christian Carter led the Royals with 11 kills, six aces and four blocks, three of which were solo efforts.

SOFTBALL

With their offensive production beginning to catch up to their strong early-season pitching, the NAIA No. 25-ranked Cougars extended their winning streak to eight straight games while competing in Florida.

SXU (10-2) piled up 45 hits and 26 runs in its six most recent contests while its pitchers allowed only five tallies. Freshman second baseman Kasey Kanaga keyed the offense with a 9-for-17 performance that included four RBI, four runs scored, one triple and a double.

The Cougars opened last week with a 1-0 triumph over Mount Vernon Nazarene (Ohio) University, as freshman Nicole Nonnemacher fired a no-hitter and struck out a dozen batters. Three walks were all Mount Vernon managed off Nonnemacher.
For good measure, the SXU hurler also played a role in the game’s lone scoring. Her one-out double in the first inning was the only hit the Cougars mustered themselves, and it set the table for their run as Nonnemacher later crossed the plate on a groundout.

Game 2 featured junior Megan Nonnemacher tossing another shutout, this one spiced by four strikeouts. The elder Nonnemacher was nicked for three hits in her team’s 4-0 victory.

After tallying an unearned run in the bottom of the first, SXU scored twice more in the fourth and once in the fifth. Stroking RBI singles for the winners were sophomore right fielder Holly Hilden and junior first baseman Ariel Hinton.

***

Kanaga led the way with three hits in the Cougars’ 4-3 victory over Spring Arbor (Mich.) University in the opener of a Wednesday split doubleheader. Megan Nonnemacher picked up her fourth win in five decisions by throwing 5 1/3 innings of two-hit ball while surrendering just one walk and a single run. She fanned seven.

SXU trailed 2-1 after the first frame, but took the lead in the top of the second as Kanaga’s RBI hit highlighted a two-run rally. Sophomore first baseman Amanda Hainlen slugged a solo homer in the fifth to give the Cougars their deciding margin.

SXU scored early and often in Wednesday’s nightcap, which led to a 9-1 triumph over Marian (Ind.) University. Kanaga and Nicole Nonnemacher each recorded three hits, while the latter earned a pitching win after going the distance and whiffing eight. Nonnemacher scattered seven hits.

***

The Cougars racked up 12 hits in a 7-1 win over Spring Arbor in Thursday’s early contest. Sophomore third baseman Sarah Saunders swung a potent bat for SXU, going 2-for-4 with a double, two runs and two RBI.

Nicole Nonnemacher pitched another gem, allowing just six hits and issuing no walks while striking out 11. The Cougars supplied Nonnemacher with all seven runs between the second and third stanzas.

Senior third baseman Kate Mollohan’s RBI on a fielder’s choice snapped a scoreless tie in the bottom of the sixth and lifted SXU to a 1-0 win over NCAA Division II Sioux Falls in Thursday’s second encounter.

Megan Nonnemacher moved her record to 5-1 by tossing a four-hitter and fanning 13.

BASEBALL

Paced by a total of five hits from junior right fielder Chris Klein, the Cougars won two of three games early last week during the team’s annual spring-break trip to Florida.

On Monday, SXU took down the University of St. Francis (Ind.) 7-4, but then had its scheduled Tuesday game against Florida Christian College canceled due to rain. In a Wednesday doubleheader against Avila (Mo.) University, the Cougars claimed the opener by a 9-3 score before dropping the nightcap by one, 4-3.

Klein went 5-for-11 at the plate over the three games, tallied three runs and drove in two others.

The Cougars found themselves in a 3-0 hole after two innings on Monday. Junior left fielder Brad Myjak reduced the deficit by one with his two-out single in the third, but USF answered with another marker in the fifth to restore a three-run cushion.
However, Klein picked up RBI in both the fifth and seventh frames and senior third baseman Mike Pokers also knocked in a run during the first of those uprisings as SXU pulled into a 4-all tie. The locals then went ahead to stay in the eighth, using two USF errors and senior catcher Tony O’Shea’s single to inflict the damage.

Senior right-hander Lucas Fritsch (Sandburg) logged his second victory in relief of junior starter John Smith (Evergreen Park). Smith threw the first seven innings and gave up nine hits, three earned runs and a walk while whiffing three, then Fritsch recorded a strikeout and yielded one hit in the eighth.

Sophomore righty Dan Wetzel allowed one hit in the ninth en route to notching his second save.

***

O’Shea led SXU’s offense in Wednesday’s first game against Avila by going 2-for-4 and scoring twice. The Cougars got a solid pitching performance from Fritsch, who threw all seven frames and gave up just six hits, one earned run and two free passes. He struck out three.

SXU tallied at least once in every inning but the second to pull away for the victory. Sophomore DH Bryan Villanova (St. Laurence) homered for the Cougars, Myjak belted a triple, Klein went 3-for-4 with a run scored and freshman second baseman Brian McQuillan (Brother Rice) added two hits.

Walks and a passed ball hurt SXU in the fourth inning of Game 2, as those led to three runs for Avila. The Cougars created a 3-all deadlock in the sixth, but Avila used an RBI single in the seventh to have the final say.

Senior catcher Matt Munizzi had both of SXU’s RBI, while Wetzel absorbed the pitching loss in relief.

***

Play continued for the Cougars (6-6) on Friday, when they edged Purdue-North Central in the first of a three-game set. SXU prevailed 5-4 in 11 innings after Myjak swatted a two-out RBI double to break a 4-all tie.

Wetzel picked up the pitching win in relief of junior Scott Vachon after tossing three stanzas of two-hit ball. Vachon whiffed five and scattered five hits over eight frames.

The Panthers grabbed a 1-0 lead in the top of the fourth on an RBI single, but the Cougars answered in the bottom of the fifth when McQuillan’s groundout chased in sophomore shortstop Elliott Bajda from third base. Pokers’ sixth-inning sacrifice fly inched SXU in front, but PNC responded in the eighth to create another deadlock that stood until Myjak delivered on the Cougars’ behalf in the 11th.

Saturday wasn’t quite so satisfying for SXU, which fell to defeat in both ends of a twinbill. The Panthers took the opener 5-2 and then completed a sweep by slipping past the Cougars 5-4 in 11 innings in Game 2.

PNC garnered all five of its Game 1 markers in the second inning, as it included an RBI triple and run-scoring double among its four hits. SXU tallied without benefit of an RBI, as it scored on a double play in the second and on a Panthers error in the third.

Senior Mike Stirling was saddled with the pitching loss after issuing six walks and allowing five hits over four innings.

O’Shea went 5-for-6 in the second game and knocked in two runs, but PNC had the last say when it stroked an RBI single in the 11th. O’Shea finished the series with eight hits in all.
The Cougars got two runs in the third inning, a rally highlighted by O’Shea’s run-producing double. The Panthers pulled even after three frames and then went in front by a 5-3 count after five. RBI from O’Shea (groundout and Jim Augle (single) created another tie, but SXU could do no further damage as it stranded five runners over the next four stanzas.

-Top-
REGION COLLEGIANS: Andrean’s Norton stellar for Fighting Irish

March 24, 2013 9:30 pm  •  BRIAN WADDLE Times Correspondent

* Mike Pokers (Lansing, Andrean) was 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs Friday as Saint Xavier University beat Calumet College 15-5 in Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference action. Brad Myjak (Mount Carmel) added an RBI-single in the game.

On Saturday, Tony O’Shea (Valparaiso, Mount Carmel) had three hits in a 12-2 victory over Calumet College.

-Top-
Ebersole jumps to next level

BY GEORGE M. WILCOX | gwilcox@pioneerlocal.com | @geomwilcox March 25, 2013 4:40PM

When Oak Park-River Forest senior Ryan Ebersole needed time to relax last summer, he hit the beach.

Ebersole and several friends and teammates played beach volleyball nearly ever single day in the offseason. All it took were a few phone calls or text messages to round up enough guys for four to six hours of competition.

Many of the matches were at nearby Rehm Park, while sometimes they headed to North Avenue Beach in Chicago. If they traveled downtown, they would join former OPRF player Justin Cousin, a junior outside hitter at St. Xavier University, who would bring along a few teammates.

“We’ll play with high school kids mixed with college volleyball players. It gave us (high schoolers) an advantage every day. Some of us would play every single day,” said Ebersole, a 6-foot-3 outside hitter.

Ebersole is the top returning kills leader for the Huskies (23-15, 3-3 West Suburban Silver), who lost to St. Rita in the sectional semifinals last year.

“Last year, I was wide-eyed on the court and not sure what to do,” Ebersole said. “I wanted to change this year. I’m more energetic. You can say I give my team energy and spirit; the confidence to play well.”

OPRF already has learned how valuable Ebersole has become to the team. The Huskies won their first four matches of the season, then dropped three without Ebersole, who sprained his left ankle in a victory over Leyden during pool play Friday night at the Hoffman Estates Invitational. OPRF placed fourth in the eight-team tournament.

“He’s our primary passer and our primary attacker,” OPRF coach Don August said. “He makes our attack a little bit better.”

The Huskies were expecting to open the 11th annual Tigers Classic Wednesday at Wheaton Warrenville South without Ebersole. He said he would try to play, but could not yet jump as of Sunday night.

Ebersole doesn’t overpower opponents with his size, so his game is built on leaping ability and change-of-pace attacks with tipped balls. Ebersole competed with the boys track and field team in the high jump during the indoor season before volleyball began. He borrowed the from former OPRF soccer player Stephen Golz, who high-jumped indoors before the lacrosse season.
Ebersole’s personal high was 5-10. He lacked technique, but watched YouTube videos of OPRF state champion high jumper Carl Heinz, now at Duke, to collect some tips.

“It was difficult to play volleyball after high jumping,” Ebersole said. “It was unlike anything I’ve ever done before.” ~

-Top-
Park Lawn seeks volleyball teams

Published as part of the March 27, 2013 edition.

Volleyball players and teams are needed for the Volleyball for Charity (VFC) 33rd annual coed volleyball tournament and party on Saturday, April 6. Games will be played at select locations including St. Xavier University, Marist High School and the Chicago Ridge Park District.

All proceeds from Volleyball for Charity will benefit individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn.

Last year’s tournament had 50 coed teams participating (more than 500 players) and the after tournament party at Beverly Country Club had a standing room crowd of more than 200 guests, players and supporters. In 2012, Volleyball for Charity was able to donate $14,000 to Park Lawn. Over the 32 years of VFC’s fundraising efforts, they have donated more than $445,000 to benefit programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Players and non-players are welcome to attend the after tournament party from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Beverly Country Club, 87th Street and Western Avenue. Party attendees must be 21 years of age. There will be an open bar all evening, two hours of assorted food and hors d’oeuvres, cash raffles, music and dancing. NCAA Final Four games will be televised at the party.

The tournament team fee is $300, which includes up to eight T-shirts. The tournament and party package is $400. This entitles the team to the volleyball games, T-shirts, plus up to eight tickets to the after tournament party. Regular after tournament party tickets can be purchased in advance for $30 online or by calling (708) 802-1123 or at the door.

To register or for more information, visit Volleyball for Charity’s Web site at volleyballforcharity.org or call 708-802-1123.

-Top-
Five people – three incumbent trustees and two independent newcomers – are running to represent Chicago Ridge as trustees under the village’s next mayor.

Running as members of the Village Action Party are incumbent trustees Brad Grove, Jim Saunoris and Bruce Quintos. The three trustees are running with Chuck Tokar, the village clerk and soon-to-be mayor who is unopposed on the April 9 election ballot. They will be opposed by candidates Sally Durkin and Amanda Cardin, the latter who is running with village clerk candidate George Schleyer.

Grove, 48, is a lifelong resident of Chicago Ridge. He graduated from Marist High School and is the president of Grove Masonry Maintenance, a tuck pointing and masonry restoration company. He has been a trustee since 2005 and is running for his third term. Grove is the chairperson of the Village Board’s planning and zoning committee and a member of the building and grounds committee.

“I’m running because I want to keep the village strong, and I think there is still more work to do,” Grove said. “I want to improve on things we have done, like the water main replacements. It is not necessarily pretty stuff, but it needs to be done.”

Grove also wants to see the former Yellow Freight property redeveloped for commercial use. The property was abandoned by Yellow three years ago after the company moved its Chicago-area operation to Chicago Heights. Recent unsubstantiated news reports have indicated Yellow plans to return to the property.

“We want to pull together the people to make development happen,” Grove said. “I’ve interviewed developers and sat through meetings to see if creating a tax increment financing district would be a viable solution. There is the potential there for us to have another mall, which would bring in a lot of jobs and sales tax revenue.”

Grove said he is looking forward to serving the village under Tokar, who has been village clerk since 1989. Tokar will be the village’s first mayor other than Gene Siegel since 1976.

“I think Chuck is a strong leader,” Grove said. “He has the financial part of running the village down. I think it will be a fun change. He has been there almost as long as Gene himself.”

Grove believes his experience as a business owner makes him a beneficial addition to the Village Board, he said.
“I am a level-headed person,” he said. “I can bring a business sense to everything. I have experience with insurance and worker’s compensation issues. I look at contracts and I get to see them in a different perspective rather than just looking at the dollar on the bottom line.”

One of the biggest issues facing the village is paying the pensions for village employees, Grove said.

“We want to get the pensions under control, and keep them under control,” Grove said. “It is a joint effort with the board and the unions. I am the trustee that negotiates contracts, and not all the pensions are negotiable. The state tells us what we can and can’t do. We are getting the firemen and the policemen to work with us, and we have been working with them. The fund is their future, and they want it to succeed as well. Both parties are working together to make the pension fund viable for a long time.”

Saunoris, 70, has lived in Chicago Ridge for most of his life and has been a trustee for 24 years. He attended Eisenhower High School in Blue Island. He is the owner of Saunoris and Sons, a flower and garden shop in Chicago Ridge. He is the chairman of the Village Board’s building and grounds and police committees.

“I like the idea that I am out there to help people,” Saunoris said. “I want to make sure that the residents get their garbage picked up, their streets cleaned, and make sure everyone has police, fire, and ambulance services. I want to stick with it to make sure we keep our taxes down and provide the services for the people.”

Working with Mayor Siegel was a pleasure, Saunoris said.

“One of his main goals was to keep the taxes down, and we did,” Saunoris said. “For the future right now, I would like to see a status quo, especially with the economy the way it is. I want us to stay in the black, which is the hardest thing to do here.”

Saunoris is also concerned about police officers and firefighters who are nearing retirement age, and wants to help other local business owners in the village.

“I feel like being in business gives me a little advantage in that other people don’t really know how businesses run,” Saunoris said. “I want to be on the board for the business people out there that are up against the world.”

Quintos, 63, has lived in Chicago Ridge since 1975. He attended the Cook County Sheriff’s Police Academy and served as the commander of field operations until his retirement in 2003. He was appointed to the Chicago Ridge Village Board in 2003 and is running for his fourth term. He is the chairman of the fire department committee.

Quintos is running because he wants to give back to Chicago Ridge and wants to help the village continue to be fiscally responsible, he said.

“Our national economy is not in the best shape, and I’ve seen other towns that are really struggling,” Quintos said. “When I look at Chicago Ridge, I’ve seen the various measures that we’ve taken with our budget. For example, we had a tax rebate on property taxes. When we saw where the downturned economy was going, we stopped the rebate, and we didn’t have to raise property taxes or cut services.”

Quintos said what is most important to him is the safety of the residents.

“The important services are the protection of town, whether that is police or fire, or the department of public works, which keeps the town running and handles problems we have in town, like snow shoveling,” Quintos said. “I’m always consulting with [police] Chief Robert Pyznarski and [fire] Chief Robert Muszynski, and my reward is seeing the village prosper.”
Quintos is the only trustee candidate who lives west of Ridgeland Avenue, and thinks it is important to have a candidate that lives on that side of town.

“I am able to have real close contact with a lot of the residents, and I believe there should be somebody on the west end that people have easy access to,” he said.

Quintos wants to see more development come into Chicago Ridge, like the Chick-fil-A restaurant that is moving to a property at the Chicago Ridge Mall.

“We have the Yellow Freight property on Southwest Highway and Harlem Avenue, and I would be interested in having more development come in, like another shopping mall or a small hotel,” he said. “We have so much room that can be developed. It would be a major financial boon to Chicago Ridge, if that happened.”

Two women are running for trustee positions as independent candidates, and hope to help trustees agree with one another and work to solve the pension problems in the village.

Durkin, 47, has lived in Chicago Ridge for 25 years. She runs her own court reporting agency, Durkin Reporting, in downtown Chicago.

“I am running because I think I can do some good for our town and I want to be a voice for the people,” Durkin said. “I want to see easier access for people to get ahold of the agendas. I want there to be some transparency, so people can be informed.”

Durkin wants her focus to be determining if plans for the village are good for residents, she said. She also wants to address the pension reform problems in the village and get agreement between members of the board, as she believes trustees disagree on issues.

If Durkin gets elected, she is looking forward to being a part of change in Chicago Ridge.

“Mayor Siegel has done a great job, but there is going to be change,” she said. “I think I would be a good part of the change.”

Cardin, 52, has lived in Chicago Ridge for nine years. She holds a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from Saint Xavier University in Chicago, and a master’s degree in early childhood education, leadership and advocacy from National Louis University in Chicago. She is the director of the Rose K. Goedert Center for Early Childhood Education, the preschool lab school at Dominican University. She serves as a Chicago Ridge Library Board trustee.

Cardin wants to be a part of change in Chicago Ridge, and thinks it is important to have female representation on the Village Board, she said.

“Even though I haven’t lived here as long as many lifers in the area, I love it,” Cardin said. “This was where I bought my first-ever home, and when I moved here there were property tax rebates in the town and it seemed like a great place. Since I’ve been here, we’ve lost rebates, we’ve lost businesses and the economy has hurt everyone, everywhere.”

Cardin believes she would make a good trustee because of her experience in education.

“Running centers, I have experience working with people and listening to them,” she said. “In my current job, I am on the board of a south suburban organization that helps children and adults with developmental disabilities. I help parents work through the system to get help for their children with special needs. I have been active in politics because I’ve gone to Springfield to talk to legislators about funding for early childhood programs.”

Cardin expressed concerned about public employees’ pensions.
“I think the way the pensions were handled and the raises that came up right before people were about to retire is a big issue,” Cardin said. “We are just getting farther into debt, and I think we could have held some of those pensions back. It is very concerning to me.”

Bringing businesses into the village is another of Cardin’s concerns. She wants to put a committee together to talk about bringing businesses into the village.

“People should trust me because I am coming in as a complete independent,” Cardin said, despite the fact her and Schleyer’s names are on the same campaign signs. “I don’t have a business to promote, I don’t have any other reason except that I really want to be part of the good that is going on and help make changes for the better. I have the education to do it and the experience to do it.

“How are we going to get businesses here and support them? How can we stop taxes where they are and move forward? Those are the questions I have, and the questions I intend to answer.”
SXU sports summary

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Cougars golfers post early victory

After placing seventh in its season-opening event, St. Xavier University’s men’s golf team out-shot two other schools to grab a victory on March 14 in Phoenix, Ariz.

The Cougars rode strong performances from juniors James Kerr, Brendan Ryan and Kirby Brown to a win over Arizona Christian University and Baldwin-Wallace College of Ohio at Moon Valley Country Club. Kerr fired a round of 74, Ryan carded a 76 and Brown was one shot behind the latter.

Sophomore Kyle Bahnick checked in with a 79, thereby giving SXU four top-eight individual finishers and a team score of 306. Freshman Zach Trent shot an 84 for the Cougars.

Those efforts came a couple days after completion of the eight-team Embry-Riddle University Spring Invitational at Antelope Hills North Golf Course in Prescott, Ariz. Kerr and Bahnick both registered consecutive rounds of 75 to pace the Cougars.

Contributing as well to SXU’s 609-stroke total were Ryan (81-73; 154) and Trent (78-77; 155). Brown produced rounds of 83 and 75 for the Cougars.

“Our team worked very hard during the offseason on strength and conditioning, mechanics, balance and flexibility to finally get an opportunity to get back on the golf course in Arizona,” SXU coach Mike Mandakas said. “Going out to a region of the country where we knew other teams play year-round, our guys stayed focused on working on their own games and played well through both tournaments.”

The Cougars continue their spring season on April 3, when they take part in the Olivet Nazarene Spring Invitational at Balmoral Golf Course in Crete.

MEN’S VOLLEYBALL

Led by a school-record-setting eight service aces from junior right-side hitter Jacob Siska (Oak Lawn), the Cougars defeated Milwaukee School of Engineering 25-20, 21-25, 25-17, 22-25, 15-11 in a nonconference match last Wednesday night at the Shannon Center.

Siska also distributed 18 assists, second to sophomore setter Dan French’s team-high total of 31. With 10 kills part of his performance as well, French was one of four SXU players to reach double digits in that category, joining freshman
middle blocker Sam Kull (match-high 17 kills), sophomore middle blocker Sean Blackwood (15) and junior middle blocker J.T. O’Connell (12).

As a unit, the Cougars (6-18) posted a team attack percentage of .288 for the match. They recorded 58 kills while committing 24 hitting errors.

Junior libero Dan Nelson (Shepard) gave SXU a defensive lift by registering 12 digs. The Raiders’ top gun was senior outside hitter Brian Main, who put down 12 kills.

The Cougars closed out their home schedule this past Tuesday, when they hosted D’Youville College from New York.

SOFTBALL

The Cougars continued their best start to a season during coach Myra Minuskin’s 13-year tenure as they extended their winning streak to 12 games by completing their Florida trip with four more victories.

SXU (14-2) took down Marian (Ind.) University 5-4 and Webber International (Fla.) University 4-1 on March 15 at the National Training Center in Claremont, Fla., then followed up the next day with triumphs over Mount Mercy (Iowa) University (2-0) and Grand View (Iowa) University (5-2).

Freshman Nicole Nonnemacher was stellar both at the plate and on the mound for SXU. Offensively, she totaled six hits, five runs and two RBI over the four-game stretch; in the circle, Nonnemacher pocketed two wins and racked up 20 strikeouts.

The Cougars were forced to rally against Marian after trailing 4-2 through five innings. Sophomore first baseman Amanda Hainlen put SXU in front to stay by slugging a three-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the sixth.

Hainlen paced the Cougars’ attack by going 3-for-4 with three RBI, while Nonnemacher was 2-for-3 with a pair of runs scored.

Megan Nonnemacher (6-1) garnered the pitching win by going the distance on a yield of seven hits. Only two of the runs scored off her were earned, and Nonnemacher spiced her effort with eight strikeouts.

Senior shortstop Ashley Sullivan supplied three hits and two RBI in SXU’s win over Webber International. Sullivan’s infield single chased in the Cougars’ initial run in the top of the first.

Sophomore center fielder Shannon Lauret’s RBI single gave SXU a 2-0 edge, and then Sullivan and senior third baseman Kate Mollohan both singled in the fourth to complete the Cougars’ scoring. Nicole Nonnemacher moved to 6-1 on the season by tossing a three-hitter, fanning eight and walking no one.

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Mollohan’s solo homer to center in the top of the first kicked off the scoring against Mount Mercy. Hainlen’s fifth-inning sacrifice fly drove in SXU’s only other run, but no more were needed as Megan Nonnemacher fired her fourth shutout of the year while effectively scattering six hits.

In winning for the seventh time, Nonnemacher whiffed nine and issued only two free passes.

The Cougars’ offense picked up the pace in the day’s second game and tallied twice in each of the first two stanzas versus Grand View to assume a 4-1 lead. Nicole Nonnemacher’s two-RBI single was a key hit in the early going.
Nonnemacher also gained her seventh pitching victory by surrendering just two hits and two walks while striking out a dozen.

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During their 10-day trip to Florida, SXU players received a rare treat when two-time Olympic gold medalist Dr. Dot Richardson spoke with them at the National Training Center.

Richardson gave an inspirational message to the team during the brief interaction and allowed players to take photos and wear her two gold medals. Richardson hit the game-winning homer — the first round-tripper in Olympic softball history — against China that secured the gold medal for the U.S. squad in the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta.

For senior third baseman Kate Mollohan, the opportunity to meet such a softball legend was a “once in a lifetime” event.

“Getting the chance to meet and talk with Dr. Dot Richardson was such a jaw-dropping experience,” Mollohan said. “She was so welcoming and nice to our team and offered us some great advice for our softball careers. Plus, it was so amazing to get the chance to hold and wear a real Olympic gold medal, especially the first gold medal in Olympic softball history.

“It was a very memorable experience and I’m so excited that it happened during my final season with the team.”

Between 1972 and 2000, Richardson earned All-America honors 15 times, played on 10 championship teams, was a seven-time recipient of the Erv Lind Award for being the top defensive player in Women’s Major Fast Pitch National Championship, and was a member of five Pan American teams and four International Softball Federation world championship teams. She won her second Olympic gold medal in 2000.

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The Nonnemacher sisters swept the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference’s weekly softball honors as Megan was chosen the Pitcher of the Week and Nicole was named the Player of the Week.

Megan Nonnemacher won five of the Cougars’ 10 games in Florida — Nicole triumphed in the other five -- and threw three shutouts. Megan Nonnemacher allowed just three runs in 33 1/3 innings, giving her a superb 0.63 ERA. She struck out a total of 41 batters, including 13 in a victory over Sioux Falls.

In addition to her pitching wins, 51 strikeouts in 34 innings and 0.82 ERA, Nicole Nonnemacher supplied SXU with a .480 average at the plate. She went 12-for-25 with seven runs scored, three doubles and three RBI.

BASEBALL

Senior third baseman Mike Pokers and freshman center fielder Jim Augle (Richards) both had big games offensively to lead the Cougars to a 15-5 CCAC victory over Calumet College of St. Joseph in seven innings last Friday afternoon at Richard R. Ferrell Memorial Field.

Pokers went 2-for-3 at the plate with a pair of runs and two RBI for SXU, while Augle also had two hits with a double, run scored and RBI. Junior Scott Vachon collected his second victory on the mound by throwing the first six innings on a yield of five hits and two walks. He struck out seven and did not allow any earned runs.

The Cougars fell behind 1-0 in the top of the first when a passed ball allowed a Crimson Wave run to score. SXU quickly responded by cranking out four hits and plating four runs in the bottom half of the frame as Pokers and junior left fielder Brad Myjak each smacked an RBI single.
Calumet College fielding errors and walks helped the Cougars tally three more runs in the second stanza without benefit of a base hit. Junior right fielder Chris Klein then led another offensive surge as his two-run double in the fourth helped SXU increase its edge to 10-1.

Klein finished the game with four runs scored.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Cougars took advantage of additional Crimson Wave miscues to produce five more runs. Junior first baseman Tom Keating (St. Laurence) slugged a two-RBI double in the frame, while Augle knocked in another run with his two-bagger.

Calumet College started to make things interesting in the top of the seventh, with four walks, a hit batsman and a single up the middle leading to four runs. But senior lefty Mike Klett was able to end the game early with a strikeout.

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The Wave were no match for SXU (9-6, 4-2) on Saturday, either, as the latter swept a doubleheader by scores of 12-2 and 9-2. The Cougars amassed 28 hits in the two contests and their pitchers did not surrender any earned runs.

Senior catcher Tony O’Shea and Augle banged out three hits apiece to lead SXU’s offense in the seven-inning opener. Each player included a double among his hits, O’Shea drove in three runs and tallied once, and Augle crossed the plate three times.

Senior Lucas Fritsch (Sandburg) was equally impressive on the mound as he improved his record to 4-0 by pitching six innings on a yield of five hits and one walk. He struck out two.

After Calumet College notched a run in the bottom of the first following a Cougars error, SXU responded with 10 runs over the next two innings to take control of the game for good.

Klein was the Cougars’ Game 2 ringleader as he went 3-for-5 with two runs and an RBI as a hitter and also logged the pitching win. On the hill, Klein allowed just one hit over eight innings while fanning nine and walking only one.

Keating belted a three-run homer in the top of the fifth to highlight SXU’s five-run uprising and Augle also collected three RBI in the nightcap. Freshman shortstop Alec Barnhart (Oak Lawn) joined Klein at the three-hit plateau, while Myjak was 2-for-4 with a double, two runs and an RBI.

Weather permitting, the Cougars squared off against Northwestern University this past Tuesday in Evanston.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Revi McMahon, a senior point guard at Stagg and recent all-area selection, has signed a letter of intent to continue her education and athletic career at SXU as a member of the Cougars basketball program.

In addition to being a member of the Lady Chargers, the Palos Park native has played club basketball for Illinois X-citement out of Blue Island. SXU coach Bob Hallberg feels McMahon will make a seamless transition to the college game next fall.

“Revi should fit right into our program,” he said. “She loves basketball and spends countless hours in the gym working on her game. This is the type of work ethic needed to be successful, and that is why she is one of the best guards in the area in my opinion.
“I think Revi will have a great career at St. Xavier.”