Media Report - April, 2013

**Highlights**

- [Prof. William Kresse](#) discusses how to prevent ID theft during summer events on FOX Chicago

- SXU and [WGN-TV's](#) Teacher of the Month for April, 2013 – [Michael Rossi](#)

- [Prof. Jacqueline Battalora](#) writes column about same-sex marriage and lessons from the past for [SouthtownStar](#)

- SXU hosts [WSCR 670 "The Score"](#) program director [Mitch Rosen](#) at Breakfast with the Experts

- SXU receives $10,000 Cooperative Work Study Program Grant from [IBHE](#)

- Former SXU quarterback [Jimmy Coy](#) to participate in Chicago Bears rookie mini-camp

- Four sets of sisters on SXU softball team profiled in [Chicago Tribune](#)
Analytics
(return to top)
Saint Xavier University Print Media Coverage – April, 2013

Total: 107
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<td>WSCR-AM boss stresses social media during talk at St. Xavier</td>
<td>Lake County News-Sun-Sun-Times</td>
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<td>WSCR-AM boss stresses social media during talk at St. Xavier</td>
<td>Naperville Sun - Sun-Times</td>
<td>85,379</td>
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SXU and WGN-TV's Teacher of the Month for April, 2013 -- Michael Rossi
04/25/2013 WGN 9 Chicago

SXU football's Jimmy Coy attends Chicago Bears rookie camp
04/28/2013 CBS Chicago

Prof. William Kresse on preventing summer ID theft
04/29/2013 FOX 32 Chicago
Get Up and Go! for April 1, 2013 - Film Series: "Basquiat"
04/01/2013  SouthtownStar

Charity Briefs for April 2, 2013 - Text to Give
04/01/2013  SouthtownStar

Author to speak on 'whole brain' topic at SXU
04/03/2013  The Beverly Review

Bulletin Board - "Poetry and Politics" with Kevin Stein
04/03/2013  The Beverly Review

Community Briefs - Blood Drive
04/03/2013  The Beverly Review

Panel discusses issues of domestic violence
04/03/2013  The Beverly Review

SXU to present award to Henry Bros. for project
04/03/2013  The Beverly Review

Highland Marine killed in accident remembered as upbeat, faithful, caring
04/03/2013  St. Louis Today

Viverito Introduces His Slate of Candidates
04/03/2013  Southwest News Herald

Seleb brings plenty of experience to Oak Park library
04/03/2013  OakPark.com

Pillar of Oak Lawn Community Dies at Age 83
04/04/2013  Patch

Bulletin Board - "The Whole-Brain Child" with Tina Bryson/"Poetry and Politics" with Kevin Stein/Breakfast with the Experts with Mitch Rosen
04/04/2013  The Reporter

Get Up and Go! for April 4, 2013 - Theology South: Judith Valente
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Battalora: Same-sex marriage and lessons from the past
04/05/2013  SouthtownStar

"Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and Its Relevance Today"
04/08/2013  PRLog

Charity Briefs for April 9, 2013 - Text to Give
04/08/2013  SouthtownStar
On the record ... with Kerri Cullen Sosnowski
04/09/2013    The MidWeek

Get Up and Go! for April 9, 2013 - "Poetry and Politics" with Kevin Stein
04/09/2013    SouthtownStar

Rosen set for breakfast meeting
04/10/2013    The Beverly Review

Saint Xavier 2013 Spring Concert Schedule
04/10/2013    Patch

SXU receives $10,000-plus Cooperative Work Study Program Grant
04/10/2013    Patch

Religious experts to discuss faith’s role in society today
04/11/2013    The Reporter

Saint Xavier gets $10K for work study program
04/11/2013    The Reporter

Religion Briefs For April 12 - Interfaith Expo
04/11/2013    SouthtownStar

Women Rock Chicago(land) Higher Education
04/14/2013    Chicago Now

Charity Briefs for April 16, 2013 - Text to Give
04/15/2013    SouthtownStar

Get Up and Go! for April 15, 2013 - Interfaith Expo
04/15/2013    SouthtownStar

Calendar of Events - Senior Suitcase Art Exhibit/Spring Concerts
04/16/2013    The Beverly Review

Community Briefs - Breakfast with the Experts with Mitch Rosen
04/16/2013    The Beverly Review

Bulletin Board - "The Chicago Union Stockyards"
04/17/2013    The Beverly Review

Calendar of Events - Spring Concerts
04/17/2013    The Beverly Review

Community Briefs - Breakfast with the Experts with Mitch Rosen
04/17/2013    The Beverly Review

'La Mujeres' part of SXU exhibit
04/17/2013    The Beverly Review
St. Xavier holds pinning ceremony
04/17/2013  The Beverly Review

100 Club Partners With Chicago Universities
04/17/2013  NBC Chicago

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04/18/2013  The Reporter

Bridging the Gap
04/22/2013  Law Officer

Meet the 2013 Greater Chicago Nurse.com Nursing Excellence finalists
04/22/2013  Nurse.com

Charity Briefs for April 23, 2013 – Text to Give
04/22/2013  SouthtownStar

Community Briefs - Epilepsy Foundation Community Action Board
04/23/2013  SouthtownStar

Madrigal-Sahadew
04/23/2013  Shelby County Reporter

What’s So Special About Today’s Veterans?
04/25/2013  Zocalo

Providence Catholic to Host Spring Concert and Art Show
04/26/2013  American Towns

WSCR-AM boss stresses social media during talk at St. Xavier
04/26/2013  SouthtownStar

UHV symposium to focus on autism spectrum disorder
04/27/2013  Victoria Advocate

She likes it when kids band together
04/29/2013  Muscatine Journal

Charity Briefs for April 30, 2013 - Text to Give
04/29/2013  SouthtownStar
Stuut named as finalist
04/03/2013    Sturgis Journal

College sports report 04/03/13 - Nonnemacher earns St. Xavier honor
04/03/2013    Pantagraph

College baseball: Streak ends for Saints
04/13/2013    South Bend Tribune

High School/Local College Sports Roundup for April 16, 2013
04/16/2013    The Beacon-News

SXU to hold girls' basketball camp
04/17/2013    The Beverly Review

Graffeo signs with St. Xavier University
04/17/2013    SouthtownStar

Community Sports Calendar (North) for April 21, 2013 - Girls Basketball Camp
04/18/2013    SouthtownStar

MSA sets dates for camp
04/19/2013    Daily Herald

4 sets of sisters set up Saint Xavier softball success
04/20/2013    Chicago Tribune

Community Sports Calendar (North) for April 28, 2013 - Girls Basketball Camp/Boys Basketball Camp
04/25/2013    Chicago Tribune

Bears will give St. Xavier QB Coy a shot
04/27/2013    Chicago Tribune

Bears roll the dice on WR Wilson
04/27/2013    WSBT

Bears Don’t Have Interest In Tim Tebow
04/30/2013    Before It's News
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. Michael Rossi, who teaches philosophy and English literature at Neuqua Valley High School in Naperville, is April's Teacher of the Month. This segment appeared on WGN Chicago's News at Nine on April 25. 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.
Saint Xavier University former standout quarterback Jimmy Coy recently was invited to try out in a Chicago Bears rookie mini-camp. The segment aired on CBS Chicago News at 5 p.m. on April 28.

The 6-0, 210 pound signal caller was named the 2012 NAIA Football National Player of the Year back in December and helped the Cougars win the University's first national championship back in December 2011 when he was named the Outstanding Offensive Player of the Game.
Saint Xavier University Prof. William Kresse discussed how to protect yourself from identity theft during summer events like concerts at 7:16 a.m. on April 29, 2013 on FOX's God Day Chicago.

Kresse, also known as Professor Fraud, is an associate professor at the Graham School of Management. He is director of the SXU Center for the Study of Fraud and Corruption.
Here are events worth getting out of the house for on April 1.

Suggestions include Tinley Park and Chicago.

“BASQUIAT” SCREENING: St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago, continues its free Hollywood Paints: Famous Actors as Famous Painters film series with this 1996 movie at 7 p.m. in McGuire Hall. Directed by Julian Schnabel, the dramatic biography features David Bowie as Andy Warhol and Jeffrey Wright as Jean Michel Basquiat. Rated R for drug use and strong language, the film runs for 1 hour and 48 minutes. Information: sxu.edu/campuslife by clicking Events and then Film Series, or (773) 298-3081.

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Charity Briefs for April 2, 2013

April 1, 2013 12:46PM

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.
Author to speak on 'whole brain' topic at SXU

Posted: Wednesday, April 3, 2013 12:00 am

by Caroline Connors

The author of a best-selling book on helping kids become “happier, healthier and more fully themselves” will speak at St. Xavier University (SXU) on April 10.

Dr. Tina Bryson, co-author with Dr. Dan Siegel of “The Whole-Brain Child” (Random House Delacorte), will appear at SXU’s McGuire Hall, 3700 W. 103rd St., at 7 p.m.

The event, which is free and open to the public, is an opportunity for parents and “anyone else who cares about kids,” Bryson said, to learn how to navigate the often turbulent waters of child-rearing—from dealing with a toddler throwing a tantrum in the middle of a store to a preschooler refusing to get dressed to a fifth-grader sulking on the bench instead of playing in the field.

In her presentation, Bryson said, she will share information from “The Whole-Brain Child” about how a child’s brain is wired and how it matures, and she will introduce parents to strategies that not only help them survive the hard moments, but ultimately help children thrive.

“The way parents respond activates different circuits in their child’s brain, so understanding a few really practical things about how the brain works helps parents be more effective and helps their children develop in optimal ways,” Bryson said in an e-mail. “This is practical stuff, and it works in helping parents surf their child’s emotional tsunamis in ways that also builds relationships with their children.”

Morgan Park resident Carly Carney said Bryson’s book has helped her relate to and better understand her 8-year-old son and 4-year-old daughter.
“She presents common-sense parenting principles in a down-to-earth way,” Carney said. “The book helped me put myself in my children’s shoes—in my children’s brain—and it gave me a structure to help navigate what’s happening in their inner lives.”

Carney was so inspired by “The Whole-Brain Child” and Bryson, she said, that she contacted Bryson about speaking in the area, and reached out to officials from the 19th Ward, local schools and businesses to raise the money needed to pay the speaker’s fee. The owner of Beverly Yoga Center, Carney is also hosting a book discussion on “The Whole-Brain Child” at her studio, 1917 W. 103rd St., on Friday, April 5, at 8 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

“I am so happy about this event; this is what excites me in life,” Carney said. “This is the essence of what I want for our community.”

A married mom of three children, Bryson earned her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California, where her research explored attachment science, child-rearing theory and interpersonal neurobiology. The information in her book, she said, is based on “tens of thousands of scientific references, clinical work with my families, on my parenting groups, feedback from thousands of parents, and on my own parenting experiences.”

In addition to helping adults become more effective parents, the strategies outlined in the book “are really helpful for all of our relationships,” Bryson said. “Many people have told me that what I teach them about how to respond to their children when they are having a hard time works on their spouses and bosses, too!”

Tickets for the event are available on a first-come-first-served basis by visiting the Web site at beverlyyogacenter.com.
St. Xavier

St. Xavier University (SXU) will present “Poetry and Politics: A Reading by Illinois Poet Laureate Kevin Stein” in honor of National Poetry Month at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in the Butler Reception Room, 3700 W. 103rd St.

Dr. 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 the presentation. In addition to the 6:30 p.m. reading, Stein will conduct a pre-lecture seminar with selected SXU students and invited students from local Catholic high schools. He will share with them his approach to writing and will comment on some of their poems submitted to him in advance.

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. During his first visit to SXU in 2004, Stein impressed his audience of students and community members with his ability to communicate the pleasure of poetry.

Stein is the caterpillar professor of English at Bradley University, in Peoria, where he teaches a range of undergraduate and graduate courses in American literature and coordinates the creative writing program. He has published six poetry collections.

For more information, call the school office at (773) 298-3000.

* * *

SXU invites the community to attend a lecture about the formation of the concept of American exceptionalism by Dr. Adam I.P. Smith, University College London, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 12.

The lecture, “Stephen A. Douglas and American Exceptionalism,” will be in the Bishop Quarter Room of the Robert and Mary Rita Murphy Stump Library, located in the Warde Academic Center. The event is free and open to the public. No reservations or tickets are needed.

Stephen A. Douglas, Abraham Lincoln’s great Illinois rival, is often seen as one of history’s great losers by being on the wrong side in the great debate over slavery before the Civil War. This lecture will argue that, 200 years after his birth, Douglas should also be remembered as a classic 19th-century nationalist who, like Lincoln, helped create the idea of the United States as an exceptional place.
For more information, call Dave Kohut, associate librarian, at (773) 298-3355 or e-mail kohut@sxu.edu.
The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Friday, April 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at St. Xavier University’s Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St. A blood donor card or drivers license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are at least 17 years of age (16 with parental consent), weight at least 110 pounds and in good health may be eligible to donate blood. Ages 18 and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. For more information and to schedule an appointment, call (800) 733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org.
Panel discusses issues of domestic violence

Posted: Wednesday, April 3, 2013 12:00 am

Members of A New Direction Beverly/Morgan Park (AND) were among the panelists who participated in a discussion about domestic violence at St. Xavier University on March 6. Speaking at the program, which was free and open to the public, were (standing, from left) the Hon. Tim Murphy, AND board member; Chicago Police Officer Sabrina Oliphant; Kristy Arditti, AM, LCSW, ICDVP; moderator Pat O’Brien; SXU Assistant Professor Susan Hampson, MS, RN, NP-C; Steve English, co-owner of The Blossom Boys; Jessica McCarihan, AND board member; (seated, from left) Itedal Shalabi, executive director of Arab American Family Services; Rita Ryan, executive director of AND; and Gwen Spragg, survivor.
SXU to present award to Henry Bros. for project

Posted: Wednesday, April 3, 2013 12:00 am

Henry Bros. Company will receive this year’s St. Xavier University’s (SXU) Shield of St. Xavier Award. The award will be conferred at the President’s Scholarship Ball on Saturday, April 6, at the Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave.

The Shield of St. Xavier is the university’s highest honor. It is awarded annually to outstanding people who are nominated by the university community and chosen by the board of trustees. Recipients of the Shield of St. Xavier are honored for their support of St. Xavier’s mission of academic excellence and social concern, and for their demonstrated commitment to these important values through the quest for learning and dedication to service exhibited in their own lives.

The President’s Scholarship Ball has raised millions of dollars for the Presidential Scholarship Program, which provides financial support to St. Xavier’s most deserving students. This gala event is open to the public.

For more information or to make a reservation, call (773) 298-3748 or visit sxu.edu, keyword: ball.

Henry Bros. Company has been among St. Xavier’s most generous lifetime donors and supporters. It has supported the Scholarship Ball since 1990 and has served as the dinner sponsor at the ball. Third generation co-owners George Ferrell and Bill Callaghan have chaired the SXU Golf Classic since its inception more than 16 years ago. This event has grossed more than $1.3 million toward scholarship support since 1997.

The founding partners of Henry Bros. Company, brothers Robert and Patrick Henry, began a legacy responsible for building hundreds of churches, schools, rectories, convents and other religious institutions for the Archdiocese of Chicago and many religious orders of brothers and sisters, including the Sisters of Mercy. William H. Callaghan Sr. (nephew of brothers Robert and Patrick) and George P. Henry (son of Patrick) were the second-generation owners of the company from 1966 to 1987. William and his wife, Maxine, have attended St. Xavier and Mercy Sisters fundraising events for more than 50 years.

Present co-owner George Ferrell himself helped to fund the renovations of St. Xavier’s Ferrell Field. Ferrell Field is named in honor of his brother, Richard, who was a baseball player at SXU and was tragically killed in a car accident.
during his first year in the minor leagues. George is married to Lorna Ferrell, and co-owner Bill is married to Nancy Callaghan, ’78, a member of the President’s Advisory Council.

Henry Bros. Company has built or renovated much of the Chicago campus since the mid-1970s, including the Outdoor Sports Center, the Shannon Center, McDonough Chapel of the Mother of Mercy and all the residence halls. The Orland Park Campus also was built by Henry Bros. Company in 2003. Currently, the firm continues to work on renovations of the library and associated high tech learning facilities.

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HIGHLAND • Marine Cpl. Aaron Ripperda’s religious faith had put him on a path to the armed forces, the Rev. Scott Snider told more than 400 people inside St. Paul Catholic Church Wednesday morning.

Some join out of the general call to duty, he said, while others are put there to fulfill more specific visions.

“There are probably many reasons that a young man would join the Marines,” Snider said. “I don’t know if Aaron had that bigger vision, but I know for certain that vision of taking care of his comrades was important to him.”

Ripperda, 26, and six fellow Marines were killed when a mortar shell exploded during a training mission in western Nevada on March 18. At least eight others were wounded.

The assignment was supposed to be his last before returning to base at Camp Lejeune, N.C., to begin the discharge process.
Wednesday, the 2005 Highland High School graduate was remembered as a courageous man with a promising future in whatever path life was to take him after the Marines. He had gone to St. Xavier University in Chicago to be a museum curator, but then decided to become a chef. After finishing at L’École Culinaire in St. Louis, and finding it challenging to begin a career, he enlisted.

Recently, he had been accepted to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where he intended to pursue a business degree.

An uncle recalled Ripperda as a leader who was caring and giving of himself and “actually lived life.” And everyone around him, sometimes to their detriment, got dragged into the adventure, Kurt Ripperda joked. He recalled a camping trip where Aaron was determined to take down a bear. Among his tools were a flashlight and an ax. He said his nephew eventually gave up the mission after realizing it would have been nearly impossible.

“He had a way to make fun of himself just to get a laugh,” Ripperda said. “He was a lot of things to many people. If more people were like him, this world would be better than it is.”

Hundreds of people lined the streets outside of the church to wait for the procession carrying Ripperda’s body. After the service, hundreds more waited to say goodbye as the procession made its way through the city’s flag-lined streets to St. Mary’s Catholic Cemetery, near Carlyle Lake.

And the stories were expected to continue flowing.

Former classmate Dylan Stock said friends were gathering at the farm of another former classmate to reminisce about good times shared with their friend.

“It’s tough,” Stock said. “It’s hard to put in words who he was. But he was always upbeat. As tragic as this is, there’s a smile on my face. It’s because of the type of guy he was.”

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Viverito Introduces His Slate of Candidates

Lou Viverito

Wednesday, April 03, 2013

Stickney Township Supervisor Lou Viverito is heading up the Township Proven Party’s slate of candidates in the Tuesday, April 9 elections.

Jay Grider, running for township assessor, is the only member of the slate who is not an incumbent. A lifelong Burbank resident, Grider, 49, has gained experience as the the deputy assessor for the township since 2008. He is running for the seat being vacated by his boss, Ken Polivka, who is retiring.

Grider attended St. Albert the Great School and St. Laurence High School before earning a master’s in business administration from St. Xavier University. Prior to becoming deputy assessor, he was an analyst for the Cook County Board of Review and has experience as a tax consultant and project manager.

“I couldn’t have a better man working for me. He is an excellent candidate,” said Polivka at a campaign breakfast for the party candidates held Saturday morning, March 30, at Chuck’s Southern Comforts Cafe in Burbank.

Viverito, who has been supervisor for 40 years, is running unopposed. He highlighted Grider’s experience and skills when endorsing him at the breakfast. He said Grider “has done an outstanding job” as deputy assessor for the past five years and deserves to move up.

Grider is running against Burbank resident Raul Aguirre Jr., an independent.

In addition to Viverito, who is running and Grider, the candidates seeking re-election on the Township Proven Party slate include Township Clerk Etorre “Hector” Cesario; Highway Commissioner Matthew W. Boruch; and township trustees Donna R. Galeher, Larry A. Baker, Louis Zelinski and Frank J. Pajak. — Clear-Ridge Reporter

-Top-
Seleb brings plenty of experience to Oak Park library

New executive director comes to town May 1

Thursday, April 4th, 2013 2:39 PM

By Anna Lothson

Staff Reporter

The newly hired executive director of the Oak Park Public Library said he's eager to work in a town with a nationally recognized library.

It was announced last week that the Oak Park Public Library board has selected David Seleb, director of the Indian Trails Library District in Wheeling, as the new executive director.

Seleb, who will start May 1, comes to the position succeeding Dee Brennan, who left at the end of the year to work for the Reaching Across Illinois Library System (RAILS). Seleb, a lifelong Chicago resident, embraces technology changes in libraries and said he is ready to listen from and learn about what the community wants from its library.

"I am very excited to be coming to Oak Park," he said in a Monday phone interview. "I'm very honored. The library is a wonderful institution."

Seleb comes to Oak Park with almost 25 years of experience working in libraries and library organizations. Oak Park is the fourth library where he'll be the director. He said he's ready to embrace the challenges libraries face, including how to deliver a variety of services to different types of users. This also means balancing traditional media with e-books and developing libraries as centers of learning even more than they already are today.

According to a library news release sent out last week, Celeb brings "solid leadership, experience, and vision for human-centered library services to Oak Park."

"I am thrilled and honored to be named the new executive director of the Oak Park Public Library, a library recognized nationally for its commitment to service, innovation, and customer service," Seleb wrote. "I look forward to building on the library's tradition of excellence, delivering services and programs with the widest possible appeal in the most creative and fiscally responsible ways."

He has directed the Indian Trails Library District, based in Wheeling, since November 2011. He worked for four years prior to that as director of the Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District.
Seleb said the character of Oak Park is similar to those two communities, which is one reason he was drawn to the position. He finds diverse communities with diverse needs exciting.

What first attracted him to working in libraries was having the ability to affect people's lives, he said. He sees value in what a library can do for a community and understands its vital role.

"Members of a community depend deeply on their local library," he said. "It has become such a central point in the life of a community."

Celeb also served as director of the Blue Island Public Library and director of consulting and continuing education with the Metropolitan Library System. He also has an active role in the Illinois Library Association.

He has 13 years of library management experience under his belt, earned his master's degree in Library and Information Science from Dominican University in 1995, and his bachelor's degree from Saint Xavier University in 1989.

Library board President Lane Hart explained in a note to library staff that the board was drawn to Seleb's track record of leadership and his vision for human-centered library services.

"The library board was determined to find a candidate committed to serving the community and building upon what the staff has accomplished to date," Hart wrote in the release. "Through a national search, the board chose David for his vision, focus on customer service and staff development, fiscal expertise, and experience in libraries of similar size and complexity."

Rebecca Teasdale will remain the library's interim executive director through April 30, returning to her library leadership role as assistant director for public services and programs.

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Pillar of Oak Lawn Community Dies at Age 83

The mother of three doctors also starred as lead actress in several 99th Street Theater shows.

By Ryan Fitzpatrick

April 4, 2013

Long-time Oak Lawn resident, teacher and community volunteer Ave Maria Green died Tuesday. She was 83.

Green graduated from Loretto High School and then St. Xavier College before becoming a Chicago Public School teacher. She and her late husband of 57 years, John M. Green were active parishioners of St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish in Oak Lawn. Green also supported Mother McAuley High School. There, she often volunteered to provide fashion show commentary and played the lead actress in Broadway shows at the 99th Street Theater.

Green was known as a “remarkable wife, mother, grandmother and friend.” She is survived by her five children and many grandchildren.

Visitation will occur Friday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home, 4727 West 103rd Street. Services will be held Saturday at St. Catherine of Alexandria Church, 10621 S. Kedvale Ave.

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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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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.

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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.
Get Up and Go! for April 4, 2013

April 4, 2013 1:09AM

Here are events worth getting out of the house for on April 4.

Suggestions include Crete, Chicago and Mokena.

THEOLOGY SOUTH SERIES: Award-winning print and broadcast journalist, poet and essayist Judith Valente will discuss living a contemplative life at 9:30 a.m. in the Butler Reception Room in the Warde Academic Center at St. Xavier University’s Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St. Cost is $6. Information: Donatta Yates at (708) 422-1635 or sxu.edu.

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Battalora: Same-sex marriage and lessons from the past

By Jacqueline Battalora April 5, 2013 9:00PM

It was not that long ago when the most important item on the political agenda for white people was prohibiting marriage between a white person and a nonwhite person.

The prohibition of such marriages was called an antimiscegenation law, and they existed for more than 300 years until being found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in Loving vs. Virginia in 1967.

The rationale used to deny the marriage of a white to a nonwhite person included the claim that they produced “mongrel” children and a “degraded” civilization, that it was a violation of nature and God’s law and that such marriages threatened civil society.

These are not unfamiliar arguments in the contemporary debate over same-sex marriage.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court in 1867 could just as easily have been addressing same-sex marriage when it justified racial separation on public transportation by stating (parenthetical added), “Why the Creator made one black (male) and the other white (female), we do not know, but the fact is apparent, and the races (sexes) are distinct. ... The natural law which forbids their intermarriage (same-sex marriage) and that social amalgamation which leads to a corruption of the races (humanity) is clearly divine as that which imparted to them different natures ...”

Similarly, the Georgia Appellate Court could have been supporting the prohibition of same-sex marriage when it stated in a 1869 decision (parenthetical added), “The legislature had as much right to regulate marriage between persons of different races (the same sex) as to prohibit it between the Levitical degrees, or between idiots. ... Social equality between the races (heterosexuals and homosexuals) does not in fact exist, and never can. The God of nature made it otherwise ...”

And the Oklahoma Appellate Court in 1924 could have been supporting a prohibition of same-sex marriage as enlightened policy when it provided (parenthetical added), “The purity of public morals, the moral and physical development of both races (sexes), and the highest advancement of civilizations, under which the two races (sexes) must work out and accomplish their destiny, all require that they should be kept distinctly separate (that only opposite-sex marriage be permitted), and that connections and alliances so unnatural (as same-sex alliances) should be prohibited ...”
Members of Congress today who support the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) sound a lot like these judges of the past. Whereas white supremacy was the guiding principle for racial separation, heterosexual supremacy serves this purpose for support of DOMA.

What might we take away from the history of antimiscegenation law that can inform us about same-sex marriage today and the next public debate of tomorrow?

Antimiscegenation case law reveals that God and nature were used as weapons of hatred. Claims of God’s intent or natural law must be met with suspicion. If nature and God are removed as justification, what is left?

Similarly, claims that civility and public morals are threatened must be met with healthy suspicion and many questions. Why must the prohibition be kept? Who benefits and how? Who is harmed and how?

What is the fear if the prohibition is removed? Is that fear substantiated? How have other countries fared that removed the prohibition? Did they experience a “slippery slope” effect?

What is the social hierarchy enforced through the exclusion? Is that hierarchy simply a new form of supremacy that ensures unequal freedom and opportunity? Are the ideals of the nation advanced by the prohibition?

The history of antimiscegenation law suggests that our prejudices run deep in shaping our interpretations of God, nature and morality.

If we hope to move beyond the prevailing prejudices of our cultural moment, we must learn to be suspicious of certain claims and strong critical thinkers. The questions that we ask and don’t ask speak volumes about our morality and civility.

Jacqueline Battalora is an associate professor of sociology and criminal justice at St. Xavier University in Chicago.
"Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and Its Relevance Today"

PRLog (Press Release) - Apr. 8, 2013 - VICTORIA, Texas

"Birth of a White Nation" offers a thorough examination of the underlying reasons and the ways in which “white people” were created by American law.

Birth of a White Nation offers a thorough examination of the underlying reasons and the ways in which “white people” were created by American law.

This new book on race in America begins with the moment when “white people” as a separate and distinct group of humanity were invented through legislation and the enforcement of laws. It explains how the creation of this distinction divided laborers, and ultimately served the interests of the elite. It also examines how foundational law and policy were used to institutionalize the practice of white people holding positions of power.

The book demonstrates how the social construction and legal enactment of “white people” has ultimately compromised the humanity of those so labeled. Learn how and why America took this path in Birth of a White Nation: The Invention of White People and Its Relevance Today.


WHOLESALERS: This book is distributed by Ingram Books and other wholesale distributors. Contact your representative with the ISBN for purchase. Wholesale purchase for retailers, universities, libraries, and other organizations is also available through the publisher; please email bookorder@aeg-online-store.com.

About the Author: Jacqueline Battalora was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and lived in Antwerp, Belgium for six years before her family relocated to Victoria, Texas. The experience of attending high school and middle school in Texas formed her understanding of race in America. While she is currently a lawyer and professor of sociology and criminal justice at Saint Xavier University, she is also a former Chicago Police officer. She holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University and has been engaged in anti-racist training since the mid-1990s.
ABOUT: Strategic Book Publishing and Rights Co, LLC provides book publishing, book marketing, and e-Book services to over 10,000 writers around the world, employing 150 people who live throughout the US and work virtually through telecommunication. Strategic Book Publishing and Rights Co, LLC is experiencing over 30% growth per year, having published approximately 3000 authors with almost 100 new releases per month. Our books are available through Ingram, the largest book distributor in the world, as well as in bookstores, through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and all online channels. Strategic Book Publishing and Rights Co, LLC attends and exhibits at the major book expositions in London, New York, China, and Germany each year.

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Charity Briefs for April 9, 2013

April 8, 2013 2:04PM

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.

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GENOA – How Kerri Cullen Sosnowski wrote her first novel and got it published is almost as good a story as the novel itself.

A native of Chicago, Sosnowski earned her bachelor of science degree in education from St. Xavier University. She was a substitute teacher for five years before becoming a full-time housewife and author.

She and her husband, Kevin, have three children: Katie, 14; Connor, 12 and Caden, 2. They moved to Genoa eight years ago.

“The Mystery of Marek Manor” is a youth novel ghost mystery about a 13-year-old girl, Katie Hartley, who moves to an old farmhouse in Wisconsin that was once a funeral home. One day she discovers a tiny door in an upstairs closet that hides the mystery of what happened to the home’s original owner.

Sosnowski, who writes under her maiden name, says the book is the first in a trilogy.

Sosnowski will talk about both the writing and publishing process, as well as read from and sign copies of “The Mystery of Marek Manor,” at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Genoa Public Library. The paperback is 182 pages long and costs $8; the e-book is $2.99. Both can be found on Amazon.com.

The writer sat down with MidWeek reporter Doug Oleson to talk about writing and publishing.

MidWeek: What did you like to read when you were growing up?

Kerri Cullen Sosnowski: Anne Rice, Stephen King, things like that.

MW: Did you want to be a writer?
KCS: When I was in high school I wrote for classes and stuff. A lot of what I wrote was very dark. My mind just went there. So the actual book I wrote was a continuation of something I started in high school and I found it.

MW: Were you published in school?

KCS: No. It was just for classes. You’d have English or creative classes. And it was just in high school. When I got to college, I was on the track for teaching, so didn’t even think about writing until like six years ago.

MW: What can you tell me about the story?

KCS: It was geared, when I was a senior in high school, more for adults. I wanted my kids to be able to read it, so I dumbed it down a little bit, so now it’s a middle grade novel. I took the swearing out. Actually, the book is about a picture I saw in a children’s book, “The Mystery of Harris Verdick” by Chris Van Allsburg. Each page has a different illustration from what could be a story onto itself. Each has a caption or a sentence. This one was of a staircase and this little door and I think the caption said, “He could have sworn he saw the doorknob turn.” Or something to that effect. And that’s where the idea for the story came from. I kind of went with it from there.

Between fifth and eighth grade is the ideal range. I’ve also had high schoolers read it who enjoyed it.

MW: How long did it take you to write it?

KCS: About two years to write it and, to actually get the nerve up to self-publish, another three or four years. I did try sending it out to many publishers. I have many rejection letters to go along with it so I gave up with that. You go along with life and kind of get tired of that.

I had the illustration above my fireplace and everytime I would look at it, I would know I didn’t accomplish this. So I decided to put it in e-book format.

MW: Had you ever been published before?

KCS: No, I’ve never been in a newspaper or a magazine. I’ve never been a reporter or anything to do with writing.

So I decided I would venture out on my own. I went through Amazon-Nook. I put it in e-book format. Then, in the late fall, I actually went through Amazon’s paperback publishing firm. It’s called Create Space.

MW: Once you put it out, is it hard to get publicity for it?

KCS: Absolutely. There is a webcast on how to advertise your book, how to market your book. I got some pointers from there.

I can go to different schools. That is my next step, maybe to send some emails out to schools. I can either talk about the writing process, detailing about how to get published, where do ideas come from. I can tailor it to whatever the school would need. I can go in and do presentations and hopefully sell some books that way. I’ve been to my mother’s school. She’s a teacher in Oak Lawn.

MW: Without giving anything away, can you tell me what the book is about?

KCS: ...It’s all about what’s beyond the door. It leads them on a quest to find out what happens to the original owner of the house, Margie Merek. There are people in the town that don’t want them to find out what happened.

There’s a story behind this. This is based on the house we used to live in in Elgin. It was a funeral home when it was first built.
I thought that would be a great setting for a book. It was a little creepy when we moved in. It had been remodeled several times, but it still had the big wide four-foot door for the casket.

MW: I understand this is the first in a trilogy.

KCS: Yes, I’m working on the second one right now. It’s slow going. I am in chapter 10 or 11 right now. This book has about 24 chapters. Having children it’s a little slower going, but I’ll get there. But I do have the storyline in my head. I know where it’s going to end up. I’m having more fun with this one.

MW: Does the first one end with a bit of a cliffhanger?

KCS: This story is summed up, it has ended and it kind of begins the next one. There’s a teaser in it, absolutely. You know it’s going to go on, but it’s not one of those books that leaves you hanging mid-story. There’s actually a conclusion and then goes on. And it does go on with the same characters and the same mystery surrounding this woman.

MW: Why did you decide to do it this way rather than just one big, long book?

KCS: When I ended it, I thought that was it. But I just wasn’t satisfied. And I liked the characters. When you first start writing, you’re not very sure of yourself and not very sure of the writing process. I was never a writer before. But as I went on, I felt more comfortable and I felt this story needs to go on. I have more to say about it.

There are new characters. I read to my kids as I’m writing to see if I’m using the correct terminology. My older ones are in middle school and it’s based in middle school and they’re giving me pointers.

It’s nice to get my kids’ feedback. And they enjoy the first one, but they say they like the second one 10 times better.

MW: Anything else you’d like to mention?

KCS: Karen Griffith is the illustrator for this book. She did the cover. She is in Genoa, a very talented artist. My daughter Katelyn is the model for it. I wanted to mention her. I do not have her in the acknowledgements in the book and I feel very bad about that. Once you have it, it’s hard to change that.

MW: Just out of curiosity, did your friend ever finish her book?

KCS: No. Now she’s started on another one.

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Get Up and Go! for April 9, 2013

April 9, 2013 8:48AM

Here are events worth getting out of the house for on April 9.

Suggestions include Tinley Park, Chicago and Park Forest.

KEVIN STEIN: St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago, will present “Poetry and Politics: A Reading by Illinois Poet Laureate Kevin Stein” in honor of National Poetry Month at 6:30 p.m. in the Butler Reception Room. Information: (773) 298-3000, sxu.edu.

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Rosen set for breakfast meeting

Posted: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 12:00 am

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 St. Xavier University (SXU).

Rosen’s talk, “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), will begin 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, 3700 W. 103rd St.

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.

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, call BAPA at (773) 233-3100 or visit bapa.org.
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, call (773) 298-3748 or e-mail specialevents@sxu.edu.

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Saint Xavier 2013 Spring Concert Schedule

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity

April 10, 2013

Saint Xavier University’s Department of Music will host a series of concerts during the spring 2013 semester.

All performances are free for SXU students, faculty, and staff with a current ID, and for prospective students. General admission is $6, and admission for senior citizens, visiting students, and members of the military is $5.

For more information, please contact the Department of Music at (773) 298-3421 or visit www.sxu.edu, keyword: music.

Flute Choir: "A Celebration of Flutes" – 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 12, McDonough Chapel

A bit of fun and serious flute choir music using the entire flute family.

SXU Guitar Ensemble and Jazz Combo Spring Concert – 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 26, McGuire Hall

The SXU Guitar Ensemble will perform arrangements of folk dances from locations around the world, including Spain’s Catalonia region, Jamaica, Mexico, and more. The SXU Jazz Combo will play blues and bebop compositions, standards from the Great American Songbook, and selections in tribute to the late Dave Brubeck.

Symphony Orchestra: London Everyday – 7:30 p.m., Thurs., May 2, Performance Space

The orchestra's program includes chamber winds and strings, and von Suppe's Poet and Peasant overture, and it culminates by welcoming to the podium SXU Professor of Music Education Martha Morris in Eric Coates' "London Everyday Suite."

Jazz Ensemble – 7:30 p.m., Fri., May 3, McGuire Hall

The SXU Jazz Ensemble will present a varied program of big band literature ranging from swing era classics to Latin jazz compositions to funk and rock/jazz fusion favorites.

Wind Ensemble: Dance! – 7:30 p.m., Sat., May 4, Performance Space
Join us for an eclectic program featuring music for winds inspired by dances from South America to Europe.

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SXU receives $10,000-plus Cooperative Work Study Program Grant

Posted by SaintXavierUniversity
April 10, 2013

School: Saint Xavier University
Award: $10,000-plus Cooperative Work Study Program Grant

Saint Xavier University (SXU) has been awarded $10,202 for the fiscal year 2013 Cooperative Work Study Program grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. This program provides many students with their first experience of working in a professional capacity and creates new opportunities for partnership between the University and local employers.

The Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program provides grants to both public and independent colleges and universities. It is designed to enhance public-private sector partnerships, expand internship opportunities, reduce student reliance on loans, encourage permanent employment of Illinois graduates in Illinois, and provide links between academic programs and employment. SXU has been a proud participant in this program for more than ten years.

The Internship Program supported by this grant assists students with securing meaningful, career-related employment opportunities prior to graduation. In doing so, the program also assists Chicago-area employers by helping them to meet their part-time, professional hiring needs. These internship placements strengthen the cooperation between the University and local employers, create new opportunities for public/private partnerships, and encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois. Eligible students must be undergraduate Illinois residents.

The program also provides much-needed financial assistance and indirectly increases student retention. More than 97 percent of SXU students receive financial aid. Students who are involved with this program have been able to reduce dependency on student loans and almost all who have been placed in an internship position have graduated from SXU.

"Many SXU students need to work to help defray the cost of tuition," Assistant Director of Career Services Jodi Malloy Martin said. "These paid internship opportunities provide students with pre-professional experience directly related to their majors. It also offers them a chance to network with professionals in their field."

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Saint Xavier University will host its 2013 Interfaith Expo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, April 15 in the Butler Reception Room, located in the school’s Warde Academic Center.

The event, “Who’s Got Faith in Faith Anymore?” is free and open to the public. Speakers will include experts of the Islamic, Christian and Jewish traditions and will weigh in on the role of faith in contemporary society and what, if anything, can be done to reverse the recent trend away from organized faith. Experts include Kifah Mustafa, Imam at the Mosque Foundation in Bridgeview; Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus of B’nai Yehuda Beth Sholom in Homewood; and Graziano Marcheschi, executive director for University Ministry at Saint Xavier.

Free Middle Eastern food will be provided at 11:30 a.m., and 10-minute presentations begin at 2 p.m. The presenters then will sit on a panel and field questions from the audience, and participants will engage in table discussions with each other.

For more information contact Graziano Marcheschi at marcheschi@sxu.edu.
Saint Xavier University in Chicago has been awarded $10,202 for the fiscal year 2013 Cooperative Work Study Program grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The program provides students what is often their first experiences working in a professional capacity and creates opportunities for partnership between the university and local employers. It provides grants to both public and independent colleges and universities, and is intended to enhance public-private sector partnerships, expand internship opportunities, reduce student reliance on loans, and encourage permanent employment of Illinois graduates in Illinois. Saint Xavier has been a participant in this program for more than 10 years.

The internship program supported by the grant assists students with securing career-related employment opportunities prior to graduation. In doing so, the program assists Chicago-area employers by helping them to meet part-time professional hiring needs.

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Religion Briefs For April 12

April 11, 2013 2:44PM

Who’s Got Faith: St. Xavier University will host its 2013 Interfaith Expo 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 15 in the Butler Reception Room, located in the Warde Academic Center, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago. The event, titled “Who’s Got Faith in Faith Anymore?” is free of charge. Kifah Mustafa, Imam at the Mosque Foundation in Bridgeview; Rabbi Ellen Dreyfus of B’nai Yehuda Beth Sholom in Homewood; and Graziano Marcheschi, executive director for University Ministry at SXU will participate in the program. Free middle-eastern food will be provided at 11:30 a.m. and 10-minute presentations by the panel begin at 2 p.m. The presenters then will field questions. Information: Email marcheschi@sxu.edu.

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I wonder when it will be the case that we no longer have to celebrate when female presidents are named. Recently, UNC named Dartmouth’s interim president as the new UNC-Chapel Hill chancellor. (For those less acronym or basketball savvy, UNC= University of North Carolina, aka the Tarheels.)

Yes, this is a big deal. And yes, the headlines did note that she is a first. Here's what a recent article said:

"Carol Folt, the interim president of Dartmouth College, will be the next chancellor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, three sources close to the search said.

Folt, 61, would be the first woman to lead the campus in Chapel Hill, where the 29,000-member student body is 58 percent female."

As a side note, for those who love the Duke/UNC rivalry: yes, my alma mater, Duke, got there first.

Having said that, yes, another first woman. In my deepest past, a college president I know wanted to stop using the notion of firsts for women as he thought we were done with firsts. Not so much. Not so much at all.

When I was named, the word first was used. And in part it had to do with being the first (non-interim) female president since Shimer’s founders. Women continue to be underrepresented in the top spots at colleges and universities. And, this despite the hoopla around Drew Faust Gilpin (Harvard's president), for example.

What does this have to do with Chicago?

Well, for one thing, the University of Chicago was ahead of the pack, lo those many years ago, and had a female president, Hannah Gray. (As a side note, she was a recipient of the aforementioned award; click here for information).

How about now? Here are (some, perhaps all) of the female college and university presidents (and chancellors) in Chicago(land):

City Colleges of Chicago, Cheryl L. Hyman, Chancellor

Dominican University, Donna M. Carroll, President

Kennedy-King College, Joyce C. Ester, President

MacCormac College, Marnelle Alexis, President

National Louis University, Nivine Megahed, President
Saint Xavier University, Christine Wiseman, President
Shimer College, Susan Henking, President
Triton College, Patricia Granados, President

And no, this is not 50% of the colleges and universities in Chicago(land). Also, I cannot guarantee I caught everyone -- do let us know if there are more!

If you think this is all unimportant, perhaps, click here -- especially if you think women colleges presidents have it better than corporate leaders. (Or think about the many who have been targets of criticism not because of their leadership but because of their gender.)
Charity Briefs for April 16, 2013

April 15, 2013 12:46PM

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.

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Get Up and Go! for April 15, 2013

April 15, 2013 10:21AM

Here are events worth getting out of the house for on April 15.

Suggestions include Chicago, Orland Park and Park Forest.

INTERFAITH EXPO: St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., Chicago, will host this event from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Warde Academic Center’s Butler Reception Room. This year’s theme is “Religious Literacy,” which calls for greater awareness of each other’s faith traditions and practices. Speakers, activities and exhibits will be featured throughout the event. Information: SXU’s Office for University Ministry at (773) 341-5734 or sxu.edu.

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Calendar of Events

Posted: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 3:03 pm

‘La Mujeres’ part of SXU exhibit

“La Mujeres de mi Alma,” a sculpture by Rachel Rodriguez, will be on display at St. Xavier University’s “Senior Suitcase,” the senior art and design student thesis exhibition through Tuesday, May 7, at the Visual Arts Center Gallery, 10435 S. Spaulding Ave. An artists’ reception will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 13, at the Beverly Arts Center, 2407 W. 111th St. An after-party will be held at the Visual Arts Center Gallery from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. The students have created a broad spectrum of creative pieces, including paintings, collages, sculptures, graphic novels, photographs, digital media, animated storyboards and more. For more information, call the department of art and design at (773) 298-3081 or visit sxu.edu, keyword: art.

University Concerts

St. Xavier University (SXU), 3700 W. 103rd St., will host a series of concerts during the spring 2013 semester.

The guitar ensemble and jazz combo will host its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 26, in McGuire Hall. The guitar ensemble will perform arrangements of folk dances from locations around the world. The jazz combo will play blues and bebop compositions.

The symphony orchestra will present “London Everyday” at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, in Performance Space.

The jazz ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 3, in McGuire Hall. The jazz ensemble will present a varied program of big band literature ranging from swing era classics to Latin jazz compositions to funk and rock/jazz fusion favorites.

The wind ensemble will present “Dance” at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, in Performance Space. The program will feature music for winds inspired by dances from South America to Europe.
All performances are free for SXU students, faculty and staff with a current ID and for prospective students. General admission is $6, and admission for senior citizens, visiting students, and members of the military is $5.

For more information, call (773) 298-3421 or visit sxu.edu, keyword: music.
Community Briefs

Posted: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 2:32 pm

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 7:30 a.m., at St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., in the Butler Reception Room. Registration is $10 and free for Beverly Area Planning Association (BAPA) members. Space is limited, and reservations are required. For more information or to register, call BAPA, (773) 233-3100, or visit bapa.org.

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SXU

St. Xavier University (SXU), 3700 W. 103rd St., will host “The Chicago Union Stockyards,” a lecture by Dominic Pacyga, professor of history, Columbia College, on Thursday, April 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The free event, open to the public, will be held in the Butler Reception Room. Raised on the South Side and employed for a time in the stockyards, Pacyga will give voice to the city’s ordinary people and maps the neighborhoods of Chicago by bungalows and corner taverns. For more information, call SXU at (773) 298-3000.

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Calendar of Events

Posted: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 12:00 am

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St. Xavier holds pinning ceremony

Student Aldo Quinones recently got pinned at the St. Xavier University (SXU) School of Education’s first pinning ceremony. The ceremony was held 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. Dr. Christopher Koch, state superintendent of education, attended the ceremony. 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 that SXU candidates have chosen to enter.
100 Club Partners With Chicago Universities

Civic group provides support to families of first responders who've died in the line of duty

By Mary Ann Ahern | Wednesday, Apr 17, 2013 | Updated 7:21 PM CDT

With so much attention on what's happened in Boston this week, an event for first responders families has special meaning.

The 100 Club of Chicago, an Chicago organization that gives support to families of fire, police and emergency medical personnel who've died in the line of duty, is now partnering with 11 Chicago area universities to extend that support.

"I think the incident in Boston reminds all of us of the sacrifice and selflessness of first responders," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

Already, $2 million has been raised for college scholarships.

Civic Group Offers Near-Anonymous Help in Times of Tragedy

LeVar Merrell said the 100 Club has been a great help to him and his family in the 13 years since his father, Lt. L.C. Merrell, was killed in a crash on his way to battle a fire. With the 100 Club's help, the younger Merrell has received financial assistance for graduate school at DePaul University.

"You need those type of people around," he said of the civic organization.

As well, Peg Flisk will soon be the first 100 Club law school scholar. She graduates from DePaul University on Father’s Day and plans to attend John Marshall Law School.
Her father, a Chicago police officer, was shot and killed more than two years ago while investigating a crime scene. Peg Flisk said that if her father were alive, he'd be at her graduation, showing up on a Harley wearing jeans. "He was a cop's cop," she said. "He would have been thrilled that I was taking the law profession in this world. He always strived for me to have the best education."

Aside from DePaul and Marshall, other universities now involved in the 100 Club include Dominican, Illinois Institute of Technology, Lewis, Loras, Loyola, Northwestern, St. Xavier, Roosevelt, and the University of Chicago.

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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.
Bridging the Gap

Tips for bringing down criminal organizations with organizational analysis

John A. Bertetto | From the April 2013 Issue Monday, April 22, 2013

An organizational analysis should provide for two things: a thorough and specific understanding of the targeted organization and the creation of strategies and operations that specifically target that organization. If these two purposes aren’t fulfilled, your analysis has limited utility.

Unfortunately, it’s all too common to see law enforcement agencies become embroiled in what can more correctly be called “categorical classification” exercises, mistaking these for organizational analyses. While categorical classifications can be worthwhile, their utility for providing an understanding of an organization that allows for specific strategies and operations that disrupt, destabilize and dismantle those organizations is severely limited.

Categorical classifications, like definitions, are only helpful if they serve to adequately categorize items into distinct groups. For example, street gangs have, for the most part, shared traits—but not all gangs have the same shared traits. This makes thorough categorical classification of gangs difficult. A criminal organization might fit well into two or more classifications. But as gangs proliferate, variety will increase. When this happens, more categories must be created or every organization is labeled a “hybrid network.” It doesn’t matter which route is chosen, the result is the same: the understanding of the organization and what makes it tick takes a backseat to making it comport to some predefined category.

To truly understand an organization so that specific strategies and operations that effectively target it can be created, you must use a questions-based organizational analysis. The questions used must focus on specific and relevant organizational and operational areas of the organization. The combined answers will provide specific insights into the organization. Furthermore, each area for inquiry has known methods for targeting, allowing for specific operations to be planned once the analysis is complete.

Areas for inquiry are:

- History;
- Objective;
- Operating practices;
- Structure and command;
- Financing; and
- Support.

History
A thorough organizational analysis must provide for a comprehensive understanding of the organization’s history. These questions allow your agency to develop an understanding of the organization’s culture and, when the culture is understood, likely future actions and reactions to law enforcement operations can be predicted.

Consider organizational culture as it relates to a sports team. We’ve often heard coaches or players on a sports team exclaim, “Let’s show them how we play this game!” Organizational culture is the identity and personality that drives the entity. For the criminal organization, relevant historical questions include:

- What identity has the organization given itself?
- What types of actions and endeavors has the organization engaged in previously?
- What have previous organizational leaders done?
- If the organization goes to “war,” what causes it? What stops it? What is the objective—destruction of a rival or submission and assimilation?
- What has the organization done in response to previous law enforcement actions/operations against it?

Objectives

“Objective” refers to the primary purpose of the organization—narcotics sales? Trafficking? Accrual of turf? Fencing? The primary goal of the organization must be determined, then targeted.

Operating Practices

Operating practices are those activities the organization engages in to achieve and/or support its objective.

What means does the criminal organization use to meet its organizational objective, and how do those individual means interact? You must understand the diversification in operations for the criminal organization (if applicable) and how those diverse operations work together toward the organization’s primary objective.

Structure & Command

Structure and command refer to the overall leadership and operating management practices for the criminal organization. How’s the organization led and managed? Does it have a single, strong leader or use a “board of directors”? If there’s a single leader, what’s that individual’s history? What kind of person is this? In previous interactions with rival organizations and with law enforcement, what kind of reactions has leadership shown?

By learning about organizational command, you can begin to anticipate and plan for likely responses to law enforcement operations. The more you can “think ahead” and plan for responses, the more you can manipulate those responses toward a specific outcome. Is a rank structure defined? Is there a definitive hierarchy in command? How’s the organization managed? How’s command maintained and how are information/orders relayed? When the structure and command of the organization is understood specific strategies can be implemented to interrupt or remove vital layers of that structure. The result is loss of communication, control and operational efficacy.

Financing

How does the organization earn money and process money? Is it self-financed or does it receive outside financial support? If it receives outside support, is it from being part of a larger criminal network or from outside sources with a concerned interest?

You must understand how money flows into, through, and out of the organization. This information can be used to target financial transactions, seize funds and bankrupt the operational payroll of the organization.
Support

All criminal organizations receive support of some kind. Criminal street gangs often rely on the tacit support of a population unwilling to cooperate with law enforcement. Determine what kind of support the organization receives. Is it overt or tacit? Where does the support come from—other criminal organizations, financiers or the local population? When sources of support are identified operations can be put in place that work to separate the organization from them. Strategies should also include operations that target public opinion or perception.

Driving It Home

Each of these areas for inquiry can be targeted with specific strategies and operations. Organizational culture can be mitigated. Operations can be manipulated. Organizations can be separated from their objectives, have their operating practices disrupted, their managerial layers removed, their financing frozen and seized, and be separated from support. Although any one of these efforts will likely disrupt an organization’s efficacy, it’s the fully integrated analysis and subsequent fully integrated operations that will ultimately destabilize and dismantle the criminal organization.

The applicability of this type of analytical approach with an example: the Medellin cartel. A categorical name for that cartel—narcotrafficker, narcoterrorist, criminal insurgency—doesn’t sufficiently assist law enforcement in either understanding the criminal network or driving operations against it. What you must understand to take action is that its organizational structure and command is dependent upon strong central leadership, organizational financing dependent on outside support and support from a local population that views the cartel as beneficial to their day-to-day lives. Law enforcement must attack the financing, funding and strong leadership. They must peel away layers of control by attacking links in the managerial chain and become actively engaged with community projects while pushing out a strong counter-narrative to the cartel’s public image.

This integrated analysis—in which the organization is “deconstructed” into areas for inquiry and the examined results are reintegrated—is different than a fusion analysis, in which multiple sources of intelligence are exploited. Rather, it’s completed after fusion analysis has been performed. To be a fully integrated analysis, law enforcement agencies ensure that each section of your agency has a seat at both the analysis and operations table while these efforts are being conducted.

Working Together

Inclusion of various groups within the agency in the analysis is particularly important in larger agencies, where the responsibilities for gang operations, vice, narcotics and asset forfeiture are typically handled by separate units. Each of these units provides specific subject-matter expertise that’s critical to both fully understanding a criminal organization and planning fully integrated operations against them. In this manner, each unit within the agency has a shared perspective of the criminal organization, resulting in operating plans being both complimentary and most effective.

Without a shared perspective there exists intelligence dissonance, which occurs when threat assessment or organizational analysis is conducted by two or more groups with differing results. One group conducts a threat assessment and determines that the threat poses minimal risk while another group’s assessment of the same threat determines higher risk. More commonly, one section of an agency is trying to gather intelligence on a particular organization only to find out later that another section has had that intelligence for some time. The result of intelligence dissonance is often ineffective operations and always strategic failure.

The simple act of having all relevant players sit together to engage in intelligence sharing, analysis and operations planning eliminates this.

Conclusion
The above framework for organizational analysis is just that—a framework. It’s incumbent upon you to gather the intelligence and perform the analysis. The wider the intelligence net is cast and the better the intelligence gathering and processing abilities are, the more effective operations will become.

Focusing a coordinated and fully integrated approach on organizational analysis and operations eliminates intelligence dissonance. Through a proper and thorough organizational analysis, operations target the key figures within a criminal organization or network. By removing these criticalities, law enforcement has the best and most efficient means to effectively disrupt, destabilize and, ultimately, dismantle those criminal organizations in their communities.

John A. Bertetto is a sworn member of the Chicago PD. He is the author of Countering Criminal Street Gangs: Lessons from the Counterinsurgent Battlespace and Designing Law Enforcement: Adaptive Strategies for the Complex Environment. Officer Bertetto holds a Master of Science degree from Western Illinois University and a Master of Business Administration from St. Xavier University.

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Meet the 2013 Greater Chicago Nurse.com Nursing Excellence finalists

Monday April 22, 2013

Each year, Nurse.com calls upon our readers to nominate exceptional nurse colleagues for our Nursing Excellence program. For more than a decade, we have received thousands of entries that contain stories of phenomenal nurse leaders, mentors and clinicians. This year has proven no different. The nurses nominated for our 2013 Nursing Excellence program have proven true nursing excellence is alive and well.

EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP

Zepure Samawi, RN, PhD, associate professor of nursing, Fulbright fellow, Saint Xavier University, Chicago

An active member of the educational committee of the Society of Pediatric Nursing, Samawi presents faculty workshops on research and supports development of study abroad programming. She serves as an active member of the Educational Committee of the Society of Pediatric Nursing and has been recognized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education with a nurse educator fellowship. She was a recipient of the Fulbright Scholar Grant to teach and perform research during the 2012-2013 academic year at Bethlehem University. Countless student benefited and continue to benefit from her teachings and direction. Samawi is an expert in nursing pedagogy. She presents faculty workshops on research and supports development of study abroad programming at SXU and Bethlehem University. She has partnered with Bethlehem University nursing faculty members to introduce concept mapping a metacognitive teaching and learning methodology and evaluate its usefulness within the context of Palestinian culture.

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Charity Briefs for April 23, 2013

April 22, 2013 2:46PM

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.
An Epilepsy Foundation Community Action Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 2, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., at St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St., in Shannon Center. For more information, e-mail Margaret McGann, mmmcgann@cps.edu, or Kathy Peters, kpeters@sxu.edu.

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Dan and Mary Madrigal, of Red Bud, Ill., are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter, Leah Madrigal, to Darren Sahadew of Halesowen, West Midlands, United Kingdom. Darren is the son of Hilary and Raj Sahadew.

The bride’s maternal grandparents are Jeanette and Eddie Raley and paternal grandparents are Donna and Argelio Madrigal.

Leah graduated from Red Bud High School and has attended Florida College in Tampa, Fla., St. Xavier University in Chicago, Ill., and Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill. Darren has attended Crestwood Secondary School in Kingswinford, West Midlands, United Kingdom, and Buckinghamshire University in the United Kingdom.

Bridal attendants included maid-of-honor, Rachel Diffenauer from Virginia Beach, Va.; Raley Burnett from Birmingham, Ala.; and Rebekah Shipley from Glasgow, Ky.

Groom attendants included Jay Baker from Kingswinford, United Kingdom, along with Nick Andrew and Paul Russell from the United Kingdom.

The bride carried a beautiful bouquet of miniature ivory roses with sangria and teal carnations. Her dress was a Tiana Princess wedding dress designed by Alfred Angelo.

Leah and Darren were married on March 29, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. in The Conservatory in St. Charles, Mo. The couple will be making their home in Halesowen, West Midlands, United Kingdom.
http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/2013/04/25/whats-so-special-about-todays-veterans/ideas/up-for-discussion/

What’s So Special About Today’s Veterans?

A Discussion Of Coming Home From Combat Yesterday and Today

APRIL 25, 2013

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are winding down. The country is cutting defense spending. So a new wave of veterans is leaving the military and returning to our communities. In light of this change, and in advance of “How Are Veterans Changing America?” a Zócalo/UCLA event, we asked veterans and those who work with veterans: What’s special about today’s generations of veterans in comparison to previous ones?

PETER B. HILTON

The special difficulties of transition for today’s experienced, technologically savvy soldiers

Racism is subtle and toned down, but still prevalent. So is discrimination against returning GIs. It is easy to feel, yet difficult to pin down. After 9/11, and the fife and drum extravaganza that followed, many young men and women went into the service with the same sort of patriotism and sense of adventure that we did in the early years of Vietnam. Soldiers have returned to a more positive public acceptance—but that reaction has not been mimicked in the workplace.

The economic downturn that followed closely on the heels of the huge military build-up (and the costs of invading other countries while neglecting local infrastructure) has made employers cautious. Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is no longer a new diagnosis. Veterans have demonstrated difficulties in reintegrating into civil society. Hiring a returning vet may cause disruption and bring medical expenses for an employer. Military training is not the traditional training for peacetime workers. Choosing to serve in the military may be an indication of other difficulties in the home or in the background of the returning soldier. Openings are few, so why take any risks to the bottom line?

In 2008, Saint Xavier University began to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a federal effort to help former soldiers reintegrate into civilian society. The university provides financial, advising, academic, and social support for these former warriors. Veterans are encouraged to seek the level of assistance needed. Currently we have about 80 veterans enrolled.

These soldiers want things to happen quickly. They are used to technology that makes things available when they need it. They are impatient and sometimes intense. They need to meet course requirements that may seem beneath the experienced soldier. Often, in the military, their experiences put them in over their heads and yet they survived. Doesn’t that indicate that they know what to do even without reading the text or completing the assignments? Besides, classes are slow-moving and mundane.
Peter B. Hilton, Ph.D., is host of WXAV's Veteran Matters program and works at Saint Xavier University as associate professor of education and instructor in both the Graduate Reading Program and the Master of Arts in Teaching and Leadership.
Providence Catholic to Host Spring Concert and Art Show

April 26, 2013

New Lenox, IL -- Providence Catholic High School's Fine Arts Department will host its annual Spring Concert and Art Show. The art show will begin at 6 pm in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Gymnasium and will feature outstanding student artwork. The concert will start at 7 pm in the Sacred Heart Gymnasium and will feature the talented musicians of the PCHS bands and choirs. Both events are open to the public and admission is free, however, Tri-M members will be collecting non-perishable food items as a free will donation. Providence Catholic is located at 1800 W. Lincoln Highway in New Lenox. Please enter through door #9.

The Band will be playing music by Clifton Williams, Robert W. Smith, Percy Grainger, Samuel Hazo, Robert Muczynski, Steven Reinecke, and Timothy Broege. The Band feature Guest Conductors are Jeffrey Malecki, Director of Bands at St. Xavier University; Mark Grigoletti '07, PCHS Alumni and Burl Gregory, Director of Percussion at PCHS. Jason Koth '13, Senior Saxophone and All-State Musician, will be a feature soloist performing Sonata for Saxophone by Robert Muczynski, transcribed by Anthony LaBounty.

Choir will be performing music from Les Miserables, Tarzan, the Andrew Sisters, as well as other artists including Simon & Garfunkel's Sound of Silence featuring John Perovich and John Narcissi on guitars.

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WSCR-AM boss stresses social media during talk at St. Xavier

BY STEVE METSCH smetsch@southtownstar.com April 26, 2013 9:26PM

Mitch Rosen, program director of WSCR-AM (670) “The Score,” sports talk station, had cautionary advice Tuesday morning for St. Xavier University students hoping for careers in sports radio.

They should be prepared to not earn much money, if and when they find jobs. They also should be diverse and use social media, as the radio station does by using Facebook, Twitter and its website to generate interest. Some on-air talent have 30,000 to 40,000 followers on Twitter, Rosen said.

“At the risk of sounding as a wet blanket, I try to discourage people from getting into the traditional sports radio business,” he said. “Jobs are more and more scarce, and when people find them, they don’t tend to pay that well.”

Rosen spoke at the “Breakfast With the Experts” event sponsored by the Beverly Area Planning Association.

“The reality of today’s job market does not make it worth pursuing. But there’s a bright spot. The way social media has transcended into sports radio, my advice is to not go into traditional sports radio,” Rosen told students. “Get into more social media. Find ways to communicate your thoughts, comments and opinions through other social media.”

The advice wasn’t lost on a table of broadcasting students, who all held up their hands when asked for a show of hands from those with Twitter accounts.

Sophomore Brandon Swanson, a mass communications major and sports director of the university’s student radio station, WXAV, was not discouraged.

“You have to go to social media a lot more. You just have to work a little harder. You need to know that, and you have to be well-rounded. I want to be in play-by-play, (but) if that doesn’t work out, I’d like to go into sports business with a team,” said Swanson, whose minor is business management.

Despite his pessimistic view of job opportunities in sports radio, Rosen, whose career began working with legendary late-night radio host Eddie Schwartz, said he loves going to work each day from his home in Chicago’s Beverly community.
“We know people are very passionate about sports. Sports radio gives people a vehicle to (voice) their thoughts, frustrations and praise. In a city like Chicago, media people are the celebrities,” Rosen said.

He said dealing with those celebrities and their Chicago-size egos can be challenging.

“People ask what I do and I say I’m a shrink. Like a lot of us, they have big egos. You manage them,” Rosen said.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Beacon News, Courier News, Herald News, Lake County News-Sun, and Naperville Sun-Times.***

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UHV symposium to focus on autism spectrum disorder

Originally published April 27, 2013 at 5:36 p.m., updated April 27, 2013 at 5:36 p.m.

Timothy Wahlberg has researched children with autism spectrum disorder for more than 15 years, trying to determine how their neurological development is different and why these children have social difficulties.

Now, the public can learn about Wahlberg’s research and the work of Anthony Rotatori at Thursday’s symposium, titled "Autism Spectrum Disorders: Inclusive Community for the 21st Century." The free Spring Symposium is put on by the University of Houston-Victoria School of Education & Human Development and will be from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Alcorn Auditorium of UHV University West, 3007 N. Ben Wilson St. It is free and open to the public.

Autism is a development disorder that affects the way children communicate and react in stressful social situations. They often have a rigid way of thinking that has an impact on the way they interact with others.

"These children look like everyone else and often have a high IQ, so people assume they understand things when it comes to social situations," said Wahlberg, the clinical director at Prairie Clinic in Geneva, Ill. "We need to be more sensitive to these children, and learning more about autism spectrum disorder is the first step."

Fred Litton, dean of the UHV School of Education & Human Development, said the topic is timely because May 2 is World Autism Awareness Day, and the school is about to launch a new program related to autism spectrum disorder. An announcement will be made at the symposium.

"We are honored to have two experts on this subject come to UHV and talk about a topic that affects families, teachers and community members," he said. "It is important for people to understand how those on the spectrum think because it isn't wrong; it's just different from how others view the social world."

Rotatori, a professor of psychology at the St. Xavier University in Chicago, will address assessment ideas and newer tests for screening children who might have autism spectrum disorder. The tests also show what level these children are on the spectrum, from low to high functioning.

Some tests have been around for decades as researchers learn which ones are useful and which need to be modified. Researchers also have started looking for innovative ways to investigate the children, Rotatori said.

Researchers at Yale University recently started using a robot for testing. The robot is able to precisely identify children's movements.
"Children on the spectrum relate better to inanimate objects as opposed to people," Rotatori said. "The robot is unique because it is able to get the children's attention, and they're more interested in interacting with the robot in situations where they would normally shy away from people."

The increase in smartphone usage also has helped with screening children.

"Many parents have video of their children," Rotatori said. "We are able to use the video to look for things such as if they make eye contact, how they interact with new objects and if they have any difficulty with social interaction."

Rotatori and Wahlberg started working together nearly 20 years ago when Wahlberg was Rotatori's graduate student. Wahlberg, who was studying to be a child psychologist, volunteered to work with a boy who had autism. "This boy was so different from any child I'd ever seen," Wahlberg said. "When I first met him, I was told to not interact with him and not touch him. I had to just sit in the room and let him get comfortable with me."

Rotatori spurred Wahlberg's interest in the boy. "We'd sit and talk about what I'd observed, and he asked me what I thought the boy was thinking," Wahlberg said. "From then on, I've been trying to figure that out."

As a licensed clinical psychologist and certified school psychologist, Wahlberg has written extensively about autism and neurological impairments.

During the symposium, he will discuss treatment strategies after children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. These treatments include behavioral therapy, ways to structure their environment and tactics on communicating with them.

Wahlberg also said it's important for teachers to learn inclusion strategies for their classrooms because there are few programs for high-functioning children on the spectrum. "Autism spectrum disorder children are in regular classrooms," he said. "They don't fit in with children who have learning disabilities, but they still have trouble with the social aspects of being in a regular classroom. Teachers need to learn modifications for their classroom and the best ways to interact with them."

This is the second symposium hosted by the UHV School of Education & Human Development. The school is planning to host a symposium on a different education topic each semester. The first was held in the fall and focused on emotional intelligence.

The symposium is part of UHV's 40th anniversary celebration. For more information about UHV's history and upcoming events, visit 40th.uhv.edu.
She likes it when kids band together

April 29, 2013 8:00 am

Editor’s note: Every Monday, the Muscatine Journal profiles a local figure who responds to questions provided by one of our reporters.

MUSCATINE, Iowa — Band teachers in elementary schools all across Iowa often teach lessons in some strange — if not downright weird — places. If they’re lucky, they have their own assigned studio or they might teach in an empty classroom. But often they have to teach in a hallway, or in a storage closet, or even in a furnace room.

At Grant Elementary School in Muscatine, Alyce Spoto’s studio/office is also the home of the school's therapy dog, Bix. "He lets me share with him," she says.

— Charles Potter of the Muscatine Journal

Personal

Name: Alyce Spoto

Age: 47

Hometown: Council Bluffs, Iowa

Education: 1984 graduate of Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs; 1988, bachelor's degree, University of Iowa; 2002, master’s degreee, St. Xavier University, Chicago

Professional history: Taught music in Wayland and Neola; has been an elementary band instructor in Muscatine since 1993, teaching this year at Grant, McKinley, Madison, Washington, and Franklin schools as well as some private lessons at Central Middle School and Muscatine High School

Family: Married to Jay Brady

Hobbies: Dogs ("Right now, we have four," she said); gardening; reading; walking

Q&A
Does it make you proud to see kids who were once your students now playing in the Muskie Marching Band and in the high school's band concerts?

Oh, yeah. Absolutely. It makes me think that we're a real important part of the students' education. I see students out there that I don't think would have stayed in school if it wasn't for us. It's real important.

What sparked your interest in band?

Band sparked my interest in school. I was one of those kids who stayed in school to play in the band. That's why I got up and went to school in the morning. Yeah, I might have been a little naughty in school. But there probably isn't a lot of stuff that students do that I didn't try at some point in time.

Why did you go into teaching music?

If you like music, you can be a professional musician or you can teach. If you're a professional, you have to spend a whole lot of time by yourself. And I like to spend a whole lot of time with other people.

You obviously need a lot of patience to teach elementary band. What else do you need?

Oh, I don't know about patience. Some days I have more patience than others. We have some pretty good kids this year though. When I student taught at HLV in Victor, Iowa, there were 72 kids in school, and 71 were in band. Steve Harbaugh, who was the teacher there, said you have to know the students and how to talk to them and how to relate to them. That's the key.

What advice do you have for Muscatine?

Support the arts. For being a small community, we are amazing. We have the Muscatine Symphony, the Civic Chorale, Performing Arts Muscatine, Miss Louise, the Jackson Concert Series, and all the things Wesley Church does. There are so many opportunities to see and hear good performances.

But we need a new performing arts auditorium. Central Middle School's auditorium is great, but we need a venue someplace where we have better parking. The high school auditorium is really a lecture hall, not a place to perform. I think this town has the money. I see the need for a facility like that.

Do you see yourself moving on or staying here?

Probably stay in Muscatine forever and ever. Jay really likes his job at Stanley. And I love my job and my kids.
View Article

Charity Briefs for April 30, 2013

April 29, 2013 2:54PM

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-
Saint Xavier University sophomore guard/forward Morgan Stuut was one of just four NAIA (Division I and II) women’s basketball players nationwide to be named a finalist for the 2013 State Farm Women’s Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) NAIA Player of the Year award.

The award is given out annually to the top player in each of five WBCA membership divisions (NCAA Divisions II, III, NAIA, junior/community college and high school).

The winners are announced during the third annual WBCA Awards Show on Monday, April 8, in New Orleans as part of the WBCA National Convention.

She was named the 2012-13 Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference (CCAC) Women’s Basketball Player of the Year and was one of just 10 players named to the 2013 WBCA NAIA Coaches’ All-America Team.

She finished second in the conference in scoring averaging 17.8 points per game and led the league in rebounding averaging 11.3 boards a game.

Stuut finished the season ranked fourth nationally in rebounds per game and No. 16 in points per game.

Saint Xavier finished the 2012-13 season with a 25-7 overall record and finished in a four-way tie for second place in the CCAC with a 17-5 mark.

The Cougars finished the regular season ranked No. 18 in the final NAIA Top 25 Poll and qualified for the second round of the 2013 NAIA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championships last week.

Courtesy Saint Xavier University

Saint Xavier’s Morgan Stuut (Three Rivers) has been named a finalist for NAIA Player of the Year.
The State Farm/WBCA NAIA Player of the Year is selected by the seven-member WBCA NAIA Player of the Year Committee, which consists of one WBCA-member coach from each of the six WBCA NCAA Division III Regions and the committee chair.

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association promotes women's basketball by unifying coaches at all levels to develop a reputable identity for the sport and to foster and promote the development of the game as a sport for women and girls.
Nonnemacher earns St. Xavier honor: Former Normal Community softball standout Nicole Nonnemacher has been named St. Xavier University’s Athlete of the Month for March.

A freshman pitcher, Nonnemacher posted a 9-2 record with a 1.28 ERA and 103 strikeouts in 71 innings for the month. She had nine complete games, two shutouts and held opposing hitters to a .183 batting average over 11 appearances.

She also led the Cougars at the plate, hitting a team-high .451 and collecting four doubles among her 23 hits with 11 runs scored in 19 games.
College baseball: Streak ends for Saints

5:40 a.m. EDT, April 13, 2013

St. Xavier beat Holy Cross Friday, 11-8, to snap the Saints' four-game winning streak.

Paul Kappaz hit two doubles and two RBIs for the Saints, 16-22 overall and 8-11 in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference.

ST. XAVIER 11, HOLY CROSS 8

Holy Cross 502 01 -- 8 6 2
St. Xavier 515 00 -- 11 8 4

A. Salazar, B. Weinkauf (2) (L, 0-2); C. Klein (W, 3-2).

2B: Kappaz (HC), Augle (X), Barnhart (X), Myjak (X)
HR: Myjak (X).

-Top-
High School/Local College Sports Roundup for April 16, 2013

April 16, 2013 10:26PM

College Baseball

St. Xavier 4-12, Illinois Tech 3-2: Alika Andres’ bunt scored Alec Barnhart with the winning run in the bottom of the sixth for St. Xavier (18-14, 13-8) in the opener of the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference doubleheader. Brad Myjak had three RBI for the Cougars in the nightcap.

College Softball

St. Xavier 9-13, Wisconsin-Parkside 1-4: Nicole Nonnemacher (complete game) struck out nine — giving her a school record 175 for the season — to lead host St. Xavier (33-3, 12-0) in Game 2 of the CCAC doubleheader. Shannon Lauret went 4-for-4 with three runs and two RBI for the Cougars. Amanda Hainlen led St. Xavier in the five-inning opener, going 2-for-3 with a run and two RBI. Megan Nonnemacher tossed a two-hitter for the winners.

-Top-
SXU to hold girls' basketball camp

Posted: Wednesday, April 17, 2013 12:00 am

St. Xavier University (SXU) women’s basketball Coach Bob Hallberg will host his annual girl’s basketball camp, which will run from Monday, June 10, to Friday, June 14, and will be open to all girls between the ages of seven and 15.

In prior years, the camp was divided into two, one-week sessions; however for 2013, the camp will consist of just one session, which will run daily from 1:30 to 4 p.m. The camp will be held in the Shannon Center on the Chicago campus of St. Xavier University, 3700 W. 103rd St..

Participants will be grouped according to age and ability. Hallberg will actively teach each day. SXU assistant coaches and players will also be on hand to instruct campers. All participants will receive a camp T-shirt.

Cost for the girl’s basketball camp is $135 for the session.

Enrollment for the June camp is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications are available at the SXU athletics department or online at sxucougars.com under the summer camps link.

For more information, call Laura Kurzeja at (773) 298-3785.

-TOP-
Graffeo signs with St. Xavier University

April 17, 2013 7:02AM

Shepard High School varsity softball player Franchesca Graffeo recently signed a national letter of intent with St. Xavier University.

Her parents, Bill and Laura, appeared with her at the official ceremony.

Shepard varsity head coach Kelsey Clifford, SXU coach Myra Minuskin and Shepard assistant coach Ashley Levicke also were present at the event.

Shepard High School varsity softball player Franchesca Graffeo (front row, center) recently signed a national letter of intent with St. Xavier University. Her parents, Bill and Laura, appear with her. In the back row are Shepard varsity head coach Kelsey Clifford (from left), SXU coach Myra Minuskin and Shepard assistant coach Ashley Levicke. | Supplied Photo
BASKETBALL

Chicago: St. Xavier University and women’s basketball coach Bob Hallberg will host a girls basketball camp, open to girls ages 7 to 15, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. June 10 to 14 at the Shannon Center on St. Xavier’s campus. Participants will be grouped by age and ability level and taught each day by Hallberg as well as SXU assistants and players. Fee: $135 (includes T-Shirt). Applications are available at the Shannon Center or at www.sxucougars.com under the Summer Camps link. Information: Laura Kurzeja, (773) 298-3785.
The Midwest Sports Academy will host a girls basketball camp this summer at Elgin Community College.

The camp will run June 17-19 and is open to players in grades 5-8.

The camp will focus on fundamentals, game situations, shooting and offensive skills, and will feature an advanced workout.

Coaches attending the camp include coaches from Hampshire, South Elgin, Harvest Christian, Westminster Christian, McHenry County College, ECC, North Park College, Saint Xavier University, NIU and Trinity International. Several college players will be attending the camp as well.

One of the camp leaders will be Seattle University assistant coach Dorena Bingham, Team Alaska's AAU coach and a winner of three Alaska state championships as head coach at East Anchorage High School.

Cost of the camp is $140 and for further registration information, call (847) 809-8978.

-Top-
The Sisterhood of the Traveling Softball Pants is having quite a season.

Unlike the novels and movie about four young women whose sharing of a pair of jeans will link their separate journeys, the four sets of sisters on the Saint Xavier University softball team are on a shared journey together without a one-size-fits-all element.

The Nonnemachers, Houlihans, Saunders twins and Mollohans, eight women of varied height and build, have helped the Cougars to a record so good that maybe a team with so much sorority doesn't put on its pants one leg a time.

They are 35-3 overall and unbeaten in conference play. They have reached No. 13 in the NAIA national poll, the highest ranking in the program's 36-year history.

Neither success nor sisters are new to Saint Xavier softball during Myra Minuskin's 13 seasons as coach. Her teams have won eight conference titles. The Saunders — sophomore reserve infielders Samantha and Sarah of Reavis — are her third set of twins.
None of Minuskin’s past teams had more than four players who were sisters. There are seven on the current 17-woman roster — plus an assistant coach.

"Some of our success has to do with the closeness and family ties you get with all these sisters," Minuskin said. "More has to do with our talent, and a lot has to do with our new assistant coach. It just so happens she is a sister."

That is Erin Mollohan of Andrew, who led Drake in batting average as a junior and home runs as a senior. Before she applied for the Saint Xavier job, Erin asked permission from her younger sister, Kate, who led the team in batting average last season.

"I wanted to make sure her senior season was about her and not about me coming in to coach," Erin said.

Minuskin thinks Kate, batting .378, is having her best overall year because she enjoys having her sister around and looks up to Erin for having been a successful Division I player.

"Having so many sisters brings in a whole family dynamic that usually is kept at home, and softball is your escape from your family half the time," said Kate, a third baseman. "It gets touchy at times.

"Every sibling pair is going to bicker. When you see the others doing it, you have to brush it off because you know they aren't going to be mad at each other long."

The Saunders tend to punch each other in fits of pique. The Houlihans — starting junior outfielder Katie and reserve sophomore third baseman Erin of Lincoln-Way North — also get physical in their disagreements. Yet each is the other's biggest supporter.

"It's like a bipolar relationship with each other," Katie Houlihan said.

No relationship is as fraught with potential friction as that of the Nonnemachers. Each of the fiercely competitive Normal Community grads is a pitcher who wants to one-up the other, especially because each usually pitches one game of an all-doubleheader schedule.

Megan Nonnemacher, a junior, has an 18-1 record, 0.76 ERA and 138 strikeouts in 128 1/3 innings. Nicole, a freshman pitcher-outfielder, is 17-2 with a 1.40 ERA, single-season school strikeout record of 186 in 125 innings — and leads the team in batting average (.410).

"It stinks that she gets to hit in games, and I don't, so that kind of makes me mad," Megan said. "She deserves to hit, but she's the younger sister, so I should be able to do that, too. It's hard that she plays the outfield when I pitch, and I sit on the bench when she does."

"The best thing is how we push each other. I can't let my younger sister beat me out."

Few college softball pitchers also hit. Nicole’s talent on the mound and at the plate made her a widely sought recruit, and Minuskin was somewhat surprised she followed Megan to Saint Xavier.

"She almost didn't come because her sister was here, and she knows how talented Megan is and kind of wanted to make a name for herself apart," Minuskin said.

"They make each other better. Even though Megan was conference pitcher of the year last year, this is her best year, and having Nicole here has a lot to do with it."
Like many twins, the Saunders also thought college would be a good place to cement different identities. They wanted to go to different schools but chose Saint Xavier for financial reasons. In the case of all the sisters, having both on the same team makes it easier for parents to get to their games.

The Saunders still live at home in Burbank and work at the same place. Asked where, they replied, "McDonald's," in perfect two-part harmony.

"They are the closest of the sisters," Minuskin said.

Having the sisters spread across all four academic years has helped build the closeness of the team through interconnection of friendships.

"It's a big chain of love," Samantha Saunders said, laughing, but the sentiment was more than just a punch line.

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-Top-
Community Sports Calendar (North) for April 28, 2013

April 25, 2013 1:26PM

BASKETBALL

Chicago: St. Xavier University and women’s basketball coach Bob Hallberg will host a girls basketball camp, open to girls ages 7 to 15, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. June 10 to 14 at the Shannon Center on St. Xavier’s campus. Participants will be grouped by age and ability level and taught each day by Hallberg as well as SXU assistants and players. Fee: $135 (includes T-Shirt). Applications are available at the Shannon Center or at www.sxucougars.com under the Summer Camps link. Information: Laura Kurzeja, (773) 298-3785.

Chicago: St. Xavier University and men’s basketball coach Tom O’Malley will host a boys basketball camp, open to boys ages 9 to 15. Two sessions of the camp will be held at the Shannon Center on St. Xavier’s campus, with the first session running from 9:30 a.m. to noon June 10 to 13 and the second session from 9:30 a.m. to noon June 17 to 20. Fees: $95 for one session, $160 for both sessions (includes T-Shirt, SXU basketball and special awards). Applications are available at the Shannon Center or at www.sxucougars.com under the Summer Camps link. Information: Laura Kurzeja, (773) 298-3785.

-Top-
With more draft picks, Chicago Bears general manager Phil Emery might have added a quarterback on Saturday.

But with only six picks – after adding one via a trade down in the fifth round – the Bears were not able to achieve that goal. They have lined up a local quarterback for rookie minicamp in two weeks, thought. According to an NFL source, Jimmy Coy of St. Xavier will participate in the three-day orientation for rookies on a tryout basis. Right now it is believed he will be the only quarterback at the rookie minicamp.

Coy, who played in high school at Maine South, spent the last two seasons at St. Xavier. Previously, he played two seasons at El Camino Junior College in Torrance, Calif., and attended Valdosta State but did not play there.

Coy, 6-foot, 210 pounds, was tops in NAIA in 2011 with 4,261 yards passing and 42 touchdowns. This past year, Coy passed for 3,427 yards and 35 touchdowns with 10 interceptions in helping lead the team to an 11-2 record.

“Going into the draft it was more of a question, would we accumulate enough picks to go in that direction (drafting a quarterback)?” Emery said. “With five picks and the number of players that we wanted to add and the positions we wanted to add them in, I don’t know how practical that was. Again, it had to be the right value for the team. Things would have to line up perfect to take a quarterback with five picks. We accumulated more picks at the end. The run of quarterbacks had stopped at that point. But I’ll also tell you that given a player on the board, the value of that player on the board, where we were able to pick him relative to the current strength of our quarterback roster, we felt very good about where we were at.”

The Bears have three quarterbacks on the roster and Matt Blanchard, an undrafted free agent from Wisconsin-Whitewater, earned a contract as a tryout player in minicamp last year. The current situation puts Josh McCown in a solid spot to be the backup behind starter Jay Cutler, but Emery said the team is not done adding veteran free agents. Whether or not they seek an experienced passer to challenge McCown remains to be seen.

***This article also appeared in the following sources: Red Eye, South Bend Tribune, and WSBT.***
Bears roll the dice on WR Wilson

By Brad Biggs

Tribune reporter

10:05 p.m. EDT, April 27, 2013

Extra Points: ... The Bears invited St. Xavier quarterback Jimmy Coy to participate that rookie minicamp.

-Top-
Bears Don’t Have Interest In Tim Tebow

Tuesday, April 30, 2013 12:18

Bears coach Marc Trestman worked with Tim Tebow briefly before the former Florida star was drafted in 2010 and quarterbacks coach Matt Cavanaugh filled that role for Tebow last season. But the Bears have no interest in the backup quarterback who was released Monday by the New York Jets.

The Bears didn’t draft a quarterback last week and could be on the lookout for one before training camp opens, but a source told Brad Biggs of the Chicago Tribune that Tebow won’t be considered. The team has journeyman Josh McCown and second-year player Matt Blanchard behind starter Jay Cutler. St. Xavier’s Jimmy Coy is being brought into rookie minicamp starting May 10 on a tryout basis.

Cavanaugh, the new Bears quarterbacks coach after holding that position with the Jets last season, said the team didn’t use its Tebow package as much as it should have.

“I think it’s one of the things that you’ve got to be sure about when you do it,” Cavanaugh said. “Why doesn’t New England do it? Why doesn’t Denver do it? Why doesn’t New Orleans do it? They don’t want to take those guys (Tom Brady, Peyton Manning, Drew Brees) off the field. We were probably less convicted about how much we wanted to get (Mark) Sanchez off the field to do that. So it was something we toyed with. But to be fair to Tim, we didn’t use it enough to let him be productive in it. So you better be sure when you decide to do it.

“I think he’s a good football player and I hope he gets a chance to play more.”

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