Strictly Ballroom

Holy Cross dancers find more than the right steps out on the floor

PLUS:
Our Jesuits Reflect on Their Years in Baghdad
Living the Mission in Bolivia
Peeking at the Archives’ Civil War Treasures
“People ask me what I do in winter when there’s no baseball. I’ll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring.”

—major league player Rogers Hornsby
Holy Cross Takes the Floor
Step into a world of sport, grace and movement with the Holy Cross Ballroom Dance Club and Team.

10-Year Accreditation
After receiving a positive re-accreditation report, the College looks to its next steps for continuing meaningful growth.

Jesuits in Baghdad
From 1932 to 1969, Jesuits ran a groundbreaking school in Baghdad—five of those men are Holy Cross Jesuits, who share their memories of that fascinating time.

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On the cover: Andrew Retallick ’14 of West Hartford, Conn., and Megan Whitacre ’14 of Cincinnati, Ohio, competed in the 12th Annual Holy Cross Ballroom Dance Competition in late February. Asked to describe how dancing makes her feel, Whitacre’s reply couldn’t be simpler, or more true: “Happy!”

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Holy Cross Magazine (USPS 0138-860) is published quarterly by the Office of Public Affairs, College of the Holy Cross. Please address all correspondence to the editor. Periodicals postage paid at Worcester, MA and additional mailing points. Postmaster: Send address changes to Holy Cross Magazine, One College St., Worcester, MA 01610-2395; Phone: 508-793-2419; Fax: 508-793-2385; E-mail: hcmag@holy-cross.edu; Circulation: 40,034
Haitian Voices

I simply want to say how much I enjoyed reading Lisa Armstrong’s article, “Healing In Haiti,” in the winter edition of Holy Cross Magazine. I have worked in Port Au Prince each summer since 2007 with a small, highly transparent non-governmental agency (NGO), Konbit Football Ayiti (konbitfootballayiti.org). Along with my roommate from Holy Cross, David Dutra ’74, and the financial help of many of our classmates from that year, we have brought tons of soccer and school equipment to Port Au Prince, trained coaches and players, organized teams, consulted teachers and networked with community leaders and other NGOs. Our work has focused on listening to Haitian voices developing their own communities and expanding their power in their society. It gives me pride to read about the good work of other Holy Cross grads in a country that appreciates their efforts. Thank you for this fine article.

John Evans ’74
Housatonic, Mass.

Remembering Joanna Ziegler

I found out about Professor Joanna Ziegler’s cancer diagnosis, as I do about so many major life events these days, on Facebook. I flipped through her Facebook page to try to find more information, hoping for a silver lining. Instead, I saw that she had pancreatic cancer. The deadliest kind. Even in the face of impossible statistics, we still hold on to hope, and so it was a shock to read her obituary in the Winter 2011 issue of Holy Cross Magazine. It’s no exaggeration to say that she altered the course of my life during the spring of 1998, when I took her Modern Architecture course. My heart breaks for her, for her family and loved ones, and for the thousands of other students she touched.

Laura M. Browning ’00
Chicago, Ill.

Editor’s note: Visit this issue’s Web Exclusives at holycross.edu/magazine to read other notes from alumni who have expressed their feelings of loss and gratitude for Professor Ziegler, plus an essay from Laura M. Browning ’00 about her beloved mentor.

Remembering Kim McElaney ’76

One afternoon during my junior year, Kim McElaney ’76 [director of the Office of College Chaplains, who died in May 2010] asked me to sit on the couch in her office, and we talked about what was then called the Mexico Program. Many of my friends had gone to Cuernavaca the previous year and returned with burning eyes and hearts and told stories about the people they’d met. Between my parents and work study, Holy Cross was a financial stretch for my family each semester. There was no way I could afford it.

Kim looked me in the eyes and said, “You have to go. We have a scholarship for you.” I never had to ask for help; she knew I needed it. She wanted me to have that experience, to have my world set on its side.

I remember Kim’s face at many moments over the years—leading a prayer at a Pax Christi meeting, standing on the steps of the Capitol, telling someone how good her new shirt looks, speaking at my wedding. But it is her face that day in her office that stays in my mind. No one had ever done something like that for me.

How many current and former students have stories like this about Kim? She was taken—from her husband, Tim, from her family, from Holy Cross, from all who knew her—far too soon. But she is not gone; she lives inside each one of the thousands of us, people like me, who she touched.

Gib Fay-LeBlanc ’96
Portland, Maine

Editor’s note: Katherine M. “Kim” McElaney’s obituary appeared in the Summer 2010 issue (In Memoriam, Page 76). A feature about her many contributions to Holy Cross is available at holycross.edu/hcm/mcelaney.

A Friendship Move

In the Fall 2010 issue (Campus Notebook, Page 7), we reported that many believe the tradition of upperclassmen helping first-year students move into their new homes on The Hill started in the 1970s, when women were first admitted to the College. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: “It was the Purple Key and a couple of other clubs who did that service, helping us move in. The fellows wanted to make a good impression on potential dates and ponied up the muscle needed to move their new classmates into their residence halls—or so the story goes. But John “Bud” Ryan ’41 of Needham, Mass., called our offices to school us on the true genesis of this kind tradition, explaining that it started well before his first year on campus in 1937: ”
**Duty Calls**

We continue to receive passionate letters related to the cover feature of our Summer 2010 issue (“Reporting for Duty,” Page 22). You can view others by visiting the on-line Letters Forum at holycross.edu/magazine/letters.

I'd like to add my praise to the favorable comments that you have received on the Summer 2010 issue of Holy Cross Magazine. To us older grads, the military was most often our first "job" after graduation. In my case it began a lifelong association with the Navy. Honorable service to our country is consistent with the Jesuit ideal of "men and women for others." Your articles gave recognition to many of the fine Crusaders who served their country in one of the Armed Forces. The presence in the services of these broadly educated Holy Cross grads has enriched the officer corps and, I believe, contributed positively to the nation's reputation.

_Capt. Francis J. Doherty Jr._

'53, U.S. Navy Reserve (Ret.)

_Lancaster, Mass._

I was appalled to read the "Non-Violence Views" letters in the Fall 2010 issue. It was the warrior who beat Nazism, Imperial Japan and the Soviet Union in the Cold War, not the pacifist or conscientious objector. It was the politicians who lost Vietnam. Apparently students in more recent years have failed miserably to understand history!

Either that or they have been infected with a defeatist type mentality during their four-year sojourn on Mount St. James.

_Lou Cumming '60_

_La Jolla, Calif._

**Peace Corps Memories**

_Thomas G. Giroux '72_ wrote to us from a fishing boat “bobbing up and down in a turquoise sea” somewhere in the Carribean to share his memories of being a Peace Corps volunteer and wondered if other Crusaders had taken “that plunge.” Are you a former or current Peace Corps volunteer and Holy Cross alum? Let us hear from you by sending a note to hcmag@holycross.edu.

In July 1979, I, along with 60 or so trainees, landed in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire in Africa, to begin our service as Peace Corps volunteers. I was posted with the Ministry of Technical Training in a village in the eastern part of the country near the Ashanti region of neighboring Ghana.

“I am now an RPCV, as we say, a returned Peace Corps volunteer.”

—_Thomas G. Giroux '72_

In the summer of 1981 Peace Corps decided to withdraw from Cote d'Ivoire, and I transferred as a volunteer to French Equatorial Africa and a country called Gabon. The Ministry of Education needed primary schools built everywhere and I was, again, posted near a border area—this one in the southern province of Ougou-Lolo next to Congo Brazzaville. I stayed three years in that region and I did, felt and saw more than words can convey (rain forest, Pygmies, sun and shadow).

In the summer of 1984, I again transferred, this time back to West Africa and the country of Togo. I was posted in a central-west region, again with the Ministry of Education in charge of primary school construction. I worked there until April of 1987 when I, reluctantly, ended a nearly eight-year career as a Peace Corps volunteer. I am now an “RPCV” as we say, a "returned" Peace Corps Volunteer. I have returned to West Africa many times to spend Christmas and celebrate the new year with friends there. They are not part of my past, nor am I of theirs—we are all in each others’ hearts now and in the future.

I speak many other languages when I travel there [and enjoy] the warm handshakes, smiles and sincere surprise when I “drop” into villages where I have had the honor to have worked and celebrated life with the people there. It’s just being human that makes everything much clearer, just simply being human, just being there.

_Thomas G. Giroux '72_

_Ft. Lauderdale, Fla._

**Mystery Solved...Almost**

We had several responses to our request for help identifying the “mystery photo” on the back cover of the Fall 2010 issue (reprinted on the next page). As you may recall, the 8x10 photo had been discovered in the Holy Cross archives, but did not have any accompanying information or inscription on the back.

A few readers wrote in, shedding some light on the bathrobed gents in the “V” formation.

Our first and best clue came from Francis X. Walsh, M.D.,’63 of New Haven, Conn., who wrote to say “the man with the white wig or head cover is my father, William J. Walsh ’34. The group could be the notorious ‘Dorm Demons.’ It is mentioned in my father’s yearbook write-up that he was the leader of this group.”

To the bookshelf in Assistant Editor Pam Reponen’s office we marched, plucking the 1934 Purple Patcher off its perch. Sure enough, under Walsh’s photo, the caption reads: “[William Walsh] first showed the stuff of which men are made as a member of the terrorizing ‘Dorm Demons,’ the Red Raiders of the Intramural League. As a member of this nefarious team, Willie received many honorable scars and
usually looked like Johnnie when he came marching home."

Next we heard from Gene Renz ’66 of Westerly, R.I. After conferring with his aunt, Marion Renz, Gene confirmed that the fourth person from the left is his father, the late E. Justin “Judd” Renz ’33, grandfather of Justin Renz ’93. (Also the uncle of Hilary J. Renz ’71, and brother of A. Norbert Renz ’36 and Hilary E. Renz ’39.)

The 1933 Purple Patcher reveals that, indeed, Judd Renz was an intramural football and baseball player all four years on The Hill. His yearbook caption notes “He has been a leader in intramural athletics, a success in the classroom and a great chap to have as a friend.” There was no mention of the “demonic” team, but an image almost identical to the one we are researching appeared, uncaptioned, in a photo collage at the end of the senior section.

Finally, we received word from Fred Long P99, of Provincetown, Mass., who wrote, “I believe this may be a fun photo of a Holy Cross football team back in the 1930s. I had an uncle, Walter F. Clifford ’33, who was a quarterback for a team back then (not sure of the exact year), and I believe one of the players looks like him, based on the old photos I have seen.” Sure enough, after comparing yearbook photos to the mystery image, we agree that the lad in the back with the football helmet looks like Clifford. Long conjectures that the students may be re-enacting a game-winning field goal kick his uncle made against Harvard.

But this final clue led us to sad news: According to Long, his uncle was “kicked in the kidney in a subsequent game and died shortly thereafter.” In the Class of 1933 history, Clifford’s classmates reference the incident with these words: “The continued absence of Walt Clifford, seriously ill, found us hoping and praying he would soon be himself again.” On a tribute page later in the yearbook, the editors wrote “Covering a deep sincerity of purpose with a genial, good-natured exterior, [Clifford] fulfilled in every way the requisites of an ideal Holy Cross man. We miss Wally!”

Send Us a Letter
Write: Holy Cross Magazine, One College St., Worcester MA 01610-2395
E-mail: hcmag@holycross.edu
Letters may be edited for accuracy and length. Please include the writer’s full name, address, phone number, e-mail and class year.
Creative Pursuits

The signs posted around the Hogan Campus Center ballroom read, “Keep It Real: Cap Your Heel.” I soon learned this was a reminder to the female ballroom dancers in town for the 12th Annual Holy Cross Ballroom Dance Competition to place plastic caps on the tiny heel tips of their glitzy, strappy sandals so as not to damage the gleaming maple boards of the ballroom’s dance floor (top right). I also learned that using a hula hoop in between dances gets your hips ready for the next Latin dance—and that hair gel with glitter comes in gallon-size pump bottles.

But the true lesson of the day, as I accompanied our photographer getting images for this issue’s cover feature, was about creativity. Creative people take it for granted that what they have is a gift. For them, it is a need more than anything … a need to create something beautiful or meaningful. And sometimes both.

Holy Cross students and alumni with a passion for ballroom dance are creating under the most difficult circumstances: Not only are they immediately judged, they are creating in partnership with another person. Kristine Cyr Goodwin, associate dean for student life, explains that this is one of the prime examples of why cocurricular education thrives at the College—lessons outside the classroom are as important as those inside.

“How do you dance with someone when you’re really angry at them, for example?”

How indeed! If anyone was angry the night of the big Holy Cross competition, it never showed. Our team (including Chelsea Jenkins ’13 with Kibbs Fortilus ’13, middle, and cover couple Andrew Retallick ’14 and Megan Whitacre ’14, above) not only danced through dozens of styles and rounds, they served as gracious hosts to the other competitors. They paused to watch and cheer for the day’s special guests: professional dancers Michael Creeden ’03 and Jessica Spink ’06.

The theme of creation spreads throughout this issue. In the 1930s, Pope Pius XI called on the Jesuits of America (mostly the New England Province) to create a new school in Baghdad. They took up the challenge with gusto, and five Jesuits from the Holy Cross community were there. Listen in on their panel discussion about the ups and downs of life in Iraq, and the memories that they will keep forever.

In this issue, we also get to share poignant creations that loving children have made for their parents. In Gifts at Work (Page 36), you’ll meet the Van Houten siblings—Karen ’86, Paul and Scott Van Houten—who created the Francis X. Van Houten, M.D., ’61, Financial Aid Fund to honor their dad. Dr. Van Houten pulled himself over the hurdle of being orphaned not once, but twice, and instilled in his children the idea that giving to others is a gift that lasts forever.

You’ll also meet Marjorie Bennett, whose father, William Francis Bennett, had to drop his dream of attending Holy Cross when, at age 10, he left school to help support his newly widowed mother. That was in 1910. Today, Marjorie has made plans for the William Francis Bennett Memorial Scholarship to create new opportunities for other deserving young men who have lost their fathers.

We hope you enjoy the issue our team has created. And as always, please let us hear from you if you want to share a story idea or a concern.

Suzanne Morrissey
hcmag@holycross.edu
IN A FEB. 3 TOWN HALL MEETING IN SEELOS THEATER, Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., announced his plans to step down as the 31st president of Holy Cross, a position he has held since July 2000. When the meeting was opened up to questions, an audience member stood to say, “Thank you, Father, for everything you’ve done for us and for the College,” triggering applause and an extended standing ovation from the theater full of faculty, staff and administrators. In a letter to the community, Fr. McFarland noted that the timing is right for a change in leadership: “We are finalizing work on a new five-year strategic plan and preparing to initiate a major fundraising campaign that will be critical to our future. With those projects in the early stages, it is important that Holy Cross has strong, stable leadership in place that will take us through the next seven or eight years.” Fr. McFarland will stay on until a successor has been named. A search committee has begun the work of identifying the next Jesuit leader of the College. To learn more about the presidential search, visit holycross.edu/president/transition/.
Green Goal Achieved Ahead of Schedule

When the college unveiled its Carbon Neutral Plan in 2009, the campus community began working toward one of its major goals: a 20 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2015.

But in early February, members of the Presidential Task Force on the Environment were able to announce that Holy Cross has already reduced its carbon emissions by an estimated 23.5 percent. In addition, the new Integrated Science Complex received LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), a national organization that certifies buildings that are green and sustainable and protect the environment. It is the first LEED Gold certified project on campus. Plans for the $64 million complex were conceived with the highest standards of efficiency and innovative, environmentally friendly elements.

5 New Points of Purple Pride

1. Holy Cross is one of the nation’s 50 “Best Value” private colleges and universities, according to The Princeton Review. The list, which appeared on the Princeton Review and USA Today websites, features 50 public and 50 private colleges and universities.

2. Chemistry Professor Richard Herrick has received a grant from the Jean Dreyfus Boissevain Lectureship for Undergraduate Institutions. The award will result in two student summer research fellowships for summer 2011 and a special guest lecturer in April: 1981 Nobel Laureate Professor Roald Hoffmann. Herrick has also been named the second Edward A. O’Rorke Professor in the Liberal Arts; his one-year term begins July 1.

3. Professor Maurice Géracht accepted the Parnassus Award for Significant Editorial Achievement from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals, an allied organization of the Modern Language Association. Géracht was chosen for his work on Interfaces, a French-English illustrated journal he has co-edited since 2000. The Parnassus Award is based on a single issue of a journal published within the previous three years, and organizers emphasize that it recognizes “significant realization of editorial mission” and the highest standards of editorial practice, including high-quality content, compelling arrangement of contents, style, visual appeal and readability.

4. Director of the Office of Distinguished Fellowships and Graduate Studies Tony Cashman reports that Kristen Dunlap ’08 has recently earned a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Brazil. And with 16 Holy Cross Fulbright finalists still in the running, Cashman expects more good news soon. “My goal is to keep us in that group of leading Fulbright-producing schools,” he says.

5. Transforming Light: The Stained-Glass Windows of Boston College, a coffee table book by Holy Cross visual arts Professor Virginia Chieffo Raguin and Gary Wayne Gilbert earned a spot as a “Best Book of 2010” from Independent Publisher Awards. Raguin also made a mark in the Windy City, where the exhibition she co-curated, Pilgrimage and Faith, appeared at the Loyola University Museum of Art—and was named one of the best art exhibitions in Chicago for 2010 by Time Out Chicago magazine.

Welcome to New Government and Community Relations Director

As part of its ongoing commitment to the Worcester community, Holy Cross has created an office of government and community relations and appointed Worcester native and former state senator Edward Augustus to lead the group. Augustus most recently managed the successful 2010 re-election campaign of U.S. Rep. Jim McGovern (D-Mass.). Immediately prior to that, he was executive director of the Children’s Defense Fund of California. Elected to the Massachusetts State Senate in 2004, he served two terms representing the 2nd Worcester District.

In his new role, Augustus will be the College's point of contact with city of Worcester elected and appointed officials to help strengthen lines of communication and foster partnerships between the city and the College. He will also represent Holy Cross in work with state and federal government agencies, key legislators and other colleges and universities on issues concerning higher education policy-making and legislation.
Parent Pleasers

With Mother’s Day and Father’s Day just around the corner, the time has come for students to scour the Holy Cross Bookstore to find the perfect gifts for Mom and Dad. From ball-caps to dog bowls, there are hundreds of products emblazoned with the College seal that a proud Holy Cross parent might like to receive.

In an informal poll, Holy Cross Magazine learned that the top gifts among the Mom-and-Pop set point to their appreciation of the good life: Purple-stemmed Holy Cross wine glasses and the ultra-cozy Holy Cross sweatshirt blanket received the highest marks.

Marge Geraghty P12, of Ridgewood, N.J., reports, “We loved the wine glasses with the seal of Holy Cross that our daughter, Elizabeth, gave us. We think of her and the wonderful education she is receiving there every time we use them.”

Marie Hanlon P13, of Lynn, Mass., told HCM that along with the set of wine glasses her daughter Nicole sent home, she cheekily included a Holy Cross sippy cup for her 14-year-old sister.

And perhaps speaking for all Crusader parents, for whom purple has become a regular color in the laundry basket, John Scherer P13, of Kenmore, N.Y., shared: “Until two years ago, I had little, if any, clothing that was purple—what matches with purple anyway? Then on Father’s Day last year, a purple tie with little ‘HCs’ embroidered all over it found its way into my closet. It has now become my favorite tie! I have found it can be worn with pretty much anything; purple is my new favorite color!” (Scherer has daughter Claire to thank for his color conversion.)

Holy Cross Bookstore manager Dave McKenna reminds us all that during the academic year, the Bookstore is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During the summer break, it closes 30 minutes earlier. (Of course, it is open 24/7 at http://bookstore.holycross.edu/.)

Students Consider Haiti’s Reconstruction at Public Policy Symposium

What is the appropriate role of the international community in responding to Haiti’s ongoing plight? On Jan. 29, Holy Cross presidential scholars met to tackle that complex question as part of the Fifth Annual Presidential Scholars Public Policy Symposium.

Under the direction of Christina Chen, director of Academic Services and Learning Resources, and Thomas R. Gottschang, professor of economics, the event challenged students to reflect on the fault lines of failed policies and to explore new models of aid that would enable Haitians to take more leadership roles in the reconstruction process and the country’s future. Realizing that solutions to global issues are not easily met is one of the key takeaways of the symposium. “Students come to understand that people of goodwill and intelligence may not always agree on the best approach,” says Chen.

For some, the experience bolstered their academic passions. “The symposium both solidified my interest in healthcare and broadened what that interest means,” says Peter Renehan ’12. For others, the symposium was an opportunity to explore an issue close to heart.

“As a Jesuit institution, caring for the needs of others is part of our ethos,” says Gottschang. “Haiti is my neighbor country,” says Scarlett Piantini ’11, a native of the Dominican Republic. “I feel that, more than ever, students like us need to force ourselves to be in [Haitians’] shoes.”

—Tricia Dunn ’12

Let’s Get Physical

Students now have a new place to burn calories: The 2,800-square foot Loyola Fitness Studio opened this winter with state-of-the-art equipment. Nine treadmills and five ellipticals all have 12-inch interactive screens, with cable and entertainment access for iPods and MP3 players. The facility also features a Nautilus system, five stationary bikes and one recumbent bike. The space, which is open only to students, will relieve crowding at the Smith Wellness Center in the Hart Recreation Center. One of the studio’s most interesting features is its water fountain, which includes an automatic spigot for refilling bottles with filtered water. A digital counter reports how many disposable bottles have been saved from the trash can with each sip.

Pat Hipple ’12 was one of the first to try the new Loyola Fitness Studio.
Course: Molecular Biology/HIV Pandemic

Professor: Ann M. Sheehy

Description: One of the Biological Principles offerings of the biology department, providing non-science majors a rigorous introduction to the methods of scientific inquiry and content of the discipline, this course approaches the study of molecular biology through the use of HIV as the model. The areas of study are basic cellular processes; the nature of the immune system and viruses, specifically, HIV; and the larger context of the disease, with concepts such as vaccine clinical trials, therapeutics and prevention considered from a scientific vantage point.

Texts: Molecular Biology Made Simple and Fun, by David P. Clark and Lonnie D. Russell; AIDS The Biological Basis, by Benjamin S. Weeks and I. Edward Alcamo; supplemental readings

Requirements: Four examinations, writing assignments, laboratory exercise and poster presentation

Class visit: “In the News” discussion about the Nov. 9 PlusNews online article, “Africa: EU-India deal could threaten access to essential HIV drugs”; lecture, PowerPoint presentation on the cellular process of transcription—how information from DNA is converted into its RNA equivalent

Professor quote: “My hope is that the students taking this class not only develop a strong appreciation for the awesome beauty and power of science, but also its limitations—which are starkly evident in the HIV pandemic,” says Assistant Professor Ann Sheehy. “I would like them to understand that, while science is a critical piece, representatives from many sectors, including sociologists, economists, political science analysts, must work together to overcome this devastating health crisis.” In giving students the tools and vocabulary to understand this challenging subject, she continues, “I would also like them to feel empowered to take control of their own health and place in the scientific world; I hope they discover untapped intellectual curiosity and talent.”

Professor bio: A member of the College faculty since 2005, Sheehy received her Ph.D. in immunology from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. Working in HIV research for seven years prior to coming to Holy Cross, she currently focuses her research “on the interplay between a human protein, APOBEC3G and the HIV viral protein Vif,” with laboratory projects concerned with “understanding the regulation of APOBEC3G and whether ultimately manipulating this regulation can significantly enhance and strengthen APOBEC3G antiviral activity.” Co-author of a paper on NFAT and IRF proteins regulating transcription of APOBEC3G, published Jan 28 in the Journal of Biological Chemistry, Sheehy notes that she, with two of her research students, was recently invited to present a poster on NFAT and IRF controlling the expression of APOBEC3G at the 18th annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Boston.

Quotes from students who took this course in the fall semester: “Professor Sheehy’s course not only enhanced my understanding of the molecular principles that constitute the HIV virus, but it also bolstered my knowledge regarding the implications of the disease from a global perspective,” say Jacob Love ’14. “As a result of this course, I now understand, in great detail, the inner workings of the human genome as well as the immune system, and that knowledge has reinforced my knowledge of the HIV pandemic even further.”

“Professor Sheehy’s course was one of the most interesting and eye-opening classes I have taken at Holy Cross,” says Elizabeth Juliand ’12. “I chose the class in order to honor two of my uncles who died of AIDS by learning more about the disease ... Professor Sheehy taught the biology in a way that was not intimidating to non-science majors and also provided forums, such as weekly journal articles and a poster presentation, to allow us to delve into the social implications of the HIV pandemic.”
BOOKNOTES

Violence, Veils and Bloodlines—Reporting from War Zones
By Louis J. Salome ’62
McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers

Interviewed by Cassie Shortsleeve ’10

Louis J. Salome ’62 has worn many hats since descending from The Hill: journalist, reporter, newspaper editor in Miami, foreign correspondent and, most recently, author of Violence, Veils and Bloodlines—Reporting from War Zones. In his memoir, Salome examines the question he was asked many times overseas, “Where are you from?” He recounts his years working the war zones abroad and reflects upon the universal notion of tribalism, providing a glimpse into the cultures of some of the world’s most volatile nations (Bulgaria, Bosnia, Somalia and Afghanistan to name a few). Salome’s prose provides a happy medium of humorous anecdotes, harsh realities and insight into the similarities of peoples who sometimes seem so different. Holy Cross Magazine sat down with Salome to hear his tale.

Q: So, I have to ask, I’ve heard that you hitchhiked to and from Holy Cross as a student. Is this true?

A: Yes, I was a dayhop at Holy Cross. I hitched for two years from Millville, Mass., up Route 122 to Holy Cross. I’d hitch to Uxbridge, to Bob ’62 and Danny ’59 DeYoung’s home just north of the town center, and get a ride the rest of the way. On most days, I’d hitch the whole 25 miles home. I ended up hitching a lot overseas. I never knew who was going to pick me up.

Q: Any other lessons you learned at Holy Cross that guided you overseas?

A: My education taught me honesty. Holy Cross taught me to question things and to weigh responses; to say the truth when I saw it and, if I saw a lie, to say that too. I have a certain comfort level everywhere I go, but Holy Cross taught me not to accept all that I am told—to see the other side of things. I learned to like the underdog. People are so courteous in the countries I traveled to. When I was in Lebanon, I visited with a family—grandparents and grandchildren. I walked into the tiny home, they had no idea who I was, and they brought all of the sweets that they had. People are hospitable over there, but a lot depends on what you bring to the table. That family wanted me to stay the night, but I had to go write a story. I wish I had stayed and listened to the bombardment from the mountains.

Q: Your book touches on some pretty gritty realities—turmoil, destruction and fear—but there is also a lot of humor peppered throughout. How did humor help you in your journeys?

A: I think humor is effective with readers. This is not a book about presidential proclamations and pronouncements, and humor can help you make a point without being too heavy. The more humor you can inject in your travel, the better off you’ll be. Humor softens the people you meet. It shows them that you don’t have an agenda and that they have nothing to fear; they can trust you. I’d have a lot of fun with the question “where are you from?” Visitors can get away with humor. For instance, my first line to a German taxi driver was always, “Sprechen Sie Deutsch?” (Do you speak German?). Of course, he would, but I was testing his sense of humor. Then I’d ask, “Sprechen Sie English?” I didn’t want a grim, literal-minded driver. If he answered with good humor, instead of anger, and also spoke English, I knew that I had my man and would use him over and over.

Q: What message do you hope your readers take from Violence, Veils and Bloodlines?

A: That people are the same everywhere. Treat them well and you’ll be treated well. Respect people, cultures and languages and you’ll be respected. If a culture calls for a certain way of dress, dress that way. That would seem elementary, but it’s not. It’s in the human DNA to want to belong to a tribe; it could be a familial tribe, a clan, a nation or state—the world is tribal. See the world. Every chance you get to travel, take it. It was once said that travel broadens the mind and narrows the eyes. That’s true.

Books featured in Holy Cross Magazine are often available for sale at the Holy Cross Bookstore. Stop by the store at the Hogan Campus Center or browse selections online at bookstore.holycross.edu
Boarding the Westbound
By Joseph D. Szalanski ’61
Word Association Publishers

Working from two diaries his father kept when traveling the rails as a Depression-era hobo, Szalanski shares the details of a remarkable journey that included stops in all 48 states of 1932 America. He gives special note to the struggles and traditions of eastern and southern European immigrants.

All-American Kidd
By Rob Poulin ’92
Colt Press

A former member of the Epstein’s Mother comedy group at Holy Cross, Poulin explains that his weighty debut novel is the comedic story of a disgraced former president. The road-tripping tale pairs an impeached commander in chief with a young Harvard dropout, and together they help each other find redemption in the face of public disgrace.

Part Time Pastor, Full-Time Church
Rev. Robert R. LaRochelle ’74 P06
Pilgrim Press

Rev. LaRochelle, the pastor at the Congregational Church of Union, United Church of Christ, in Union, Conn., and a full-time high school counselor, explores the benefits that a part-time (or “bi-vocational”) pastor can bring to a struggling church, where creative thinking and restructuring paired with skilled clergy can result in a success story for the congregation.

Walking in the City of the Dead: A Visitor’s Guide
Jeffrey A. Nedoroscik ’92
Author Solutions

A Watson research fellowship allowed Nedoroscik to study a group of ancient Islamic cemeteries in Cairo known as “The City of the Dead,” and now he offers his second book on the subject. The new guide features walking tours of the cemeteries with detailed descriptions of some of the most spectacular monuments that the Islamic world has to offer, as well as some of the most important tombs.

The Same Lonely Songs
Philip R. Sullivan, M.D., ’53
Bookstand Publishing

In this novel, protagonist Cal Connors experiences an identity crisis and takes to the road to start a new life as a country songwriter. Along the way he meets characters who have crises of their own, and who bring new focus—and fresh turmoil—to Cal’s world.

Your Money Ratios:
8 Simple Tools for Financial Security
Charles J. Farrell, J.D., LL.M. ’88
Avery/Penguin

This guide to a healthy financial life garnered notice from The Wall Street Journal and CBS Moneywatch for its smart and simple format for benchmarking one’s money situation and advice on staying secure through retirement.

Quotes & Notes
“Spectroscopic measurements of the properties of Rydberg atoms provide powerful tests of our understanding of atomic physics. High-resolution spectroscopy of Rydberg states usually requires the use of narrow bandwidth continuous wave lasers, where multiple lasers excite the Rydberg state through a series of intermediate states. This technique, however, faces the challenge of keeping all lasers frequency-locked to their respective transitions.”

—Physics Professor Paul Oxley, from the article “Frequency stabilization of multiple lasers and Rydberg atom spectroscopy,” in the journal Applied Physics B: Lasers and Optics

What does it mean?
Oxley and physics major Patrick Collins ’12 used lasers to make extremely precise measurements of the energy of highly excited, or “Rydberg,” electrons in lithium atoms. Such measurements are essential for stringent tests of Quantum Electrodynamics: physicists’ fundamental theory of how light and atoms interact. To complete these measurements the laser frequencies must be precisely stabilized, otherwise electron excitation will not occur. The team developed a novel technique to stabilize the frequency of three lasers, a technical advance that allowed a broad range of energy level measurements to be made.
New Stats on Marriage

“I don’t think people are running from marriage,” sociology and anthropology professor Edward H. Thompson Jr. says in a March 2 story about dropping marriage rates that ran on New England Cable News (NECN) and in The Worcester Telegram & Gazette. “It looks like more people are moving into marriage.” Thompson also notes: “We have moved from companionship to individual reasoning. (Marriage) doesn’t necessarily change the perception of the relationship, but access to resources … We’ve got old language that doesn’t fit cultural lifestyles, and old expectations that have to see everything through the prism of marriage.”

Grad Rates Part of Culture

In a Huffington Post story about colleges with the highest graduation rates, Timothy Austin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, discusses the College’s 98.1 percent graduation rate and how graduating in four years is a part of the students’ culture. “Students here don’t call themselves freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors,” he says. “They call themselves class of [graduation year]. So right from the get-go they are targeting that date when they are going to cross the stage together.”

Worcester’s Deaf Community

“Deaf people are part of the overall community, just like you and me,” says the College’s director of deaf studies Judy F. Fask, in a Jan. 26 Worcester Magazine feature about the culture of the city’s deaf community. “We learn how to work together; celebrating, appreciating and respecting differences amongst each other.” Fask also explains that there are often two views on being deaf: There are those who accept and value differences, such as deafness, others who see it as a “loss,” something to be fixed. “Culturally, deaf individuals do not feel anything is ‘broken’ therefore nothing needs to be ‘fixed,’” Fask says. “The bottom line is people have different ways of living their lives, and being different is not wrong.”

Media Movers and Shakers

The third annual headliners celebration—an evening of gratitude for the many faculty, staff and administrators who give their time and expertise to represent Holy Cross in print, radio and television media—drew an enthusiastic crowd this winter. Along with a custom menu created by Holy Cross Dining (spotlighting the range of dishes that had been featured in the news in 2010), awards were given to those whose contributions were most helpful in creating a national media presence for the College.

The Newsmaker Awards, given to those who have demonstrated increasing excellence in, and dedication to, media relations, went to associate chaplain and director of liturgy, Paul Covino, and associate professor of religious studies, Joanne Pierce (above, left and second from left). Associate professor of economics, Robert Baumann (above, right) took home the Rising Star Award, which recognizes outstanding early contributions to media relations efforts and the promise of a sustained commitment.

Head football coach, Tom Gilmore (above, third from left), accepted the evening’s most prestigious honor, the Headliner Award, for his significant work to advance the image and reputation of the College through his contributions to national media outlets.

New Dishes Meet Vegans’ Wishes

As the spring semester started, Holy Cross Dining announced new vegetarian and vegan meal choices at Kimball Hall. “The expansion of vegan meal options on campus is a great improvement,” says Catherine Flynn ’12, from Queens, N.Y., who has been following a vegan lifestyle for a little more than a year. “Now there is a variety of options in Upper Kimball, such as the soba noodles and tempeh add-ins at stir-fry, and the vegan ‘chicken’ patties at the Grill.”

In Lower Kimball, students can now find vegan meal deals at every food station—great for a sit-down nosh or “to grab on the go,” according to Flynn, who adds that she has noticed a few carnivores sampling the new fare. “It’s nice to see everyone enjoying these new meals! Vegan options can prove to be appealing to a wide audience, such as the health and environmentally conscious, or someone just looking to try something new.”

—Claire Moynahan ’11
Here is a sampling of events happening on The Hill this spring. Please refer to the online Holy Cross Events Calendar for details and to see a full listing of events: events.holycross.edu/

MARCH

25–May 16 “Curalium,” sculptural installation in St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, by German artist Angela Glajcar: A monumental sculpture of shorn fiberglass suspended above the center aisle, the installation fosters a conversation between the worlds of faith and contemporary art by inviting worshipers to experience sacred space in a new way. For more information, visit holycross.edu/crec

26 Holy Cross Cares Day

Ongoing–March 31 The Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery presents: “Art of Africa: Objects from the Collection of Warren Robbins,” representing the varied artistic expression of almost 30 cultures of sub-Saharan Africa, on loan from the Center for Cross Cultural Communication in Washington, D.C. Hours: Weekdays, 10 AM to 5 PM; Saturdays, 2 to 5 PM


31 Jesuits Around the Globe: “From the Rising of the Sun Even to its Setting: Jesuit Perspectives on the Arts, East and West.” Multimedia presentation by University of San Francisco professor Rev. Thomas Lucas, S.J., on the early Jesuits’ use of arts and architecture as rhetorical tools of persuasion across the world, from the 16th to the 18th century. Rehm Library, 4:30 PM

APRIL

1–2 “Let Justice Roll Down”: A Conference on the Practice and Pedagogy of Organizing in the 21st Century. Keynote speaker, Peter Dreier, director of the Urban & Environmental Policy Program at Occidental College, joined by leading scholars and practitioners, examining community organizing as a strategy to address poverty and inequality in the United States

2 Holy Cross Club of Greater Worcester President’s Reception Hogan Campus Center Ballroom, 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM

6 “Chemistry’s Essential Tensions: Three Views of a Science,” by Roald Hoffmann, 1981 Nobel Prize winner in chemistry and Cornell University professor. Sponsored by the Holy Cross Chemistry Department and supported by the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation. Hogan Campus Center Ballroom, 8 PM—preceded by: “Hogwarts High,” hands-on demonstrations, at 7 PM.

7–9 & 14–16 Holy Cross Theatre Department presents: The Time of Your Life, by William Saroyan. Fenwick Theatre, 8 PM

9–10 American Mathematical Society Spring Eastern Sectional Meeting Hosted by the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Holy Cross

17 Accepted Student Open House sponsored by Admissions

26 “Standing in the Shoes My Mother Made: My Journey to Womanism”: Lecture by Diana Hayes, professor of systematic theology at Georgetown University, on womanist theology and spirituality. Rehm Library, 4:30 PM

27–30 11th Annual Student Academic Conference, sponsored by the Office of the Dean

MAY

28–May 27 The Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery presents: Senior Concentration Seminar Exhibition, with April 28, noontime artists’ roundtable discussion, and opening reception, from 5 to 6:30 PM

1 Jesuit Heritage Concert of Baroque Music Directed by College organist James Christie. St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, 3 PM

5 Spring Dance Concert: A compendium of varied repertory works and original choreography performed by Holy Cross students. Fenwick Theatre, 7 & 9 PM

6 Sanctae Crucis Awards Dinner

6 Concert: Gamelan Gita Sari. Brooks Concert Hall, 8 PM

12–18 Final Examinations

26 Baccalaureate Exercises

27 Commencement
Holy Cross Takes the Floor

Television dance shows are all the rage these days, but at Holy Cross, students have been taking star turns for years. By JODY GARLOCK

MICHAE L CREEDEN ’03 and Jessica Spink ’06 waltz across the gleaming wood floor, her ruffled red dress flouncing with every twirl, and her rhinestone bracelets glinting in the light. Arms stretched, back straight, smile on, Creeden leads Spink through a potential bumper-car maze of fellow dancers, making it look effortless.

Call them the Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers of Holy Cross fame. After fox-trotting and tangoing around the Hogan Campus Center ballroom as students, the Holy Cross alums parlayed dance into a way of life. By day, they’re career-minded professionals—Spink works in fundraising at Harvard University, and Creeden is a supervisor at a Waltham, Mass., advertising agency. But nights and weekends they’re professional ballroom dancers, either fine-tuning their sequences in a studio or trying to catch judges’ attention with every spin, dip and double reverse turn.

“It’s a Clark Kent/Superman thing,” Creeden says. “I can wear one hat during the day and then shut off my work and turn into Dance Mike. I put on my dance shoes and just express myself.”

Welcome to ballroom dance, a heady mixture of social graces, sport and pageantry. Spink and Creeden are among the hundreds of Holy Cross students who learned their smooth moves through the College’s ballroom dance club and competitive dance team. While it may not have the mainstream recognition of varsity athletics, ballroom dance is one
Professional dancers Michael Creeden ’03 and Jessica Spink ’06 were featured performers at the 12th Annual Holy Cross Ballroom Dance Competition.
of Holy Cross’ 24 “club sports”—groups that compete against other colleges, unlike intramurals where competitions are among same-school teams.

Like other students, Spink and Creeden stumbled upon ballroom dancing as a cocurricular offering. Creeden initially joined for the socializing (“Any chance to meet girls was something I was willing to throw my hat into the ring for,” he jokes). Spink, who had taken jazz and ballet as a teen, wanted to try a type of dance she wasn’t familiar with. “I remember telling my mom about it, and she was like, ‘People ballroom dance in college?’” she recalls.

Indeed, ballroom—once a social glue—seems an unlikely fit for college students. When Anna Philips Mammen ’93 struck on the idea for a ballroom club in 1990, she wasn’t sure where it would lead. “It was really just to learn to dance, meet people and have fun,” says Mammen, who co-founded the club with her roommate, Karen Wozniak ’93.

It evolved into much more. The ballroom team now competes against other colleges and universities, including Yale, Brown and Tufts. The club also hosts charitable events and community-minded programs. “Dancing with the Holy Cross Stars” events have raised money to help hurricane-ravaged New Orleans and people with autism, and dancers who have learned to sign lead a weekly “Deafinitely Ballroom” session for members in the deaf community in the Worcester area.

Kristine Cyr Goodwin, associate dean for student life, says the ballroom club is an example of how Holy Cross encourages students to explore their passions and form organizations that are meaningful to them. “These groups allow students to develop self-esteem and make powerful connections,” she says.

Mammen and Wozniak remember going before deans and the Student Government Association, and scrambling to get the proper paperwork and students’ signatures to make the club official. “It’s amazing to see how far it’s gone,” says Mammen, who now lives in Plano, Texas.

In the Ballroom

For 20 years, the Hogan Campus Center ballroom has been the place to be on Monday nights. Students—some in jeans and sneakers, others in dance garb and heels with suede-covered soles—split into rows of leaders and followers as they practice steps to the sound of big-band music.

The atmosphere is contagious. Grant Greeley ’11 was drawn in on his way to a 7 p.m. meeting during his second year. “I ended up following the sound of the music to the ballroom, where I found beautiful dancers doing what looked almost Disneyesque,” he says. “All I could think was, ‘Gosh, that looks fantastic.’”

A week later, he was one of the newbies, learning basic moves like the box step, sailor shuffle and chicken walk. Today, he’s a team captain, dances at the advanced level and counts the Lindy Hop as his favorite dance.

“It’s just amazing to see their growth from attending the first class and not knowing what to expect to finding a new love, a new passion,” says Gary Jacobik, who, along with his one-time dance partner Pat Connolly, has coached the students for the entire two decades.

The dancers are nothing if not passionate. Every fall during the College’s Cocurricular Extravaganza—a spirited fest where clubs woo new members—dancers commandeer the Hogan Campus Center stage, proudly strutting their stuff. “We really try to promote the idea that anybody can learn ballroom,” says Samantha Hullihen ’13, a team captain who works dancing in between classes and varsity swim meets and practices. “Once you know how to do it, you can probably do it for the rest of your life.”

During the school year, team members are always on the lookout for a good hard floor—the basement of a residence hall or the balcony of the science library—to practice a few steps with their partner. They’ve also been known to break into a dance in Kimball Dining Hall. “People look at us like we’re complete and total aliens,” Greeley says. “Ballroom definitely isn’t mainstream yet, but it is getting more popular.”

This year, 40 students have been attending practices, about 14 of whom compete on the team. Though the numbers fluctuate from year to year, there’s been one constant: Ballroom is strictly grassroots. Students handle virtually everything—rounding up club dues to pay instructors, figuring out the logistics of traveling to competitions and hosting an annual dance competition, to name a few tasks.

“Clubs like these are terrific opportunities in terms of leadership,” says Josh Meyer, director of recreation, intramurals and club sports.

Faculty adviser Jamie Herrick, the College’s director of laboratory and studio safety, sees that leadership firsthand. “They’re so independent that I just get to sit back and enjoy the events they put on,” she says.

Connolly marvels at the students’ ability to juggle so many responsibilities. “I’m not sure they’re even completely aware of what strong leadership skills they develop,” she says.

Their commitment and multitasking skills come to the fore when competition season is in full swing. By 4 a.m. on a wintry Saturday, girls are pulling their hair into tight buns and French twists and dousing it with hairspray so it survives the long day. By 5 a.m., the team hits the road. Once at the

“It was really just to learn HOW TO DANCE, meet people and have fun ... It’s amazing to see how far it’s gone.”

—Ballroom dance club co-founder
Anna Philips Mammen ’93
Holy Cross dancers at the Feb. 27 competition included Kallen Bakas ’12 (top left), Chelsea Jenkins ’13 and Kibbs Fortilus ’13 (top right); Samantha Hullihen ’13 (fixing hair for Courtney Lyons ’12), Bakas with Lauren Dy ’13, Josh Rodriguez ’10 with Kelsey Ruescher ’10, and Andrew Retallick ’14 with Megan Whitacre ’14 (middle row from left). Team members prep for competition (left).
venue, there's a scramble to get into dance regalia—dresses, heels and lots of makeup for the women and black pants and dress shirts for the men.

Throughout the day, team members cheer on one another while patiently waiting to hear their numbers called back so they can advance to the next round. By early evening, when other teams are packing up, the Holy Cross dancers huddle for Ninja, a hand-slap game that’s their favorite. The laughter usually attracts attention, and the circle widens to welcome students from other teams. It’s a reflection of the Holy Cross team in general: While they love to compete, they’re equally passionate about the camaraderie.

“It’s like a family,” Jacobik says. “They make such a great group of friends—people they’ll keep track of lifelong.”

The Pros Take the Floor

Creeden and Spink, who have been dancing together competitively since 2002, point to the bond they formed at Holy Cross with helping them rise through the amateur levels.

The winners of numerous championships, they were one of the Northeast’s top amateur couples in American Smooth, their chosen dance style that encompasses the waltz, fox-trot, tango and Viennese waltz. Both having a competitive side, they decided to take the next step by turning professional this past August.

“We felt that by putting ourselves among people who are better than us, it will push us to get even better,” Spink says.

In February—just six months after turning pro—they were elated to finish second in the Professional Rising Star American Smooth at the 2011 Maryland DanceSport Championships in Bethesda. “As amateurs we were at the top of the food chain, but as professionals it’s a totally different beast,” Creeden says. “The speed is tenfold what we’re used to. You go from always making the final round to potentially not making the second round or even getting noticed. You learn to take your lumps.”

Learning, in fact, is a big part of the ballroom experience. “Ballroom dance exercises the mind,” says Goodwin. “For students, it’s about building relationships, organizing events and being a part of a team. They’re also learning the ability to understand another person, which is fantastic.”

Confidence, cooperation, teamwork, communication skills, physical fitness—even good posture—are among the life lessons students and coaches point to. “So much of what they learn through ballroom carries over into the rest of their lives,” Jacobik says.
Alicia Peracchia '12 and Kallen Bakas '12 placed sixth overall in the Bronze Swing event at the competition.
Both Spink and Creeden say ballroom has even helped them get noticed in the work world. When Spink applied for the Harvard job upon graduation, the interviewer holding her resume mentioned, “You do something that I always wanted to do—ballroom dancing.” Both have had co-workers and managers at work take an interest in their unique pastime. “People will stop me and say, ‘I wish I could do that,’” Creeden says. “It’s definitely an ice breaker.”

For each dancer personally, though, ballroom has a deeper pull. “It brings peace into my life,” Creeden says.

Greeley has a similar feeling. “Very few things just make the world go quiet, but when you’re out on the dance floor, feeling the music and sharing something special with your partner, the world just disappears,” he says.

The Big Day

On a snowy Sunday in February, the Hogan Campus Center ballroom is a sea of color as more than 300 students in sequined dresses and white-tie attire gather for the 12th Annual Holy Cross Ballroom Dance Competition. Parents and friends fill chairs set up under the soaring windows that offer broad views of the campus and the Worcester skyline. For the Holy Cross dancers, the much-anticipated event is a time to show off their hospitality in a bona fide ballroom rather than a gymnasium, where other colleges tend to hold competitions.

“It’s magical,” says Cecilia Carlowicz ’12, one of the chairs of the ballroom club and team who would go on to place first in American rumba this day. “It’s such a beautiful venue. It definitely gives a different feel to the competition.”

For Jacobik, the event’s emcee, and Connolly, a judge, the enthusiasm and strong turnout despite the bad weather is the ultimate reward for 20 years of dedication to the Holy Cross dancers. “We had always wanted to get younger people involved in ballroom dance and we’re so happy that it evolved into the club it is today,” Connolly says.

For Creeden and Spink it’s a reunion of sorts. They’ve...
reunited with the coaches who inspired them, and returned to the maple-floor ballroom that started it all, this time as performers in a professional showcase. “To return here as changed dancers now competing in the professional ranks is humbling to say the least,” Creeden says.

The day brings back memories of the couple’s Holy Cross years. Spink recalls the time she partnered with College President Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., for a tango in the first-ever “Dancing with the Holy Cross Stars” event. “I was beyond impressed that he would take time out of his busy schedule to try something that was certainly out of his comfort zone,” Spink says. “In practicing and dancing with him, I quickly learned something for which I will always admire and respect him: He is the kind of person who has a sincere interest in you as a person. He asked questions about me, my classes, my dancing—and he really wanted to hear the answers. He is so committed to the students at Holy Cross.

“That’s one of the things I love about dance—I meet so many wonderful people who I would not know otherwise,” she continues. “Partner dancing by definition requires interaction. It’s not something meant to isolate. We’re so grateful to have had the experience at Holy Cross and feel fortunate that it’s taken us so many wonderful places.”

The pride goes both ways. As Jacobik finishes introducing the couple, he ends with a big “Welcome home!” Students crowd around the dance floor’s perimeter to soak in every step and cheer loudly as Spink and Creeden glide by.

After a dreamy Viennese waltz, Spink changes into a coral-color halter dress with fiery rhinestones. Creeden, knowing his place is to frame the woman, stays dressed head-to-toe in stretchy black for all four of their dances. As they prepare to take the floor for their final number—a flirty fox-trot—they quickly glance at each other. Then, as they often do when they’re in the on-deck spot at competitions, they nod as Creeden quietly says, “OK, let’s have fun!”

By the time the music ends, the students and crowd are on their feet, giving a rousing ovation to their Holy Cross dance heroes. Spink and Creeden are equally inspired. “The whole day has been one touching moment after another, thinking about where we began, where we are, and where we’re going,” Spink says. “What a wonderful feeling to think that we were perhaps able to say to others through our dancing, ‘We made it here, and you can too!’”

The Cocurricular Experience at Holy Cross

The Holy Cross ballroom dance club is one of dozens of student-led groups on campus. And while other schools call these groups “extracurriculars,” Holy Cross refers to them as “cocurriculars,” indicating the importance the College places on learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Kristine Cyr Goodwin, associate dean for student life in the Office of Student Affairs, notes that cocurriculars are really more than “just fun.” In fact, she says, they have great academic value. “Students’ brains don’t just turn off when they are out of the classroom. They are always learning, always figuring out who they are and what they’re going to be,” Goodwin notes. “Learning happens everywhere.”

Students are first exposed to the College’s array of cocurriculars through the Gateways orientation program, then through the unique first-year living and learning program called Montserrat, notes Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Jacqueline Peterson. “Then there are more than 100 active clubs and organizations—very impressive for a school of our size—which stand out because they are based on student interests,” she adds. “All of this, combined with the service and athletic opportunities, offers our students a multidimensional cocurricular experience that is second to none.”

With so many offerings, sometimes the students’ most important growth experiences come from learning when to say “no.” “Much of what we do as student affairs educators is to provide guidance to students on making decisions that support healthy living,” Peterson explains, “which includes finding the right balance of responsibilities and activities.”

Peterson smiles when recalling her own turn with the ballroom club as a participant in its “Dancing with the Holy Cross Stars” event. “The students in the club were fantastic teachers whose support and patience I very much appreciated,” Peterson says. “And, they were able to make even a rhythmically challenged person like me look good on the dance floor.”

Jody Garlock, an Iowa-based freelancer, writes and edits for various national magazines, trade association publications and book publishers on topics ranging from home design to business.

Go behind the scenes as the Holy Cross ballroom dance team preps and prims for the big competition. Our camera caught every sequin and sashay—and even a few tips—at holycross.edu/magazine. (Click on Web Exclusives.)
With High Praise From Our Peers, Holy Cross Tackles New Challenges

An intensive self-study and rigorous review have given the College a framework for improvements.

BY ELLEN RYDER
Late last year, members of the Holy Cross Community celebrated receiving continuation of the College’s accreditation for another 10 years from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

Accreditation is not automatically awarded to colleges and universities if they answer a few questions. Neither does the process result in a simple thumbs-up or thumbs-down.

For Holy Cross, the rigorous process took two years, and included a yearlong self-study in which dozens of Holy Cross faculty, staff and senior leadership took a clear-eyed look at academic offerings, student life, technology, operations, governance, planning processes and much more. The self-study delved into how things work on campus with a level of detail that resulted in publication of a 100-page narrative report and extensive back-up data and supplementary reports.

A visiting review team led by the president of another elite liberal arts college dug even deeper by scrutinizing the self-study and documentation during three days on campus. In addition to campus and building tours, the team talked with faculty, staff and students individually and in groups.

The result? Praise from highly respected peers for the areas in which Holy Cross excels, and, not unexpectedly—based on what we learned from the self-study—the advice that the College has some work to do in certain areas.

The strong commendation from the visiting team was particularly gratifying. This group of executive leaders, senior administrators and faculty members from some of the best colleges and universities in the nation were pleased with the self-study, and the progress made since the last review. Among the areas called out for praise was the way in which Holy Cross integrates mission into all aspects of campus life. Further, the team applauded the strong and consistent commitment all members of the Holy Cross community exhibit to providing students with the best possible collegiate experience.

“There can be few institutions of higher learning where more people, programs and resources are dedicated to sustaining and improving a clearly articulated and widely ‘lived’ mission,” the review team wrote. “The Holy Cross mission statement is ... more widely read, actively understood, and deeply valued than many [other colleges’] ...

The mission statement is not only printed in all the customary places ... but also imprinted on the community. All individuals and groups we spoke with emphasized their keen awareness of the College’s mission.”

The team also observed that the ethos of Holy Cross could be described not only as “men and women for others,” but also as “faculty and staff for students.”

After the visiting team submitted its report, NEASC issued the formal accreditation. In addition to concurring with the review team’s findings, the Association commended Holy Cross for “the extent to which [your] mission and Jesuit identity inform the programs and services of the College.” NEASC highlighted how Holy Cross offers students “an excellent educational opportunity to realize their intellectual and personal potential” relying on its engaged Board of Trustees, dedicated faculty and staff, and committed senior leaders. Singled out were the College’s commitment to student diversity, its policies on financial aid, the significant investments the College has made in facilities and technology, and its prudent financial management and culture of budget discipline.

The pride the College takes in the praise it received for its progress and accomplishments fuels the work being done to make ongoing improvements. In the true spirit of magis, the Holy Cross Community is now striving for something even greater.

In the Spring of 2015, Holy Cross will submit a five-year interim report to NEASC about how it has addressed the four areas the Association cited for renewed attention. In the meantime, to allow the Holy Cross community—alumni and family alike—the chance to see what’s on the horizon, the following pages outline where the College is putting its efforts, why these areas are important and how progress is taking shape.

Q: What is accreditation?
A: Accreditation is a voluntary, non-governmental process of self-regulation within higher education that serves two purposes: assuring the public of quality and fostering institutional improvement. The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education’s Standards for Accreditation establish criteria for institutional quality. The Standards are essentially qualitative criteria that measure the institution’s current state of educational effectiveness. They allow the Commission to appraise a wide variety of collegiate institutions, differing in purpose, size, scope, and clientele.

Q: What is the value of accreditation?
A: Simply put, an accredited college or university encourages confidence that its educational activities have been found to be satisfactory. Specifically, accreditation assists institutions as they review requests for graduate school admission or for transfers between institutions; signals to prospective employers that a student’s educational program has met widely accepted standards; and ensures continued access to federal and sometimes state financial aid for qualified students.

Source: New England Association of Schools and Colleges/Commission on Institutions of Higher Education
NEASC charged Holy Cross with showing progress in the following four areas:

Achieving its goals for the racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of its faculty and staff.

**Progress/status:** Holy Cross has made great strides in student diversity. In 10 years, the percentage of students who identify themselves as African-American, Latin American, Asian-American and Native American (ALANA) has more than doubled and, for the Class of 2014, is close to 25 percent. It is essential that corresponding efforts bear fruit in other segments of our campus community. To help ensure that the campus environment welcomes and supports ALANA and female faculty and staff, the College has created a new position of Chief Diversity Officer.

**Next steps:** As soon as the diversity officer is in place, the next step will be to thoroughly critique and assess existing policies and procedures. The new office will help leaders in all areas of the campus establish a vision, implement plans, and monitor progress.

**Why it is important:** Diversity of all kinds is consistent with our mission and Jesuit principles of education. Holy Cross values the unique combination of qualities in each individual and the opportunity to learn from many life experiences and differences—whether those differences are gendered, cultural, racial, ethnic, political, economic, or spiritual. We know that in today’s world, academic excellence requires understanding differences and overcoming barriers among both individuals and societies.

Reviewing the role of faculty governance, and, as appropriate, making revisions to the College’s system of governance.

**Progress to date:** Unlike most businesses—and even many other nonprofits—colleges traditionally rely on broad consultation with different segments of the campus community before they finalize decisions. We refer to this as “shared governance,” and the role of our faculty in this work is critical. For this process to work effectively, it is critical that we develop highly functional systems, clear lines of communication, well defined roles and responsibilities, transparency, and regular evaluation. In 2006, the Dean of the College initiated a comprehensive review of the Faculty Statutes, and a series of committee-recommended changes were approved and ratified in 2009.

**Next steps:** On a continuing basis, we are reviewing the existing system, streamlining processes, and ensuring regular monitoring and evaluation of faculty governance. During this review, it may emerge that the current mechanisms—if used efficiently—are the most appropriate methods for Holy Cross. Where changes are indicated, we will pursue them.

**Why it is important:** Holy Cross has grown in size and complexity since the existing system of governance was instituted. As a result, a “town meeting” format (to cite one hypothetical example) may no longer be the most efficient method to either hear faculty concerns or arrive at consensus. In addition, at a college like Holy Cross where professors interact daily with undergraduate students in and out of the classroom while also pursuing cutting-edge research, the responsibilities and demands on faculty will continue to grow. Ensuring that faculty voices and views are clearly heard without imposing unduly on their time is essential to our continued success.

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**STEERING COMMITTEE** Holy Cross Accreditation Self-Study

John T. Anderson, professor, mathematics and computer science, Steering Committee Chair; Timothy R. Austin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College; Denise A. Bell, director, Office of Assessment and Research; Patricia L. Bizzell, professor, English; Loren R. Cass, associate professor, political science; David B. Damiano, associate professor, mathematics and computer science, and speaker of the faculty; Thomas R. Gottschang, professor, economics; Judy A. Hannum, director, Planning and Budget; James E. Hogan, (former) director, Library Services; Ellen J. Keohane, director, Information Technology Services; Neal E. Lipsitz, associate dean, Student Development; Scott M. Merrill, director, Physical Plant; James J. Miracky, S.J. (former) associate dean of the College; Ellen Perry, associate professor, classics; Ellen Ryder, director, Public Affairs; Mary J. Sanchez, registrar; Charles S. Weiss, director, Grants and Corporate and Foundation Giving
Implementing a comprehensive, College-wide approach to the assessment of student learning and using the results for improvement.

**Progress/status:** In 2007, Holy Cross established the Office of Assessment and Research, which is integral to our pursuit of excellence. This office, working with a College-wide committee, oversees assessment efforts all over campus—from classrooms and labs to dining services and athletics. How we define and assess student learning is an especially critical part of the overall work of the office, and NEASC applauded the work done to date. As we continue our assessment of what a Holy Cross education means, we are focusing on goals and outcomes for each major field of study, for the student’s entire four-year academic experience, and for his or her broader development.

**Next steps:** Holy Cross is adding a full time position to the Office of Assessment and Research to help coordinate campus-wide assessment activities. With the support of both the staff in that office and the College-wide committee, we are also developing a comprehensive plan to disseminate information about assessment and the results of our studies to the College Community. Workshops aimed at expanding faculty and staff expertise in assessment methods are also continuing.

**Why it is important:** The standards for accreditation call for a college to publish a clear statement of the knowledge, skills and values students are expected to acquire by the time they complete their academic program. Beyond that, as a liberal arts college known for its superior and challenging undergraduate academic programs, Holy Cross should have—and share with all its stakeholders—a full and complete picture of how we succeed in meeting our promise to students.

Assuring the adequacy of resources to support library acquisitions and determining an appropriate role for library staff in academic planning.

**Progress/status:** The review team expressed concern that Holy Cross librarians were not active participants in ongoing campus conversations about the academic program. When Kathleen Carney, director of library services, arrived on campus in June 2010, Timothy Austin, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, named her a member of the senior staff in Academic Affairs. In her new role, Carney and her staff are developing more collaborations with other campus divisions, conducting presentations and briefings for various campus groups and working to engage students in multiple and multi-media ways. Course-driven instructional sessions led by librarians in Montserrat seminars have now more than doubled, and a “personal” librarian is now assigned to each of the five Montserrat clusters.

**Next steps:** The library is developing a strategic plan, which will be presented to the Trustees in January. Carney describes the plan as encompassing a “two-prong” approach: securing appropriate resources for a 21st century academic community and engaging in highly visible outreach. Analyzing prospects for “virtual” holdings, sharing digital repositories and budgeting for the expected explosion of e-content are among the areas being explored.

**Why it is important:** Accreditation standards call for an institution’s library and information resources to be “sufficient in quality, level, diversity, quantity and currency to support and enrich the institution’s academic offerings.” The Holy Cross libraries have long been a key part of the College’s profile and central to undergraduate teaching and research. With the dramatic changes in publishing and scholarship, the resources and services offered by Holy Cross libraries—from Dinand’s stately Reading Room to 24-hour online access to reference librarians—must keep pace for Holy Cross to maintain and advance its academic excellence.

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**THE NEASC VISITING TEAM**

Elaine Tuttle Hansen, President, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine, Chairperson; Vincent Boisselle, Library Director, Warren Hunting Smith Library, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva, N.Y.; James C. Fergerson, Director of Institutional Research & Assessment, Carleton College, Northfield, Minn.; Marysa Navarro-Aranguren, Charles Collis Professor of History, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H.; Helen Ouellette, Administrative Dean, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; Mark C. Reed, Vice President for Administrative Services & Student Affairs, Fairfield University, Fairfield, Conn.; Kathryn T. Spoehr, Professor of Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences, Brown University, Providence, R.I.; Dr. Derk Andrew Wierda, Professor of Chemistry, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, N.H.
IN 1931 POPE PIUS XI, responding to requests from the Catholic bishops of Iraq, asked the Society of Jesus to open a secondary school for boys in Baghdad. Ultimately, the Jesuits of the New England Province were assigned this mission, and significant numbers of Jesuits went to Baghdad between 1932 and 1969. They established Baghdad College on a 25-acre campus, which included a library, laboratories and a chapel in addition to academic buildings. In 1956, they established another (and coeducational) school in Baghdad, Al-Hikma University.

Five of the men who accepted the Pope’s call to work on the banks of the Tigris River came together at Holy Cross’ Rehm Library to discuss their memories of that time. With Margaret Molloy ’11, secretary of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit Honor Society, serving as interviewer, the panel explained the challenges of their work, the joys of experiencing the Muslim culture and their feelings on the eventual expulsion of the Jesuits from Baghdad in 1968 under the Baathist government.

The panel consisted of Rev. John J. Donohue, S.J., ’48 who spent three years in Baghdad and more than four decades in the Middle East; Rev. Charles J. Dunn, S.J., vice president emeritus, associate director of gift planning, who served for three years at Baghdad College; Rev. J. Thomas Hamel, S.J., spiritual director, who holds a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Language from the University of Michigan and spent six years teaching at Baghdad College and Al-Hikma University; Rev. Paul F. Harman, S.J., special assistant to the president of the College and a former Holy Cross Trustee, who was in Baghdad from 1962 to 1965; and Rev. Simon E. Smith, S.J., who served in Baghdad from 1955 to 1958 and continues to work with the Iraqi Student Project, helping Iraqi refugees pursue a college education in the United States.

Holy Cross Magazine listened in on the discussion, and what follows are highlights of the conversation.
MARGARET MOLLOY ’11: Please tell us a little about the early days of the Jesuit school in Baghdad—in the 1930s.

FR. DONOHUE: When they first started it did not really take off. The second language in Iraq was English, and Iraqis with any money would send their boys to school in England. Then World War II came and travel was prohibited, so these people decided the best alternative was the Jesuits. Once the better-off people started coming, the other people followed them and we became a success.

We had about 1,000 students and we tried to keep it a balance between Christian and Muslim, though it was slightly heavier on the Muslim side. We tried to recruit among all the communities, but certain communities weren’t too open to sending their boys to study.

MOLLOY: How did you handle the language barrier?

FR. DONOHUE: We hired a number of local professors to teach the Arabic language, Arabic history, Arabic geography, Arabic social studies. There were only a few Jesuits at the beginning who knew any Arabic. As time went on, some learned and were able to use it in the classroom.

FR. HAMEL: When I was studying Arabic, I kept wishing that I had begun at the age of 1½ rather than 26 or whatever it was. I had the great advantage of being taught by Islamic scholar Fr. Richard McCarthy, S.J.

The sound of the language is mesmerizing—you have to hear it. I used to go out and preach on Sundays and hear confessions; it was an on-going lifetime commitment and I fell in love with the language because it gives you a sense of belonging to the people. I could walk through the streets of Baghdad and know I could speak to people in Arabic a little bit and I could read Arabic a little bit. I find that a great blessing in my history, I appreciate that.

MOLLOY: What was the religious education in the curriculum, and how did that balance between Islam and Christianity?

FR. DUNN: There was religious education for Christians. The Christians were not all Roman Catholics, there were quite a few Orthodox there—Greek, Armenian—all different types. When I returned to the States to study theology, I appreciated the opportunity we experienced in Baghdad to meet, in the 20th century, the living descendants of these first Christians. All Christians attended religion classes and we taught the Roman Catholic faith. The Muslim students did not attend any religion classes. This was school policy.

FR. HARMAN: Muslim families, understandably, would not want their sons attending religion classes at a Christian school, and if a Muslim student expressed interest, he would have been discouraged from attending a religion class because Muslim parents and the Iraqi government might interpret this as our wanting to proselytize.

MOLLOY: What are some of your other personal memories from living and teaching at the schools?

FR. HARMAN: My most predominate memory is of the hospitality of the people, and the eagerness of the students. They were very excellent, excellent students. I admired them for their quick ability to learn English since my ability to learn Arabic was not that quick!

The other very strong memory that I have—and it stays with me even now—is observing Muslims at prayer. This is one of the most beautiful and moving memories that I have. For me, the image of a Muslim at prayer is the image of a human being turning his or her whole life over to God.
And because I was there when John F. Kennedy was assassinated, I have a very powerful memory of the reaction of people, ordinary people on the streets, who came up to offer their condolences and their sympathy for the loss of our president. At the time, the United States did not have formal diplomatic relations with Iraq, but there was a memorial service at the Swiss Embassy where there was a book where you could express your sympathies. And I remembered, driving down the streets with all the embassies, and all the flags were at half-mast, with one exception, and that was the flag of China. That was a powerful memory.

FR. SMITH: For me the highlight was when King Faisal II, came to visit the campus. We were there at the sufferance of the government. It didn’t bother us all that much—we were aware that we were guests. But his visit to our campus at the 25th anniversary of the school sort of affirmed us; gave us tremendous confidence that we were there at the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing. And it was extraordinary, if you stop and think about of it, for the king of Iraq, a Muslim country, to make a formal visit to a Catholic, foreign school. I shall never forget that moment and the lift it gave us all.

FR. HAMEL: The first house where I lived was in a place called Saaduun, and our next-door neighbors were in a mud village, separated by a bit of a field, and of course they had no running water. So we invited them to come to our house to get water, and it was a great experience to see these people, especially to meet the children. The beauty of children is they speak to you even though you can’t speak to them … they don’t mind talking to you all the time, and you pick up the sound of the language. I was also impressed by people living in the mud village with no running water, no electricity, and a man would come out in the morning all dressed up in a uniform. He must have been a sort of policeman in his circle, and he would direct traffic, very dignified. The women, too, were very well dressed. I never got over the dignity of these people who lived in a mud village.

The second year we moved to another house in Saaduun, a much larger house, and I remember distinctly Palm Sunday. We had a little chapel in the house, and I was reading, proclaiming the gospel of the Passion in Arabic. In front of me was this elderly woman, very pious, who came regularly to Mass. She was right in front of me as I was reading out loud, and she was one or two words in ahead of me—she knew this from memory, she was illiterate. I was taken by the culture of the people who heard the word of God from memory who couldn’t even read … I was taken by the reverence they had for the word of God.

FR. DUNN: I recall the focus that the Jesuit community apostolate had—we knew clearly why we were there. The Jesuits had been invited by the Pope to train Christians for future leadership roles. That was our focus. We knew that the Muslims were there, of course, and friendships were established, but we had our focus. And the wisdom and policy not to proselytize Muslims.
Today we say, “Men and women for others.” That’s sort of generic—that’s peace, justice and so forth. Back then, in 1949, there was one direction, and the direction was AMDG: for the greater honor and glory of God, for the salvation of souls. That included Christian and non-Christian, but primarily it was to help and assist the Christians so that these young men would have the opportunity to become leaders in Iraq and be able to compete in all areas with their fellow Iraqis.

FR. DONOHUE: My first night in Baghdad, to my surprise, they said, “Well, we sleep on the roof because of the heat.” They had the beds up there and a little bit of netting and so forth, and I innocently asked a question, “Well, what if it rains?” I was told it never rains in the summertime. That night it poured, first time in Baghdad.

The most important thing that I got out of going to Baghdad was that I saw the world from a very different perspective. I was born and brought up in Worcester, and Baghdad showed that the world was not exactly the same as it looked from Worcester. I can remember when I came back and was studying Arabic down at Weston [Mass.], I would get these images that were connected with the language. I’d say that my view of the world radically changed by going to Baghdad, and I think for the better.

MOLLOY: Could you describe the volunteer experiences that Holy Cross and Boston College alumni had in Baghdad?

FR. DUNN: Fr. Joseph LaBran returned from Baghdad in the mid-1950s, and talked to the students graduating here in 1960 about volunteering in Iraq. There was one in particular, he was a great athlete: Richard Wotruba ’60, P94. Dick went in 1960. He was the first young layman to go as an alumnus from Holy Cross or from any place—to volunteer, teach, study and coach. The students loved athletics; they were good athletes. The Jesuits themselves did the coaching so when Wotruba came it was a great asset. Others followed him, and all together there were 28 Holy Cross alumni who gave 40 years amongst them ... they were a great help.

FR. DONOHUE: Before the 1958 revolution, in 1956, the government asked us to open a university. There was a state university, Baghdad University, which was founded by the British—they had a lot of British professors and practically all the subjects were taught in English. The Iraqi minister of education and the prime minister thought it would be good to have a little competition for the state university, so they encouraged the Jesuits to open one. They gave us a large plot of land south of Baghdad, and we built buildings, and we taught business administration and civil engineering. It was not a large university ... when we closed down in 1969 we were in the range of 200 to 250 students. It was just beginning, really, but it was effective and it turned out some good students.

When we left in 1968 the university continued until the last class graduated, and then it was just abolished. It was an interesting operation but never really took off as it should have.

FR. HAMEL: Al-Hikma was also coed—great for the social life of the women. On holidays, the women would come back to school; especially the Muslim women, because otherwise they’d have to stay at home. But it was safe for them to come back to school, and be with the fathers and the students, so it helped the social life of the Muslim women especially.

MOLLOY: Let’s talk now about when the Jesuits were expelled from Baghdad, and the closing of the schools.

FR. DONOHUE: The closing was sort of interesting in a way. Some people thought that we were accused of spying; this ac-
The accusation was in the Arabic newspapers. The university was on land south of Baghdad, near where the British had established a large army camp to protect the city against raids from the Shia tribes in the south. In order to get to the university you had to go through the army camp—everyone did—and this fueled the rumor that we were spies.

But the problem was there were two factions of the Baath party, one was in power, and the other looked around for something to attack the government on—and we were sitting there pretty. There were 60 American Jesuits teaching in the high school and in the university, and they said “What are Americans doing here teaching our sons, the Americans were behind Israel in the 1967 war!” The minister of interior was responsible for chasing us out in 1968. I think we were given 48 hours to leave.

The minister of education was a Muslim brother, supposedly an extreme Islamist, and he was for us. He said, “This is a disastrous mistake throwing you people out; you’re doing nothing but good for the country.”

But I think it was fortunate that we were expelled when we were because the years following that from 1969 to 1975 were terrible years in Baghdad. The Baath party was scared to death of being thrown out of power, so they were looking under every corner to find enemies. ... It was a terrible time—some very good friends were murdered in this panic of the Baath party, so if we hadn’t left then, they probably would have carried us out on stretchers little by little. The situation was so bad.

**Timeline**

- **1917** Britain seizes Baghdad
- **1920** Britain establishes state of Iraq
- **1931** Pope Pius XI asks Jesuits to establish a school in Baghdad
- **1932** Iraqi independence following World War I, Jesuits establish Baghdad College
- **1939-1945** British once again occupy Iraq during World War II
- **1956** Jesuits establish Al-Hikma University south of Baghdad
- **1958** Military coup, Iraq declared a republic
- **1967** Six Day War
- **1968** Jesuits expelled from Baghdad, Al-Hikma University is closed
- **1979** Saddam Hussein becomes president of Iraq
- **1980-1988** Iran-Iraq War
- **1990** Iraq invades Kuwait, first Gulf War begins

**MOLLOY:** What about the state of Christians in Iraq today?

**FR. HAMEL:** The culture of hospitality in the Arab world is so strong. When we’d visit the students and their families, they couldn’t be more gracious: “My home is your home, now and forever.” Now that so many Christians have left the country, the sense of loss of home in homeland must be terrible. Christians have had to leave and those who stay are threatened day by day. I don’t know what to say, but my heart goes out to them, those who are there, those who have already left because of their culture. Home is everything to them.

I couldn’t get over their hospitality. I remember one time going to the Baghdad symphony with Fr. McCarthy, and we had a car full of Iraqi nuns. On the way to the symphony we got a flat tire. I could never change a flat tire, and all of a sudden five young men came out of no place and changed the tire. I knew I could not give them any money, for that would be shame for them to accept. I thanked them profusely. It’s just their culture—a beautiful, beautiful culture.

**FR. DONOHUE:** The attacks on Christians are carried out
by fundamentalist Muslims who are really wild and run nothing but a negative program. The thing is, the Christians are in the position we were in 1968 and 1969. When you want to attack and embarrass a government you look for a weak point. We were the weak point between the two Baath fractions. The Christians are the weak point now. So the people who are against the existing regimes, they can attack the Christians and nobody will react, they can embarrass the government but nothing will happen. Nobody cares about the Christians, really.

I think there’s so much pain today in the world ... that Iraq gets lost, except for those of us that have a personal connection. We have an alumni group, the Baghdad College and Al-Hikma alumni that has been meeting every two years since the 1980s. And as time goes on, the group dies off. We met a year ago last summer, and many of the alumni are in great pain as they seek to bring any relatives that they still have back here.

**MOLLOY:** Can you tell us about your involvement with the Iraqi Student Project, Fr. Smith?

**FR. SMITH:** The Iraqi Student Project brings Iraqi refugee students from Syria and Jordan over here to the U.S. They are in about 40 colleges across the country to continue their education. There is one student here in Worcester at Clark University and there is another coming to W.P.I. We have to raise the money to support them and stuff like that, but that’s what the support group does.

**MOLLOY:** What is the Society of Jesus’ hope for the future in Baghdad?

**FR. HARMAN:** The Society of Jesus obviously is looking at the whole world, and it isn’t for any of us to say what the future will be. The Jesuits have great devotion to the people of the whole Middle East, and other parts of the world too.

**FR. SMITH:** In March of 2006, I went back to Baghdad to see what might be possible. Al-Hikma University is pretty much in ruins, bombed. You can imagine who bombed it. The land itself is being used by another institution that has 43 buildings and 6,000 students, so we are not likely to get that land back, but we might get something in compensation. The secondary school, Baghdad College, is still functioning and is still a premier school of the country. Maintenance on the grounds has been poor, but it still produces terrific students. The land, however, is in the possession of the Chaldean Patriarch, at least the parts that we would like to have, which were the house where we lived, the church, the cemetery that is there and the boarding house. There’s no possibility of getting those back. We have had meetings and meetings and meetings with the patriarch, and it’s clear to me that it’s not going to happen.

Meanwhile, however, the Provincial in New England has said, “Maybe we can put a presence in Baghdad—it certainly won’t be a school yet, but a presence there for people who are in pain and hurting from their own history.” But he hasn’t acted on that. I am too old for this but I would like to be the one to go back and do that.

*For further reading: Jesuits by the Tigris: Men for Others in Baghdad (1994, out of print) by the late Rev. Joseph MacDonnell, S.J.*
Behind the Lines: Holy Cross and the Civil War

“God grant that this unhappy war may soon terminate, but from present indications it is only commencing.”


Edward Scott ’1847, Frank Armstrong ’1847 and Rev. Joseph O’Hagan, S.J., are just a few of the names that connect Holy Cross to the Civil War. Scott headed south years after leaving The Hill to join the Confederacy. Armstrong was the only high-ranking officer to serve on both sides during the Civil War. In 1861, he fought at Bull Run as a captain in the Union Army. He soon resigned his commission to become a Confederate brigadier general. Fr. O’Hagan served as a chaplain in the Union Army in 1863, a decade before he was named the eighth president of the College of the Holy Cross.

Even 1,000 miles and 150 years from the start of the Civil War at Fort Sumter, S.C., Holy Cross has had strong ties to the war. More than two dozen alumni, former students and Jesuits served in the Union and Confederate armies. Many of their compelling stories, personal effects and other Civil War-era artifacts are preserved on campus by Mark Savolis ’77, head of archives and special collections, and his staff. When it comes to the Civil War, his professional and personal interests overlap. His first trip to the battlefields at Gettysburg nearly five decades ago spurred him to become the passionate, but discriminating, Civil War collector he is today.

“In August 1962, we took a typical family vacation to Pennsylvania to see the Liberty Bell, Amish Country and Gettysburg,” Savolis says. “My dad was a coin and stamp collector, so he got me interested in collecting objects.” Savolis started by collecting popular Civil War relics. His interest then moved toward Civil War photography and illustrations.

“My interest narrowed even further to Massachusetts in the Civil War,” he says. “The Civil War is a very broad field for collectors. People collect buttons, currency, firearms and other items from that era. You can’t have everything and you can’t research everything. To have a collection of any depth you need to specialize in something.”

Evidence of Savolis’ specific interest is on all four walls of his office in the archives. The photographs, illustrations and maps offer different views of the battles and locations depicted.

“I do more than just try to acquire things,” Savolis says. “The research behind each piece attracts me. In addition to the collectors’ shows, I’m always up for lectures or exhibits about the Civil War. I read extensively about it. I’m president of the Central Massachusetts Civil War Roundtable and belong to the Civil War Heritage Trust. Every year since the 1970s, I’ve gone with friends to the collectors’ show at Gettysburg during the last week of June. I missed one year, 1979, to get married.”

A history major at Holy Cross, Savolis thought that working in an archive would be a good fit for him. After graduation, he went to work in the manuscript department at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. Two years later he moved across town to become head of the archives at the Worcester Historical Museum. During his decade at the museum he earned a master’s degree in library science at the University of Rhode Island. In 1990, he returned to Holy Cross, eventually becoming the head of archives and, later on, special collections.

“We don’t have an extensive collection of Civil War materials, but we have some very interesting pieces,” Savolis notes. “In addition to Fr. O’Hagan’s diary from 1863, we
Head of Holy Cross archives and special collections, Mark Savolis ’77, and his team are the caretakers of more than 3,200 linear feet of records in the College’s extensive archives, including the Civil War items shown here.
have original casts of Abraham Lincoln’s hands by sculptor Leonard Volk. We also have a sword belt with a buckle and letters that belonged to Colonel Patrick Guiney of the 9th Massachusetts Regiment. Colonel Guiney attended Holy Cross for one year before the war. His daughter, the writer and essayist Louise Imogen Guiney, knew how much her father loved Holy Cross. She donated her father’s items to the College before she died in 1920. She also gave us her papers.”

The College’s Civil War collection also includes brass buttons from officers’ uniforms, cannon shot and a sliver of wood from a flagpole at Fort Fisher in N.C. Like the Civil War-era handmade blue box that was discovered in the archives after being out of sight for 60 years, every artifact holds a story for Savolis.

“Among my favorite photos and illustrations in my own collection are three that show the 25th Massachusetts regiment camp in related views,” he explains. “In the distance you can see a tree with a flag next to it that identifies the camp. In the illustration I acquired recently, you can see Capt. Cornelius G. Attwood inside a tent at that same camp talking with another officer. His dog, Felax, is asleep nearby. I also have a letter from the captain in which he describes Felax as a ‘good rat catcher.’ I like connecting things to find a story among the pieces.”

Elizabether Walker is a Massachusetts-based freelance writer and editor who specializes in higher education topics.
1. The Diary
In February 1863, Rev. Joseph B. O’Hagan, S.J., recorded his experiences as a Civil War chaplain in this worn, black leather diary. In his slanted script, now faded, he captured the “intense cold, knee-deep mud and suffering of the men.” In 1873, Fr. O’Hagan was appointed the eighth president of the College of the Holy Cross.

2. Lincoln’s Hand
The cast of Abraham Lincoln’s right hand was taken May 20, 1860, by sculptor Leonard Volk. The cast, along with one of the left hand, was given to the College by Worcester sculptor Andrew O’Connor in the late 1920s. The hand, which is holding a piece of a broom handle to steady it, appears slightly swollen, possibly from shaking hands the night before with well-wishers after Lincoln was named the presidential candidate at the Republican National Convention.

3. Belt Buckle
This ornate brass buckle belonged to Union Army Brigadier General Patrick R. Guiney (1835–1877), who attended Holy Cross. The buckle, which was typical for a Civil War officer, depicts an eagle and olive branch in relief. Guiney, a lawyer, lost an eye after being shot on the battlefield. His daughter, poet and essayist Louise Imogen Guiney (1861–1920), donated her father’s Civil War belt, buckle and letters to Holy Cross.

4. Handmade Box and Insignia
This Civil War-era box was hidden away for six decades, and its donor is unknown. The cloth insignia found in the small, handmade blue box may have identified a particular regiment or corps. Distinctive badges like this one were intended to increase the “esprit de corps” among members of the identified companies.

5. Shard of Wood
Wrapped in a frayed cotton ribbon, this fragile piece of wood came from the flagpole of Fort Fisher in Wilmington, N.C.

6. Reunion Ephemera
These pieces of paper are attached by a pale blue ribbon and embossed with pressed flowers from the battlefield. Dated 1863-1887, they are probably mementoes from a reunion gathering. The word “Gettysburg” is visible, as are images of Union and Confederate flags.

7. Cannon Ball and Brass Buttons
This small iron ball and piece of shrapnel are typical artifacts of the era’s weaponry. The brass buttons are from Union staff officers’ uniforms. Officers purchased their own uniforms, which were made of higher quality materials than those issued to the ordinary soldiers and were reflective of personal styling preferences.
A Family Legacy: Overcoming Adversity

O honor their father, Francis “Rusty” X. Van Houten, M.D., ’61, siblings Karen ’86, Paul and Scott Van Houten recently established the Francis X. Van Houten, M.D., ’61, Financial Aid Fund, which will provide assistance to Holy Cross students who are either orphans or children of single parent families. To them, it is a fitting tribute to a man who overcame adversity to become a dedicated father, physician and philanthropist.

“We decided a scholarship in his name, at the school he loves, would be the best way to honor our father’s legacy while, at the same time, allowing a future student to benefit from a Holy Cross education—and, perhaps, allowing that student the chance to write a similar story,” explains Scott, a senior executive at Audax Partners, a real estate private equity firm in Boston.

Orphaned as a young child, Dr. Van Houten was adopted and raised by a single parent mother in Peekskill, N.Y. Living what he described as a “frugal existence,” he did not think college was a possibility, though he applied to a number of schools, including Holy Cross. Thanks to financial aid, studying atop Mount St. James became a reality for him.

Following Dr. Van Houten’s first year, tragedy struck when his mother passed away, once again leaving him orphaned. But he persevered with the help of his Holy Cross family, graduating with a degree in biology in 1961. Dr. Van Houten then went on to study medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C., where he received his degree in 1965. Entering the Navy after graduation, he was stationed in Vietnam and at the naval hospital in Newport, R.I., before completing his residency in radiology at Peter Bent Brigham (now Brigham and Women’s) Hospital in Boston.

From there, Dr. Van Houten found professional fulfillment as a radiologist at Emerson Hospital in Concord, Mass., for more than 28 years. He also served as president of the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS), the nation’s oldest medical society, and as a delegate to the American Medical Association (AMA). He credits his Holy Cross education for his success as a physician and leader in the medical community.

More than just an accomplished radiologist, Dr. Van Houten is a family man, committed to instilling strong values in his children, whom he raised with his wife of nearly 50 years, Marge.

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Francis Van Houten, M.D., ’61 has received a wonderful gift from his children: a financial aid endowment in his name. “Our dad is a great guy, and this gift is the best way to thank him for what he has done for us, and for others,” Karen Van Houten ’86 says. “He has taught us that what we do alone expires with us, but what we do for others will endure.”

“His will to overcome his own adversity was the only example we needed when confronting our own challenges,” notes Scott, adding, “The best compliment would be that our father prepared us and taught us to think, make good decisions and do the ‘right’ thing.”

According to Dr. Van Houten, the right thing has always been about helping others.

“The idea of giving back really resonates with me—no matter what your profession, some of your time should be given to serving others,” he says. “This is something that I learned 50 years ago at Holy Cross, and it’s something that I know is still evident there today.”

For Dr. Van Houten, this means contributing his time to both the MMS and AMA charitable foundations. And both his wife and he are actively involved with donating to and raising money for the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society.

The MS Society is an organization of personal significance to the Van Houten family: Both Dr. Van Houten and Karen suffer from MS, an autoimmune disease that affects the central nervous system.

“I was unable to practice medicine anymore due to the effects of MS. That’s when I retired, and Marge and I decided to make philanthropy an even bigger priority,” explains Dr. Van Houten.

It was with this in mind that his children created the financial aid endowment in his name at Holy Cross to celebrate his 70th birthday—and commemorate his 50th reunion year.

“I was very honored that my children would do that, understanding both my strong allegiance to Holy Cross and my commitment to philanthropy,” says Dr. Van Houten. “I was a scholarship student at Holy Cross. As an adopted child, raised by a single parent, had I not received a scholarship, my life would have been much different.”
en-year-old William Francis Bennett left school in 1910 to help support his newly widowed mother. The young Worcester native went to work for a florist to help make ends meet. He had to let go of his dream to enroll at Holy Cross one day. He knew that he would have neither the education, nor the means, to go there.

Now a century later, Bennett’s daughter, Marjorie, has very generously included the College in her estate plan. She intends to make certain that other deserving young men who have lost their fathers will have the means to attend Holy Cross. Her planned gift also ensures that her father will be remembered on The Hill. Whenever the William Francis Bennett Memorial Scholarship is awarded in the years to come, her father’s name will be spoken aloud on campus.

“He was a great guy,” says Marjorie Bennett. “He mentioned often that he had wanted to go to Holy Cross. Instead, he did what he needed to do to support his mother. In later years, when he could, he bought her a house on Cohasset Street in Worcester. He was a self-made man like many men of his era.”

William Bennett had this advice for his only child: “Be good, work hard and do something you like.” He modeled those values as he scraped together the money to open his first car dealership.

He had a one-car inventory.

“I don’t know how he got the money to do it, but somehow or other he got a car to sell,” Marjorie says. “He got a storefront that had room for one car and he put it in the window. That’s how he started. He had a Ford dealership, then, later, a Chevrolet dealership. We moved to Shrewsbury and lived in a wonderful brick house on Maple Avenue.”

Family photos from those years adorn the walls and table tops in Marjorie’s lively and colorful Chestnut Hill apartment. In one photo, her handsome father sits high in the saddle on his horse, Gallant, in Shrewsbury’s Dean Park. Marjorie has lived in the same apartment building for 67 of her 80 years.

“My father lost his money and his car dealership during the Depression,” Marjorie recalls. “We moved to Worcester, then to Boston when he was hired as the sales manager for the Croft Brewing Company in Roxbury. He continued when Croft was bought by the Haffenreflers’ Narragansett Brewing Company.”

William Bennett made sure that his daughter was able to go to college. Marjorie, who went to Marymount College in Tarrytown, N.Y., and Lesley College in Cambridge, Mass., went on to a career in advertising. She also worked with volunteers at Massachusetts General Hospital for nearly two decades. While she has painted all her life, she has focused on painting furniture for the past 18 years. Her pieces are sold in a shop in Newton Highlands. She donates her profits to the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Foundation. Before her father passed away in 1968, he told Marjorie that he hoped that she would “do good things” with her inheritance.

“He said to me, ‘You have this money. I hope you use it well.’ I think he would be very happy to know that it’s going to enable deserving young men who have lost their fathers to go to Holy Cross. I think it’s what he would have wanted.”

Marjorie describes herself as a “behind-the-scenes person” who would prefer not to discuss her philanthropic gestures. “I always say that whatever I do, it’s between God and me, but now everyone will know,” she says. “I hope what I’m doing for Holy Cross serves as an example for others. That’s the only reason I’m talking about it. I turned 80 in October. Some of my friends aren’t making estate plans. I say to them, ‘There must be something in the back of your mind that you would like to do.’ This is it for me. The scholarship will be in my father’s name and that’s important to me. What would be important to my father is that it will support a fatherless boy who would not have a chance to go to Holy Cross without it.”
THE POWER OF ONE

Crista Carrick Mahoney ’02

Holy Cross family: Married to Michael Mahoney ’00; sister, Melissa Carrick ’98; sister-in-law, Elizabeth Mahoney ’13; father-in-law, John Mahoney ’73

What she did at Holy Cross: “I was an Orientation Leader. I coordinated the first Bridges [a day of service during which first-year students work in the Worcester community] and Refugee Outreach for SPUd and participated in the Appalachia Service Project. I was involved in the Student Government Association as a cabinet member and studied abroad in England my junior year.” Mahoney also participated in the First-Year Program (FYP).

How did Holy Cross affect your life? “Being a ‘FYPer’ meant that college life early on was directed by a ‘big question.’ That experience of asking, ‘How, then, shall we live?’ during my first year not only affected my time at Holy Cross, but shaped the way I live my life. Following the Jesuit philosophy of educating the whole person, I have found that asking the big questions helps me understand who I am called to be. It has guided me to the different volunteer years I did after college, to teaching in Catholic Schools, back to school to pursue a Master of Divinity, and finally into Campus Ministry, where educating for social justice comes full circle as I work with college students and encourage them to dig deep into their own questions and experiences.”

Memorable Holy Cross moments: “English Professor Helen Whall became my academic adviser and my thesis adviser. Her passion and zest not only for literature, but also for teaching, her students and life in general, were always contagious! She so clearly loved what she was doing, and that has stuck with me and inspires me in my professional and personal life today.”

The working life: Mahoney is the Campus Minister for Education and Social Justice at Boston’s Emmanuel College.

Why she stays connected to Holy Cross: “Staying connected to classmates and other Holy Cross alums helps me to stay connected to a shared set of values and ideals.”

Why she gives to Holy Cross: “Watching my sister-in-law, Class of 2013, grow as a person affirms the power of the Holy Cross experience that endures—that is something I believe in and always want to support!”

Crista Mahoney ’02 grew up in Wilmington, Del., and now resides in Boston.
A Surgeon’s Service

Ken Edwards, M.D., ’80 P12 works for social justice and healing in Bolivia

Surgeons are often portrayed as Type A personalities. Medical professionals who take command. Doctors who provide hope when life looks bleak.

And so it was for Ken Edwards, M.D., ’80 P12, an orthopedic surgeon in St. Joseph, Mich., and dad to Jordan ’12. Then one Sunday he heard a visiting priest talk about Solidarity Bridge, a Chicago-based organization that works to heal and empower the poor. The words pierced Edwards’ heart, for he had been thinking about his service to others for some time. The doctor contacted Juan Lorenzo Hinojosa, the organization’s executive director, to see about participating in a medical mission.

“Medical professionals are drawn to Solidarity Bridge because they can practice medicine in a pure way,” Hinojosa says. “But it takes a very special person to come on a mission with us. Surgeons, in particular, need to possess a certain degree of humility, generosity of spirit and willingness to connect

“I extend myself beyond my comfort zone to give service to others.”

—Ken Edwards, M.D.

with colleagues and counterparts in Bolivia.”

Within months of that first conversation with Hinojosa, Edwards found himself in one of the poorest countries in South America. A devastating 70 percent of Bolivians live in deep poverty, struggling to find medical care. “It’s a country without a safety net,” Edwards says.

There in the Bolivian city of Cochabamba, Edwards and the other volunteers from Solidarity Bridge (medical professionals, translators and staff) performed 2,317 surgeries, evaluated 54,365 patients and delivered more than $17.5 million of medical equipment, supplies and medications. All in less than two weeks.

But, along with the triumphs, Edwards saw heartbreaking cases that the international team of doctors could not help. Not due to lack of skill or willingness, but because specialized equipment was in short supply. He recalls a young boy

Ken Edwards, M.D., ’80, P12 (right), consults with colleagues during one of his trips to Bolivia with Solidarity Bridge (solidaritybridge.com).
whose arms were amputated following a terrible car accident, one at the shoulder and the other below the elbow. Without the right kind of artificial limbs, there was no direct way for Edwards to help the child regain the use of his arms. He remembers seeing a gentleman lying in a hospital bed who had broken his upper thigh bone. This patient’s medical care was limited to traction provided by foam boots and a pair of two-liter Pepsi bottles filled with water.

“The Bolivians are great surgeons and great colleagues in the truest sense of the word,” Edwards says. “But they don’t have access to all the technological advances we have here. Still, they take care of problems that would humble the best surgeons in the U.S. with equipment that’s pretty arcane. It’s really humbling to watch them do surgery with Black & Decker drills attached to extension cords.”

At Hinojosa’s urging, Edwards is designing a specialized medical mission to Cochabamba and Santa Cruz with equipment donated by Stryker Corp. In October 2011 he’ll lead a surgical team doing total knee replacements—complicated, expensive surgeries that will help disabled Bolivians return to self-sufficiency because they can go back to work. Edwards says his team will follow the patients longitudinally to see how such surgeries benefit the communities overall.

“I’ve got this dream that if I can get this going, and it works, I can contact orthopedic surgeons who attended Holy Cross and convince them to participate,” Edwards says.

When asked where his willingness to serve others started, Edwards credits his student days at Holy Cross. But he really didn’t grasp what the late Rev. Joseph J. LaBran, S.J., ’38, Hon. ’01, longtime teacher, chaplain and director of the Spiritual Exercises, was trying to teach him about Jesuit spirituality until he got older. “Now I understand the absolute obligation to serve others,” Edwards says. “I enjoy a life full of tremendous blessings. I have good skills in orthopedic surgery. If I can bring that to a larger community, that’s the service I’m called to give.”
n the morning of Feb. 19, 1945, the U.S. Marines storm the volcano-ash beaches of Iwo Jima, a tiny island with strategically important airstrips that is entrenched with 22,000 Japanese soldiers vowing to fight to their deaths.

Running amid the invasion mayhem, Peter “Red” Tsapatsaris finds shelter from withering machine-gun crossfire by sliding into an enlarged foxhole. Looking up, he sees a very familiar face, Jimmy Tsaffaras, his best friend from Lowell, Mass.

Then, something only Hollywood might invent happens. “A short time later, I see our pal ‘The Chief’ trudging by,” recalls Tsapatsaris, now 89. “Hey, over here, I yell, and Jimmy Scondras jumps in with us. Imagine three Greeks from The Acre in Lowell, 7,000 miles from home, landing in the same foxhole.”

Impossible to imagine, but true. Sgt. Tsaffaras, First Lt. Scondras ’43 and Cpl. Tsapatsaris grew up in The Acre, an immigrant-springboard neighborhood, then also known as Greektown. All graduated from Lowell High. Because he had high cheekbones and the daring of a Native American brave, his pals nicknamed Jimmy Scondras “The Chief.” They called Tsapatsaris “Red” because of his hair. Scondras ’43 signed on with the U.S. Marines Corps Reserves at Holy Cross. Tsaffaras joined the Marines in April 1942, Tsapatsaris, in November 1943.

Now they are together again, in a foxhole, in mortal danger. The reunion lasts only 20 minutes. “Jimmy (Tsaffaras) put together a quick meal for us from a can of scrambled eggs,” recalls Tsapatsaris.

“The Chief” and I are off to find our units.”
Lowell, a proud industrial mill city along the Merrimack River less than an hour northwest of Boston, is in the limelight these days. It serves as the backdrop for the Oscar-nominated film *The Fighter*, a familiar story of an impoverished pug punching his way to a boxing crown. Mark Wahlberg plays “Irish” Micky Ward, who battles back to win a 1991 alphabet-soup championship while overcoming emotional entanglements with his dysfunctional family. The well-done bio-flick is causing a pleasant buzz in Lowell. Everyone seems to know Micky Ward, who still runs a boxing gym there. They are basking in his fame, however ephemeral.

But even along Highland Street, where his name still graces the entrance to a community gymnasium, hardly anyone asked recognizes the name of James P. Scondras.

Though Scondras’ heroic deeds are part of Lowell lore, you have to visit places like The Owl Diner and the Greek American Legion in The Acre to hear older folks speak, with reverence, about “The Chief.”

Scondras grew up during the Depression, living on the edge of The Acre at 287 Dutton Street. His Greek immigrant parents, Peter and Katina, somehow supported their eight children by running a small downtown restaurant, The Busy Bee, on Merrimack Street.

“The Chief” achieved athletic stardom early on. As a Lowell High sophomore he hit .400 and stole eight bases in 20 games. As a junior he sparked Lowell to a state basketball championship in the old Tech Tourney. As a senior, Scondras scored eight touchdowns as a starring halfback; as basketball captain, he led the team in scoring; in baseball, he hit .345 while leading the team in triples, homers and runs batted in.

“Jimmy was terrific at everything he tried,” says Stephen Ivos, his first cousin. “He could play every position in baseball, football and basketball. He was a champion diver for the YMCA swim team.” His athletic resume glitters: Captain and catcher for the American Legion team that played in the 1936 National Championship Tournament in Middleton, Ohio; his stellar play for the city football champs, the Blackhawks; and his baseball feats in the Greater Lowell Twilight League and, for Glens Falls, N.Y., in the Northern League.

A natural leader. Handsome, humble and on the quiet side. Yet very social and quite a dancer. Took a part in the senior class play. Always active in his church. “Everybody loved the guy,” says Ivos, fighting back tears after all these years.

After a year at St. John’s Prep in Danvers, Mass., The Chief arrived at Holy Cross ready to make his mark as a Crusader sensation.

“He’s a player’s player and this year has only scratched the surface of his ability,” crowed *The Tomahawk* student newspaper in January 1941 about the three-sport standout. In his second year on The Hill, Scondras impressed as a hard-nosed two-way halfback in football. As a starting guard, he helped re-launch the Holy Cross basketball program under Coach Ed “Moose” Krause, sparking the Crusaders’ upset over hosting Amherst College before 1,800 fans on Lincoln’s Birthday, 1941.

That baseball season, under the immortal Coach Jack Barry ’10, Scondras hit cleanup. At packed Fitton Field before a homecoming crowd, Holy Cross trounced Boston College, 11-2, in the final game of the 1941 season. Wrote Roy Mumpton of the *Worcester Telegram*, “The old grads cheered loudly as Jim ‘Chief’ Scondras shattered a 1-1 tie with a tremendous three-run triple in the third inning … and their din crescendoed as the Lowell sophomore followed this decisive hit with three straight singles and hoisted his batting average to an almost unbelievable .471.”

In his third and fourth years, Scondras excelled as a versatile two-way halfback whose teams nearly stunned Boston College (14-13 last-minute loss) in 1941 and then shocked the Eagles in a historic 55-12 upset before 40,000 fans at Fenway Park. In basketball, he sparked a thrilling 47-45 victory over Brown University, scoring eight points to energize Holy Cross’ fourth-period comeback. His hitting keyed baseball victories over Harvard, Yale and Boston College in a war-shortened 1942 season.

But World War II had to be fought. In the spring of 1943, fourth-year student Scondras became one of the
first in his class to sign on with the Marine Reserves, joining a team called the Third Division.

**When Scondras Left That Foxhole**

On the beaches of Iwo Jima, he knew all too well the grave danger of his task. Seven months before, in Guam, on D-Day (July 21, 1944), Scondras had already been cited for acts of heroism after crawling to the top of a rocky ridge and lobbing a hand grenade into a Japanese machine nest, silencing it.

As a forward observer with his artillery unit, Scondras would have to scout out the enemy, concealed in caves and tunnels, and direct incoming firepower. According to a citation accompanying his Silver Star Medal, "On Feb. 22, 1945, First Lt. Scondras boldly pressed forward against the withering barrage to the top of a steep jagged cliff where he could better observe the enemy. From this exposed position, he directed artillery and naval gunfire to silence Japanese attacks and allow the infantry to capture the airstrip."

The next day, the Marines erected the American flag atop Mount Suribachi, an emblematic act memorialized by a now-famous photo and a bronze sculpture at Arlington National Cemetery.

Two days later, First Lt. Scondras was struck by mortar fire and killed. "His radioman was badly wounded by the same shell that killed Jimmy," says Red Tsapatsaris. "The radioman and I were in beds next to each other on a hospital ship. He told me about Jimmy’s terrible death. We couldn’t stop crying."

First Lt. Scondras was buried on Iwo Jima near the base of Mount Suribachi, his grave among others marked by a simple white cross.

On March 29, 1949, Scondras’ body was brought home for interment in Lowell’s Woodland Cemetery along with that of his brother David P. Scondras, an Army infantryman who died in action in France in November 1944. Their gold-star mother and father stood at Lot 154 with family and friends for the burial ceremony. The Chief’s Marine buddies from the foxhole, Jimmy Tsaffaras and Red Tsapatsaris, were there, too, wearing their medals received for their courage and wounds suffered on Iwo Jima. They all grieved the deaths of the Scondras brothers and their first cousin, Costas Ivos, buried in an adjacent plot, and remembered the 36 other sons of Lowell killed during World War II.

Tsapatsaris, one of six children, retired after a long career as a proofreader for book publisher Courier Corporation. Tsaffaras, one of nine children, died at age 89 in 2009, after a distinguished career as a Lowell police officer.

A new gymnasium was dedicated in Scondras’ name in 1965. Every Thanksgiving, the Scondras MVP trophy is presented at the Lowell-Lawrence football game. In 1986, Scondras was enshrined in the Lowell High Hall of Fame. And, in 1990, The Chief gained entry to the Holy Cross Varsity Club’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

"The Chief’ will never die," says Tsapatsaris. "He will always be Lowell’s shining star."

John W. Gearan ’65 was an award-winning reporter and columnist for the Worcester Telegram and Gazette for 36 years. He resides in Rhode Island.
The Third Annual Benching for Breast Cancer fundraiser took place in December, and, for the first time, the weight-lifting competition was open to the entire student body. Four-person teams of every skill level and size filled the Hart Center’s varsity weight room for their turn on the bench. To add some fun, prizes weren’t just for the burliest of the bunch—honors were bestowed for best team costume, most enthusiastic team and the team with the most donations raised.

All proceeds benefited Pink Revolution, a Worcester-based breast cancer alliance. One of the group’s goals is to raise the funds to buy cutting-edge equipment for the UMass Memorial Comprehensive Breast Center in Worcester.

Event organizer Madison Horl ’12, of Garden City, N.Y., says Benching for Breast Cancer 2010 was a “huge success,” citing the contributions of the Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC), HC for a Cure, the strength and conditioning staff and other athletics personnel. Horl adds that part of the success of the day came from the outpouring of love and support shown for those who have been diagnosed with breast cancer in the Holy Cross community. “As Holy Cross students we recognize and value the roles that our supportive community and families play in our lives, and we try hard through numerous outreach programs to extend our sense of community to the city of Worcester and beyond,” she says. “It is our hope that the Pink Revolution will use our funds to advance the technology used in the treatment of this disease that has affected so many of our loved ones.”

Though the spirit of fun prevailed as team results were logged in, the deeper meaning of the event was honored as well. Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., president of the College, offered a prayer, during which participants stood with hands on each others’ shoulders as a sign of support. Cancer survivors from the College community were there to lend inspiration, as were members of Pink Revolution.

Director of strength and conditioning Jeff Oliver, a passionate supporter and leader of the event, notes: “Holy Cross should be awfully proud of the outpouring of support from the student body to help fight this dreadful disease that has and continues to affect so many on campus. Benching for Breast Cancer could conceivably be the most exciting one-hour event that takes place on the Holy Cross campus.”

At the end of the tally, the women’s lacrosse team brought home the most donated bucks, and $1,700 went to Pink Revolution.

Proud Member of an Elite Circle

Twenty years ago, Holy Cross became a founding member of the Patriot League, an NCAA Division I league that celebrates and promotes academic performance and leadership development of students alongside athletic achievement. The League’s full-member institutions consistently rank first among all Division I conferences in student-athlete graduation rates—and are recognized nationally for the effective integration of NCAA Division I athletics into the educational mission of its member schools (American, Army, Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy). Now, the newly launched Patriot League Academic Network website showcases its student athletes through feature stories, videos and interviews. Visit the site at patriotleagueacademicnetwork.org
**OFF THE FIELD WITH NICOLE ORTIZ ’12**

Hittier, Calif., native and varsity softball right fielder Nicole Ortiz ’12 is tackling a political science major and a Latin American and Latino concentration, with designs on becoming an immigration attorney. We asked No. 24 what her life is like when the glove comes off.

**Q&A:**

*When you’re not practicing for the next game or playing softball, where can someone typically find you on campus? And what would you be doing?*

If I’m not practicing or playing softball you can find me at Crossroads eating, playing Ping Pong, playing pool or battling someone at Wii sports.

*Do you have any favorite classes or professors here at Holy Cross?*

My favorite classes are political science classes that focus on the development of Latin America and immigration, because I would like to become an immigration lawyer in the future. My favorite professor would have to be Maria Rodrigues [associate professor of political science], because she has a passion for the development of Latin American countries as I do.

*Please finish this sentence: “People might be surprised to learn that I am really good at …”*

… operating an attraction at Disneyland. I’ve worked the Winnie the Pooh ride. [Ortiz also revealed her other hidden talents: singing and making extra-tasty taquitos and guacamole!]

*Ortiz and her teammates will face off against Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., April 2 and 3. The team is back on the home field April 5 to play Bryant University.*

Nicole Ortiz ’12 spends some of her downtime playing sports other than softball: Ping Pong is a favorite.

**HONORING THE GREATS**

During halftime at the Feb. 12 Winter Homecoming men’s basketball game, three Crusader greats were honored by having their jerseys hoisted to the Hart Center rafters. Jack Foley ’62 and Ronald K. Perry ’80 (left, speaking before the event) were on hand to witness their jerseys being unfurled, joining those of George Kaftan ’49, Bob Cousy ’50, Togo Palazzi ’54 and Tom Heinsohn ’56.

In addition, Ronald S. Perry ’54, a national champion at Holy Cross in baseball and basketball, was honored for his outstanding contributions and unique place in Holy Cross athletics.
After a long, gray winter, vibrant forsythia and azaleas are a welcome sight on campus.  

Photo by Greg Hren
Recently one of my children said, “I’m bored.” My response (wise words a friend recently shared with me) was, “You can’t be bored when you have a book.” Personally, I spend more time these days reading books by Mary Pope Osborne (Magic Tree House series) and Beverly Cleary than Dickens or Austen!

In the early 1980s, Holy Cross faculty compiled a list of 100 books they considered to be the fundamental classics of Western literature and beyond. In the spirit of recommending a good book, we’d like your suggestions for must-read titles published in the last 25 years. We will compile your recommendations this winter and share them in a future issue. So check out the original list online at offices.holycross.edu/alumni/events/education/hc100 and e-mail your list to alumni@holycross.edu.

Speaking of Holy Cross greats, it is with a sad heart that the HCAA says goodbye to a dear alumnus and friend. Rev. George L. O’Brien ’54 passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 15. Father O’Brien received the In Hoc Signo award in October 2010. It was a meaningful evening for me personally to recognize such a special man. To quote one of his friends, “He loved Holy Cross and his alumni activities. The community was truly blessed by his passion for purple.” An obituary for Fr. O’Brien will appear in a future issue of Holy Cross Magazine.

Colleen Amann ’92
President, Holy Cross Alumni Association

This Card Gives Back to Holy Cross

The Holy Cross Alumni Association credit card supports our mission—at no extra cost to you. Express your Holy Cross pride and, with every purchase, you will generate a contribution to benefit the Alumni Association’s many programs and services. To find out more, visit: offices.holycross.edu/alumni/services/creditcard or call 866-438-6262.
The Holy Cross Alumni Association has announced the names of those alumni nominated to serve as officers and members of its board of directors. Kristyn M. Dyer ’94 has been appointed executive secretary. Michael H. Shanahan ’78 has been re-appointed treasurer. Alumni Association bylaws do not require yearly nomination to these offices.

Nominations for the board were selected in accordance with the Alumni Association bylaws, which allow for no more than 20 alumni to be chosen annually for three-year terms, at least 10 of them as at-large members, and 10 drawn one each from the immediate graduating class and from each third class preceding the graduating class.

Although this slate of candidates represents the choices of the HCAA nominating committee, it should be noted that any member of the HCAA may be nominated in accordance with Article VII of the bylaws, as follows: "Any member of the Alumni Association may be nominated for director by a petition containing the signatures of 20 alumni with the executive secretary no later than April 1."

Any member of the HCAA who would like to be so nominated should submit a petition to Kristyn M. Dyer ’94 by April 1, 2011. If any petition should be received, a ballot will appear in the next issue of Holy Cross Magazine so that alumni can vote for the candidate(s) nominated by petition.

President: Brian A. O’Connell ’71

Brian A. O’Connell ’71 is director of finance and chief of staff of the Westerly (R.I.) Public Schools. An attorney and a 1974 graduate of Harvard Law School, he was first elected to the board of directors of the Alumni Association in 1978 and has served continuously, since then, as a director or as a member of the Alumni Senate. Vice president of the Association from 2007 to 2010, O’Connell now serves the Association as its president-elect. He is also co-chair of the Committee on the Alumni Senate, head of the Scholarship Committee and a member of the Committee on Nominations and Elections. O’Connell is a former member of the Holy Cross Board of Trustees. He has served as a member of the Holy Cross Club of Greater Worcester’s board of directors since 1974 and was the Club’s president from 1980 to 1981. A resident of Worcester, he has been a member of the Worcester School Committee since 1984. O’Connell also serves on the board of trustees of both Anna Maria College and Worcester Academy. He is a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and the Parish Council of St. John’s Church in Worcester.

President-elect: Maureen E. Moran ’89

Maureen E. Moran ’89 received her master’s degree in journalism from Columbia University and has worked as an editor, journalist and corporate communications writer. Involved with the Holy Cross Alumni Association since 2001, she has served as a vice president since 2009. Over the past decade, Moran was co-chair and, then, chair of the Communications Committee, as well as a member of the IT Committee. She has been a member of the HCAA board of directors since 2004. Moran now serves on the Alumni Executive Committee and, also, the Nominations and Elections, Budget and Finance and Young Alumni committees. Moran is a freelance writer and editor specializing in healthcare communications. She lives in Canton, Mass., with her husband, Kevin Cloherty, and their daughter, Megan.

To view the full slate of HCAA board of directors candidates, visit: offices.holycross.edu/alumni and click on ‘Alumni Association Board Nominations 2011.”
Life After Holy Cross

Young alumni share experiences beyond Linden Lane

Soon-to-be graduates caught a glimpse of the future as recent alumni returned to share lessons learned in the years since they left Mount St. James. Co-sponsored by the Holy Cross Alumni Association and the Campus Activities Board Cross and Scroll Society, the “Life After Holy Cross” evening featured graduates from the Classes of 2004, 2005 and 2006. During the informal gathering, held in the Williams Hall function room, the alumni speakers fielded questions from students that ranged from the serious—networking and finding a job—to the upbeat—making friends in a new city. Drawing on their experiences since receiving their degrees from Holy Cross, the alumni offered the students advice on budgeting, paying for graduate school, balancing work with a social life and maintaining a connection to the College. The alumni panelists were Andy Cancellieri ’05 (left), Meghan Kenney ’06, Lea Koveos ’04 and Mary Beth Ryan ’05 (above, left to right) and Deirdre Tobias ’05 (not pictured).

The Ultimate Book List

In July 1983, former Dean of the College Rev. Raymond A Schroth, S.J., introduced the Holy Cross 100 Books list, a compendium of titles “born out of a shared enthusiasm for reading and out of the conviction that a love for books is at the heart of both a liberal education and a happy life.” A few of the books to make the list? William Faulkner’s Absalom, Absalom!, Steven Weinberg’s The First Three Minutes and Plutarch’s Lives of Greeks and Romans. Review the entire list at offices.holycross.edu/alumni/events/education/hc100, where you’ll also be able to send in titles you believe should be added.
Hundreds of alumni and families took advantage of a snow-free Saturday on Feb. 12 and travelled to campus for Winter Homecoming, sponsored by the HCAA. One of the organization's most popular events, the day included a movie in Seelos Theater, open skate and swim times at the Hart Recreation Center, workshops and tours. Plus, this year marked the third year for the Legacy Family Luncheon (right), which brought together more than 250 alumni and their current Holy Cross students.
Dave Dowd ’95 is full of bull. And he’s proud of it.

Dowd, senior director of ticket sales for the Chicago Bulls, loves to hear the deafening cheers that greet the team as they run out onto the court before every home game. A core of exciting young players, anchored by All-Star and MVP candidate Derrick Rose, has ignited the running of the Bulls, who aim to go deep in the NBA playoffs this season. (As of press time, the Bulls were second in the Eastern Conference with a 44-18 record and have the fourth best record in the NBA.) “Everyone’s excited by our success thus far, and we’re very optimistic about what lies ahead,” Dowd says with a smile as long as a three-pointer.

Dowd’s job includes hiring, educating, coaching, motivating and managing more than 25 sales reps. When he began selling tickets for the Bulls in 2002, the team was far removed from the NBA Championship squads of the 1990s, led by superstar Michael Jordan (who retired from the Bulls in 1998). Dowd knew he needed to find creative ways to inspire salespeople to hit their goals and fill seats in the United Center.

The best way to inspire people (especially in tough times) he believed, was to praise their hard work and ensure they had all the tools and resources to be successful. “Praise goes a long way,” he says. “Fortunately, despite up-and-down teams over the past eight years, we’ve either led the league in attendance or come in second.”

He also praises his family and their long history at Holy Cross. Great-grandfather Jim Dowd was a plumber who installed fixtures when Fenwick and O’Kane halls were under construction. Grandfather Thomas B. Dowd Sr. ’23 received the In Hoc Signo Award in 1968—and was a 1972 Holy Cross Varsity Club Hall of Fame inductee. And his father, Tom Dowd Jr. ’64, went on to become the national manager of human resources at Sears.

For Dave, selecting Holy Cross was easy; choosing a major was more difficult. Thankfully, “Father knows best.” “I asked my Dad for some guidance before selecting a major,” he recalls. “He told me that most successful people tend to be individuals who have the gift of writing and speaking with great effectiveness, skills he developed as an English major at Holy Cross. [He was a] successful and highly regarded businessman for more than 30 years, so I figured I couldn’t go wrong with his advice. Plus, the liberal arts education I received allowed me to take a variety of courses in other disciplines, including many related to the business field.”

After receiving his degree from Holy Cross, Dowd joined MBNA America and eventually became an assistant vice president in business development, managing the multimillion-dollar credit card portfolios of professional basketball, baseball, football and hockey teams.

His love of sports comes from his grandfather, Tom Dowd Sr. ’23, who was traveling secretary for the Boston Red Sox from 1945 to 1968 and then served as the team’s director.

### The Lowdown on Dowd:

- **Birthplace:** Upper Marlboro, Md.
- **Residence:** Willow Springs, Ill.
- **Birthday:** Sept. 25, 1972
- **Family:** Wife Jennifer; children Bryan, 9, and Jenna, 5
- **Pets:** Beta fish
- **Generations of family associated with Holy Cross:** Four
of community relations. He was also a National Football League official from 1941 to 1957.

“Unfortunately, my grandfather died when I was only four years old, but I can’t help but think that he ‘pulled some strings’ up above to help me obtain my dream job,” Dowd says. “I truly feel blessed to work for a first-class organization with such a rich history and tradition.”

And that’s no bull.

Q&A:

Do you ever daydream about being a professional basketball player?

My days of dreaming about being an NBA player ended long ago, but fortunately one of the great perks of my job is playing basketball with colleagues on the Bulls’ court during lunch on game days.

What’s your favorite sports moment?

Game Six of the epic first-round 2009 playoff series with the Boston Celtics. The series went seven games, featured four overtime games (with a total of seven overtime periods) and saw 108 lead changes. I’ll never forget the moment when Game Six went into a third overtime. Fans were in a complete frenzy, and my 7-year-old son, Bryan, perhaps sensing that my anxiety level was at an all-time high, stood on his seat, wrapped his arm around my shoulder and said, “Everything’s going to be fine, Dad—we’re going to pull this one out.” It was ironic that he was offering words of encouragement and support, since that’s usually my job. We won the game, but lost the series (as my many Holy Cross friends from Boston like to remind me).

Would you ever want to be on “The Apprentice”?

That would be intriguing. (laughs) But with all the time we need to devote to my kids’ activities, I don’t think my wife would like that idea.

Who’s your favorite author?

Although I’m a fan of Shakespeare’s works—thanks to English professor Helen Whall—I can’t say I have a favorite author nowadays. Due to my job and my passion for sports, I read everything related to the Bulls, sports in general and books and magazines about sales/service. Beyond that, I read with my kids. Recently, it’s been the Fancy Nancy and Curious George books with my daughter, Jenna, and the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series with my son, Bryan.

It is said that “the feet of Barcelona dangle in the Mediterranean while its back sits against the Collserola Hills.” You can experience it all during this city-stay tour for alumni, parents and friends. The diversity of culture, architecture, history and cuisine Barcelona offers will appeal to a variety of travelers! Explore on your own or sign up for optional tours led by a local guide. The eight-day/six-night tour includes round-trip flights from Boston, six nights accommodations, welcome dinner, daily buffet breakfast and a half-day orientation sightseeing tour. (Packing tip: Average October temps in Barcelona are dreamy in the high-60s to mid-70s.) For more information, visit http://offices.holycross.edu/alumni/events/travel or call the Alumni Office at 508-793-2418.

Alumni Travel: Barcelona, Spain

October 15-22, 2011
John E. May and his wife, May Wong, announce the birth of their daughter, Vanessa Jacqueline, on Jan. 8. Michelle DeViva Richitelli and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter, Mara Michelle, on Dec. 31. Richitelli writes that she lives with her family on Long Island, N.Y.—and that she has been working for the last five years with Philips Electronics, in corporate communications. The law firm Murphy & King Professional Corporation announced in February that Damien R. Savoie has joined its Boston office as an associate in the commercial litigation group; according to the press release, Savoie specializes in “the representation of public and private companies with a wide range of general corporate and commercial disputes.”

Daria (Blake) Walton and her husband, Justin, announce the birth of their son, Philip Levon, on Sept. 16. Caroline E. Wilke and her husband, Charlie Mur- rin, announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Elizabeth Mur- rin, on July 2. Wilke writes that she works in human resources at Aetna in Hartford, Conn. Daniel P. Ambrogi and Shannon N. Quinn ’95 were married on Oct. 10, in Lenox, Mass. Class Co-Chairs Jennifer B. Burns, Holly R. Khachadorian-Elia, M.D., and Christopher L. Sears ’97

Stephen T. Chema II and his wife, Robin Quintard, announce the birth of their son, Stanley Webster Chema, on Nov. 5. J. Patrick English and his wife, Nina, announce the birth of their daughter, Colette Frances, in October 2008. Michelle (Martin) Gunn and her husband, Matt, announce the birth of their daughter Grace Máire, on Oct. 28. Deborah (Martin) Hegarty and her husband, Hugh, announce the birth of their son, Matthew John, on Oct. 2. Lauren Chite Hespos and her husband, Tom, announce the birth of their son, Thomas, on Aug. 18. Christine (Rogers) Johnson and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Grace, on Sept. 5. Richard J. “Rick” MacDonald and his wife, Tamara ’96, announce the birth of their daughter, Caroline Grace, on July 28. Maureen Heney and Paul H. Marvin announce the birth of their daughter, Mary Kate, on Dec. 20. The couple write that Paul works at Marvin Windows and Doors and that their family lives in Warroad, Minn. Megan Callen and Brendan M. McCarthy announce the recent birth of their son, John Callen McCarthy. The couple note that, after three years in Tokyo, they relocated to Hong Kong, where they have lived for the past two years—and that Brendan continues to work for Goldman Sachs. Jonathan A. Nitche, D.M.D., and his wife, Wendy, announce the birth of their son, Brennan Albert, on July 30. Kelly Paquin Trethewey and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of their daughter, Alexandra Kate, on Oct. 10. Class Co-Chairs Marnie J. Dardanello, M.D., Kristin M. O’Connor, Julie E. Orio ’98

Timothy C. “Tim” Bennett and his wife, Danielle, announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Jane, on Jan. 21. Bennett writes that he serves as an attorney with the law firm Brown Rudnick LLP in New York City and lives with his family in Maplewood, N.J. Efstratios V. “Strati” Katopodis and his wife, Connie, announce the birth of their son, Nicholas, on Jan. 26. Nicole (Bell) McLoughlin and her husband, Evan, announce the birth of their daughter, Rileigh Anne, on July 26.


By Jody Garlock

Sailing Sydney Harbor, watching penguins march out of the sea and sampling crocodile at a private tasting would make any Australian vacation one to remember. But when your host and tour guide is Oprah Winfrey, it’s truly a trip of a lifetime. So says Amy O’Brien Davagian ’99, who spent eight days in December touring Down Under as one of the talk-show queen’s “Ultimate Viewers.”

Davagian, a former standout basketball player for the Crusaders, earned the honor after submitting a 1,000-word e-mail detailing how a Winfrey show inspired her to get back into her pre-pregnancy shape and run a marathon. A few weeks after writing about her “aha moment,” she—along with her sister-in-law as her guest—was on a plane to Chicago for a show taping, where Winfrey then surprised her loyal fans with the ultimate vacation.

“The whole experience was more spectacular than anything I could have imagined,” says Davagian (above left, with her sister-in-law), who toured Melbourne when the 302 fans split off from their Sydney base. “I found Oprah to be a genuinely gracious, grounded human being who just gets life and its purpose.”

The experience also gave the Stow, Mass., resident a fresh perspective on her life as a wife, mom to two daughters, college basketball official and color analyst covering Holy Cross women’s games. “I’ve learned to stop wondering so much about the future and just enjoy the moment more,” Davagian says. She also credits supportive professors and coaches from her college years with giving her the confidence to step out of her comfort zone. “Long before writing into The Oprah Winfrey Show, Holy Cross set the stage for making me believe I’m capable of achieving any goal by working hard and remaining focused,” Davagian says.

Spring 2011

57
At 7 feet 7 inches, Durham, England, native Neil Fingleton ’04 holds the title as the tallest man in the United Kingdom. Since graduation, the former center for the Crusader basketball team has immersed himself in an interesting mix of careers, from professional basketball to clothing sales to acting.

In 2004 Fingleton embarked on an international pro hoops career, including stops in Greece, Italy and Spain. When a lingering back injury forced his decision to retire from the pro court in 2007, Fingleton opted to explore his more creative side, pursuing a career in retail. Knowing firsthand the difficulty he has finding clothes that fit, the former history major began selling clothing to other people of his stature through his website, sevenfootseven.com.

“With my being one of the tallest men in the world and having a disadvantage in buying clothes, I decided to set up my own website selling clothes to other tall men,” Fingleton says. “It seemed like a natural thing to do, and the business is now doing very well.”

With that business humming along, Fingleton now can be found pursuing his main passion: acting.

“During my time at Holy Cross, I never thought that someday basketball would be over for me,” he says. “Holy Cross gave me the enthusiasm to express myself as a person in whatever I choose to do. Now my enthusiasm lies within acting; I have a lot to thank Holy Cross for. I was fortunate enough to receive a great education from one of the top liberal arts colleges in the USA.”

Over the past three years, Fingleton has taken a number of different commercial and stage roles—he is currently starring in an English production of Aladdin as the genie, and he has a part as a Russian villain (who has some pretty serious fisticuffs with one of the leading characters) in the next X-Men movie.

“My ultimate goal would be to continue as a working actor,” Fingleton explains, citing Sean Penn, Clint Eastwood and Robert De Niro as some of his favorite actors.

“With my height, my roles are limited as to what I can and can’t get. When height is needed I am always at the top of the list now that I am becoming more known in the business,” he says, adding, “I put into action things that I have learned at Holy Cross every single day professionally.”

Amy (Spada) Michel and her husband, François, announce the birth of their daughter, Alix Bénédicte Spada Michel, on July 4. Michel writes that she has recently accepted a position with the Association Française de Normalisation (AFNOR)—“the French national standards body”—as a project manager for the health care sector. Erin L. Moulton writes that, this year, she became the principal of the upper elementary campus (grades four to six), at the Prospect Hill Academy Charter School in Somerville, Mass. Christine N. and John J. Peirano III announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Grace, on Dec. 23.

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Megan Nealon Chevalier and her husband, Jim, announce the birth of their daughter, Jane Beatrice, on May 22. Emily (Rauer) Davis and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of their son, Michael Radford Davis, on Feb. 4, 2010. Karen (Woodland) Flanagan and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Rose, on Dec. 25.

Megan “Meg” Fox-Kelly and her husband, Marty, announce the birth of their son, Sean O’Donnell Kelly, on Oct. 3. Mark A. Fretta writes that he recently completed his law degree at Willamette University in Oregon and returned to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., “where he will compete for the U.S. National Triathlon Team domestically and abroad through the 2012 season.” Jennifer O’Brien and Michael E. Holzapfel announce the birth of their son, Sean Michael ‘00, announce the birth of their daughter, Violet Adele, on June 25. Mark S. Lucier, D.M.D., writes that his wife, Megan J. Lucier, D.M.D., and he successfully completed the adoption of their son, Cooper Adrian, on Jan. 5.

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Sipping Soup with Dave Ursillo ’08

By Bob Gulla

Just days after commencement, Dave Ursillo ’08 found himself on another “Hill,” having accepted an internship with the White House Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, D.C. As an ambitious and energetic Holy Cross grad, the political science major was intent on making a difference.

But Beltway politics and, later on, work in local politics back home in Rhode Island, left him yearning for more. “Technically, I was working in ‘public service,’ but I certainly was not embodying the Holy Cross mantra of ‘living for others,’” he says. So Ursillo dusted off Plan B and swapped his political aspirations for life as a writer.

With a resume that includes work as editor-in-chief of The Crusader from 2007 to 2008, Ursillo scored big when he landed a story called, “The Greatest Lesson Never Spoken” in Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Dad, an entry in the mega-selling, feel-good series.

“The story in Chicken Soup was a small step, but a positive one in the right direction,” he says, adding that its publication helped him validate his new mission. Ursillo now writes about self-improvement and personal development for his blog at daveursillo.com, which reaches more than 2,000 readers each month. He is also dedicated to promoting an alternative leadership philosophy called “quiet leadership.”

“I’ve always felt that fulfillment in life would come from being a leader who could empower others,” he says. Ursillo sees his writing passion as a new way to gain insight into what kind of a leader he will become.

“One lesson I’ve learned is that you have to be true to yourself ... If you make your life decisions based on what ‘feels right’ you will have few regrets in the end.”

James Reed Maher, on Nov. 8. Alexandra (Winkler) and Timothy F. Polefko announce the birth of their son, Stephen Francis, on Dec. 21. Douglas D. Taggart writes that he recently accepted the position of project manager at GE Asset Management—and adds that he is pursuing his M.B.A. in finance and business economics, evenings, at Fordham University in New York City. Liam O. Toomey and his wife, Anne, announce the birth of their daughter, Riley McLean, on Nov. 17. Emily R. Hunter and Kevin Bacon Jr. were married on April 10, 2010, at The Catholic Center at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. Patrick M. Kennedy and Meredith Taylor were married on Sept. 26, 2009, at Studio 450 in New York City. Class Co-Chairs Elizabeth L. Maloy, Inez R. McGowan

’04

Erin Palank Davies writes that she is working as an event producer for Rafanelli Events in Boston. Lauren A. Schnare Mahoney notes that she has accepted a position as the school psychologist and team chair for the middle schools of the Nashoba Regional School District in Bolton, Mass. Colleen A. Gates-Robesch and William J. “Bill” Robesch announce the birth of their daughter, Catherine Joan, on Dec. 25. Erin M. Palank and Daniel Davies were married on Sept. 4, at the Boston Public Library. Class Co-Chairs Kathryn Meyers Gilbert, Kathryn C. Leader, John M. O’Donnell

’05

Andrew T. Trentacoste writes that he recently completed his third year at HBO, “where he manages the financial operations and reporting for HBO Sports, Pay-Per-View, and the HBO Central Europe networks.”

Leah M. Grogan and Zach Sakas were married on Oct. 23, in Arizona. Class Co-Chairs Luz M. Colon-Rodriguez, Elizabeth B. Corridan, Jennifer L. Marcotte

’06

Lauren R. Cartwright writes that she is pursuing her M.B.A. and, also, a master’s degree in accounting, at Northeastern University, Boston. Annie Birde Keller and her husband, Christopher, announce the birth of their daughter, Elodie Mae, on Oct. 13. Brian R. LaRochelle writes that he is currently living in New Haven, Conn., and working as a school counselor and baseball coach at Amity Regional High School in Woodbridge, Conn. Jenna (Cook) McDermott notes that she teaches art at the Ashland (Mass.) Middle School. Katherine E. Petersen writes that she is an acute care nurse practitioner and a registered nurse at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Meredith (Johnson) Phelan notes that she is pursuing her master’s degree in public school building leadership at Columbia University, New York City, and continuing to teach English as a second language in the Bronx, N.Y. Jennifer A. Smith writes that she is currently attending New England Law Boston and residing in Beverly, Mass. Sarah C. Trevarthen notes that she received her degree from the New York Law School last May and is now working as in-house counsel for real estate law. Jenna M. Cook and Joseph McDermott were married on July 10, in Providence, R.I. Class Co-Chairs Lisa M. Litterio, Glenn R. McGowan, Ashley B. Scibelli

’07

Patrick H. “Pat” Devane writes that he is stationed aboard the USS Anzio (CG-68), until June when he will relocate
IN MEMORIAM

A note about In Memoriam  
Holy Cross Magazine publishes In Memoriam four times a year, in honor of College alumni, Trustees, students, employees and friends. Due to space constraints, obituary content is limited to an overview of an individual’s life accomplishments, including service to alma mater, and a survivors’ listing. Tributes appear in the order in which they are received; due to the volume of submissions and magazine deadlines, it may be several issues before they appear in print. For a list of recent deaths, visit offices.holycross.edu/alumni/services/memoriam. To notify the College of a death, please call the Alumni Office at (508) 793-3039 or send an e-mail to Karen Harney at kharney@holycross.edu, attaching a copy of a newspaper obituary, if available.

1937  
Ziba F. Graham  
Ziba Graham, a longtime resident of Washington, Ind., died Oct. 31, 2010, at his home in Michigan, at 95. During his career, Mr. Graham was the treasurer of Graham Farms and manager of the Graham Cheese Corp. in Washington. Past president and chairman of the board of the Peoples National Bank in Washington, he had also been involved with the Washington Catholic schools — and a member of several fraternal and community organizations. Most recently a resident of Vero Beach, Fla., and Conway, Mich., Mr. Graham pursued numerous interests, including sailing and racehorses. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross and a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. Graham is survived by his wife, Sally; two sons; three daughters; two sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; two stepchildren; two brothers; 17 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and nephew Robert C. III ’69. His brother was the late Robert C. Jr. ’56.

Mitchell J. Sabagh  
Mitchell Sabagh, a 30-year resident of Port St. Lucie, Fla., died Nov. 15, 2010, at 95. A longtime trial attorney with the federal government, Mr. Sabagh began his career with the Department of Commerce, Office of Export Controls’ Antitrust Division, serving in this capacity from 1947 to 1952. He subsequently served as a trial attorney with the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division; the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission; and the Department of Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals. Later assigned to the Bureau of Mines as its first assessment officer, Mr. Sabagh tried cases that concerned violations to the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969; prior to his retirement in 1980, he had been a federal administrative appeals judge with the Department of the Interior, Board of Indian Appeals. A Marine Corps veteran of World War II, Mr. Sabagh had served in the Pacific and, in Legal Headquaters, USMC, in Washington, D.C. An accomplished musician, bandleader and singer, he had also been a baseball coach at Gonzaga High School and leader of the Lebanese-American Club, both in Washington, D.C., as well as a longtime usher at Holy Family Church in Port St. Lucie. Mr. Sabagh is survived by his wife, Rita; three daughters; a sister; two grandsons; a great-grandson; and many nephews and nieces.

1939  
Joseph L. Frank  
Joseph Frank, a longtime resident of Troy, N.Y., died July 1, 2010, in Lakewood, N.J., at 92. During his career, Mr. Frank had been an independent insurance agent in Troy, operating the Charles Frank Agency. An Army veteran, he had served in Europe during World War II. Mr. Frank is survived by his children; a sister; and grandchildren.

1940  
Charles A. Snay  
Charles Snay died Oct. 22, 2010, in UMass Memorial Hospital, Worcester, Mass., at 93. During his career, Mr. Snay worked for the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, which later became part of Conrail. A star athlete at his alma mater David Prouty High School in Spencer, Mass., he had been a member of the varsity baseball team at Holy Cross. Mr. Snay’s community involvement included serving as a scoutmaster for the Boy Scout troop affiliated with Our Lady of Vilna Church in Worcester. Mr. Snay is survived by a son; three daughters; their spouses; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

1941  
Robert J. Bannin  
Robert Bannin died Nov. 5, 2010, in Raleigh, N.C., at 91. Prior to his retirement in 1980, Mr. Bannin had been a longtime accountant with Republic Aviation/ Fairchild Hiller in Farmingdale, N.Y. A veteran, he served as a sergeant in the Army during World War II. The winner of state and
national Catholic high school diving titles, Mr. Bannin had also played competitive tennis for many years. He is survived by a son; two daughters; two sons-in-law; four grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Donald F. Cotter**
Donald Cotter died May 4, 2010, at his home in Canton, Mass., at 92. During his career, Mr. Cotter had worked more than 30 years as a sales manager for the New England Telephone Co. He was a retired lieutenant colonel of the Air Force. Mr. Cotter is survived by his wife, Elisa; a daughter; two sons; a granddaughter; a daughter-in-law; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

**John F. Crowell**
John Crowell died Nov. 24, 2010, in Middletown, R.I., at 90. During his career, Mr. Crowell had worked for the Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, N.Y., and, subsequently, for Choquette & Co., Inc., in Providence, R.I. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served in the European and Pacific theaters and, also, in North Africa. Mr. Crowell is survived by a daughter; two sisters; and two grandsons.

**John F. Hayes Jr.**
John Hayes, of Gulf Breeze, Fla., died Oct. 20, 2010, at 89. During his career, Mr. Hayes had worked many years as a budget analyst for the Air Force at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served as an intelligence specialist on the staff of Adm. Chester Nimitz in the Pacific. Following his retirement in 1977, Mr. Hayes relocated with his wife to Florida. He is survived by his wife, Elisha; a daughter; and a brother.

**William E. Johnson, M.D.**
William Johnson, M.D., died Aug. 30, 2010, in Salem, Mass., at 89. A 1945 graduate of Harvard Medical School in Boston, Dr. Johnson had practiced orthopedic surgery north of the city, from 1952 to 1989. Beginning a sole practice of orthopedics that later became Salem Orthopedic Surgeons, he had held the post of chief of orthopedics at Salem Hospital, now part of the North Shore Medical Center. Dr. Johnson was a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Attending medical school in a Navy program to train surgeons, he had received a World War II Victory Medal. Commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy, Dr. Johnson had served on active duty as an assistant surgeon at Pearl Harbor and on Midway Island in the Pacific and continued his military career as a member of the Navy Reserve. Involved in community service, he was a former director of the Eastern Bank in Salem and the Salem YWCA, as well as president of the Marblehead Neck (Mass.) Improvement Association; Dr. Johnson’s interests included sailing, travel and photography. He is survived by his wife, Claire; four sons, including Robert E. ’75; two daughters; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**1942**

**John F. Crowell**
John Crowell died Nov. 24, 2010, in Middletown, R.I., at 90. During his career, Mr. Crowell had worked for the Carrier Corporation in Syracuse, N.Y., and, subsequently, for Choquette & Co., Inc., in Providence, R.I. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served in the European and Pacific theaters and, also, in North Africa. Mr. Crowell is survived by a daughter; two sisters; and two grandsons.

**John F. Hayes Jr.**
John Hayes, of Gulf Breeze, Fla., died Oct. 20, 2010, at 89. During his career, Mr. Hayes had worked many years as a budget analyst for the Air Force at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served as an intelligence specialist on the staff of Adm. Chester Nimitz in the Pacific. Following his retirement in 1977, Mr. Hayes relocated with his wife to Florida. He is survived by his wife, Elisha; a daughter; and a brother.

**William E. Johnson, M.D.**
William Johnson, M.D., died Aug. 30, 2010, in Salem, Mass., at 89. A 1945 graduate of Harvard Medical School in Boston, Dr. Johnson had practiced orthopedic surgery north of the city, from 1952 to 1989. Beginning a sole practice of orthopedics that later became Salem Orthopedic Surgeons, he had held the post of chief of orthopedics at Salem Hospital, now part of the North Shore Medical Center. Dr. Johnson was a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Attending medical school in a Navy program to train surgeons, he had received a World War II Victory Medal. Commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy, Dr. Johnson had served on active duty as an assistant surgeon at Pearl Harbor and on Midway Island in the Pacific and continued his military career as a member of the Navy Reserve. Involved in community service, he was a former director of the Eastern Bank in Salem and the Salem YWCA, as well as president of the Marblehead Neck (Mass.) Improvement Association; Dr. Johnson’s interests included sailing, travel and photography. He is survived by his wife, Claire; four sons, including Robert E. ’75; two daughters; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**1943**

**Carl A. Fischer, M.D.**
Carl Fischer, M.D., of Columbia, Md., died Sept. 3, 2010, Dr. Fischer was a retired colonel of the U.S. Army. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. Dr. Fischer is survived by a son, Carl A. Jr. ’73; three daughters; a foster daughter; a sister; 15 grandchildren; three foster grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Paul D. McCusker**
Paul McCusker died Nov. 23, 2010, at his home in Durham, N.C., at 89. During his career, Mr. McCusker had worked 13 years for the United Nations, including a stint with UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) in Vienna, from 1973 to 1976; he retired from his position as director of professional recruitment services at the U.N. Secretariat in 1982. Mr. McCusker subsequently practiced law with the New York City law firm Garrity, Connolly, Lewis, Lowry & Grimes and served as an adjunct professor at Long Island University in Brooklyn, N.Y., teaching a graduate course on public international law. Withdrawing in 1993 from the law firm, which was then Garrity & McCusker, he continued to perform pro bono legal work and, also, translated from the Italian a book by Claudio Rendina, titled *The Popes: Histories and Secrets*. Mr. McCusker relocated with his wife, Joan, to Durham in 1999, where he taught courses in international law at the Duke Institute for Learning in Retirement and participated in local cultural groups. A 1949 graduate of Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y., Mr. McCusker then studied international law in Rome as the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship. Beginning his career in Rome with the U.S. Foreign Service, he worked at the Consulate General in Hamburg, Germany, and, later, in Djakarta, Indonesia; Mr. McCusker left the Foreign Service in 1969 to join the United Nations. An Army veteran, he had served in India during World War II. Mr. McCusker had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross and a Holy Cross class agent. He is survived by a son; two daughters; five grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren. Mr. McCusker was predeceased by his wife, Joan, and his youngest son, Ian Francis.

**1944**

**Alphonse J. Homicz**
Alphonse Homicz died Oct. 31, 2010, at the Banner Boswell Medical Center in Sun City, Ariz., at 88. During his career, Mr. Homicz had worked in the finance and banking business, serving as a vice president of Key Bank. A past resident of several New England states, he retired in 1989 to Sun City, where had been a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Seton Church and a volunteer, for several years, with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Mr. Homicz was a Navy officer during World War II. He is survived by his wife, Mary; a son; a daughter; a daughter-in-law; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Chester J. Wasilewski**
Chester “Chet” Wasilewski died Oct. 1, 2010, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., at 92. Prior to his retirement in 1983, Mr. Wasilewski had worked many years for the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, serving as a teacher, coach and the supervisor of athletics. He had been a member of the Wyoming Valley Athletic Association, board member of the Wyoming Catholic Youth Center and member of the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. A standout athlete in football, baseball and basketball, he played sports at his alma mater G.A.R. Memorial High School in Wilkes-Barre, Holy Cross, and the Mansfield (Pa.) State Teachers College, now Mansfield University, where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame. In addition, Mr. Wasilewski had played baseball for the Providence Chiefs, football with the Wilkes-Barre Bullets and basketball for the Wilkes-Barre Barons. An Army veteran, he had served as a member of the 88th Blue Devil Infantry Division, 350th Battle Mountain Regiment, receiving a Bronze Star for heroism in Italy in 1945. Mr. Wasilewski is survived by his wife, Violet; two daughters; two sons-in-law; and four grandchildren.

**1945**

**Thomas L. O’Neil**
Thomas O’Neil died Nov. 28, 2010, in Noble Hospital, Westfield, Mass., at 87. During his career, Mr. O’Neil worked for the Travelers Insurance Co. in Hartford, Conn., and later established
the T.L. O’Neil Insurance Agency in Westfield. He also served as the treasurer and collector of taxes for the city of Westfield, from 1958 to 1978. Involved in numerous civic, fraternal and veterans’ organizations, Mr. O’Neil was a past member of the Democratic City Committee, coach for Babe Ruth baseball, longtime parishioner of St. Mary’s Church, and member of the Holy Cross Club of Pioneer Valley. In addition, he had been a justice of the peace for many years. Mr. O’Neil was a Navy veteran, serving in the Pacific theater and attaining the rank of lieutenant junior grade. He had been a Holy Cross class agent. Mr. O’Neil is survived by his wife, Mary; three sons, including Thomas C. ’82; a daughter, Tracy A. Collins ’86; a son-in-law; a daughter-in-law; six grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

Robert J. O’Shea
Robert O’Shea, of Arlington, Mass., and, formerly, of Belmont, Mass., died Nov. 18, 2010. During his career, Mr. O’Shea had been the vice president of Winn Ricker & Co., Inc. and treasurer of the New England Produce Center. He was an Army veteran. Mr. O’Shea is survived by a sister; six nephews; five nieces; and 35 grandchildren.

Charles H. Scribner
Charles Scribner died Oct. 1, 2010, at 87. During his career, Mr. Scribner worked for Hamilton Standard, Chandler Evans and, also, with his sons. He was an Army and Air Force veteran of World War II. Mr. Scribner is survived by his wife, Eileen; three sons; three daughters; five stepchildren; a brother; 30 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Robert L. Lynch Sr.
Robert Lynch, of Mashpee, Mass., and, formerly, of Stoughton, Mass., died Nov. 25, 2010, at 87. A longtime Massachusetts educator, Mr. Lynch taught ancient history, first at Kingston and Ware high schools, and, later, at Stoughton High School, where he had been a teacher for 28 years, until his retirement in 1983. Continuing to work for five years as an affiliate for the Museum of Fine Arts, Mr. Lynch subsequently retired to Seconsett Island in Mashpee. Active for many years in the military, he served in the Army artillery during World War II, from 1943 to 1945—and was awarded five Battle Stars and the French Croix de Guerre; after college, Mr. Lynch was stationed for five years in Germany with Army Intelligence, until 1954. Commissioned in the Army Reserves, he retired as a major in 1974. Mr. Lynch was a member of the Military Officers Association of America, the Massachusetts Teachers Association and the Holy Cross Club of Cape Cod. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn; three sons; a daughter; their spouses, including Kevin F. Healy, D.D.S., ’82; and eight grandchildren.

Joseph A. Barrett Jr.
Joseph Barrett, of Bethesda, Md., died Sept. 19, 2010. Mr. Barrett had been a Holy Cross class agent and a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. He is survived by a son; two daughters; two sons-in-law; a daughter-in-law; a sister; and five grandchildren.

John J. Tivnan
John Tivnan, of Worcester, died Sept. 15, 2010, in the Notre Dame Long Term Care Center, at 84. A longtime educator and coach, Mr. Tivnan had worked in the Worcester public school system for 37 years, teaching at the Adams Square and Wawecus Road schools and, later, at the Harrington Way Jr. High School; he was named the city’s “Teacher of the Year” in 1973. In addition, Mr. Tivnan had served 35 years as a supervisor and leader of recreational activities with the Worcester Parks Department. Accepting the position of baseball coach in 1948 at his alma mater St. Stephen’s High School in Worcester, he continued in this capacity until the school’s closing in 1971; the win/loss record during his tenure was 249 to 97, with the 1958 team winning the Massachusetts state baseball championship. Mr. Tivnan was inducted into the Massachusetts High School Coaches Hall of Fame in 1985 and was honored in 1992 by Worcester Sports Alive, a supporter of local athletic programs. In 1991, the baseball diamond at Lake Park in Worcester—home field of St. Stephen’s during Mr. Tivnan’s coaching years—was dedicated in his honor. An outstanding pitcher and mainstay of the 1945, 1946 and 1947 baseball teams at Holy Cross, Mr. Tivnan was inducted into the College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978. He was a lifelong member of St. Stephen’s Church where he served as a Eucharistic Minister, lector and religious education teacher. Mr. Tivnan’s brother was the late James A. ’51.

John M. Kallaugher
John Kallaugher died Oct. 3, 2010, in the Frederick (Md.) Memorial Hospital. During his career, Mr. Kallaugher was the president and chief operating officer of J.M. Layton & Co. in Norwalk, Conn. A community leader in Norwalk, he had served as the fire commissioner, chair of the Employees’ Pension Fund and longtime library trustee, among other responsibilities. Mr. Kallaugher was an Army Air Force veteran of World War II. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two sons; two daughters, including Mary Gemma Cannon ’78; a brother; and nine grandchildren.

Carmine C. Mascoli
Carmine Mascoli, of Holland, Pa., died Sept. 16, 2010, in St. Mary Medical Center, Langhorne, Pa., at 82. During his career, Mr. Mascoli had been involved in scientific and research and development pursuits, holding management positions at several major drug companies, including Merck, Richardson-Vicks, Baxter International and Bristol-Myers Squibb; prior to his retirement, he had been the chief science officer and chairman of the board for a startup biotechnology firm pioneering genetic engineering. In the course of his work, Mr. Mascoli had published more than 70 scientific papers. Earning his master’s degree in bacteriology, in 1953 at the University of Connecticut and his Ph.D., in microbiology, in 1956, at Ohio State University, he was first employed by Eli Lilly as an immunologist. Developing an interest in academic research while teaching at Butler University in Indianapolis, he served as an associate professor in virology at the West Virginia University.
School of Medicine where he established the first virology diagnostic laboratory. Following retirement, Mr. Mascoli was involved in community government in the Langhorne Manor Borough and at the Regency at Northampton in Holland. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two sons; three daughters; two sons-in-law; a daughter-in-law; two brothers, Eugene J. ‘52 and Nicholas M. Jr., M.D., ‘58; a sister, Marie Scionti; and nine grandchildren.

1950

John J. McGonigle, M.D.

John McGonigle, M.D., of Mattapoisett, Mass., died Nov. 23, 2010, at 82. During his career, Dr. McGonigle had practiced dermatology in New Bedford, Mass., and Mattapoisett. An Army veteran, he served at Fort Myer in Virginia in 1947. Dr. McGonigle had been a Holy Cross class agent. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; four sons, including James J. ‘87, Stephen F. ‘87 and Daniel P. ‘87; a daughter; a daughter-in-law; a brother, Paul F. ‘54; and five grandchildren.

1951

Ernest A. Carbone

Ernest Carbone died Oct. 28, 2010, at his home in South Yarmouth, Mass., at 82. Mr. Carbone had worked many years in both engineering and marketing at the General Electric Co. in Fitchburg, Mass., retiring to Cape Cod, Mass. He is survived by his wife, Louise; two sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; two daughters-in-law; a brother; two sisters-in-law; six grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

1953

Edward F. Brothwell

Edward Brothwell died Nov. 18, 2010, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, Fla., at 78. A longtime resident of Southington, Conn., Mr. Brothwell had served as the director of sales for Maccabees Mutual Life Ins. Co.; he relocated to Redington Shores, Fla., in 1996. Mr. Brothwell was a Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War and a retired lieutenant colonel of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; three sons; a sister; and nine grandchildren.

1950

David P. Donohue

David Donohue, retired rear admiral of the U.S. Navy, died Oct. 31, 2010, at his home in Norfolk, Va. A 40-year Navy veteran, Mr. Donohue had served on the staff of the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, as director of fleet maintenance, prior to his retirement in 1989. From 1980 to 1983, he was in command of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, which, under his oversight, was awarded several honors, including the Navy Unit Commendation in 1982. The recipient of numerous military decorations, including the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit, Mr. Donohue was recognized by the Navy League with its annual John Paul Jones Award for Inspirational Leadership and by Federally Employed Women, Inc., with its annual Distinguished Service Award. Following his retirement from the Navy, he held several positions with the Jonathan Corporation of Norfolk and, subsequently, worked for Integrated Systems Analysts, Inc. as head of the Ship Systems Engineering Branch in Norfolk; joining Thermal Spray and Machine, Inc., in 2002, Mr. Donohue served as corporate technical director until his retirement in early 2010. His professional affiliations included the American Society of Naval Engineers, the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers and the American Society for Quality Control. Mr. Donohue is survived by his wife, Dolores; five children; and seven grandchildren.

1954

Robert W. O'Brien

Robert O'Brien, of Newton, Mass., died March 15, 2010, at 84. During his career, Mr. O'Brien had taught history for 38 years at Archbishop Williams High School in Braintree, Mass. He was an Army veteran of World War II. Mr. O'Brien is survived by his wife, Martha; a son; a daughter, Rebecca E. ‘81; and a daughter-in-law. His brother was the late James J. ‘48.

1954

John E. Barry

John Barry, a lifelong resident of Brockton, Mass., died Nov. 10, 2010, at 77. Prior to his retirement in 1994, Mr. Barry had served 28 years as a school adjustment counselor at the elementary level in Brockton; following retirement, he was a home teacher for the school department. A social worker in Brockton and Stoughton, Mass., at the start of his career, Mr. Barry subsequently taught middle school in Middleboro, Mass., from 1959 to 1964, and, at the West Junior High School, in Brockton, from 1964 to 1966. During the Korean War, he had been a member of the Army Security Agency. Mr. Barry is survived by his wife, Marguerite; two sons; four daughters; four sons-in-law; two daughters-in-law; and 20 grandchildren.

1955

Robert C. Cerulle

Robert Cerulle, of Orlando, Fla., died Nov. 13, 2010, at 77. Mr. Cerulle is survived by his wife, Barbara; two sons; two daughters-in-law; a sister; and six grandchildren.

1955

William J. Kiernan Jr.

William Kiernan, of Wisconsin, died Oct. 31, 2010, at 78. Mr. Kiernan was a retired partner of the law firm Foley & Lardner and a retired U.S. Navy Commander. He is survived by a son; two daughters; two sons-in-law; a daughter-in-law; 12 grandchildren; a brother; and two sisters-in-law.

1955

William E. Hennessey, M.D.

William Hennessey, M.D., died Sept. 2, 2010, at his home in West Springfield, Mass., at 76. Dr. Hennessey had been a physician for 50 years, specializing in cardiology and internal medicine; beginning his practice in West Springfield in 1964, he had been a staff member of the Baystate Medical Center and Mercy Medical Center, both in Springfield, Mass., Providence Hospital in
Holyoke, and Noble Hospital in Westfield, Mass. In addition, Dr. Hennessey had been a teaching fellow at the Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston and a captain in the Army Reserve at the 819th Station Hospital in West Hartford, Conn. Later in his career, he held the post of medical director at the Travelers Corp. in Hartford, where he oversaw the clinical medical service. A member of numerous medical associations, Dr. Hennessey belonged to St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Springfield. He had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross and a Holy Cross class agent. Dr. Hennessey is survived by his wife, Joanne; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; many nephews and nieces; and grandnephews and grandnieces.

William R. Henry
William Henry died on July 22, 2010. Mr. Henry is survived by his wife, Gail; a son; a daughter; and six grandchildren.

Richard E. McCarthy, M.D.
Richard McCarthy, M.D., of Salem, N.H., died Sept. 9, 2010, in Lawrence (Mass.) General Hospital, at 76. Practicing medicine in Salem for 30 years, Dr. McCarthy had served as chief of surgery at both Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, Mass.—where he had also held the post of chief of staff for many years—and Lawrence General Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Anita; three sons; a daughter; three daughters-in-law; a sister; eight grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Richard T. Salamone Sr.
Richard Salamone died Sept. 4, 2010, in Lenoir City, Tenn., at 76. During his career, Mr. Salamone had worked 30 years for the Monroe County Health Department in Rochester, N.Y., retiring in 1989. He had been a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Lenoir City. Mr. Salamone is survived by his wife, Theresa; four sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; three daughters-in-law; two brothers; a sister; a brother-in-law; two sisters-in-law; 10 grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

1956
Rev. James E. Connor
Rev. James Connor died Sept. 18, 2010, at St. Joseph’s Rehabilitation and Residence in Portland, Maine, at 76. A longtime priest of the Diocese of Portland, Maine, following his ordination in 1960, Fr. Connor began his ministry at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, St. Denis Parish in Fort Fairfield and St. Joseph’s Parish in Portland. After receiving his Ph.D. in canon law from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C., he became vice chancellor of the diocese and, then, secretary to the bishop, advocate of the Diocesan Tribunal and defender of the bond. Serving as chaplain and professor at St. Joseph’s College in Standish, Maine, from 1967 to 1971, Fr. Connor subsequently pursued doctoral studies in theology at the American College, Louvain, Belgium, before undertaking assignments as chaplain at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, and Bates College, Lewiston—and as a part-time professor at the Bangor (Maine) Theological Seminary. Prior to his retirement in 2005, Fr. Connor had served 18 years as chaplain for the Sister Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Saco. He had also been a longtime member of the Maine Council of Churches. Fr. Connor is survived by six cousins.

1957
James J. Callahan Jr.
James Callahan, of West Newton, Mass., died Oct. 12, 2010, at 74. Professor emeritus of Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass., Mr. Callahan had taught 25 years at The Heller School for Social Policy and Management. He had previously worked in Massachusetts state government, serving as the secretary of Elder Affairs and commissioner of Mental Health under Gov. Michael Dukakis. During his career, Mr. Callahan was the recipient of numerous awards for his work in public service, including the Louis Lowy Award from the Massachusetts Gerontology Association; he was honored in 2009 with Brandeis’ Alumni Service Award on the occasion of The Heller School’s 50th anniversary. Mr. Callahan received his master’s degree in social work, in 1959, from Boston College and his Ph.D. from Brandeis University in 1968. He is survived by his wife, Joan; two sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; two brothers; two sisters-in-law; and a grandson. His father was the late James J. ‘26.

1958
Rev. William E. Babineau
Rev. William Babineau died Sept. 12, 2010, at 74. A priest of the Diocese of Manchester, N.H., Fr. Babineau was an associate pastor of St. Catherine Parish, Manchester, from 1993 to 1994; administrator of Guardian Angel Parish, Berlin, from 1994 to 1998; and administrator of St. Anne Parish, Berlin, from 1998 to 1999. Prior to his retirement in 2004, he had been the pastor of St. Paul Parish in Franklin for five years. Ordained to the priesthood in 1968, Fr. Babineau had served as a Jesuit priest for a number of years before he was laicized; returning to ministry, he was incardinated into the Diocese of Manchester in 1993. Fr. Babineau is survived by a brother and two sisters.

Robert J. Lutz
Robert Lutz died Sept. 3, 2010, in St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica, N.Y., at 73. A longtime attorney, Mr. Lutz had been a partner in the law firm Gorman & Waszkiewicz and, subsequently, with Evans, Severn, Bankert & Peet, in Utica; he had also been associated with the O’Shea Law Firm in Rome, N.Y. Awarded the highest rating of AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Ratings, Mr. Lutz had been a...
member of numerous professional associations, including the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and the Oneida County Bar Association, serving on its Courts and Judiciary Committee for more than 35 years. He was a past president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Mr. Lutz had been a captain in the Army Reserves. He is survived by a son; a daughter-in-law; three brothers; two grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces, including Mary K. MacFarlane ’84.

Peter E. Strain

Peter Strain, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., died Sept. 20, 2010, at the Community Hospice Earl B. Hadlow Center for Caring in Jacksonville, Fla., at 74. During his career, Mr. Strain had worked 21 years as a financial adviser for Kidder, Peabody & Co. and Merrill Lynch, retiring in 2002. He had previously been an executive, for 23 years, with the Union Camp Corp. Mr. Strain had also been involved in numerous charitable organizations, including the Diocese of Saint Augustine, Fla., the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Marine Corps-Law Enforcement Foundation. A veteran, he served in the Marine Corps from 1958 to 1964. Mr. Strain had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. He is survived by three daughters; a son-in-law; five grandchildren; and nephew Matthew J. ’86. His brother was the late John T. ’55.

1959

Hugh T. Corcoran II

Hugh Corcoran, of Pittsburgh, died Sept. 16, 2010, at 72. Mr. Corcoran is survived by his wife, Mitzi; a son; a daughter; a son-in-law; a daughter-in-law; and five grandchildren.

Anthony R. Piro

Anthony Piro, a longtime resident of Weston, Conn., died Oct. 15, 2010, at 73. A real estate agent for many years in Fairfield County, Conn., Mr. Piro had founded Piro Associates Inc., an independent residential real estate company in Norwalk, Conn.; he merged the business with several other independent agencies in 1988 to form Piro-Palotay Real Estate. The company was sold to Coldwell Banker Schlott REALTORS in 1992. Mr. Piro had been active in numerous professional and community organizations, serving as president of the Norwalk Board of Realtors, Country Living Associates and the Fairfield County chapter of the National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers; he had also served as an adviser with SCORE, “Counselors to America’s Small Business.” Mr. Piro is survived by a son; a daughter; a brother; and four grandchildren.

1961

Bernard J. Cummins Jr.

Bernard “Mick” Cummins died Sept. 4, 2010, at 71. A longtime resident of the San Francisco Bay area, Mr. Cummins had worked more than 30 years in the advertising field, serving as a copyeditor, account executive and, then, as president of Busse & Cummins, Inc.; he continued in this position after he sold the agency, and it became Evans Group. Mr. Cummins worked in executive level human relations as the company was purchased by Publicis Group; he retired in 1998. Mr. Cummins had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. He is survived by his wife, Jane; three children and their spouses; and nine grandchildren.

1962


Arthur Shuman died Oct. 24, 2010, at the Beebe Medical Center in Lewes, Del., at 70. A longtime attorney, Mr. Shuman had most recently been a partner in the law firm of Scott and Shuman LLC in West Fenwick, Del. Receiving his bachelor’s degree from Villanova (Pa.) University in 1962 and law degree from the Villanova University School of Law in 1972, he later served a one-year term as president of the school’s alumni association. Mr. Shuman is survived by his wife, Roxanne; a son; two daughters; a son-in-law; a daughter-in-law; two stepsons; two brothers; a sister; a brother-in-law; two sisters-in-law; four grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

1963

Leo A. Cullum

Leo Cullum, of Malibu, Calif., died Oct. 23, 2010, at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, at 68. During his career, Mr. Cullum had been a cartoonist for The New Yorker magazine for 33 years; many of his works have been published in the collections: Scotch and Toilet Water?: A Book of Dog Cartoons, Cocktails for Two: A Book of Cat Cartoons, Tequila Mackingbird: A Book of Animal Cartoons and Suture Self: A Book of Medical Cartoons. A frequent contributor to the Harvard Business Review and Barron’s, Mr. Cullum sold his first cartoon to Air Line Pilot magazine; his drawings later appeared in True, Argosy and the Saturday Review, among other publications. In addition, Mr. Cullum had been a pilot, for more than 30 years, with TWA, flying international and domestic flights; he retired from American Airlines, which had merged with TWA in 2001. A veteran, Mr. Cullum served as a major in the Marine Corps, undertaking flight training in Pensacola, Fla., and flying 200 missions over Vietnam. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; two daughters; a son-in-law; a brother; and extended family, including Holy Cross alumni. His father was the late Thomas M. ’30, and his uncles were the late John E. ’26 and Joseph V. ’28.

1964

Michael J. Brown Sr.

Michael Brown, of Worcester, died Sept. 7, 2010, at 68. During his career, Mr. Brown had taught physics at The Bromfield School in Harvard, Mass., and physics and computer science at Tahanto Regional High School in Boylston, Mass. Prior to his retirement, he had served as a computer software engineer at the Digital Equipment Corp. and EDS. Mr. Brown is survived by two sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; three grandchildren; and three nephews.

1967

William A. Sullivan III

William Sullivan, of Rye, N.Y., died Oct. 14, 2010, at 67. A graduate of the Fordham University School of Law in New York City, Mr. Sullivan had been a practicing attorney in Rye for the past 20 years. He was a sports enthusiast and volunteer, for many years, in the Rye Little League and the Babe Ruth League, serving as its president. Mr. Sullivan is survived by two sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; two daughters-in-law; his mother; a brother; three sisters; and eight grandchildren.

1968

Michael W. Kelly

Michael Kelly died Aug. 25, 2010, at his home in Myersville, Md., at 64. Prior to his retirement, Mr. Kelly had worked 37 years for Electronic Data Systems. A veteran, he served as a naval officer aboard the USS Andrew Jackson, from 1968 to 1972. Mr. Kelly is survived by his wife, Barbara; his mother; two daughters; a son-in-law; a brother; two sisters; and two granddaughters.

James L. Knox

James Knox, of Quinton, Va., died March 21, 2010, at 63. Mr. Knox is survived by his wife, Gale; three sons; his mother; and two sisters.
R. Sargent Shriver Jr. Hon. ’86 P’86, (above right) founding director of the Peace Corps, ambassador to France and 1972 Democratic vice presidential nominee, died Jan. 18, 2011, in Bethesda, Md., at 95. Mr. Shriver’s years of public service also included a leadership role in President Lyndon B. Johnson’s “War on Poverty” as founding director of the administration’s Office of Economic Opportunity, which oversaw numerous social programs, including Head Start, VISTA and the Job Corps. He received an honorary degree in public administration from Holy Cross in 1986, the year of his son Mark’s graduation from the College. Mr. Shriver is shown in this photograph, prior to the May 23 Commencement exercises, with the late Rev. Richard A. McCormick, S.J., Georgetown University faculty member and authority on Christian morality, who was awarded an honorary doctor of ministry degree by the College.

Holy Cross president, Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., who attended Mr. Shriver’s funeral services at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Potomac, Md., with College history professor, Rev. Anthony J. Kuzniewski, S.J., offers the following reflection: “The funeral Mass was an inspiring tribute to a magnificent life. The speakers, including each of his children, former President Clinton and Vice President Biden, witnessed to his selfless dedication, his intense kindness and love of others, his energy, his grace and above all the deep faith that sustained it all.”

Mr. Shriver is survived by four sons, including Mark K. ’86, Hon. ’(20)10 and Commencement speaker; a daughter, Maria Shriver, Hon. ’98 and Commencement speaker; their spouses, including Jeanne Ripp Shriver ’87; and 19 grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Eunice Kennedy Shriver Hon. ’79, who died Aug. 11, 2009.

1969
Barry M. Kilfoil, D.D.S.
Barry Kilfoil, D.D.S., died Aug. 28, 2010, at his home in Cary, N.C., at 62. A member of the Navy Dental Corps for 23 years, Dr. Kilfoil specialized in prosthodontics and held several administrative positions on land and at sea. Retiring in 1996 with the rank of captain, he had earned the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, among other awards. For the past 14 years, Dr. Kilfoil had worked for University Dental Associates, PA, as a professional director and practitioner of general dentistry in its Charlotte, Cary and Raleigh, N.C., offices. He is survived by his wife, Denise; his mother; two sons; a daughter; a son-in-law; two daughters-in-law; two sisters; two brothers-in-law; four grandchildren; and five nephews and nieces. His father was the late Henry F. ’44, and his uncle was the late J. Francis Ogozalek Jr. ’51.

Edwin R. Moline
Edwin “Ted” Moline died Oct. 15, 2010, in Reston, Va., at 63. Opening a small translation company in Washington, D.C., at the start of his career, Mr. Moline had worked many years as a consultant and trainer for Arthur Young; he later began his own company, Janus Consulting. Involved in environmental, community, scouting, political and church activities, he was chairman of the Reston Watershed Action Group and, from 2004 to 2005, a member of the Difficult Run Watershed Management Steering Committee. Two-term president of the Reston Lions Club, Mr. Moline provided diabetes awareness training in Northern Virginia and served as club delegate at international Lions conventions; he was named its Melvin Jones Fellow in 1998. Mr. Moline is survived by his wife, Susan Porter Beffel; a son; two daughters; two sisters; and two
granddaughters. His father was the late Edwin G. ’34.

1972
James J. Cahill
James Cahill died Oct. 22, 2010, at the Louis Stokes Cleveland (Ohio) VA Medical Center, at 63. During his career, Mr. Cahill had served as a controller for Rapid Maintenance Solutions in Ohio; previously, he had been a certified public accountant with the former Synthetic Products Co. in Cleveland. In addition, Mr. Cahill was an assistant track coach at the former Regina High School in Cleveland and an active parishioner of St. Joan of Arc and St. Paschal Baylon churches in the Cleveland area. He was an Army veteran. Mr. Cahill had been a member of the President’s Council at Holy Cross. He is survived by a daughter; a son-in-law; a grandson; three brothers, including Robert F. ’67 and Richard W. ’74; and three sisters-in-law.

1973
J. Patrick Grealis
John Patrick Grealis died Sept. 11, 2010, in St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, at 59. Active in the insurance industry, Mr. Grealis had served as an actuarial analyst and computer programmer with the Unum Group in Worcester for more than 25 years. At the start of his career, he taught briefly at the Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School in Charlton, Mass. A lifelong resident of Clinton, Mass., Mr. Grealis had belonged to Our Lady of the Rosary Parish—now St. John the Guardian of Our Lady Parish—as well as several civic and community groups; he was a former delegate to the state convention for the Democratic Town Committee. Mr. Grealis is survived by two brothers; three sisters; three brothers-in-law; a sister-in-law; uncles; aunts; nephews and nieces; and grandnephews and grandnieces.

1976
Elizabeth B. Jacobson
Elizabeth “Betsy” (Burke) Jacobson died Nov. 14, 2010, at her home in Marblehead, Mass., at 56. Involved for many years in the telecommunications field, Mrs. Jacobson retired from Verizon Information Services in 2001 as a marketing manager. Interested in American art and antiques, she later became director of the East India Marine Associates Program at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, Mass. Mrs. Jacobson had been involved as well in community affairs in Marblehead, serving as a longtime member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, among other endeavors; she was also an active member of various organizations, including the Boston Athenaeum and Historic New England. Mrs. Jacobson is survived by her husband, Charles; two stepdaughters and their spouses; two brothers, including Richard J. ’66; two sisters; two brothers-in-law; two sisters-in-law; four step-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

1978
Anthony J. Gigliello
Anthony Gigliello, of Medford, Mass., and, formerly, of Maryland, died Nov. 3, 2010. Mr. Gigliello is survived by his son; his parents; a sister; a brother-in-law; and a nephew.

1990
Claire B. Burns
Claire (Mitson) Burns, of Auburn, Mass., and, earlier, of Potomac, Md., died Nov. 7, 2010, at 78. A longtime friend and supporter of the College, Mrs. Burns established, with her husband, Donal ’49, the annual Claire B. Burns Award program in 1997, to recognize hourly employees who, through their work and interaction with other members of the College community, foster the spirit of family that characterizes Holy Cross—having developed a deep appreciation of their contributions to the College as a student at Holy Cross. She was a Holy Cross class agent and a member of the President’s Council. Mrs. Burns is survived by her husband, Donal J. ’49; five sons, including Emmet R. ’85, Liam J. ’87 and Padraig I.J. ’89; three daughters, Moira Kathleen ’79, Moira Deirdre ’91 and Moira Eileen ’92; two brothers; two sisters; and 16 grandchildren.

2001
Megan Kelew Baroni
Megan Kelew Baroni, of Charlestown, Mass., died Sept. 27, 2010, in Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, at 30, after a sudden illness. A project manager at LPBA Architects, Inc., of Boston, for the past four years, Mrs. Baroni had also been pursuing her master’s degree in architecture at the Boston Architectural College, which will be awarding her degree posthumously, at its commencement ceremony this May. She was a 1997 graduate of St. George’s School in Middletown, R.I., where she had developed a love of sailing; Mrs. Baroni was a member of the 1999 J24 Rolex International Women’s Keelboat Championship Team in Newport, R.I. An economics and political science double major at Holy Cross, she had been an active member of the College community, participating in the choir and a cappella group, “Fools on the Hill,” of which she was a founding member—and, also, the sailing and rugby teams. As an alumna, Mrs. Baroni had served as a class chair and class agent and as a member of the President’s Council. She is survived by her husband, Roland A. Baroni III ’99; her parents; three sisters, including Erin M. Kelew ’08; her grandparents; her father- and mother-in-law; and a sister-in-law.

FRIENDS:
Allen Thomas “Tom” Baker, father of Carrie Bowler, Development Office; Joyce Helene Bennett, sister of James B. Vanairsdale ’51; Thomas G. Cavanaugh, brother of Mary Cavanagh Dunn ’96, Joseph V. Cavanagh III ’99, Paul J. ’00 and James M. ’13; Patricia Holmes Clark, wife of Richard M. ’59, mother of Alexandra H. ’09 and stepmother of Lauren C. Kenny ’86; Margaret Ann Coakley, mother of Virginia Coakley, Office of the College Chaplains; Joseph M. Cocucci, father of Rev. Joseph M.P. Cocucci ’80; Karen Coletta DeGennaro, mother of Katie E. ’14; Beth Ann Degnan, mother of Lindsay (Degnan) DeVagno ’05; John M. Erickson, stepfather of Kendy Hess, philosophy department; George M. Hickey, retired, public safety; Joseph L. LeBlanc, father of Joseph T. ’78; Veronica Niewerth, mother of Karen Turner, history department, and mother-in-law of Thomas Gottschang, economics department; Helen Nolan, mother of Kathleen N. Levesque ’81; Stanley J. Norbert, father of Paula A. ’83 and grandfather of Abigail K. ’14; Elizabeth M. Polachi, wife of the late Charles A. ’43, mother of Charles A. Jr. ’75, Peter V. ’77 and Steven F. ’78, mother-in-law of Martha Johnson Polachi ’76, and grandmother of Charles A. III ’05, Neala F. ’07 and Christina E. ’11; Mary Ann Quigley, mother of Brian M. ’73; Madeline V. Reilly, retired, Development Office; and wife of John E., retired, English department; Evelyn Shortell, grandmother of Christopher K. ’94; M. Jane Stigmeier Tyrrell, mother of Thomas R. ’72; Sally Watson, sister of Marilyn Israeli-England, physical plant
The assigned scripture readings were extremely stark on the week-end that I pronounced my solemn ("final") religious vows last November. After 28 years as a Jesuit and 17 as a priest, I was reaffirming my commitment to personal poverty, chastity and obedience in the Society of Jesus. But I was also confirming my place within a comfortable community, at a prestigious college, as part of the proud Jesuit heritage.

Meanwhile, the prophet Malachi raged against the arrogant, St. Paul ordered that those who do not work should not eat, and Jesus in the Gospel of Luke warned: “All that you see here, the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone.”

I could have chosen to use “happier” readings! Yet, that very week I had opportunity to reflect on the violence and destruction in Christian history; on Christian accommodation to Nazism during the Holocaust; on the ongoing scandal of clergy sexual abuse and its cover-up. Among my guests at the Vow Mass were many whose church communities, local traditions, and memories have been rocked by scandal, diminishment, and the recent wave of parish closures. Indeed, looking truthfully at our Church and world, we are reminded repeatedly: “There will not be left a stone upon another stone.”

So I could not avoid the question: How can I promise special obedience within this Church, with all its terrible blemishes visible, without accepting full responsibility for—and being tainted by—its sins? There is only one answer: I cannot. Yet, even as I had many reminders of failure and loss that week, I had many more reminders of the Spirit of Christ at work. Those scripture readings aim not at terror but at hope.

Where, then, is my hope? Not in the stones, or the walls pride builds. I had to pray long and hard about “obedience” when I thought it tethered me to those things. My years as a Jesuit have focused me on something else: the faces of the people represented by the congregation I addressed in that Mass.

They were a rather motley crew—as varied and unlikely as my life has been for 28 years. There were older Jesuits who have served all over the world. There were students who organize adoration and prayer, who work to aid the homeless, who ask questions and are willing to wrestle with uncomfortable ideas. There were visitors who have fought to preserve their parishes, and who work loyally to keep their faith communities functioning well. There were parents who converted their own dreams and possibilities into constant efforts for the welfare, wisdom and love of their children. Among all these friends and family were believers and non-believers, white people and people of color, Republicans and Democrats, gay and straight people, John XXIII Catholics and John Paul II Catholics.

Because they tie me to this community, my vows do not let me take the easy route, find a congenial place and "hang out" where I can stroke my ego and “feel good.” They force me to stay face to face with our disagreements, shortsightedness, infidelities and sinfulness, our abuses, crimes, rages and hatreds. I thank God that it’s not so easy to walk away from all that and blindly pretend that all the problems are “out there.” We carry around within us the origins of so much misery; yet, whenever I begin to dwell on that, I only need to turn my head slightly to catch the light: my hope, Messiah at large in the world and all of those who carry Him!

If “there will not be left a stone upon another stone,” the walls we build between us are doomed, too. The greatest gift I’ve received as a Jesuit is gradually learning that our motto “Finding God in All Things” means seeing the face of Christ in all these friends, and His Spirit at work in all the day-to-day encounters with truth and love and wisdom. That is the Church to which I have vowed obedience: the embodied love and grace of God about which we say, in St. Ignatius’ prayer Suscipe (Take, Lord, Receive), “That is enough for me.”

Fr. Clark, an associate professor of religious studies, has been a member of the faculty since 2001.
As soon as Rev. Michael C. McFarland, S.J., announced he would be stepping down as president of Holy Cross, messages, calls and notes of gratitude like this one began arriving from alumni and students: “It will be difficult to find someone who cares about the students as much as you do.” See story, Page 6.