WHY IS THIS WOMAN SMILING?

She's Headed to Oxford. Meet Seton Hall's First Rhodes Scholar.
You can’t escape it. Likely, you don’t want to.

At Seton Hall we must be — and have been — using technology as an integrated aspect of teaching and learning. But it’s worth asking: Where exactly are we headed, electronically and educationally speaking?

You might ask the students first. In fact, I suggest you text them. That’s probably easier than a face to face meeting — i.e., F2F.

Then ask their professors. Our Seton Hall faculty has been putting syllabi, reading lists, lectures and other resources online for a long time. They have probably saved tons of paper in the process, and they can teach today’s students in the way the students are used to learning.

What of the larger world, our culture and our American society?

Today it seems almost quaint that just a few years ago, in 1999, we trumpeted how Educause, the non-profit group that promotes the use of technology in higher education, rated us among the “most wired” universities in America.

Now “wired” is almost passé. Wireless is where you want to be. And it is where we are today with SHUMobile, which gives students greater mobile computing flexibility, and with the campus-wide implementation of a software system to improve all aspects of administration, enrollment services and student records.

We have come a long way in a short time, but our progress still requires us to sprint to keep up with the best emerging technologies. Every few years a technological paradigm shifts. And each step forward seems to leave someone a bit further behind.

It is ironic, too, that despite the independence promised by improvements in technology, advances have brought greater dependence upon that same technology.

Where would we be without our laptops and smartphones? How many of us “check in” i.e., log on during weekends and vacations? How free are we, really, to pursue leisure and personal growth when we — by choice — have this particular millstone around our necks?

Another paradigm shift in technology is happening right now, right under our feet — and in our very brains.

Fluctuation is constant, rapid and fluid in virtually every sector of our learning lives. Perhaps never before in the history of humankind have so many of us had so much access to information and international connections. Whether from a residence hall or from Pirates Cove, one can reach out from South Orange ten thousand or more miles in any direction.

Seton Hall’s Catholic mission is to educate ethical thinkers and moral doers. We are taught that all of us must accept responsibility not only for our own actions, but also for the welfare of others. It is who we are. With greater global access comes greater global responsibility: We are our brothers’ keepers.

As a community of scholars and seekers, Seton Hall must and will embrace technological developments that support our educational mission. Problems and contradictions will continue to arise, and we will face them, girded with faith and reason, with optimism and enthusiasm.
LOOKING BACK WHILE LOOKING FORWARD:

(1) Fifty years ago, jubilarians James P. Penders ’58 and James J. Hennessey ’58 received their degrees;

COMMENCEMENT 2008

In attendance: 2,175 graduates and their families


“We are all faced with choices and I can only hope that you take each day as a gift, choosing to love and forgive.”

Student Speaker: Jennifer Ruth Lackie (Valedictorian)

“I learned a lot throughout college, yet most importantly I found out that college is about finding yourself.”

Fun Fact: With the launch of SHUtube, Seton Hall’s video sharing website where students can upload, view and share video clips about their college experience, anyone can watch select segments from this year’s commencement exercises. See for yourself at www.shu.edu/shutube.

Weather: Rainy, windy and cloudy. (0.75 inches of rain) 51° F
“Bush is not known to give up friends, at home or abroad, so Musharraf has a lifeline there.”

— S. Arif Hussain, adjunct professor and former Pakistani ambassador, in The Boston Globe, on President Bush’s relationship with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf.

“I wanted to feel like I could give something back, and at least in school a child can be taken care of. I try to keep my faith and to keep my faith in them.”

— Raymond Encarnacion, graduate student, in The New York Times, on the Educational Partners in Catholic Schools program.

“SHU in the news”

“Benedict pleads that reason must be the basis for any kind of dialogue between religions, whereas John Paul’s was more spiritual, and you might even say, more emotional outreach.”


“One of the reasons American higher education has been so successful, and Seton Hall has been so successful, is so many people inside and outside take ownership of the institution.”

— Monsignor Robert Sheeran, University president, in American Executive magazine.

“It’s not incidental that these increasingly downbeat films come out at a time of increasing pessimism on the part of the American population.”

— Christopher Sharrett, professor of communication and film studies, in The Christian Science Monitor, on the 2008 Oscar Best Picture nominees.
 cutting expenses

The economy is slowing, and prices are headed up. How do I save money and weather this economic squall? Scott R. Rothbort, M.B.A., term professor of finance at the Stillman School of Business, president of LakeView Asset Management, founder of TheFinanceProfessor.com and regular contributor to TheStreet.com, offers these tips:

BUY MORE, LESS OFTEN

By being conscious of how often we drive, we can reduce energy costs and economize on what we spend. Instead of shopping for groceries one day and clothing the next, make one trip. Or do grocery shopping every other week. Buy in bulk rather than in smaller portions and consider joining a warehouse club.

WATCH YOUR HABITS

Are you addicted to coffee? Many people are. (For the record, I have never had a single sip.) You would be amazed at how much disposable income people spend on their daily drinks or other small items. I would rather people save that money for retirement.

TRADE DOWN

During economic slowdowns, consumers often trade down from higher-priced goods in what's called the substitution effect. Ask yourself, do I need to buy socks at Macy's, or should I buy them at Target? Should I buy last year's sneaker model at half-price rather than the latest Nike?

WATCH YOUR CREDIT

If you can't afford to pay your credit-card balance in full, don't use it. If you use credit cards, make sure you get paid to do so. Obtain cards that give you cash rebates for using them at your favorite retailers and gas stations.

Q&A

Tim Gunn, a fashion consultant, reality television star and the chief creative officer at Liz Claiborne Inc., spoke at the Stillman School of Business’ spring convocation in March. In front of a standing-room-only crowd, Gunn talked about being a mentor and described his experiences in the fashion business, both as the chair of the fashion design department at Parsons The New School for Design and as a mentor on the hit television show Project Runway. After the convocation, he shared his thoughts about creativity with Seton Hall magazine.

Project Runway directly challenges people’s creativity. Is creativity an inborn characteristic, or can it be taught?

I’m confident creativity can be nurtured and cultivated. I don’t think it is just natural in most of us, and I believe it’s a trait that, frankly speaking, is waning. We need to work on ways to bring it back into curricula and learning in general.

Just by means of anecdote: A number of years ago, I gave my nephew a set of Legos for his birthday. He wanted to build the set in the back of the book — that worries me. What I love about the arts, and design fields in general, is that the answer isn’t in the back of the book. The answer is in you. How do you pull that out? How do you develop that?

Is the lack of creativity related to being afraid to take risks? Is risk-taking something you encourage your students to do?

Oh, all the time. I tell them: “You’re in a safe harbor when you’re in the academy.” The worst thing that can happen here, I say, is that you fail a project. But out in the real world, we know what some of the worst things that can happen are.

I applaud risk taking. I love it. Unless we throw the dice occasionally, we are depriving ourselves of some unknown opportunities.

PEGEE HOPKINS
The View from the Stands

As the men’s basketball team closed out its first season in its new home at Newark’s long-awaited Prudential Center, we wondered: How did the team’s most faithful fans take to the change? To find out, we interviewed five diehard devotees to get their take on the new arena and to learn how they are coping with the change.

**Ned ’56 and Carol Crowell**

Ned and Carol Crowell spent a lot of time watching basketball in Walsh Gym during their college days, but they are even bigger fans now. “Back in the ‘50s, we didn’t have as much money or time, and now we have plenty of time!” says Carol.

The Crowells spend much of their retirement on the road, cheering for the Pirates and attending virtually every away game, from West Virginia to Hawaii. That said, they also appreciate the convenient train ride from Hamilton, N.J., to the team’s home games in Newark. “The final game of last season really had a lot of spirit — it was probably the best game yet in the new arena,” says Carol.

But the end of basketball season is for them, she says, “a little depressing.” “There are a lot of nice things to do in the summer, but we always look forward to the new season.”

**Robert D’iBenedetto ’69**

“100% it’s so intimate,” says Robert D’iBenedetto of the new arena. “There’s not a bad seat.”

DiBenedetto managed to do just that, despite a layover in Chicago. His flight attendant assured him the co-pilot for the flight also had tickets to the game, so they would not be late. As he had planned, DiBenedetto walked through the turnstile right at tip-off. “Unfortunately we lost in overtime,” he says. “But (it was) the epitome of my Seton Hall experience. I thought the probability of Seton Hall ever getting to a Final Four again in my lifetime was one in 100 million. Hopefully, I’m proven wrong.”

**Bob Daly ’90 and Neil Piro ’90**

“There’s excitement in the program like there was in the late ’80s,” says Bob Daly. As students, he and Neil Piro were rowdy, blue-faced members of the “SHU Crew” and have been loyal fans ever since. “Ninety-nine percent of the games (that) I’ve seen live, Bob’s been right next to me,” says Piro. “We feel like we now — it’s a connection we’ll always have.”

To hear Daly and Piro talk about it, the collective energy of seasons past seems to have exploded in the new arena. The experience of going to a game is “much louder,” says Daly, who adds, “If you have a big win, the staff is high-fiving you as you are leaving.”

“And they have cup holders, says Piro, “so we can put our beer in cup holders.”

Robert D’iBenedetto ’69 with his son Michael and wife Susan. He saved his ticket to the 1989 NCAA Finals. Photo by Denise DiBenedetto Carter

**Dr. Gary Kritz, Ph.D.**

Dr. Gary Kritz, Ph.D., associate professor of marketing, was awarded the Outstanding Marketing Teacher Award by the Academy of Marketing Science for his teaching record.

The College of Nursing is the first institution in New Jersey to launch an entry-level Clinical Nurse Leader (C.N.L.) program, which allows students with non-nursing baccalaureate degrees to head straight into an intensive graduate-level nursing program.

Father Lawrence E. Fritzell, D.Phil., director of the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies, was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to a five-year term as a consultant of the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews. The Commission aims to deepen the understanding between the Catholic and Jewish communities.

Lauren Schiller, M.F.A., assistant professor of art, is one of 30 artists selected from 350 applicants to receive a 2008 Artists’ Fellowship by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. She was one of three artists who received perfect scores from the judges.

The North Jersey section of the American Chemical Society honored Rory Murphy, Ph.D., professor of chemistry, with the Sister Marian José Smith Award for Excellence in Education, recognizing his dedication to mentoring chemistry students.

Professors Carol Biscardi, M.S., Joseph L. Monaco, M.S., and Gary Bouchard, Ph.D., were named Distinguished Fellows by the American Academy of Physician Assistants.
William Connell didn’t set out to rewrite history. He just wanted the facts. His search began with a footnote, a passing reference to a letter from the Florentine Chancery in 1513 that appeared to have a connection to Niccolò Machiavelli. After following the trail across the Atlantic, Connell believes he has uncovered a letter whose true intent remained hidden for 500 years — a letter that likely played a key role in the writing of Machiavelli’s *The Prince.*
early on a Saturday morning more than four years ago, Connell, a history professor and the Joseph M. and Geraldine C. La Motta Chair in Italian Studies, boarded a ferry leaving from Stresa, Italy. He was bound for the popular tourist destination of Isola Bella, where, in the 17th century, the Borromeo family built a grand palace. Over the past four centuries, this noble family amassed a storied collection of historical documents—including the letter referenced in the footnote read by Connell.

As tourists walked the island’s grounds and remarked on the classic paintings and furniture within the palace walls, Connell, 49, entered an unadorned study with the keeper of the Borromeo family records. The archivist brought forth original correspondence from a massive storeroom lined with wood and steel shelves.

In a room big enough for only a few people, Connell set to work examining a seemingly innocuous letter addressed to Francesco Vettori, the ambassador to the Holy See, with the postscript “N. Mach. L.”

“There wasn’t the immediate shock of discovery,” says Connell of his find. “It was a puzzle that needed to be unfolded, and that puzzle is, why is the name Machiavelli at the bottom of that letter?”

Even though the letter came from the chancery where Machiavelli was once employed and was written to his patron Vettori, it seemed impossible that Machiavelli could have written the missive himself. The letter was dated Nov. 12, 1513, almost a year after Machiavelli was forced to leave the chancery. A conflict with the Medici family, who returned to power in 1512, had led to a one-year ban on Machiavelli’s travel, a sentence that expired two days before the letter was written.

CRACKING THE CODE

Connell believes the letter was written not by Machiavelli, but in fact a cryptic message about him from an unknown scribe in the government of Florence to a patron, sympathetic to Machiavelli. The letter, essentially saying that nothing is happening in Florence, has a postscript that was an ingenious way of telling Vettori that Machiavelli was free to travel.

“The scribe, Connell says, had subtly changed the name of Niccolò Michelozzi, Machiavelli’s successor in the chancery, who was referenced in letters as ‘N. Mich. L.,” to “N. Mach. L.” for Machiavelli.

“All it comes down to is the difference between an ‘A’ and an ‘I.’ And yet, even if the coded message was discovered, there is a little degree of deniability,” says Connell, impressed with the subterfuge. The notation could easily be dismissed as an innocent error.

The letter didn’t arouse suspicion, and it arrived in Rome on Nov. 18. Five days later, Vettori penned a missive to Machiavelli, inviting his friend to come for an extended visit.

“This is part of the chain reaction that leads Machiavelli to write his famous letter—probably the most famous private letter ever written—describing what he was working on,” says Connell. “The work that would become The Prince. This was Machiavelli’s letter to Vettori dated Dec. 10, in which Machiavelli announced he was writing a book about princes that he would dedicate to the Medici.”

THE NEXT CHAPTER

Historians don’t jump to conclusions—they gather evidence in order to place events within a context. After his trip to Isola Bella, Connell journeyed to Florence to view another collection of letters that had originally included the Borromeo letter. Using scans and the information he’d gathered from the Borromeo family records and comparing them to the collection in Florence, Connell was able to authenticate the document: the signature and date had not been altered.

“I would have been perfectly happy to say the letter was fake and to have discovered that,” says Connell. Machiavelli has been a constant throughout Connell’s academic life, beginning with his doctoral dissertation at the University of California, Berkeley, which sought to interpret historical documents from the Florentine territory that Machiavelli helped to control. Nearly two decades of work led Connell to publish an updated translation of The Prince in 2005.

“A lot of people who work with Machiavelli are looking from a political perspective of what is right or wrong. I come from the historian’s perspective of trying to determine what actually happened,” says Connell. Machiavelli once wrote, “one change always leaves the way open for the establishment of others.” He might have been envisioning the history professor’s dogged pursuit of the chain of events that led to The Prince being written.

Connell is attempting to sort out the last piece of the chancery letter puzzle: the identity of the scribe who wrote it. He has eliminated five of the 10 scribes working in the chancery at the time, and he has uncovered several more documents written in the same hand.

Once he finds that answer, Connell will publish his findings in a journal and move on to uncover whatever mysteries await him on his next project: a search through the archives of another family from the Italian Renaissance.

“This is what historians try to do,” says Connell. “You bring new evidence to bear and retell the story in an interesting manner.”

Jonathan Bender is a freelance writer based in Kansas City, Mo.
Singing for the Fun of It

IN THE UNIVERSITY TOURING CHOIR, SINGERS FIND HARMONY THROUGH HARD WORK AND A STRONG DOSE OF FUN.
As the Seton Hall Touring Choir looked attentively at Jeanette Hile during the spring concert this April, the veteran chorale director bent slightly forward and said something that the audience couldn’t hear. Suddenly, each of the choir’s 43 members smiled and later, when Hile gave the cue, they broke into their last selection: David Dickau’s melodious “If Music Be the Food of Love.”

Music certainly sustains the choir, a tight-knit community that gives students the chance to perform alongside alumni and community members. As its name suggests, the ensemble performs widely. It has appeared in Rome before Pope John Paul II, and at the University before then Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who “was so impressed that he wanted a copy of the music we sang,” recalls Hile, a music professor and Seton Hall’s chorale director for nearly 30 years.

The choir also has toured Washington, D.C., and Canada, performed at New York’s Carnegie Hall, and, for five years, performed at a Christmas show with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.

Besides the music — featuring works by composers ranging from the Beatles and Billy Joel, to Ghanaian folk tunes and Felix Mendelssohn in the spring concert — what holds the group together is a great deal of hard work. This year the choir rehearsed each week for 13 weeks, in 90-minute sessions. Hile makes the effort fun, according to her choir members.

Elizabeth Sokalski ’90/M.A.E.’93/E.D.S.’96, began singing for Hile as a student, and remains in the group after 20 years. “It’s a great stress release,” explains Sokalski, who, as a practicing school psychologist in North Plainfield, N.J., believes in music therapy as a tool to reach teenagers. To one troubled high schooler who has strength in both math and music, she recently suggested “Why don’t you learn how to compose music?” The boy “had no idea what he was going to do,” she says, but now has a direction.

Stephen Alsa ’05/M.A.’06, who earned back-to-back Seton Hall degrees, has stayed on in the choir as well. He is motivated by a “love of music and of Professor Hile,” he says. “I feel like there’s no other place on campus where the sense of community is so strong.”

The group routinely reaches beyond Seton Hall’s boundaries to bring in singers from throughout the area. One major source is Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church in South Orange, where the Touring Choir frequently sings. Stefani Curley ’95, a parishioner, praises “the good music and the good conductor” as twin attractions. Her husband, Sean, who has sung with the Touring Choir for a decade, says the atmosphere “is like a home.”

Leslie Colyer-Brown, an alumna of C.W. Post’s under-graduate program in music education and a school site coordinator of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Newark, has found her one-year experience with the Touring Choir enriching. “A teacher is always learning. Each conductor is different,” she explains. Beyond that, there is simply the emotional release of joining with others in song. “No matter what happens to you during the day, you can let it out through the music,” she says.

Less experienced singers can find the same level of satisfaction. Lorraine Graves, who works for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, jokes that “anybody can sing, and I guess I’m proof of the pudding in that.” Told as a youngster that she had no voice for chorus, Graves says that today she is fulfilling a lifelong dream.

April Christiansen ’08, on the other hand, has been pursuing her passion for music since she was a child. Now, a recent graduate with a double major in music and education, Christiansen began singing in choral groups in the fourth grade in her native Connecticut. In the fifth grade, she took up the trumpet, treating her family to endless practicing that she characterized as “loud and obnoxious.” (Since then, her output has become considerably more modulated and sweet.)

At the spring concert, Christiansen was the one person, with the exception of Hile, to remain on stage all evening. She sang in the Vocal Chamber Ensemble, played trumpet riffs as part of the Jazz Ensemble, and sang with the choir. She thanks Hile for the opportunity to share her talents.

Hile, a diminutive woman who stands on a stage box when she conducts, is a huge influence on the success of the Touring Choir. “She’s great,” Christiansen says.

As to what Hile said to make the group smile during the spring concert, Christiansen couldn’t remember. “She’s forever making us laugh,” Christiansen says. “In fact, we always seem to be able to get things done in a fun manner.”

No matter what happens to you during the day, you can let it out through the music.”

Bob Gilbert is a writer based in Connecticut.
At first blush it was like a moment you might catch on ESPN’s SportsCenter. A group of basketball players burst into a spontaneous locker-room party, screaming with joy and enveloping a teammate in hugs. These women weren’t celebrating a key athletic victory, however, or applauding a player for a great game. They were congratulating teammate Annick Routhier-Labadie ’08 on a different kind of victory; just minutes before the start of a game, she learned she had been awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

“It was so cool,” recalls Routhier-Labadie, who is Seton Hall’s first Rhodes Scholar. After finishing her Seton Hall coursework in just three years, Routhier-Labadie decamped to her native Quebec where she embarked on graduate studies in applied ethics at Université Laval. There, she played basketball, as she had for Seton Hall.

Annick Routhier-Labadie ’08, Seton Hall’s First Rhodes Scholar, Heads to the University of Oxford This Fall.

YE OLDE UNIVERSITY:
Routhier-Labadie, shown here with her mother, Dominique, will soon attend the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Photos on facing page by Chuck Mass; Illustration above adapted from a photo by Peter Harness.
Just before a Laval game last November, Routhier-Labadie’s cellphone rang. It was a representative of the Rhodes Scholarship selection committee, calling with good news, which the startled player immediately shared with her teammates: “I didn’t have a really good game,” she jokes.

Routhier-Labadie can be forgiven for having an off day on the court. A chronic overachiever, she maintained a perfect grade-point average as a physics major at Seton Hall, worked for The Setonian, and tutored fellow students—all while playing basketball, a commitment many have likened to a full-time job. “She is a young lady who took great advantage of the college opportunity,” says Phyllis Mangina, the University’s head women’s basketball coach, who recruited Routhier-Labadie from Rochelle High School in Quebec. “It wasn’t just about basketball.”

The diversity of Routhier-Labadie’s activities and interests at Seton Hall—she also draws and writes poetry—reflects her status as a sort of modern-day Renaissance woman, exactly the kind of person the Rhodes Scholarship Trustees seek to reward. Cecil J. Rhodes, the British colonial pioneer who initiated the Rhodes Scholarship Trustee, wrote in his will that he wanted all “merely high-witted and over-studious” students other than “merely bookworms,” and who excelled in school, sport, fellowship and “moral force of character.”

Those who know Routhier-Labadie say she has those qualities in spades. An eloquent speaker in both English and French, she also likes to crack jokes, and she frequently sums up people, circumstances and situations simply as “cool.” Even as she adhered to a rigorous academic and athletic schedule, Routhier-Labadie made time for volunteer work, reading to schoolchildren in nearby Newark, working at the St. John’s soup kitchen, and participating in a pen-pal program with students at St. Rose of Lima School in Newark. “We get a good number of strong student-athletes, but she’s one of the most extraordinary we’ve had,” says Matt Gebel, the academic adviser to the women’s basketball team.

Routhier-Labadie admits it wasn’t always easy juggling the competing demands of school, Division I sports, extracurricular activities and volunteering, but she credits her father with inspiring her to think big. She remembers being in the fourth grade and watching Mike Labadie launch a football program at Laval, a daunting task in a country that worships the backyard at age 5. Later, as a high-school player, she would watch the University of Connecticut and ice hockey.

“People didn’t think it was possible,” she says. “It taught me a lot about starting projects that go against the grain.”

Her mother, Dominique Routhier, is dean of students at St. Lawrence College. Both parents instilled a love of basketball in their daughter, who started playing in the backyard at age 5. Later, as a high-school player, she would watch the University of Connecticut and University of Tennessee women’s basketball teams, and fantasize about playing in the NCAA.

So when Coach Mangina offered her a full scholarship and a chance to play BIG EAST basketball, she jumped at the chance—even though it meant turning down college acceptances from Princeton and Yale. “Looking back at my three-plus years at Seton Hall, I think it was a good decision,” she says. “I got a good education, and I was able to take advantage of everything the school had to offer.”

Not surprisingly, some of Routhier-Labadie’s favorite memories of Seton Hall involve basketball, including a big game against UConn, in which the Pirates played in front of 17,000 Huskies fans.

She also appreciated the cultural diversity at Seton Hall. “I wasn’t used to that,” she says. “Back home, everyone was a carbon copy of one another.”

A desire to further broaden her horizons prompted Routhier-Labadie to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship. She wanted to see the world, and figured studying abroad would be the ideal way to combine her wanderlust with her academic goals; the Rhodes Scholarship offers select students a chance to study at the University of Oxford in England.

Routhier-Labadie says she was unsure of her chances at earning the coveted scholarship after her interview for it. “I thought I had done horribly,” she says, and she remembers telling her Laval teammates that she didn’t think she was going to get the scholarship. Minutes later she got the call informing her she was one of 11 Canadian students chosen.

She plans at Oxford to pursue a master’s degree in biomedical engineering, a discipline that combines her passions for pure science and medicine. Routhier-Labadie concedes she is getting a little nervous about her impending move to England, but she’s excited, too, about the prospect of meeting new people and travelling though Europe, perhaps visiting some of her former Seton Hall teammates, who hail from Finland, Poland and other countries.

And she’ll have company on her trip to Oxford. Several of the Canadian Rhodes Scholars are communicating over e-mail and plan to leave together for England. “I’m really excited to meet all these people,” she says. “It is going to be really cool.”

Stephanie N. Mehta is a New York-based financial writer.

“She is a young lady who took great advantage of the college opportunity. It wasn’t just about basketball.”
WHEN IT COMES TO RETURNING MISSING SETON HALL GRADUATION RINGS, THERE’S A LOT OF TRUTH TO THE SAYING THAT WHAT GOES AROUND, COMES AROUND. TAKE THE CASE OF A RING LOST AT SEA FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS.

In June 2007, Ed Costello, an information technology manager for the Long Island Railroad, was finishing up a vacation along the isolated shoreline of Shelter Island, N.Y. Despite teasing by his teenage daughters, he had brought along a new metal detector and had been scanning the area — once home to 18th-century pirates — for “treasure.”

“I’m one of those guys with sunglasses and a metal detector on the beach that everybody laughs at,” he jokes. Over the week, he had found two silver spoons and a lot of change at various beaches, and a pair of silver earrings on his rental property.

On the last Sunday morning of the vacation, he set out at 6 a.m. with a cup of coffee in one hand and his $450 device in the other. He turned on the detector while walking along a path toward the beach near his cottage. The detector’s alarm sounded, and Costello put down his coffee cup. There, 200 feet back from the water’s edge and seven inches down, Costello dug up a Seton Hall ring. Inside were the initials “R.D.S.”

Photos by Greg Leshé
“It was a 1953 ring and it was in such amazingly good shape,” Costello says. “At first, I thought my daughter might have had something to do with it. And when I told my children, they were sure that I was kidding.”

The ring had slipped off the finger of Raymond Smith ’53 back in 1978, while he was swimming off a friend’s boat about a hundred feet offshore. Almost 30 years later, Smith was dumbfounded to take a call from Seton Hall’s Office of Alumni Relations, who wanted to know if — as one of three 1953 graduates with the initials R.D.S. — he had lost his class ring.

But that’s getting ahead of the story.

Reuniting graduates with their lost rings is pretty common for Alumni Relations, according to Dan Nugent ’03, associate director of the group’s regional programs. A dozen or so get turned in every year.

Cost versus sentimental value

Seton Hall rings can sell today for about $500 to $1,500 each, according to Nugent, whose own class ring was a gift. But their sentimental value to alumni can make them priceless.

Jim Moran ’70 can attest to that.

“Our house was broken into about two years ago,” says Moran, who runs a 401(k) retirement account consulting business in Kent, Wash. “His class ring was taken from a jewelry drawer with other, more expensive items, he says, but the ring “was just irreplaceable.”

“In 1970, I probably paid about 80 bucks for it,” says Moran. “Back then, that was a lot of money. But the price, even now, is kind of irrelevant. The point is you simply cannot buy a 1970 Seton Hall ring.”

A year and a half after the ring was taken, Moran says, “I got a phone call out of the clear blue sky.”

As Moran recalls the conversation, an officer of the King County Sheriff’s Office was on the line with a series of questions:

“Are you Jim Moran?”

“Yesss.”

“Did you graduate from Seton Hall University?”

“Yeah.”

“I think we may have your class ring. Can you describe it to me?”

The police had traced him through Matthew Boswell, ’95M.B.A. ’94, associate vice president for alumni and government relations, who provided Moran’s contact information. “They had broken up this extensive theft ring,” Moran says, and among a cache of stolen items found in a motel room was the ring, which had his name and graduation date inscribed upon it.

“It was great to get it back,” Moran says. “I had kind of given up hope on it.”

A daughter’s quest

By the time John Reynolds ’59 got his ring back after nearly 20 years, he had received a replacement from his family. “They surprised me one birthday and bought me a new ring,” he says. “Now I have two.”

Reynolds thinks the original probably came off in cold weather when his fingers shrank and the ring became loose. But when “one of the alumni people called to tell me, it came right out of the blue. I was overjoyed, because it is such a sentimental thing.”

“I couldn’t believe it,” Reynolds says, giving the patron saint of lost and stolen articles some credit. “St. Anthony took him time.”

Reynolds, a former associate director of development for the University, later received a note from Maria Sandberg of Maywood, N.J., saying that his ring had turned up in her late father’s possessions.

“My father passed away in February 2005, he was 83,” Sandberg says. “He was famous for picking up any stray, shiny object he found on the ground, usually scissors, washers, and so on. He also never threw anything away. It’s been very difficult for my mother and me to go through his things; even after three years we’ve barely made a dent.

“One day last year I decided to tackle cleaning out a bowl that was filled with receipts, some almost 10 years old. At the bottom of the bowl was the ring. I have no idea how long he’d had it, or where he’d found it,” she says.

“The price, then or now, is kind of irrelevant. The point is you simply cannot buy a 1970 Seton Hall ring.”

Sandberg says the ring “was in pretty good condition. But there was dirt caked into the inscription, so I cleaned it with an old toothbrush so I could better read the name.” Sandberg emailed Alumni Relations about her find and within days learned who the owner was.

Mailing the ring off, she “enclosed a note to Mr. Reynolds,” she says, “telling him how important it was to me to return the ring to him. My parents were married in 1959, and he graduated that year. So I felt very strongly that my father had found the ring for a reason, and it was my responsibility to do whatever I could to see that it found its way back to him. I got a lovely note back from him.”

Sandberg also understands the emotional attachment of graduation rings. “My father never attended college,” she says. “He graduated from high school in 1940, went to work, and joined the Army not long afterwards. I have his high-school ring, which means the world to me, and I intend to give it to my son when he gets old enough to appreciate it.”

Reynolds, unlike some other alumni, can give you a very accurate dollar value for his rings. The 10-karat one is worth $300 and the 14-karat replacement is valued at $350; Reynolds adds, “I don’t even know what to do with them.”

A mystery of the deep

As for the ring found on Shelter Island, when Raymond Smith took the call from Alumni Relations, he was amazed to be told it had been found. “We had long given it up for lost,” he says.

The story goes like this: One summer day in 1978, he was invited to go sailing with a friend who had a house and boat on the island.

“We went out on that Saturday morning and spent the whole day,” he says. Coming in that evening, they took a swim in water that Smith remembers “was cold as heck.”

It was then that the ring probably came off.

“I didn’t even realize I lost the ring at that time,” he says. “I was only that night when I took a shower to warm up that I noticed it was gone.”

Smith, who lives in Manchester Center, Vt., said he was the third “R.D.S.” from the Class of 1953 that Alumni Relations called. “The first had passed away and the second had his ring,” Smith was told. The University then got permission to close the circle between Smith and the beachcomber; Smith called Costello immediately “to thank him profusely.”

As to how currents and tides moved the rings so far inland for Costello to find it, Smith has no idea. “It’s a real mystery,” he says.

The two got on famously once they started talking. “It was like I’d known him forever,” Costello says. “He was a nice gentleman. He even sent me a gallon of Vermont maple syrup.” Smith, who is scheduling a luncheon for the two in New York soon, says, “He doesn’t know it, but I’m going to send him another gallon this year.”

Costello is still amazed at how quickly the ring’s owner was located. He found the ring on a Sunday, he says, and by Tuesday he had “popped it in the FedEx to send it up to Vermont.”

“It’s all in a day’s work for Alumni Relations, says Dan Nugent. “The staff works hard to return errant rings not only because of their value as an expensive piece of jewelry, he explains, but also because of their sentimental value.

“Many people, it’s really a symbol of achievement, something to remind them of all the hard work and preparation for life they received in college.”

And are there more rings being traced by Alumni Relations? “Right now,” Nugent replies, “I am happy to say that there are none.”

Bob Gilbert is a writer based in Connecticut.

Thanks to the Menagerie William Hall Field Archives and Special Collections Center for sharing donated rings. And special thanks to the following alumni for lending their rings to us for photos: Daniel Schaid ’73, Dan Nugent ’73, Russ Felsenfeld ’64/M.A. ’65, and Edward S⚠️’dub’ Snyder ’86, John Saccone ’90, Kathleen Costello ’92/M.A. ’95.

Let us know. E-mail us at shumagazine@shu.edu or send a note to University Editor, Seton Hall magazine, 457 Centre Street, South Orange, N.J. 07079.
PIRATES’ BEST

When all is said and done, Jenna Best will go down as one of the top softball players in Seton Hall history. The graduating senior has finished her career with the Pirates in the top 10 of almost every offensive category — including hits, home runs and RBIs — and helped Seton Hall win its second consecutive BIG EAST Championship in 2005.

Best has shown a knack for the clutch hit, driving in the game-winning run nine times in her career — three times with home runs. Even in the biggest games, she came through for her team. Her performance against Notre Dame in the 2005 BIG EAST Championship game three hits in five at-bats) helped Seton Hall successfully defend its conference title.

“Seton Hall has been great,” says Best, the team’s left fielder. “I’ve had the opportunity to go to a couple of BIG EAST Championships, and even been able to win one. Getting a ring is not something every player gets to experience, and I consider myself very lucky.”

A two-time team captain, Best is a tireless worker who leads by example. She has been known to put in extra hours in the weight room or batting cages, no matter the time of year.

“Jenna Best is one of the greatest leaders we’ve had here at Seton Hall. She just knows what it takes to be a champion.”

Despite her accomplishments — All-Northeast Regional First Team and All-BIG EAST Third Team — Best deflects credit for her success.

“My teammates have helped me out a lot,” she says. “We’re all pretty much best friends, so on or off the field, we’re together ‘To have that encouragement is important, and it gives me confidence.”

Best graduated in May with a degree in sport management. “Being an athlete has enabled me to multitask and manage my time,” she says, noting that discipline helps students prepare for the real world.

Best faces the same question that other graduating seniors do: What’s next?

“Coaching is always there,” she says, “and I know there will be other jobs out there for me. I’m still in the process of figuring that out. It would be cool to go to graduate school and just be a regular student,” she adds. “I’ve never been able to devote all of my time to school and not have to worry about practices or travel.”

Meantime, Best will take a well-earned rest. “I actually want to take the summer off, because now that I think of it, I haven’t had a vacation since I was 10.”

| MIKE KOWALSKY

“Jenna Best is one of the greatest leaders we’ve had here at Seton Hall. She just knows what it takes to be a champion.”

SPORTS ROUNDUP 2007-08

TEAM FINAL RECORDS HIGHLIGHTS

Cross Country N/A Senior Kerry Cahill led the women’s team this season. She won the Bronc Invitational, was the top Seton Hall finisher in every race, and placed second at the Maryland-Eastern Shore Invitational. Junior Pawel Komiakowski paced the men’s team. He too, led the Pirates in every race, and he finished third at the Maryland-Eastern Shore Invitational.

Golf N/A The golf team finished third in the BIG EAST Championships, and the group’s most consistent player was senior Pete Morris. He led the team with a 73.7 scoring average and had the top individual effort this year, tying for second place at the Lennie D. Small Classic.

Women’s Soccer 8-6-2, 4-6-1 (R.E.) The women’s soccer team finished its first season under new head coach Kedrik Tantle. Senior goalkeeper Amanda Beeler held her opponents to 0.75 goals against average (with best in the BIG EAST). Sophomore Magen Mills earned BIG EAST First Team recognition. Sophomore Katie Anderson was named to the 2007 CoSIDA Academic All-District Second Team.

Men’s Soccer 7-11-1, 3-8-0 (R.E.) The men’s team’s three-game midseason winning streak enabled it to make its 14th consecutive BIG EAST Tournament berth. But the team lost its opening round game (3-0) on penalty kicks at St. John’s. Junior Eileen Quaidwell earned BIG EAST First Team honors, and freshman Brenton Martineau was named the conference’s Rookie of the Year.

Women’s Volleyball 16-12, 6-8 (R.E.) In head coach Kris Zelter’s second season, the volleyball team had two winning streaks of five and six games. Junior Nicola Meyers was named Second Team All-BIG EAST and became the sixth player in Seton Hall history to record 1,000 career kills. Freshman Sarah Osmun set a University freshman record with a team-leading 431 kills.

Men’s Basketball 17-15, 7-11 (R.E.) Though expected to finish 13th in the BIG EAST, the men’s basketball team exceeded expectations by finishing 11th and returning to the BIG EAST Championship after a year without a title. Senior Brian Laing was named to the BIG EAST All-First Team and placed second in the conference in scoring. Freshman Jeremy Hazel was named to the All-Rookie Team.

Women’s Basketball 13-15, 3-13 (R.E.) The team won the Seton Hall Basketball Classic and San Diego State Surf ‘N Slam tournaments before injuries struck late in the year. Freshman Ebenezer Williams led the team in scoring and was named to the BIG EAST All-Rookie Team. Junior Notesha Womack led the conference and was ninth in the nation in rebounding.

Track & Field N/A Senior Greg Gomes won his third BIG EAST Indoor Championship in the 500-meter dash. Junior Alexandra McCoy won the same event on the women’s side. In the outdoor season, seniors Gomes, Irwan Gilhans and Jenelle Brathwaite, sophomore Jermal Hayes, freshman Nick Frimpong and the women’s 4x400-meter relay team all registered NCAA Regional qualifying times.

Swimming & Diving Men’s 9-2, Women’s 4-8 (dual meets) Senior Michelle Ducharme scored four first-place finishes and broke the Montclair State University pool record in the 100-yard butterfly. Junior Matt Rienzo also broke the record in same event on the men’s side. Junior starting D’Ernco tallied 13 individual first-place finishes during the season, including a win in the 100-yard breaststroke at the ECAC Championships.

Baseball 31-25, 15-12 (R.E.) The baseball team amassed its highest overall and BIG EAST win totals since 2001. For the week ending April 6, junior Corey Young was named BIG EAST Pitcher of the Week. Young, along with juniors Matt Singer and Chris Affrunti, was named to the BIG EAST Weekly Honor Roll this season.

Softball 20-23, 0-18 (R.E.) The team faced stiff competition early in the season but began to turn its fortunes around as the season wore on. Senior Jenna Best and junior Kealan Waldron were both named to the BIG EAST Weekly Honor Roll. Waldron completed the season ranking among the BIG EAST’s Top 10 in batting average, hits, RBIs, doubles and total bases.
With 1,313 career points, Laing ranks 22nd on Seton Hall’s all-time career scoring list.

Brian Laing wasn’t considered the jewel of his recruiting class. Basketball scouts said the 6-foot-5 forward had a good athletic body with great leaping ability, but he needed to improve his shot. When he came to Seton Hall in 2004, the men’s team had five players ahead of him on the depth chart.

Early on, it seemed Laing was destined for a supporting player’s role. Although he played in all 30 games during his sophomore year, he produced an average of only 5.8 points per game.

This spring, Laing graduated from Seton Hall with a good athletic body with great leaping ability, but he needed to improve his shot.

“I spent a lot of time in the gym between my sophomore and junior years is nothing short of extraordinary,” Laing says. “I’m not just talking about the workouts with the team and coaches. I mean extra sessions — getting to the gym early and staying late. My game improved and I got a lot stronger physically that summer.”

It was clear as Laing entered his senior year that he would need to prove to the BIG EAST that the previous season hadn’t been a fluke. When the conference’s 2007-08 preseason predictions were released, his name wasn’t on the First Team or Honorable Mention listings.

“I was disappointed, but it just made me want to work harder,” Laing says. He soon put all doubts to rest. In his senior season, Laing averaged 18.8 points per game, which ranked second in the BIG EAST Conference and is the highest scoring average by a Pirate since 1995-96, when Adrian Griffin averaged 19.5 points per game. The BIG EAST named him Player of the Week on Nov. 26 following his Most-Valued-Player performance in the Philly Hoop Group Classic, where he led Seton Hall to the title.

Laing also led the conference in minutes played per game and ranked sixth in free-throw shooting. He helped the team earn a spot in the 2008 BIG EAST Championship, and at the end of the season, he was named First Team All-BIG EAST and All-Met.

With 1,313 career points, Laing ranks 22nd on Seton Hall’s all-time career scoring list. He started his junior year with just 239 points.

“I give a lot of credit to Coach Gonzalez for helping turn my play around,” Laing says. “He allowed me to be on the court and make some mistakes that I could learn from. He worked with me closely and had the confidence in me to go out there and perform.”

Wherever Laing’s professional career leads him, he is grateful for his time wearing Seton Hall blue.

“Seton Hall gave me the opportunity to be close to home and play college basketball at the highest level of competition,” Laing says. “I was able to get a good education and my degree...something I’m very proud of. There couldn’t have been a better situation for me.”

| Matthew A. Sweeney ’00 |
For Henry D’Alessandro ’85, memories of Seton Hall are intensely personal. The very best memory, he says, was “getting married in Seton Hall’s Chapel of the Immaculate Conception” in 1995 to his wife, Colleen.

Nine years later, their daughter Grace was baptized — by Monsignor Robert Sheeran ’67, S.T.D. — in the Seminary Chapel. Grace is now 4. And last year, the D’Alessandros’ sons, Henry, 11, and Nicholas, 9, were pictured alongside their father and basketball coach Bobby Gonzalez in the Pirate Blue Athletic Fund’s annual report. (Daughter Catherine, 6, appears with the rest of the clan in the photograph on the right.)

For the D’Alessandros, Seton Hall is definitely a family affair. Henry (“Hank”) D’Alessandro has worked with the investment banking firm of Morgan Stanley for 11 years. He is now a managing director in asset management, responsible for Morgan Stanley’s mezzanine debt financing. As an undergraduate at Seton Hall, he was focused, graduating magna cum laude with a degree in accounting, even though he worked almost full time off campus throughout his college years. “I was a real Renaissance man — I worked in a bagel shop making bagels. In an ideal world, that wouldn’t be the way to go to college, but I had to work. Nonetheless, it turned out well for me, because if my parents had had money, I’d have gone right to law school from Seton Hall, which, I can see in retrospect, would have been a mistake. However, while working I got exposed to what other people did for a living, and I realized that being a banker was the way to go.”

As Seton Hall, D’Alessandro, who’d become a certified public accountant, worked for five years and became an audit manager for the accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick. At that point, deciding a master’s degree in business administration might be more helpful, he went to Cornell University. “If you’d asked me when I was getting out of business school what job I wanted to do — I’m doing it. Morgan Stanley is an outstanding firm with great people and a great culture.”

By all the evidence, D’Alessandro loves Seton Hall at least as much today as he did in his student years. In addition to making financial contributions, he gives his time, serving on both the Board of Regents and the president’s advisory council for the Stillman School of Business, while faithfully attending a variety of University functions.

Of all his Seton Hall connections, however, the one D’Alessandro probably enjoys most is his close connection to the men’s basketball program. He has courtside season tickets, and he and his sons are such fervent fans that they were featured in Pirate Blue’s annual report. The report’s full-page color photo shows the coach and D’Alessandro in the back, and the D’Alessandro boys in front, each holding a basketball. And who enjoyed the experience most? “I think it’s clear,” says D’Alessandro, “that I did.”

Henry D’Alessandro also supports the University’s Catholic culture. “One of the things that makes Seton Hall distinctive, in my opinion, is its Catholic mission. Its emphasis, and, frankly, re-emphasis, on Catholicity is important to me. There are a lot of good schools, but here many are there that also teach the faith and the culture? I think that servant leadership is a terrific focus of the school, and I’m very supportive.”

Both Henry and Colleen D’Alessandro practice what was preached to them in their youth. Colleen, an active parishioner at St. Rose of Lima, is on the president’s advisory committee for Catholic initiatives at Seton Hall, and both of them are involved with the University’s Center for Vocation and Servant Leadership. Given all this activity, does Henry D’Alessandro have any time for hobbies or vacations? “I love golf! I’m a bad golfer, but I love it. And that’s kind of it for hobbies, because I work a lot of hours. Plus, with the time I spend with my four kids there isn’t much time for much else. I do love reading, especially history, and recently finished Lone Survivor, by Marcus Luttrell, an outstanding book about a Navy Seal mission. As for vacations, we do the traditional stuff — Disney, San Diego — that people with small children normally do.”

And when those small children reach college age, where might they go? One guess:

John Greenya is a Washington-based freelance writer.
Robert E. Baldini ’53 of Madison, N.J., was elected to the Medical Advertising Hall of Fame for his contributions to the pharmaceutical industry. During his career, Baldini served in a variety of senior executive positions and was involved in introducing more than 27 major pharmaceutical products.

Caputo ’52/M.S. ’64, of Millwood, Pa., was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Carsoner Scoliosis Foundation upon his retirement as president of Miller-Abbott University. John S. Datunias, M.A. ’94, M.A.C.E. ’94, of Greenwood, Pa., published his first novel Rude Promenade, a suspense thriller. … Father Joseph F. Bartone ’58, of Bayonne, N.J., received his master’s degree in religious education from Felician College in May 2007. … Joseph S. Novak ’65/B.S. ’73, of Clinton, N.J., judge of the Joint Courts of Midnight, Piscataway, and Roselle Township, was recently appointed judge of the Municipal Court in Green Township, Warren County. … William R. Barker ’55/B.S., of Orlandos, Pa., returned for a second tour of duty in the Iraq war as chief of support operations for the 403rd Army Field Support Brigade-Southwest Area, located in Kuwait. … Ray Duffill ’58, of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., was appointed president of Dole Fresh Vegetables, a subsidiary of Dole Food Co.

70s

Jerome Marks, M.B.A. ’70, of Cedar Grove, N.J., was honored by the American Chemical Society for 50 years of service. Marks also was one of nine honorees at a donor sponsored by the Midcentury chapter of the American Red Cross, and was awarded a plaque for donating 154 pints of blood since 1954. … Joseph F. Duffy, ’72, of West Milford, N.J., was honored an honorary doctor of laws degree; Honoris Cause, from the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station. … Kathryn Cord Sabatone ’72, of Kearny, N.J., received the Award of Merit from the International Association of Business Communications (New Jersey chapter) for her work on Triple H Hospital consumer publications. … Louis Amendt Sr. ’75/M.B.A. ’76, of Union Beach, N.J., was honored as “Citizen of the Year” by the mayor and council of the Borough of Union Beach. … William L. Grant ’75, of Bennington, Vt., is the secretary of the resident patients group at the Vermont Veterans’ Home. … Dr. Richard Lessenow, M.B.A. ’78, of Miami Lakes, Fla., along with his wife Carmen, launched an e-visit website specifically designed for severely disabled patients. … Allen Galorenzo ’77, of Morris Plains, N.J., along with his wife Jolene, founded the Daniel Galorenzo Foundation to honor their son who passed away in 2002. Money raised by the foundation is given to children suffering from serious illnesses. … Robert G. Wagner Jr. ’75, of Tidewater, Va., was named to Graphic Design USA magazime’s list of “People to Watch in 2008.”

80s

John Smolka ’80/B.S. ’84, of Windermere, Fla., was named keynote speaker at the Applied Ergonomics Conference and Expo in March 2008. … John A. Conte Jr. ’81/B.D. ’87 of Mahwah, N.J., joined the law firm of Rubenstein, Magistro, Pas, Macrander & Conte. … John M. Leslie ’81, of Montclair, N.J., joined Wolfsboro as partner in the private client services and business litigation practice group. … James O’Keefe ’82, of Washington Township, N.J., recently partnered with Wealth North, a personal financial planning and investment counseling company. … Damian A. Braga, M.B.A. ’93, of Schollr’s Mountain, N.J., was promoted to president, U.S. and vice president, Americas, of Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccine division of the Sanofi-Aventis Group. … Donna M. Cozier-Soderbird ’83, of Phoenixville, Pa., accepted a position as executive director of commercial communications at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in Collegeville, Pa. … Anthony Z. Hayden ’83, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was elected president of the Florida Orthopaedic Medical Association at its 100th annual convention. … Gregory McCarron ’83, of Vernon, N.J., was named director of the New York Catholic Institute of the Food Industry. … Richard E. Booth ’86, of Encinitas, Calif., was awarded the highest professional designation in the restaurant finance industry, certified mortgage banker, by the Mortgage Bankers Association. … Patrick J. Cuthill ’87, of Red Bank, N.J., an analyst at Cowen and Company, was recognized by the Conference certified valuation analyst from the National Association of Corporate Directors. … John P. Carr ’88, of East Norriton, Pa., was appointed vice president, management adviser, of Titus Advisors, a company providing benchmarking tools for the pharmaceutical industry.

Finding Land: Paul Ward ’86 started his career in finance, working for Citigroup. But he regretted not being able to put his English degree to better use. So he joined Nickelodeon’s public-relations department in 1990 to focus on Nick at Nite, the network’s evening and overnight programming block. “I was thrilled to be in a company that was exploring creatively and firing on all cylinders.” In 1996, the 24-hour network TV Land grew out of the public’s love for the classic television shows on Nick at Nite.

Working with the Great: Having been promoted to executive vice president of acquisitions and strategy for Nickelodeon Networks, Ward hoy television shows for Nickelodeon, Nick at Nite and several other properties and spearheads strategy to enhance consumer appeal. “I’m surrounded by a diverse group of talented and exceptionally funny professionals who know how to make a business thrive. I love this job.” Ward has enjoyed, being able to work closely with television royalty such as Andy Griffith, Mary Tyler Moore and Dick Van Dyke.

Reconnecting to His Roots: Ward discovered how to maintain “a healthy work-life balance” while at Seton Hall, which now allows him time to give back. Inspired by his father-in-law’s active involvement with his alma mater, he didn’t take much for Ward to become more involved with Seton Hall when alumni board president, Mark Ganton ’91, asked him to help organize Many Are One, Seton Hall’s annual black-tie event that supports scholarships for legacy students. “So far, I’ve helped recruit
2007, to Sara (Burnett) ’98/M.A.E. ’96/M.H.A. ’04.

... shown herewith her big sister, alumni@shu.edu

Do you receive the alumni exclusive discounts on Seton Hall merchandise as well as special promotions.

To subscribe, e-mail NEwS & NOtES

Kylie Peyton, e-newsletter?

... received a master’s degree in public adminis-

ting director of Huron Consulting Group. …

... specializing in children and adolescent

behavioral health. … Tony (Christopher) Di Flumeri ’95, of Revere, Mass., owns Curran Depilatory Productions and designed the layout and cover of The Reporter and the Draft, a book by Moni J. Smith about her father, Vincent de Paul Slam. …

... Matt Dowling ’96, of Howell, N.J., received the rating of senior parachute rigger from the Federal Aviation Administration. …

... made partner at the law firm of Melli Guerin Richard A. Nelke Jr. ’96, of Clinto n, Pa., was hired as account supervisor at a pharmaceutical advertising agency. …

... its 30 undergraduates work with the association and for its contribution to the whole, “she says.

… as substance.

... to explore Paris, Milan, London, and Berlin in search of architecture, design and fashion. Her entrepreneurial spirit, awoken by her business minor, provided the basis for creating, marketing and sustaining her business over the past seven years. And Joy credits her communication major for her ability to master the art of personal interaction. “While I am first and foremost creative, if I cannot succinctly express a point of view, then I am neither ever reliable nor credible.”

... for Joy’s media-savvy clientele, style is as important as substance.

Personal Curator: To set herself apart in an industry crowded with stylists, Joy created and trademarked a process called Curatorial Styling, which she describes as being not about trends, hype or the “it” piece, but about creating a highly personal collection that will endure and evolve with an individual. Each season, she edits, refines and enhances the collection. “Each piece is chosen for its intrinsic value and for its contribution to the whole,” she says.

Making the Most of It: “Although varied, the relevance of my studies [at Seton Hall] is of my studies [at Seton Hall] is of my studies [at Seton Hall] is of my studies [at Seton Hall] is of my studies [at Seton Hall]

The Joy of Fashion

Pomp, Circumstance & Hoodies

The Student Alumni Association’s first class of seniors held a special gradua-
tion “hoodie” ceremony to celebrate their achievement. Dan August ’03, the association’s adviser, and Rich Allen, its president, presented each of the six seniors with a hooded Student Alumni Association sweatshirt, in an imitation of a traditional hooding ceremony.

Being part of the association helped Natalie Campbell ‘08 view a leader as a student. “I had the opportunity to meet alumni that influence the school. More important, I was able to represent the student body.”

2008 GRADUATES: Jennifer Lackie, Alexandra Ayer, Julianne Hoatson, Kaitlyn Delengowski, Phillip A. Swenda ’03, of West Chester, Pa., appeared as a Kingston soccer player in the movie “Gracie,” a film about a teenager who fights to give women the opportunity to play competitive soccer. Swenda has played soccer in England and Poland.

Marriages

Thomas Gentile ’03 to Laura Johnston ’04

Phillip A. Swenda ’03 to Tatiana Pinto

Cortanie Ellsworth, M.A. ’04 to Andrew R. Hurth

Kathleen F. Adinolfi, M.A.E. ’05 to Gregory Josty

Baby Pirates

John C. O’Reilly ’70/M.A.E. ’78 and Stacey, a girl, Savannah Mae, November 13, 2007

Joseph Spinelli ’93 and Holly (Haigings) ’93, a girl, Genevieve Theresa, October 19, 2007

Gina (Markowitz) Rodinoglu ’92 and Ganevi, twin girls, Sophia and Stephanie, June 20, 2007

Jennifer (Sedolak) Kawoda ’03 and Todd Tolis ’02, a girl, Gianna Rae, December 26, 2007

Carolina Mazza ’03 and Anthony, a boy, Michael Gerard, June 3, 2007

Matthew B. Madara ’04 and Carrie, a girl, Kate Elizabeth, September 5, 2007

Frances (Cibes) Nestoriam ’04 and John, a boy, Alexander John, March 8, 2008

Frances (Smith) Wood ’04 and Michael, a boy, Spencer Francis, January 2, 2008

Christina (Hartman) Thompson ’05 and George Washington University in May 2006.

degree in organizational management from Va., received a certificate in leadership

... that Seton Hall bleeds blue. “That’s new Seton Hall traditions. “Spirit Week gave students something to rally around and was a great way for people to show that Seton Hall bleeds blue.”

Initiated in 2005, the association and its 30 undergraduates work with the Student Alumni Association to improve school spirit and strengthen relationships between alumni and students. More than 200 students interviewed to fill the handful of membership vacancies that open each year.

She’s proud the association initiated new Seton Hall traditions. “Spirit Week gave students something to rally around and was a great way for people to show that Seton Hall bleeds blue.”

... she explored Paris, Milan, London, and Berlin in search of architecture, design and fashion. Her entrepreneurial spirit, awoken by her business minor, provided the basis for creating, marketing and sustaining her business over the past seven years. And Joy credits her communication major for her ability to master the art of personal interaction. “While I am first and foremost creative, if I cannot succinctly express a point of view, then I am neither ever reliable nor credible.”

Joyous Style: Joy sees great style as an asset, especially in a visually oriented society like ours. “It’s a valuable tool for personal branding, for marketing ourselves to the world, in business or otherwise.” For Joy’s media-savvy clientele, style is as important as substance.

Personal Curator: To set herself apart in an industry crowded with stylists, Joy created and trademarked a process called Curatorial Styling, which she describes as being not about trends, hype or the “it” piece, but about creating a highly personal collection that will endure and evolve with an individual. Each season, she edits, refines and enhances the collection. “Each piece is chosen for its intrinsic value and for its contribution to the whole,” she says.

Making the Most of It: “Although varied, the relevance of my studies [at Seton Hall] is now clear,” says Joy. Her art and language concentration led her to explore Paris, Milan, London...
Many Are One

The Many Are One alumni awards gala, now in its 22nd year, was held on May 29 in Jersey City, N.J. With 500 attendees, this year’s event raised $60,000 for scholarships for children of alumni who attend Seton Hall and honored alumni who have made a significant impact in our world.

Many Are One

In Memoriam

Dr. Eugene F. Fireman ’33
Father Michael A. Furino ’30/D.M.D. ’77
Salvatore F. Marcius ’42
Sister Julia M. Moore ’40
John F. O’Flynn ’42
Frances K. McCollum Sr. ’42
Dr. William J. Duffy ’43
Father Spangler J. Loebel Jr. ’44/D.M.D. ’48
Andrew G. Preusch ’44
Herbert W. Lapp ’46
William F. Kenny Sr. ’47
Thomas J. Martin ’47
John M. Galiano ’47
Joseph Menas ’48
Perry J. Prior Jr. ’48
Vincent G. Riggin Jr. ’48
Frances F. Crellin ’49
Thomas F. Donley Sr. ’49
Irene M. Friske, M.A. ’49
Andrew J. Gabaglio ’49
George R. Happe Jr. ’49
Monroe Warren ’49
Reedley D. Lucas ’48

Bally Pirates continue!

Rame (Sesag) Gacsa ’50, M.A.E. ’58 and Steven, a g.t. (Shinn) Eisma, January 29, 2008

Kathleen Gilder ’58 and Robert, a boy, Ian Jesus, March 10, 2008

Kimberly A. Jordan ’58 and Steven, a girl, Alison Nadro, June 6, 2007

Michael J. Kuester ’56/D. ’59 and Joanna (Piorek), B.S. ’59, a boy, Alexandra Michael, December 29, 2007

Nicole (Valenti) Imbole ’57/M.A. ’62 and Brad, a.g.t. Juliana Rose, January 13, 2008

Daniel Donolo ’58 and Alexia (Dobrosky) ’58, a boy, Ryan Julian, December 5, 2007

Teresa (Di Lella) Rabbie’ ’58 and Ryan ’58, a g.t. Sinora Rose, September 23, 2007

Kately (Skovel) Seid ’58 and Jason, a boy, Emma Marie, February 24, 2008

Core (Cialagio) Maguire ’59 and Matthew ’59, a boy, William Matthew, January 4, 2008

Alexandria (Signi) Pascovale ’60 and Tom, a girl, Johana Elena, November 22, 2007

Nicole (Nemeth) Lo Brasco ’62 and Peter, a boy, Christine Maria, February 12, 2008

Pia Campitelli-Sugrue ’62 and Sal, a boy, Giannippo, May 28, 2007

Richard Lutin ’62 and Jessica, a boy, Lukas Richard, March 26, 2008

Andrew Blair-Carruth, E.D. ’63 and Walter, former Israeli and Jude, February 12, 2007

Stephanie Fantini ’65 and Remo, a boy, Giovanni Giuseppe, December 22, 2007

FALLEN HERO: Seton Hall remembers Captain Gregory T. Dalessio ’00/M.A. ’04, who died on June 23 from combat wounds suffered in Iraq.

George J. Latinaris ’58
Donna D. Memoth ’58
Raymond Matthews ’58
Robert M. Paratore ’58
Steven W. Reichl ’58
Thomas E. Deakyne ’58
Sister Francis M. Condon, M.A.E. ’59
Peter S. Pappeoli Sr. ’59
Warren S. Reenick ’59
Sister Clare Testa ’60
Joseph L. Cuenan, M.A.E. ’60
Joseph F. Hanrahan, M.A.E. ’60
John M. Lamer ’60
Martin J. Concannon Sr. ’60
Angeline J. (Bonito) Esposito, M.A. ’61
Harry R. Efele ’62
Geoffrey Gaffney ’62
Richard C. Rykowski ’62
Vincent J. McGuire, M.A.E. ’62
Lillian E. Whitley, M.A.E. ’62
Lisa M. Wenzel, M.S. ’63
Irene M. Pulkertt, M.A.E. ’64
Frances E. Piffar Jr. ’65/D.D.S.
David B. Ford, Jr. ’66
Judith A. Ikonen, M.S. ’67/Ph.D.
Sister Mary L. Lynch, M.A.E. ’67
Gregory F. Collins ’68
William H. Lynch ’68
Glora L. Curner, M.A.E. ’69
Anthony L. Marta ’63/P.H.D.
Frank M. Russo ’69
Father Robert S. Baker, M.A.E. ’70
Sister Mary A. Delchino ’70
Joseph B. Brindley ’71
Thomas E. Dougherty ’71
George M. Stewert Jr. ’71
David B. Loid, M.S., M.D. ’72
Wrenn D. Thorpe ’72
Anne L. Biering, M.A., M.D. ’72
Mary S. Mcintosh, M.S., M.D. ’72
Charles J. Conner ’72
Regina A. Sather ’73
Ola Colwell, M.A.E. ’73
Edward J. Ryan, M.D.A. ’76
Cynthia P. Kaplan, M.A.E. ’77
Donald H. McGee, M.A. ’78
Edward J. Deshem ’79
Mary E. Winkus, M.S. ’79
James Fusaro ’80
Marilyn Haggerty-Bolen ’81
Deacon William J. Toth, M.A.T. ’81
Patricia (Delbaglivo) Padicak, B.S./D.D.S. ’88
David W. Garroppo ’87
Joseph D. Mauro, Jr., M.B.A., M.D. ’88
Martin M. McFate ’89
Virginia H. Core, M.P.A. ’90
Vincent E. Soetoe ’93
Eugena Phifer, M.A., M.D. ’94
Brian D. Priestley ’94
Marta Szobokska, M.S., M.D. ’97

Messrs. and M’ladies, you are cordially invited to attend the 52nd Annual Gala of Many Are One, the Seton Hall University Alumni Fund. 

Tickets: $75 per person. manner, seton hall is pleased to present the many are one alumni awards gala, now in its 22nd year, was held on May 29 in jersey city, N.J. with 500 attendees, this year’s event raised $60,000 for scholarships for children of alumni who attend Seton Hall and honored alumni who have made a significant impact in our world.

Friends of the University


Visit the New Alumni Web site www.shu.edu/alumni

| S U M M E R 2 0 0 8 |
NEws & Notes

Have you been promoted? Earned an advanced degree? Been honored for professional or personal achievements? Recently married? Added a baby Pirate to the ranks? We want to know! Visit us at www.shu.edu/alumni and share your success. Your news may be published in a coming issue of the Seton Hall magazine.

If you can’t logon to www.shu.edu/alumni, fill out the form below with your news and send it to:

Seton Hall magazine, Alumni News and Notes
457 Centre St., South Orange, NJ 07079
Fax: 973-378-2640

Name
Class Year(s) and Degree(s) from Seton Hall
Home Address
Phone
E-Mail Address
News to Share:

“| enjoy it. You can really make a difference helping to put prospective students and families at ease during a stressful college-decision-making period. The amount of time you give is up to you.” — Mary Williams, volunteer

Give back to Seton Hall. Work with a local school to help recruit our next generation of students.

* Attend a college fair.
* Participate in a school “college night.”
* Answer students’ questions about the University.

For more information, go to www.shu.edu/alumni.

Brick by Brick

The Class of 2007 raised more than $27,000 selling bricks to raise money for senior class activities and to fund a scholarship in memory of Mary Jennings, a former classmate who passed away in 2006 following a battle with cancer.

Alumni, friends and employees of the University purchased the $75 bricks that were engraved with names, class years and personal messages and installed in front of Jubilee Hall.

Tina Mustachio ’76 purchased a brick in memory of her husband, Larry, who passed away in 1985. They met at Seton Hall as students and married in 1978. “Seton Hall had a great impact on who I have become and what I’ve made of my life. My daughter likes knowing that her dad is not forgotten and is remembered as part of the Seton Hall community.”

For Steve ’78 and Diane ’81 Vaglio of Charlotte, N.C., purchasing a brick meant they would have a spot at Seton Hall for many years to come. For Steve, the University is a very special place. He was the first member of his family to graduate from college, and Seton Hall memorabilia now adorns his office in Charlotte.

Bob Messler ’49 purchased a brick because “this program is an excellent one. It is a tribute to The Hall and an everlasting tribute to the fact that you were a student and [are now] a proud graduate.” Like many alumni, Messler says, “I attribute my success to the many lessons I learned at The Hall.”

Coast-to-Coast Cheer

Alumni chapters across the country displayed their Pirate pride on March 5, cheering on the men’s basketball team as it faced its BIG EAST rival, Syracuse. Regional alumni chapters launched National Seton Hall Day this year; volunteers scheduled local events to allow alumni to watch the nationally televised game together on ESPN2.

Alumni gathered in New York City, Phoenix, Charlotte, Raleigh, San Francisco, Houston and Southern New Jersey, among other locations. To find a chapter in your area, visit www.shu.edu/alumni.

Because you’re a Seton Hall alum...

10% discount on bookstore purchases for our alumni*

Visit the Bookstore for all your Pirate Blue needs!

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* Online discount code ALUMRE106
** Must present Alumni ID

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Save the Date

October 16, 2008
Main Lounge, University Center

Save the Date

October 4
Come join the Celebration!
universityday.shu.edu

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To register, visit gradopenhouseshu.edu

Seton Hall University Graduate Open House

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Online programs are also available.

To register, visit gradopenhouseshu.edu

Seton Hall University Graduate Open House

To register, visit gradopenhouseshu.edu

Ocean State Cheer

Alumni chapters across the country displayed their Pirate pride on March 5, cheering on the men’s basketball team as it faced its BIG EAST rival, Syracuse. Regional alumni chapters launched National Seton Hall Day this year; volunteers scheduled local events to allow alumni to watch the nationally televised game together on ESPN2.

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To register, visit gradopenhouseshu.edu

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ABOVE: Baltimore Orioles’ third baseman, Melvin Mora, and the team’s broadcaster Jim Hunter ’82 (third and forth from left) with Seton Hall employees and alumni.

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As the saying goes, the more things change, the more they stay the same. In the election of 1948, President Truman took his campaign messages straight to the people, convinced that if he did, he would prevail come Election Day. On his now famous whistle-stop campaign tour, Truman traveled 22,000 miles by train to connect directly with voters. His strategy paid off.

In the current election, the ways candidates reach out to voters are often related to new media — social networking, video and photo sharing sites such as Facebook, Flickr, MySpace and YouTube — but the aim remains the same. For younger voters, these digital vehicles prove to be particularly potent. According to a poll conducted late last year by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, people under 30 are almost twice as likely to mention the Internet as newspapers as the source for most of their news about the election.

To learn more about the intricacies of Election 2008, this spring Seton Hall magazine turned to Joseph Marbach, the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who is a professor of political science and a regular commentator on politics for the media.

The media has focused on increased voter turnout in this election. How do you see it? All the numbers have indicated large turnouts throughout the country. On the Democratic side, Barack Obama has attracted many younger voters as well as more affluent middle-class people who would normally have registered in primaries as Independents — and they all came out to vote in the Democratic contest. There’s also John McCain, who has a track record of appealing to Independents. This contributed to the turnout in early contests.

Will increased voter turnout translate into higher numbers of voters in the fall? That’s the trend; fewer voters turn out in the primary and then it increases in the general election. But polls indicated that a significant number of Democrats said, “If it’s not Obama, I’m not going to vote or I might vote for McCain.” Others said, “If it’s not Clinton, I either might stay home or vote for McCain.” That’s something we can’t predict.

Has the fact that Michigan and Florida scheduled primaries earlier in the year had a positive or negative effect on the election process? Voters in Michigan and Florida were victims of the Democratic Party’s rules, which were designed to maintain the integrity of the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary being scheduled first. This became a real problem for the Democrats, particularly in Florida, where a Republican legislature voted to move up the primary, and the Democrats in that state were denied a voice in the selection process.

Also on the Democrats’ side, rules regarding the proportional allocation of delegates promoted the emergence of two candidates who continued to run. On the Republicans’ side, this was not the case; McCain became the nominee, but he didn’t win many states outright. He won Florida, for example, with about 35 percent of the vote, and because of the “winner take all” rule, he won all Florida’s Republican delegates. If the Democrats were to use that same process, Hillary Clinton would have been the nominee. By winning all the big states, she would have had all those delegates. But because of the proportional representation, if a candidate wins a multi-candidate election with 30 percent of the votes, the candidate gets 30 percent of the delegates.

What has interested you about this election? The role of the Internet, YouTube and programming on late night or cable television. All the candidates have appeared with Letterman, Leno and Jon Stewart — even on Saturday Night Live. We’ve seen a blurring of the lines between politics and entertainment. I’ve also been impressed with Obama’s political communication skills. His communication strategy is cutting edge when compared with the other candidates’, whose campaigns have been mired in the 1990s mode of delivering a message. His is much more interactive and he has been able to raise much more money because of that.

Is there a general sense of a greater political engagement among young people in the political process? There is. We are fortunate here at Seton Hall. We have a politically active student population and we have had one since 9/11. The fact that we have had a voting booth located on campus since the 2004 election is a testament to the awareness of the student body and to students’ willingness to change their registrations from home to campus so they can participate in the election. We now bring residents from the Village of South Orange to campus to vote and that never happened before.
In January 2008, the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception was closed to the public. Since then, artisans have been renovating the building's historic worship spaces in order to restore its former glory and bring this jewel of the Seton Hall campus into the 21st century.

This massive reconstruction project is nearly completed, and the new interior promises to be even more inviting and attractive than you remember. In November, the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception is scheduled to reopen its doors — to you and to the entire Seton Hall community.

Let us know what this special, sacred place means to you. Be part of the chapel restoration fund. For more details, contact Pamela Ferguson in University Advancement at 973-378-2643 or ferguspa@shu.edu.