Our First 100 Years
Special Centennial Edition
Sacred Labyrinth

An inviting labyrinth completed during the summer was the first step in the creation of the Heritage Walk, which eventually will stretch from Troost to The Paseo. The walk is a reflection site that expresses the Rockhurst core value of Finding God in All Things. Inside the labyrinth – funded by a gift from the Kansas City alumni chapter – speaking from the center produces a natural echo, which reminds us we communicate differently when we are centered rather than on the edge.
OUR FIRST 100 YEARS
CELEBRATING A CENTURY
UPON THIS ROCK
AN EDUCATION FOR LIFE
LEGACY OF SERVICE
MORE THAN A GAME
LIVELY CAMPUS CREATES COMMUNITY
CLASS NOTES

On the cover: A fireworks display to remember graced the skies above Rockhurst University, providing a grand finale to a day of celebration Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010.
Our First 100 Years

No doubt about it, 2010 was an extraordinary milestone for Rockhurst University. We celebrated the centennial of our charter with special events and commemorations throughout the year. In this issue of Rockhurst magazine, we depart from our usual format to relive the excitement of Centennial Weekend through photos and to take a deeper look at several aspects of the University that make Rockhurst what it is today: faith, academics, athletics, service and student life. As always, you can catch up on news from the Rockhurst community in Class Notes.

Caring for Rockhurst, Caring for You

The history of Rockhurst is a story of successes, modest and significant, contrasted with periods of challenges and uncertainty. Most of all, it’s a story of an institution being faithful to its mission as a Jesuit and Catholic university intent on transforming lives in a learning community through the ebbs and flows of time.

As with many Jesuit institutions, the foundation of Rockhurst was based upon a community need and a link to an existing Jesuit institution. The need was for Catholic higher education, at the beginning of the 20th century, in Kansas City, a growing urban community in the Midwest. The link was with Creighton University through the Rev. Michael Dowling, S.J., who twice served as its president and later became Rockhurst’s first president.

In 1909, Fr. Dowling purchased 25 acres at the corner of 53rd and Troost. In 1910, a charter was granted by the state of Missouri enabling the institution to award degrees. Four years later, high school students were admitted. And in 1917, the first collegians began their classes.

Today, Rockhurst University continues living in the balance between cura apostolica and cura personalis. The former can be defined as “care for the work, apostolate.” The latter refers to “care for the person.” This requires living in the tension between these two interests. In many respects and throughout these first 100 years, our care for the work has positioned us to care for the person.

The first decade of our second century has us sequencing priorities from our five-year strategic plan and our 20-year campus master plan. These priorities include a new academic building, more housing and a parking structure. (Parking did not require much attention in 1910.)

Complementing these concerns are plans for more scholarship dollars, faculty and staff development programs, and resources for international education. In many respects, this balancing act has been a trajectory throughout our history. The stories you encounter in this magazine provide convincing evidence for how personal transformation and leadership education in the Jesuit tradition have been the result of life in that tension. It appears to be a winning formula and a great way for us to proceed into the next century.

Thomas B. Curran, O.S.F.S.
President, Rockhurst University
If there is one thing that Shirl Kasper discovered while writing Rockhurst University: The First 100 Years, it’s that Rockhurst had a very rocky start.

“When Rockhurst founder Michael Dowling, S.J., arrived in Kansas City in the spring of 1908, he had no building, no money, and a city with relatively few Catholics,” wrote Kasper, in her book commemorating the 100th anniversary of the school.

Rockhurst University: The First 100 Years contains an overarching theme on the sacrifice that was necessary in order to make the University possible, said Bill Stancil, Ph.D., director of Rockhurst University Press and professor of theology and religious studies.

The 416-page book, a result of seven years of research and writing, features almost 400 color and black-and-white photographs, illustrations, historical documents, and sidebars. “It is the cornerstone for this year’s centennial celebration,” said Stancil, who spent countless hours organizing material, pulling photos and writing captions.

The book costs $50 and is available for purchase online at rockhurstpress.org or Amazon.com, or at the Rockhurst University bookstore in Massman Hall.

Timely Treasures Revealed, Resealed

Who is the most admirable American male according to today’s Rockhurst University students? If you guessed billionaire philanthropist Bill Gates, you would be correct.

Students were surveyed earlier this year regarding their views on a host of topics reflective of popular culture, politics and society. The answers became part of the TimeBox contents when it was resealed in early December to signify the close of the yearlong Rockhurst Centennial celebration.

Brainchild of the Rev. Martin Bredeck, S.J., the TimeBox was created in 1985 during the University’s 75th anniversary and sealed behind a wall in the Massman Hall lobby area. During 2010, the TimeBox was opened and items were on display for all to view during Centennial Weekend with the idea that additional items signifying the life and times of Rockhurst and its students from 1985 to the present would be added.

Among the original treasures were a Rockhurst freshman beanie from the days when first-year students were required to wear them or suffer at the hands of upperclassmen. New items included a current student handbook and a Centennial lapel pin.

How did students 25 years ago answer their survey questions for TimeBox 75? The most admirable American male was John F. Kennedy and they overwhelmingly predicted a woman would be president or vice president by 2010. And the favorite professional sport? In both surveys baseball took the lead.
Celebrating a Century

The entire Rockhurst University community celebrated 100 years of Learning, Leading and Serving during an eventful Centennial Celebration Weekend Sept. 24-26. More than 2,500 alumni, parents and friends traveled from more than 17 states to attend. The weekend was rich with memories. Relive them here and enjoy additional photos at www.rockhurst.edu/100.

Members of the 1960 Golden Hawks class visited with the Rev. James Wheeler, S.J., professor of chemistry. (From left) Wheeler; Richard Shaw, ’60; Robert Henze, ’60, and his wife, Barbara.

(From left) Charles Kovich, Ph.D.; Patricia Cleary Miller, Ph.D.; and Kathleen Madigan, Ph.D.; were three of the Rockhurst faculty who gathered on the Massman porch to sign copies of their books on Friday afternoon.

The Centennial Bash on Lower Bourke featured fundraiser booths – including one to pay to “pie” someone.
A huge turnout of former and current soccer players came to wish head coach Tony Tocco (center) well at a reception held in honor of his 40th anniversary at Rockhurst.

Don Goodwin, ’60, captivates his audience at the reception honoring the 1964 Men’s NAIA championship basketball team. With him are Norm Majors, ’62, and former Rockhurst Sports Information Director Sid Bordman, ’54.

Maureen (Ebeling) Heitmann, ’84, and Glenn Heitmann, ’83, got reacquainted with the Hawk at the Centennial Bash.

Volunteers at Rockhurst’s second annual family/alumni service project work at Harvesters, the community food network in Kansas City. They assembled more than 600 backpacks filled with food.

Between soccer games on Friday night, the Rockhurst University Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four new members, including Kelly Shay. Shay played basketball and volleyball for Rockhurst from 1993-97. Richard Konzem, director of athletics (right), presented the award.

Rockhurst freshman Morgan Dahm keeps the soccer ball away from a University of Missouri-St. Louis defender. The women’s team went on to beat UMSL 2-1 in two overtimes.

A huge turnout of former and current soccer players came to wish head coach Tony Tocco (center) well at a reception held in honor of his 40th anniversary at Rockhurst.
Ken Legenza (left) and Roosevelt Harris, both alumni from the class of 1970, with the Rev. Thomas B. Curran, O.S.F.S., president of Rockhurst University, at the Dinner Under the Stars event on Kinerk Commons. The class of 1970 held its 40th reunion during the weekend.

A new statue of St. Ignatius Loyola seated by the Cardoner River, representing the Rockhurst core value of reflection and discernment, was dedicated following Mass. Freshmen Colleen Smyth and Daniel Duggan posed for a photo at the site, located near the Greenlease Library.

The Rev. Kevin Cullen, S.J., vice president of mission and ministry (center), concelebrates Mass with former Rockhurst President the Rev. Robert Weiss, S.J. (second from left), Rockhurst President the Rev. Thomas B. Curran, O.S.F.S. (right), and members of the Rockhurst Jesuit community.

(From left) Renee McGautha; Charles Kovich, ’70; the Rev. Robert Weiss, S.J.; and Chuck Finley, ’70; visit during the reception in Massman Gallery before Saturday’s Dinner Under the Stars.
More than 700 alumni, students, family and friends of Rockhurst attended Saturday’s Dinner Under the Stars on Kinerk Commons. (From left) Former Interim President Janet Sheeran, Ph.D., Fr. Curran and Fr. Weiss celebrated after lighting sparklers on a ceremonial cake.

An impressive fireworks display lit up the sky following dinner Saturday night.
A Campus Conversation: Finding God in All Things

Finding God in all things is a core value at Rockhurst University. Our devotion to this Jesuit tradition helps us grow in faith. The question is: How do we define “finding God in all things”? To find out, we asked several students, faculty and staff to share their views.

“The challenge for people of faith today is to live with faith as a way of proceeding. This is why the value-based education at Rockhurst University is appreciated. It addresses our intentional integration of faith into learning, leading, serving and celebrating in the Jesuit tradition. Our faith calls on us to consider the wholeness of who we are: our mind, heart and our spirit.”

Bill Kriege, Assistant Director of Campus Ministry

By integrating faith and reason, we become critical thinkers. With value-based leadership, we become skilled at drawing people together. To serve in generosity, we become advocates for and with those in need. Each of us has been blessed; therefore, we need to share our blessing with others. Every day, there are grace-filled moments. We celebrate them with Jesuit traditions. We recognize the

“Finding God in all things can mean recognition of truth and love, beauty and goodness, both in the immanent and the transcendent, in our spirit and all around us, in situations of support as well as detraction, and in the mundane as well as what takes us beyond ourselves. But when it is too dark to find much of anything, let alone God, it may mean falling back and allowing ourselves to be caught up in mystery and grace, that is, found.”

Kathleen Madigan, Ph.D., Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

“Finding God in all things is an invitation to be intentional about recognizing the sacred every day. For me, it means God is present everywhere. It is up to us to FIND God in all things. Sort of like looking at a ‘Where’s Waldo’ book with a child. Waldo is always in the picture, but can you find him?”

Jennifer McKnight, Senior Director of Development

“My role at Rockhurst requires I spend a considerable amount of time walking around the grounds and through the buildings. I can’t see the place without seeing the people who go to school or work here. We participate in the ongoing creation of God’s good world and we leave evidence of Him in our work and in the things and people we touch. Finding God in all things requires only that we look.”

Matt Heinrich, Associate Vice President for Facilities and Technology

“In our Christian Life Communities (CLC), small groups of students meet weekly for prayer, community and service. Each meeting begins with the students sharing their ‘Moment Closest to God’ from the past week. The answers are as varied as they are inspiring. As students get into the rhythm, they begin to look for God in the smallest places of their lives, realizing that God is one who often speaks in whispers rather than by shouting.”

Bill Kriege, Assistant Director of Campus Ministry

“We try to stretch students in the Ignatian spirit, so they can see God in all things, rather than taking a narrow, selfish focus of the world. The important thing is to just be open, every minute of every day.”

Maureen Henderson, Director of Campus Ministry

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Throughout our first 100 years, faith remained a constant. It motivated our founders. It inspires us today.

Faith is nondenominational. It goes beyond the Roman Catholic heritage that establishes our foundation. It speaks to all people – those alive in the practice of their traditions, as well as those searching and learning about traditions.
goodness of the person, the world, whatever is in front of us. We are grateful for a good meal, a good book, good art, good friends and good conversation.

We may practice our faith differently than how it was lived 100 years ago. But the same values exist. The beliefs are real. Our rituals may have changed or been adapted, but our way of proceeding is the same:

inviting each and every one of us into action.

Today, we remain a faith-filled community. Let us continue to walk by faith and reason into the next 100 years.

Rev. Kevin Cullen, S.J.
Vice President for Mission and Ministry
“When the world is beautiful, when I see a rose, I can thank God. But when I see the rose has thorns, I’m not so sure – especially if I pick it. Can I hold the reality of it and still find beauty and God, knowing that if I grip it too tightly I’ll be pricked? Can I see it in the wholeness and still see it as good?”

Rev. Kevin Cullen, S.J.,
Vice President for Mission and Ministry

“We find God in life and in death. I was with Bob Miller, a wonderful friend to Rockhurst, a couple of weeks before he died from cancer. Being with him, on campus, reminded me that when it comes down to the final moments, we realize how special a Catholic, Jesuit education is. We realize how much the Rockhurst values mean to us.”

Jerry Haake, BSBA ‘70,
Co-leader of the Rockhurst University Regents Mission and Ministry Team

“My CLC does keep me on my toes. I’m always looking for little things that show you God is there always. A moment closest to God could be the homily at Mass, walking across campus and feeling the wind, or receiving an unexpected letter in the mail that makes you feel special. How is God showing me He loves me at this time? God shows His love in so many different ways.”

Amanda Imo,
Senior, Elementary Education

(From left) The Rev. Kevin Cullen, S.J.; Jerry Haake; Maureen Henderson; and Kathleen Madigan
Growing in Faith

Picture this: It's Sunday. Time for Mass. And Mom and Dad aren’t here, saying: “Let’s go!”

“When I came to Rockhurst as a freshman, my faith life wasn’t too strong,” says senior Molly Karcher. “I went to Catholic schools since I was five, but my faith life was pretty much on autopilot. Then, I got to Rockhurst and wondered, ‘Am I going to go to church on Sunday when my parents aren’t there to take me?’

“I went the first Sunday and I haven’t missed a student liturgy since.”

Senior Amanda Imo also went to Mass that first week. The big attraction? It wasn’t God. It was ice cream.

“My first week, there was an ice cream social after one of the Masses,” Imo says. “I got a group of my friends from the dorm and we all went. I fell in love with it. The homily really hit home.”

For both Imo and Karcher, attending campus services is a habit now. They’ve also found opportunities to grow in faith through the popular Christian Life Communities (CLC), weekly Pasta and Prayer dinners, service trips and retreats.

“The retreats really have helped me grow in faith,” Imo says. “The Retreat on the Rock my freshman year was life changing.”

In keeping with the University’s Catholic, Jesuit tradition, classroom discussions also play an important role in a student’s faith journey.

“Rockhurst challenges students to engage in rigorous intellectual examination of their own faith and values, while simultaneously supporting the expression and practice of faith in all its dimensions,” says Associate Dean Kathleen Madigan.

Madigan says Rockhurst students benefit in this area from the range of courses in theology and religious studies, as well as intersecting core and major classes.

Jerry Haake, ’70, and co-leader of the Rockhurst University Regents Mission and Ministry Team, agrees.

“I took philosophy and theology classes and they were very meaningful,” Haake says. “I gained as much from them as I did from my business courses.”

With a student body more diverse now than it was 100 years ago, Rockhurst has expanded opportunities for today’s students to grow in their faith traditions.

“Non-Catholic students join CLCs and participate in retreats,” says Campus Ministry Director Maureen Henderson. “We are mindfully, intentionally, welcoming and inclusive.

“What we try to do is always make an impression with every student. There are so many ways to connect, and we meet them wherever they are spiritually. It’s our privilege to walk with them in their faith life.”
An Education for Life

By Kristin Shaw

The Building Blocks of Education

Like every Jesuit university, the curriculum at Rockhurst is based on St. Ignatius’ Ratio Studiorum and the seven classic modes of inquiry: artistic, historical, literary, scientific-causal, scientific-relational, philosophical and theological. This approach places great value on developing students to be well-rounded people, instead of encouraging immediate specialization in one subject.

“They’re preparing for a life, not just a job,” said Bill Stancil, Ph.D., professor of theology and religious studies. “They are going to care about the arts, literature, religion. A broader perspective prepares you for life.”

The liberal arts core classes are the great equalizer – required of everyone regardless of major. For undergraduate students, it’s intended to be two years of exploration, a time to develop interests and strengths. Stancil said this process has led many students to pursue a major they didn’t anticipate.

The concept of a liberal arts education is not unique to Rockhurst or to Jesuit institutions. However, the execution of that core curriculum sets the University apart. Small classes, taught by full professors, with an emphasis on a broader worldview, make Rockhurst distinct. Anita Salem, professor emerita of mathematics, said the Jesuit liberal arts include an emphasis on engaged learning and leadership formation.

As we celebrate the Rockhurst University Centennial, we have an opportunity to reflect on the ways in which our Jesuit identity informs the quality and character of the academic experience. One defining characteristic is the commitment to a strong foundation in the liberal arts and sciences, particularly through the core curriculum.

Our core curriculum seeks to prepare students for a future that we cannot yet imagine. We reflect on timeless questions of value and meaning and seek to answer those questions using the modes of inquiry developed over the course of human civilization. Through philosophy and theology, the humanities and the sciences, students are given the tools that will
“Engaged learning requires that students take responsibility for their own learning by actively participating in every aspect of the discipline they are studying,” Salem said. “This, in turn, supports the goal of leadership formation, which is built on the idea that we all must take responsibility for ourselves as we build the tools necessary to lead by example.”

Also, the emphasis on theology and philosophy courses sets Rockhurst apart. In theology, values take center stage. Through philosophy, students are taught how to examine, evaluate and apply those values. By looking at scenarios in the real world – not just the classroom – students dig into problems, their causes and potential solutions. The Jesuit approach to education also embeds an additional step of reflection that is meant to reinforce the learning and inspire action.

“We’re really dedicated to helping students understand reality so they can enact the Christian mission,” said Catherine Green, Ph.D., associate professor of philosophy. “It’s not about power, it’s about caring for people.”

Green said she saw the difference a liberal education made when she was working as a crisis nurse, before coming to teach at Rockhurst. The people who worked well under fire seemed to have a common Catholic philosophy and liberal arts grounding.

“They could see what was really important and not get caught in the minutiae,” Green said. “It takes a while for the core curriculum to really mature in students, but 10 years later it has grown and become a part of them.”

enable them to address complex issues that will test their intellect and their will. We also challenge students to develop the all-too-rare capacity to think carefully and critically about the claims that are often made about what is true or just.

At the same time, a Rockhurst education is practical. We seek to develop skills and professional expertise that will enable our graduates to make a difference in the world. We prepare them to be highly competent leaders who will be able work collaboratively with others to achieve worthy goals. Obviously, we expect this to happen in the workplace but we also know that our graduates have made and will continue to make a difference in their churches, neighborhoods and communities. The Jesuit approach to education has stood the test of time and we are confident that it will continue to do so as we look forward to our next 100 years.

William F. Haefele, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Development
Artistic Expressions Elevated

“By accepting the arts as a part of the core curriculum, Rockhurst identifies the fact that anybody’s life is enriched with the arts, not complete without them,” said Tim McDonald, Ph.D., dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Fine arts play an important role at Rockhurst, not only as one of the classic modes of inquiry and a requirement of the core curriculum, but also as an important way to reach and interact with the greater community.

The Center for Arts and Letters was formed 20 years ago to house various fine arts programs – music, theater, art – so they could share resources, better promote programs and continue to grow their efforts. Jan Sheeran, Ph.D., former interim president of Rockhurst, was part of the committee that formed the Center.

As a theater professor, Sheeran explained that students often relied on material learned in other classes. She said it helped them see connections and ask questions.

“I can’t think of a single department that hasn’t helped one of my students,” Sheeran said. “I’m glad Rockhurst has a strong fine arts commitment; on the other hand, I’m happy Rockhurst has such a strong core curriculum commitment. The core really supports any of the majors in so many ways.”

Outside of the classroom, the fine arts programs also bring in professional artists, poets and performers. There are programs, like Musica Sacra, that allow community members to participate in the fine arts, even if it isn’t their profession.

The Center for Arts and Letters puts on 40-45 cultural events every year, and the total attendance for all the events falls somewhere between 8,000-10,000 people.

“The cultural programs and athletic events are the face of the University,” said Cynthia Cartwright, director of the Center. “Those people become advocates of the University once they’ve been here and had a positive experience.”

The Greenlease Gallery of Art encourages students and the community to explore the role of art in contemporary society.
Some students come to Rockhurst with a clear idea of what they want to do – law enforcement, physical therapy, business. Why is philosophy or music important for them?

“You’re not an educated person without exposure to a liberal arts core,” said Jeffrey Breese, Ph.D., dean of the School of Graduate and Professional Studies. “We appreciate and partner with the College of Arts and Sciences, and we build those courses across our curriculum – whether it’s teacher education, exercise science or nonprofit leadership.”

All of the professional and graduate programs at Rockhurst stress critical thinking, improved writing skills and excellent communication. Then they take those classroom teachings and find real-world applications for them, often through service learning projects and internships.

Physical therapy students have the opportunity to go on service trips to places such as Guatemala and Ecuador where they can hone their skills, interact with patients and fulfill Rockhurst’s mission of service. At home, the students and physical therapy faculty work in the Kansas City Free Health Clinic, an experience that sets the instructors apart from many of their colleagues at other PT programs.

“Our faculty are still out there on the line working with patients,” said Jim Dronberger, DPT, associate professor of physical therapy. “It enables us to bring more up-to-date perspectives on patient care.”

“Ours is a view students as collaborators and colleagues,” Breese said.

Rockhurst also has gained recognition for excellence in its business programs. The Helzberg School of Management received accreditation from AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, an honor only given to less than 10 percent of business schools worldwide. Rockhurst is the only private institution in Kansas City with the accreditation.

The Helzberg School has laid out six learning goals for its students. While business skills and knowledge is to be expected, the school also seeks to shape students to be leaders, behave ethically, communicate effectively, have a global perspective and analyze information accurately. These goals again reinforce the emphasis on well-rounded professionals and community members.

“We seek to prepare leaders to make a positive difference in the world,” said James Daley, Ph.D., dean of the Helzberg School of Management. “Ours are the graduates who have the confidence to make changes, take risks, start a business.

“It’s more than a sense of independence. It’s a sense of competence and courage to act and be successful. The challenge is to be you and to do well.”

Programs in the Helzberg School of Management emphasize learning goals that go beyond business skills and knowledge.
World War II took a heavy toll on enrollment at colleges and universities, yet despite the hardships that befell the nation during the war, Rockhurst College managed to make one particularly gallant effort in serving the greater good. 

In the winter of 1944, with victory close at hand, Rockhurst participated in a school-wide service project answering the plea for workers issued by Randall C. Walker, president of the Aireon Manufacturing Corporation. The factory was in need of assistance in completing a rush order of radar products. The Rev. John Higgins, S.J., dean, announced to the school: “Dec. 21 and 22 will be devoted to a required laboratory exercise in good citizenship and patriotism.”

The entire diminished student population of 120 men reported to the factory at 8 a.m. and worked on the assembly line for the two days classes were dismissed. Several students even returned to work at the factory over the Christmas holidays. The out-and-out response from Rockhurst was so unusual that it attracted national media attention.

The legacy of service that was present in 1944 is still an integral part of the culture as Rockhurst University celebrates its centennial year. During 2010, the University focused efforts on becoming a catalyst for building hope in the community, particularly among children and youth.

The idea was to begin with small, workable projects that would bring people together. Efforts included two events that Rockhurst staff and students organized with the help of the surrounding neighborhood organizations: a back-to-school rally for local children and a block party to introduce students and long-term residents.

“We are humbled by the needs of the community,” said Julia Vargas, director of the Center for Service Learning. “We are discovering and meeting the needs, but there is always more to be done.”

By Carolyn Sobczyk, ’11

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity holds a blood drive in February 1972.
“When students leave Rockhurst, they have the ability to see the world and recognize its challenges and they are equipped to take them on.”

Julia Vargas, Director of the Center for Service Learning

“I always think back on what Fr. Curran said at my Baccalaureate Mass. He said that we are not doing service to show that we are better than anyone else. Instead, we are working for and with others; working alongside them.”

David LeFebvre, ’09, Diversity in Education Volunteer Coordinator for the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities in Richmond, Va.

“The largest impact that my Rockhurst service is having on Mercy can be seen in the creation of the Mercy Service Immersion Program. When I was a senior, I had the opportunity to participate in one of Rockhurst’s spring break service trips to Belize. After seeing firsthand the impact that such a trip can have, I knew that I wanted to offer a similar international service experience to my students.”

Ashley Shrader, ’08, Campus Minister at Mercy High School in Omaha, Neb.

Students collect food and toys for the community at Christmas in 1941.

Domestic and international service trips teach students valuable lessons.

The Finucane Service Project introduces “working for and with others” to freshmen.
Rockhurst Athletics:
More Than a Game

By John Dodderidge

1930s: Coaching With Yogi

James (Jim) Gleeson couldn’t pick just one sport to play at Rockhurst, and he didn’t have to. Gleeson was captain of the baseball, basketball, golf and football teams. But baseball proved to be his standout sport.

After graduating from Rockhurst in 1933, Gleeson went on to play outfield for the Cleveland Indians (1936), Chicago Cubs (1939-40) and Cincinnati Reds (1941-42).

Gleeson came back to Kansas City to be a scout and coach for the Athletics in 1957, but he spent most of his career with the New York Yankees, where he was a first base coach under Yogi Berra. There, he was a part of the 1964 pennant-winning season.

1950s: Changing the Game Plan

It was 1950. Football practice was in full swing, and Larry Fitzgerald was getting ready for his senior year as a returning all-conference end for the Hawks.

In 1948, Fitzgerald caught the winning pass in the homecoming upset of Fort Hays State. Although the football program had struggled to come back after a year’s hiatus for World War II in 1943, Fitzgerald was looking forward to a competitive year.

“The competition was the important thing. It was as important as winning,” Fitzgerald said.

But the Korean War had also started, just a few months earlier, and young men were being called up to fight overseas. The players feared another shutdown like the one in 1943.

“We had heard rumors about Rockhurst dropping football,” Fitzgerald said. “We hoped we could survive the Korean War.”

Their fears became reality when, just prior to the first game of the season, head coach Ralph Cormany and eight of Rockhurst’s top players were called to fight in the war.

The football program was discontinued and never brought back.

Fitzgerald is one of 30 former football players who are members of the Rockhurst Athletics Hall of Fame. He graduated from Rockhurst in 1951 with a B.S. in sociology and history and became an attorney in Kansas City.

Athletics has been a vital part of campus life at Rockhurst since 1915, when baseball debuted. And from the beginning, it has been more than just a game. The Athletic Department coaches and staff focus on "magis," the continual striving for excellence. We are dedicated to "cura personalis," care for the whole person, including mental and physical prowess.

Today, there are 11 varsity sports at Rockhurst: baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s tennis, softball and women’s volleyball. The Hawks became members of the NCAA Division II in 1998. We joined the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) in 2005.

Eight of our 11 intercollegiate sports have reached NCAA post-season play in the last two years. Eight teams also earned GLVC team academic awards in 2009-10 for achieving a GPA of 3.30 or higher. Rockhurst has had five NCAA Academic All-Americans and three NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship recipients since 2006.
1960s: A Team to Remember

The 1964 NAIA national championship win capped off the greatest basketball season in the sport's history at Rockhurst. The team was led to the title by senior guard Ralph Telken.

Telken, a two-time NAIA All-American from St. Louis, averaged more than 10 points per game during the season and led the team in assists. His aggressive play helped Rockhurst top Pan American 66-56 in the championship game of the 1964 NAIA Tournament at Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium.

“Telken was a gym rat,” said Mike Kleinman, who was the student sports information director at Rockhurst in 1963. “He was a workhorse who didn’t want the glory. He was our playmaker and floor general.”

In addition to being named to the 1964 NAIA all-tournament second team, Telken received the Charles Stevenson Hustle Award presented to the player with the greatest enthusiasm and hustle throughout the tournament. He was drafted by the Detroit Pistons in the 1964 NBA draft.

The Hawks finished the 1964 season with a 27-6 record under head coach Joe Brehmer. The 1963-64 Rockhurst team was named to the Missouri Basketball Hall of Fame in 1988 and the Rockhurst Athletics Hall of Fame in 1989.

On the field of play, the Hawks won GLVC championships in men’s soccer (2005 and 2008) and men’s tennis (2009). Meanwhile, men’s soccer coach Tony Tocco and women’s volleyball coach Tracy Rietzke rank among the winningest coaches of all-time in their respective sports.

By striving for excellence, by developing the whole person, Rockhurst student athletes and coaches continually give us stories to share and reasons to rally around Rockhurst.

Richard Konzem
Director of Athletics
1970s: Totally Tocco

Tony Tocco was hired as Rockhurst’s men’s soccer coach just six years after the school began offering the sport. And he’s still at it.

Over 40 years, Tocco has worked his way into third place for career victories on the all-time intercollegiate soccer coaching list. He has almost 600 wins.

“Our first 10 years were critical,” Tocco said. “We recruited great players out of Catholic schools in St. Louis. Our early success was largely due to Rockhurst being a Catholic, Jesuit school in Kansas City.”

The Hawks finished as the runner-up three times in the NAIA national tournament during the 1970s. Tocco was named the NAIA National Coach of the Year in 1976 and 1979 and went into the NAIA Hall of Fame in 2007.

“Those are nice numbers, and I’m in good company, but I have been around a long time, and I’ve been with a school that believes in good soccer programs,” said Tocco, who is a full-time professor and head of the accounting department at Rockhurst.

1980s: Outstanding Female Athletes

Rockhurst became fully coed in 1969, and women’s athletics weren’t far behind. Volleyball and basketball fielded organized teams for the first time in 1975. Soccer was added in 1990, followed by tennis in 1995 and golf in 1997. Softball became the sixth women’s sport in 2004.

Several of Rockhurst’s female athletes have received accolades for their performance.

Kathy Anderson became the first woman named to the Rockhurst Athletics Hall of Fame in 1995. Anderson was an All-American and four-time All-District honoree in basketball and volleyball from 1985-89.

Kris Rehm-Nusbaum followed Anderson as a dominant player in both basketball and volleyball from 1989-91. An All-District performer in both sports, she joined the Rockhurst University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2004.

Kathy Anderson, ’89

Kris Rehm-Nusbaum, ’91

Coach Tony Tocco, Ph.D., is third in all-time college soccer wins.
Two of the top athletes in school history helped Rockhurst become competitive right away as a newcomer to the NCAA moving into the 2000s.

With Davin Winkley in the starting lineup, the Hawks won 74 games in men’s basketball. He finished his career in 2002 with 2,063 points and 939 rebounds in leading Rockhurst to a 24-6 record.

“Davin was a true player who could score, pass and rebound. Everybody loved playing with him,” said Rockhurst men’s basketball coach Bill O’Connor.

Ray Chang helped the Hawks collect 129 wins in baseball from 2002-05. In his senior year, he was named the 2005 Co-Player of the Year in the Heartland Conference. He recently finished his sixth season in professional baseball with Boston’s Double-A team in Portland, Maine.

“Ray is one of the best players I’ve ever had at Rockhurst. He is dedicated to baseball and he definitely has big-league talent,” said Rockhurst baseball coach Gary Burns.

Rietzke joined the elite 1,000-victory club in 2010 and became only the sixth coach in history to mark this achievement. He currently ranks second in career victories and third in all-time winning percentage among NCAA Division II women’s volleyball coaches.

“A winning tradition is a drawing card when it comes to recruiting good players. Also, having a strong academic school helps recruit females,” said Rietzke, who has received numerous conference and region Coach of the Year awards since 1990.

For 23 of those seasons, the volleyball team has been led by head coach Tracy Rietzke. Under his leadership, the Hawks have averaged more than 37 wins per season while advancing to post-season play 17 times.

The most successful women’s sport at Rockhurst has been volleyball. In 35 years, the Hawks have won 76 percent of their matches while advancing to 14 national tournaments.

Head volleyball coach Tracy Rietzke was recognized by Sports Illustrated this year for reaching 1,000 wins.
Lively Campus Creates Community

By Carolyn Sobczyk, ’11

When alumni look back on their time at Rockhurst University, what do they see? Aside from the time spent in the classroom and hitting the books, many fondly remember the activities that took place on campus. They look back on spirit week and the homecoming dance, Freshman Olympics, Rockstock and other Social Activities Board-sponsored events, Greek Week’s creative chalk drawings and ruthless games of capture the flag, Senior Fest, and the delicious Student Senate midnight breakfasts before exams.

The purpose of these activities supported by Student Development is not only fun and games, but to give students the opportunity to develop community and form leadership skills they will use in life after college.

“Greek Life, Residence Life, SAB, Student Senate and other organizations not only build community but they contribute to the transformation of other people,” said Matthew D. Quick, Ph.D., dean of students and associate vice president of student development and athletics.

Casey McGraw, ’00, says his involvement with a variety of campus organizations, including Campus Ministry, Pi Kappa Alpha, Student Activities Board and Orientation Leaders, enhanced his preparation for a career as an attorney.

“Staying active helped me develop my networking and interpersonal skills, which translates well into the working world,” McGraw said. “Networking, meeting new people and being able to connect with someone in a professional setting is something I hope will serve me well throughout my career.”
"The University is a practical environment in which to have experiences. It's an environment where it is OK to mess up."

Angie Carr, Director of Student Life

"Being involved has allowed me to experience situations I wouldn’t have had in the classroom setting. I’ve learned teamwork and how to work through conflicts with people."

Edward Doyle, ’11

Greek Week brings out the artist in students, who complete elaborate chalk drawings on campus sidewalks.

"Working with Social Mentors gave me event planning experience that I didn’t realize at the time would provide a solid background for my future career."

Deanna Johnson, ’06, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations
'51
John E. “Jack” Hanson, Ph.D., received the International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award at a ceremony sponsored by the National Association of Social Workers, Washington, D.C.

'60
Chatten Cowherd, principal advisor for engineering at Midwest Research Institute, was nominated for 2010 scientist of the year by R&D magazine.

'61
Jim Stedman wrote Aristotle's Cardinal Virtues: Their Application to Assessment of Psychopathology and Psychotherapy, which was published in the journal Practical Philosophy.

'65
S.J. Enna, Ph.D., associate dean for research and graduate training, and professor of physiology and of pharmacology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, was re-elected for a second four-year term as Secretary-General of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology during the organization’s recent meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark.

'66
John Soptick, Ph.D., retired at the end of the spring 2010 semester after 30 years of teaching math, ending his 22-year teaching career at the Kansas City Kansas Community College.

'70
Thomas Conry spoke on the Japanese economy and markets at a business event in Austin, Texas, hosted by the Austin Chamber of Commerce and U.S. Department of Commerce, Export Assistance Council. Conry has been the director of U.S.-Japan relations at the Houston office of the Japan External Trade Organization for 21 years.

Charles Haake joined the Catholic Charities Foundation of Northeast Kansas Board of Trustees. Haake currently acts on the finance and investment committee and has served on several nonprofit boards throughout the years.

'73
Michael Herbert was recognized by the Wichita Business Journal for his contributions as CFO to Delta Dental of Kansas Inc.

'74, '78 MBA
James H. Wanserski was nominated by the U.S. Department of Justice, and appointed by the U.S. District Court Judge Henry H. Kennedy Jr. to serve as trustee overseeing wireless properties required to be divested in AT&T’s acquisition of Centennial Wireless (2010). Wanserski also was appointed to serve as a trustee in Verizon-Wireless’ 2009 acquisition of Alltel.
'76, '80 MBA
Edwin J. Holman was named to the La-Z-Boy Inc. Board of Directors.

'76
Terry Wall was elected president of Jersey Business Leaders, an independent organization of business owners who provide products, services, leadership and expertise to Delaware Valley businesses.

'80
Patrick Bira was appointed by the board of trustees as the new chief executive officer at Lincoln County Medical Center.

Patrick R. Finlen, a Golf Course Superintendent Association of America member for 25 years, was re-elected to another two-year term on the GCSAA Board of Directors.

Phil Hanson recently started his latest nonprofit organization role as the Truman Heartland Community Foundation president and chief executive officer. Hanson previously worked with the United Way and in the Kansas City nonprofit community for more than 25 years.

'82 MBA
Greg Isley and business partner Sarah Curry, both certified public accountants, opened their own accounting firm called Isley, Curry and Associates in Liberty, Mo.

'82
Linda Potzman was promoted to vice president of account management for Gabriel Group, a St. Louis, Mo., marketing resource management and database marketing company.

Patrice Townsend was awarded the 2010 Black Achievers in Business and Industry Award. Townsend has worked for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities for 25 years and currently is BPL's key account utility specialist.

'84 MBA
William R. Venable III was promoted to assistant dean of the school of business at Park University, where he has been an assistant professor of marketing and management since August 2006. He served as director of alumni relations and annual giving at Rockhurst University from 1984-86.

'84 MBA
Michael Shaughnessy recently celebrated 10 years of service with MetLife.

'85 MBA
Ronald A. Rittenmeyer was appointed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to serve on the American International Group Inc. Board of Directors.

'86
Thomas Bannon lives and works in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. When his son enrolled at Rockhurst this fall Bannon said, “All the great memories of Rockhurst came back to me as I watched him begin his new adventure.”

'87, '93 MBA
Andrew Iseman was appointed CEO of Scout Investment Advisors Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of UMB Financial Corporation. Iseman has more than 23 years of leadership experience in the financial services industry. He previously served as COO for R K Capital Management in Denver.

'87, '94 MBA
Randall Landes was selected as Kansas City’s chief financial officer and director of the city’s finance department.

'87
Peter Esparrago was appointed president of Cigital Inc., a leading software security consulting firm. Esparrago is a global technology executive with more than 25 years of experience in a wide variety of industries.

'89
Brad Hoffman, Ph.D., was named the volunteer of the year for 2010 by the Excelsior Springs Area Chamber of Commerce. Hoffman was recognized for his volunteer work since 2008 with the Matthew 25 Free Medical Clinic.

'90 MBA
Cynthia L. Casale was promoted to chief financial officer of the Utica National Insurance Group in New Hartford, N.Y. Casale joined Utica National in 2003 as vice president and chief investment officer. She was promoted to senior vice president in 2004 and was named treasurer in 2009.

'90
Constance Alvey was the keynote speaker at the Turner High School graduation ceremony. She was honored as the Grand Marshal of the 2010 Turner Days parade, recognizing her continued dedication to the Turner community. She currently serves as a judge in the Wyandotte County Court, Division 16 Civil Court.

'94
Lesley Johnson of Basehor, Kan., acquired her retired uncle’s accounting and tax practice, Johnson Financial Services.

'95
JoMarie (Martin) Bertoncin opened Bertoncin Media in 2009. She provides media planning, buying and consulting services. She and her husband, Gary, have been married for nearly 15 years and have two children, John, 3, and Henry, 2.

'96 MBA
Wes Dittmer was announced as the new chief financial officer of the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative.
‘96
Sean McNally was named vice president for physician integration at Province Hospitals. McNally most recently served as CEO for Moore Orthopaedic Clinic in Columbia, S.C.

Dan Stratford recently was announced as the new director of Internet marketing at Internet Pawn Inc., the first dedicated online pawnbroker in the United States.

‘97
Paul Canaan was hired by the Pleasant Hill R-3 school board as the new principal at Pleasant Hill High School for the 2010-11 school year. Canaan has been the assistant principal at the high school for the past five years.

Jeanette Clay Hepburn has been named Cambridge Who's Who Professional of the Year in Healthcare. Hepburn is a family nurse practitioner at Intermountain Surgery and Pain Center.

‘99 MIHE
Karen L. Burgard received her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction and history from the University of Missouri – Kansas City on Dec. 18, 2009.

‘99
Sara Echelmeyer, M.D., returned to her hometown of Jefferson City to work as the first female gastroenterologist at Jefferson City Medical Group. Previously Echelmeyer spent the last 15 years studying and completing a fellowship at Saint Louis University and a residency in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. She is the mother of two children, Allison and Ben. She and her husband, Dave, have been married for eight years.

Scott Schepker, M.D., was appointed medical director of the Emergency Department at SSM St. Mary’s Health Center in St. Louis, Mo.

‘01 MOT
Cara Eckstein joined the Spring Hill School District as an occupational therapist. Eckstein has more than nine years of experience in occupational therapy.

‘03
Kelly M. O’Neill recently joined The Gatesworth staff as office manager. Recently, O’Neill served as a financial services adviser for Irwin Union Bank.

‘05, ’06 MBA
Andy O’Dower joined forces with fellow entrepreneur Kevin Melgaard to launch a website where qualified college graduates can post their own pitches to make themselves more appealing as job candidates.

‘05
John C. Hervert, D.O., graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine with a doctor of osteopathic medicine degree on May 29, 2010. WVSOM is a leader in educating students for the practice of primary care medicine. Hervert plans to enter the internal medicine program at Oklahoma State Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla.

‘05 MPT
Shannon Knierim joined the physical therapy staff at the Community Hospital-Fairfax.

‘07, ’08 MBA
James DeWitt is a senior investment manager at Creative Planning, a private wealth management firm in Leawood, Kan. DeWitt currently serves on the board of directors for two nonprofit organizations, 20/20 Leadership and KCCAN.

‘07 M.Ed.
Gretchen Orwig, the only 10th grade language arts teacher at Hogan Preparatory Academy in Kansas City, Mo., aided her students in making Annual Yearly Progress last year for the first time in the history of the school.

‘08 M.Ed.
Jennifer Goetz teaches U.S. history at Coppell High School (Texas).

Kelly Miller is an eighth grade communication arts instructor at Platte City Middle School. Her classroom had the most winning entries in the Scholastic Art and Writing Contest in the state of Missouri, and one of her students was chosen as a National Silver Medalist in the short story category. Miller was also nominated for a teaching award from the Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce.

‘09 MBA
DaShaun Carter joined Nicholson Kovac Inc. as a senior technical architect. He advises on software development, platforms and coding, and oversees day-to-day workflow of the development team.

‘09
Courtney Shillcutt joined the Pleasant Hill R-3 School District as a speech and language arts teacher.

‘10 MBA
Valerie Jennings was featured in a Kansas City Star article about her home-based granola business in Lenexa, Kan. Her product, Hippie Chow, is a member of the Simply Kansas program sponsored by the Kansas Department of Commerce. The designation certifies that at least 75 percent of Hippie Chow’s ingredients or production comes from Kansas.

‘10 MOT
Danielle Woodson joined the Cooper County Memorial Hospital and Clinics as an occupational therapist to the inpatient and outpatient therapy departments and sports medicine center.

‘10 MPT
Jamie Fuqua has joined the physical therapy department at St. Luke Hospital in Marion, Kan.

Celeste Allise Steinlage, ’10, celebrated her Rockhurst graduation with her parents and alumni siblings. (From left) Mark Sr.; Joel, ’08; Sean, ’06; Celeste; Mark Jr., ’01; ’05 MBA; and Charissa.
Marriages

'50
Ed Hadel and his wife, Louise, of Lenexa, Kan., recently celebrated their 58th wedding anniversary.

'02
Robert “Bobby” O’Connor married Lisa (Kelly) O’Connor on July 10, 2010, at St. Mary’s-St. Anthony’s Church in Kansas City, Kan. The O’Connors reside in New York City where Lisa is a first grade teacher and Bobby is an attorney.

'04, '07 DPT
Kristi (Thompson) Hall married Nathan Hall at Holy Rosary Church in Warrenton, Mo. Hall is employed by SERC in Lee’s Summit as a physical therapist.

'09
Amber Pelzl married Garrett Koon at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Kansas City, Mo. The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Thomas B. Curran, O.S.F.S. A reception was held at the Hobbs Building.

'10 MBA
Benjamin Rebein, Ph.D., married Elizabeth Rogers on May 29, 2010, in an outdoor ceremony in Dodge City.

Births

'89
Debbie (Bradley)Lucke and husband, Donald, proudly welcome their seventh child, William Logan Lucke. William joins his siblings, Allie, 20; Maddie, 17; Becca, 15; Eleanor, 13; Nathaniel, 11; and Michael, 8, in Kansas City, Mo.

'95, MBA '08
Tiffany Swinehart and her husband, David, welcomed their first child, Alexandra Elsiemarie, on Sept. 2, 2009.

'96
Chris Snethen, his wife, Jenn, and their son, Aidan, are happy to announce the birth of Molly Jennifer, born on March 29, 2010.

'98
Katie (Fischer) Clune, Ph.D., and her husband, Matthew P. Clune, welcomed the birth of their daughter Bridget Eileen on Feb. 20, 2010.

'99
Regina (Larson) Adams and her husband, Slade, announce the birth of their third daughter, Victoria Anne. Torrey joins her sisters, Jillian “Jill,” 5; and Teresa “Reese,” 3, in Wichita, Kan.

'01
Kelly (Rock) Staponski and her husband, Virgil, welcomed son Virgil Dennis Staponski III on Feb. 18, 2010. He joins big sister Rowan, who is 10.5 months older than him.

'02, '05 MPT
Rachel (Miller)Steinlage and her husband, Mark Steinlage, '01, '05 MBA, are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter Kora, born April 26, 2010.

Mary Moran Miller and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their son, Fionn, on May 5, 2010. They live in Alexandria, Va.

'99

The Rev. Bill LaCroix, S.J., Retires

Throughout his career, the Rev. Wilfred (Bill) LaCroix, S.J., has viewed his work in philosophy as an extension of his work on questions of justice. In fact, he used to tell people he taught ethics and justice rather than philosophy, according to colleague Brendan Sweetman, Ph.D., professor of philosophy.

Fr. LaCroix retired at the end of the spring 2010 semester after teaching at Rockhurst for 39 years. Before studying philosophy and theology at Marquette and Saint Louis Universities in the 1960s, Fr. LaCroix served three years in the Navy in the aftermath of the Korean War. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1959, was ordained a priest in 1969, and has been a member of the order for more than 50 years. He started as an instructor of philosophy at Rockhurst in 1971 and rose through the ranks to full professor. He was chair of the philosophy department for more than 20 years during his career.

Alumni may remember him for his enthusiasm in the classroom and fellow faculty admire his humor. “He is a man of deep faith, who loves teaching and who loves philosophy. Everyone, both in our department and around the campus, has learned so much from him,” said Sweetman.

Sweetman describes Fr. LaCroix as one of the most enthusiastic teachers he has ever known, even after many years in the classroom. His efforts were recognized when he received the teacher of the year award in 1998, and the Governor’s award for excellence in teaching in 2002. He will continue teaching at Rockhurst as an adjunct professor.

Go Hawks!

Be sure to visit www.rockhurst.edu/athletics for team schedules for all winter and spring sports.

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In Memoriam

Richard G. Hall, '50 – Aug. 3
Edmund Burns, '50 – Aug. 15
Jay Tutorino, '49 – Oct. 23
Dr. Harry E. Talley, '49 – Aug. 28
Martin S. Schwarz, '49 – Aug. 1
Robert E. Miller, '49 – Sept. 21
Alfred F. Meiners, Ph.D., '49 – Sept. 20
Robert J. Hodes, '49 – Feb. 8
Harry F. Bonfils Sr., '49 – March 19
Bill Biersmith, '49 – June 12
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Rockhurst University Community Mourns Fr. Denzer

There are teachers who push for a standard of excellence, challenge to the point of aggravation and live on in their students’ memories forever. The Rev. Thomas F. Denzer, S.J., was one of those teachers.

Fr. Denzer, 86, died on Sept. 20, 2010, in St. Louis. He taught economics at Rockhurst University for 35 years. He was known to begin each class with a quiz and would assign charts and graphs to students – which had to be meticulously completed with colored pencil.

Jim Millard, Ph.D., ’64, assistant dean of the Rockhurst School of Graduate and Professional Studies, was one of Fr. Denzer’s students in the ’60s and later one of his professional colleagues.

“He had a quick mind, was extremely bright, and at the same time was very empathetic. He would assist students and help them understand economics, a very challenging subject,” Millard said.

Fr. Denzer also worked in the office of Institutional Advancement, was named chairman of the Board of Trustees and assisted Rockhurst Chancellor the Rev. Maurice Van Ackeren, S.J.

“One of his proudest times here was when he was assistant to Fr. Van. He used to enjoy driving Fr. Van around town. Fr. Denzer had been director of planned giving, so he knew a lot of the same people Fr. Van knew. The two of them had a number of things in common, and they were great resources to one another,” Millard said.

Fr. Denzer was born on July 3, 1924, in Kansas City. He attended Rockhurst University (then Rockhurst College) but left to serve in the U.S. Army Air Forces from 1943 to 1946. Millard said Fr. Denzer was very proud of that and ran into many Rockhurst students during his service.

In 1949, Fr. Denzer entered the Society of Jesus and was ordained on June 16, 1961. He is survived by his brothers, Ted and Jack, his sister, Peggy Bell, and their families.
Imagine where we’ll go in the next 100 years …

LEARN
Classroom technology expands our options and connects our lives

LEAD
Development opportunities extend the impact of our outstanding faculty

SERVE
Service trips open the eyes and hearts of our students

CELEBRATE
The Rockhurst Fund helps make it possible

Thank You
You help ensure the success of our next 100 years through your gift to the Rockhurst Fund. Every gift is greatly appreciated and wisely used.

To make a gift, visit www.rockhurst.edu/giving or contact Gina Speese ‘83, ’08 (816) 501-4731 gina.speese@rockhurst.edu.