

ROCKHURST

THE MAGAZINE OF ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2004



The Changing Face
of Jesuits at Rockhurst



This distinctive statue of Christ adorns the altar at St. Francis Xavier Church, the Jesuit parish where Rockhurst students attend student Sunday Mass.

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ON THE COVER: People familiar with Rockhurst know it was established by the Society of Jesus in 1910. This issue of Rockhurst magazine looks at just a few of the ways our Catholic, Jesuit heritage continues to flourish. Pictured on the cover is D. Scott Hendrickson, S.J., visiting professor of Spanish.

ROCKHURST

Executive Director Rosita Elizalde-McCoy
Editor and Director of Media Relations Katherine Frohoff
Assistant Editor Kate Fischer, '98
Design DesignedWrite
Contributing Writers
Sid Bordman, '54; Amy Heiman, '05; Philip Morris, '62;
Jennifer (Fischer) Rinella, '93, MIHE '99; Mark Michael Seeger, '05; Jamie Sievering
Photography Mark McDonald, Craig Sands, Jamie Sievering

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Send letters to:
Katherine Frohoff
Rockhurst University
1100 Rockhurst Road
Kansas City, MO 64110-2561
Or e-mail to katherine.frohoff@rockhurst.edu

NOT *Your Father's* JESUITS

They're younger than the average Jesuit. They're relative newcomers to the University community. They're dynamic and approachable. Meet six of Rockhurst's men in black.

By Kate Fischer, '98

You've heard the alarming statistics — the number of priests in the United States is falling as the number of Catholics steadily grows. In 1965 there were 5,277 Jesuit priests and 3,559 seminarians; in 2000 there were just 3,172 priests and 389 seminarians, according to Kenneth C. Jones' *Index of Leading Catholic Indicators*. Not only are there fewer priests, they are also getting older. The average age of priests is on the rise — for the Jesuits it is now 61, and more retire each year than join the Society.

Why? For one thing, it's not easy to be a Jesuit. Consider this: on average, it takes 11 years of study and ministry to become an ordained Jesuit priest or brother. Part of this time is likely spent living in poverty with the poor, as St. Ignatius Loyola did. It may also be spent making an extended pilgrimage with few material resources to depend on — Jesuit novices may have to beg, they may

Six of the 24 members of Kansas City's Jesuit community sport a good sense of humor as our own "Men in Black." (from left) The Rev. John Vowells, S.J.; The Rev. Dirk Dunfee, S.J.; The Rev. Dan White, S.J.; Bro. Glenn Kerfoot, S.J.; The Rev. Matt Ruhl, S.J.; and D. Scott Hendrickson, S.J.



have to live among the homeless — as a concrete, practical way to learn to trust in God. Jesuits have to be men who are ready to go anywhere, live anywhere, do anything, suffer anything, or be anything in order to be instruments of God's salvation.

Rockhurst is fortunate to have several young, dynamic Jesuits in our midst. Who are the men behind the statistics? What inspired them to choose a religious life? What are their lives like? These were a few of the questions I asked when I sat down to talk recently with six young members of the Society of Jesus.

Walking Ad for Vocations

At a time when poverty, chastity and obedience seem to be counter-culture, what would inspire a person to become a brother or a priest? Several Jesuits mentioned being impressed by the priests they encountered when they were young. The Rev. Dirk Dunfee, S.J., 47, minister to the Jesuit community, said a priest at Duke University inspired him to join the Society of Jesus.

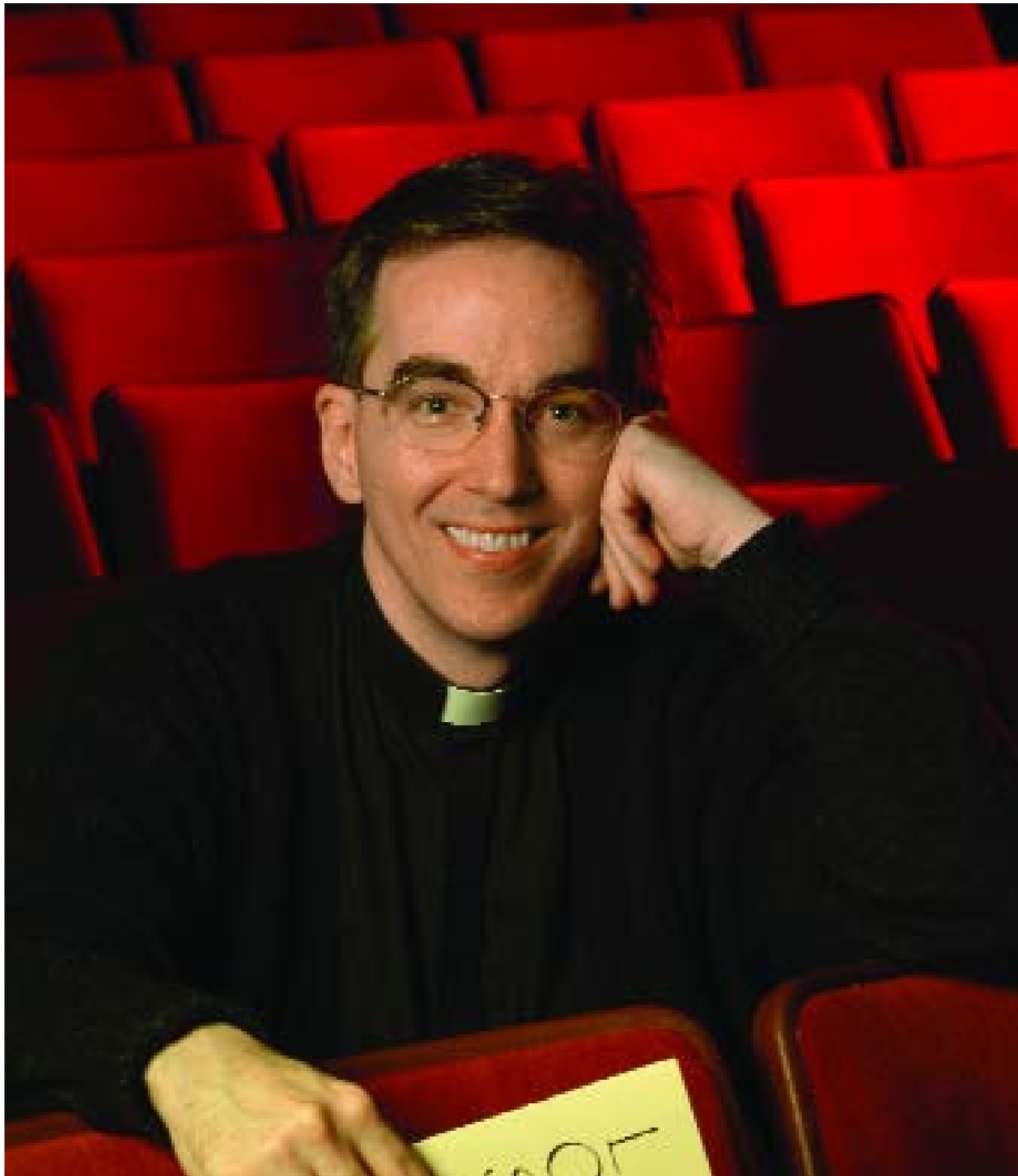
"He was just one of those people who had the love of God written all over his face, and I wanted to be like him," explains Dunfee.

Both the Rev. John Vowells, S.J., 45, campus minister, and the Rev. Matthew Ruhl, S.J., 45, pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, saw the Jesuits at Rockhurst High School as role models.

"They seemed like they really enjoyed what they were doing, they were really friendly with each other, and they took an interest in me. I joined because I wanted to be a scholastic like the Jesuits," said Fr. Vowells.

Fr. Ruhl liked the "human" aspect of the Jesuits at the high school.

The Rev. John Vowells, S.J., campus minister, enjoys theater and often attends local productions.



D. Scott Hendrickson, S.J., teaches courses in Spanish and Spanish literature and culture. Hendrickson has an identical twin brother, Daniel, who belongs to the Wisconsin Province of Jesuits.

"The ability of Jesuits to be very serious and then turn right around and be very silly — their humanity was attractive to me," he said.

The Rev. Dan White, S.J., 36, associate pastor of Saint Francis Xavier Parish, admired the idea of what the Jesuits did. He liked the fact that the Jesuits were all over the world and were committed to service. D. Scott Hendrickson, S.J., 33, visiting professor of Spanish, was fascinated by the work the Jesuits were doing and how they were engaged and active in the

world. These men saw something in the Jesuits that intrigued them, whether it was in the abstract or in a Jesuit they knew. That is key to increasing vocations, said Fr. Vowells.

"Jesuits have to live a visible life that is attractive to people. Most of us knew a Jesuit, and we saw his life, and we saw something that was attractive," he said.

We Are Family

Brother Glenn Kerfoot, S.J., 43, campus minister, said when he

Name Those Jesuits

Together with the Jesuits interviewed for this story, 24 men comprise the Kansas City Jesuit community. Of these, several work in positions not directly related to the University — at Rockhurst High School, or in health care, for example. The remaining Jesuits affiliated with Rockhurst University are:

- The Rev. Martin J. Bredeck, S.J., professor of theology and religious studies;
- The Rev. Edward K. Burger, S.J., associate professor of history;
- The Rev. Luke J. Byrne, S.J., university chaplain;
- The Rev. John J. Callahan, S.J., director of mission and values for Rockhurst University and rector of the Jesuit community;
- The Rev. Thomas J. Casey, S.J., instructor of constitutional law;
- The Rev. Edward Kinerk, S.J., president;
- The Rev. Wilfred L. La Croix, S.J., associate professor of philosophy;
- The Rev. Louis J. Oldani, S.J., professor of English; and
- The Rev. James D. Wheeler, S.J., professor of chemistry.

began to consider a religious life, one of his first decisions was to live as part of a religious community.

"I couldn't see myself outside a community — I don't know how it works," he said.

The Society of Jesus believes in bringing people together to share their lives and experiences while helping them to become aware of the needs of others. The Jesuit community in Kansas City includes 24 men ranging in age from the 30s to the 80s. While each has his own room and bathroom, there is not much privacy to be found otherwise. They are expected to get together daily to talk about their faith, to pray and to be present for meals.

"Community life is wonderful and maddening. At times it is wonderful and supportive, other times it is maddening — just like any other family," said Fr. Vowells.

Fr. White agrees.

"I think family is the only comparison you can make, because there is no other situation like it — where you're living with people of all ages, who are not related, who did not choose to live together, who have very different interests, who are all over the map ideologically," he said.

Hendrickson also acknowledges that community life can be a challenge. "Just ask yourself, what would it be like to live with 20 over-educated men? It's like poetry — it's not always easy to understand," he said. "Community life takes a lot of work to do well, but if done well, it can be a real joy and support in our life and ministry," he says.

Alone Together

Even though they live in community, some Jesuits still struggle with loneliness, said Fr. Dunfee.

"I think loneliness is part of the human condition. And living in community doesn't always mean the kind of close, intimate relationships that people need," he said. "There are



Bro. Glenn Kerfoot, S.J., campus minister, has an avid interest in science fiction, which he often discusses with like-minded students.

Jesuits who feel lonely and isolated. Many of our relationships tend to be superficial. But I don't see how a person living alone in a rectory could survive emotionally and spiritually."

That's not as bleak as it sounds, however, said Fr. Vowells.

"You run into people. You still might be lonely, you still might feel a sense of isolation, but you still run into people. You can't not run into people.

And even if it is a very superficial way of communicating or being with one another, it is still better than being completely by yourself in a rectory."

Sharing Faith

A very real relationship these Jesuits work to cultivate is with the students at Rockhurst. Whether through preaching or mentoring or in their classrooms, they are each

helping students become leaders in service to others.

Br. Kerfoot said interacting with students is especially meaningful for him because this was the age when he became Catholic.

In his role as a campus minister, he engages students to help them discover their dreams and hopes for the future. When they find out what they are passionate about, they are often led to a life in service to others, he said.

Hendrickson uses his role as a Spanish teacher to teach students language skills and to help them learn cultural values about themselves and others. This helps Rockhurst students learn to embrace other cultures and see how they fit in the world.

It is particularly important to help students understand why they should become men and women for others, says Fr. White.

We have an obligation to help those who are in need, according to Fr. White, and when students understand that, they will become men and women for others.

"The point of service is not because it looks good on a résumé, and it is not for the warm fuzzies," he said. "Serving others is an extension of who we are as faithful

people — it is where we encounter God and live out our faith."

Beyond the Numbers

These men have committed their lives to God and the Church. They sacrifice things many of us deem important: marital intimacy, family and financial gain. They do very noble things, like help students encounter God and learn the value of service to others. They also do very normal things, like watch TV, fish, read and go to the theater. They drive each other crazy at times.

They are not numbers or statistics. They have faces and names and hopes and fears and real lives. They are the future of the Jesuits — passionate about their work, hopeful for the future, and committed to finding God in all things.

Campus Ministry Assists All Faiths

No discussion of what makes Rockhurst Jesuit would be complete without mentioning the Office of Campus Ministry and its efforts to assist all members of the Rockhurst community with spiritual growth. The three Jesuits and four laypeople on the campus ministry staff offer a wide variety of programming available to people of all faiths.

Campus Ministry sponsors a 10 p.m. Sunday Mass especially for students at St. Francis Xavier Church, as well as a daily Mass on campus in Mabee Chapel. Students are encouraged to take an active part in the student Mass by serving as Eucharistic ministers, lectors, sacristans, altar servers, greeters, choir singers, cantors and musicians.

Students, faculty and staff who want to deepen their faith can do so through the numerous programs Campus Ministry offers. These include small faith-sharing groups, a group called VOICES that explores the justice implications of Christianity, and the "Digging Deeper Into Your Faith" series, which presents a speaker monthly to discuss timely topics. Campus Ministry also can help those who want to experience the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola find a spiritual director to guide them through this process of prayer and discernment that is a central component of Jesuit spirituality.

Several retreat opportunities are available throughout the year and include the Frosh Getaway, the Busy Person's Retreat and the Supernatural Christians Retreat.

For more information about Rockhurst Campus Ministry, visit www.rockhurst.edu and click on "Student Life."

Finding a Home

By Jennifer A. (Fischer) Rinella, '93, MIHE '99

It was a beautiful August morning in 1989, and my whole life was about to change. So this is it, I thought, with butterflies in my stomach as my parents walked with me to the Orientation Welcome Mass. In less than an hour, mom and dad would drive away, and I'd be on my own. Fr. Savage welcomed us warmly and introduced the Rockhurst seal, enthusiastically sharing its inspiration and university history.

"*Sapientia aedificavit sibi domum,*" Father cited the words below the shield. "Wisdom has built herself a home," he translated. As a very green freshman, a small-town girl in the big city, I certainly did not feel wise. I looked around at all the other new freshmen and wondered whether Rockhurst University would ever feel like my home.

Beautiful liturgical music, Fr. Savage's engaging homily, and the comforting familiarity of the Mass soon helped me to relax a bit.

As orientation progressed, our team members and leaders became a close-knit group. I joined student organizations, the choir, the honors program. My roommate became a friend and confidante. I gradually came to feel connected, a part of an exciting new family.

Of course, the freshman jitters continued, especially while entering the cafeteria for dinner, where it seemed that the upperclassmen at their off-limits tables were scoping out all the freshmen.

"Lord, please don't let me drop my tray" became my regular meal-time prayer. Homesickness set in regularly each Sunday night.

Worries about choosing a major were at times overwhelming. Yet, at the same time, I was experiencing an intense awakening. I loved learning and my newfound freedom.

Responsibility took on a new meaning as my friends and I embarked on adulthood; making choices and living with the consequences taught us valuable and sometimes painful lessons. Living in community, I was learning to truly love people outside my own family for the first time. I was beginning to know and love myself and God in a new way. I was beginning to feel very much at home.

Home was our tiny room in

Xavier-Loyola Hall, where girlfriends popped in and out frequently, sharing clothes, secrets, laughter and tears; even at 98 degrees with no air conditioning, there was no place we would rather be.

Home was the lobby downstairs where we spent hours glued to CNN watching coverage of the Gulf War and praying for it to be over. Home was the chapel where I listened to Father Finucane and knew that he was talking to me about my life, making Mass relevant for the first time. Home was Greenlease Library, where countless hours were spent researching and writing papers,

studying for Dr. Carroll's sociology exams and meeting with a calculus tutor. Home was the damp old basement of the party house, where too much time around the beer keg contributed to the "Freshman 15" that didn't disappear until we were juniors. Home was the quadrangle, where late night walks with my first love made my heart full; home was the Fieldhouse where friends made memories, cheeks pink and throats scratchy from cheering on the Hawks basketball team.

Campus was permeated with a sense of *cura personalis* — care of the whole person. I felt as though faculty

and staff truly cared for each of us. For example, one of my favorite courses was Fr. Burke's World Masterpieces. With his fiery blue eyes and British accent, Fr. Burke brought great literature alive. Eager to share what he had discovered and to help us make our own discoveries, he clearly loved teaching. Drawing us into rigorous discussions with him and each other, he encouraged us to question the author and our own interpretations. We were expected to participate fully.

Feeling sleepy one afternoon, I opted to skip class and take a nap. A few hours later, I found a comfy

Adirondack chair in a sunny spot outside the library — a perfect reading spot. "Ah, there she is!" exclaimed Fr. Burke with a bit of a smirk, admonishing me in his knowing, grandfatherly way. I was caught and I was mortified. Skipping class hadn't seemed a big deal at first, but now I felt as though I had squandered my time and missed something important; I had let both Fr. Burke and myself down.

Later that semester, Father told our class about the Midland Theater's upcoming *Romeo & Juliet*. A few of us raised our hands when asked if we'd be interested in seeing the play.



How much difference can 30 years make? Historical photos of Rockhurst bear witness to the transformation that has taken place over the years.

But what happens to the essence of a place? Two alumni, one from 1962 and one from 1993, share their impressions of Rockhurst and the Catholic, Jesuit presence that shaped it.

A Place in Time

In the spirit of *cura personalis*, he bought our tickets and drove us to the production. My friend and I were positively giddy — we were going off campus and he was paying?

Thank goodness, for we were flat broke and neither of us had a car. It was a wonderful night. Not because the play was outstanding — it wasn't. It was great because Father had taken us under his wing, treating us with great respect and showing us a bit of the larger world. On the return ride, we were immersed in discussions about Shakespearean themes. Father listened carefully to our observations and encouraged us to make connections between the literature and our own knowledge and experience as we explored what it means to be human. Caring efforts like this by Fr. Burke and countless other faculty and staff made a lasting impact.

Junior and senior year, it was exhilarating to find everything I was learning — curricular and co-curricular — to be connected. Each discipline came together with other disciplines as I prepared for a career in the nonprofit sector. Volunteer service with local health and human service agencies, participation in student organizations, and internships with Big Brothers and Sisters and Ronald McDonald House drew upon and contributed to my studies in the

humanities and my understanding of the human experience. My "home" expanded to include the Kansas City community, a place I wanted to live and work. I began to understand that even my small contribution to the world could be for the greater glory of God.

My classmates had different but similar experiences, and we all got busier that year as we prepared for life after college. As individuals, each with unique gifts, we had come together to learn and grow so that we might help each other become the best humans we knew how to become. Rockhurst brought us all together as one community of learners, sharing one home. In addition to learning our major disciplines, we learned to live for the big things: God, truth, love and concern for others. By commencement, we were brothers and sisters, being sent forth a bit wiser for the journey. We knew that we had found ourselves a home that would always welcome us back.

Jennifer A. (Fischer) Rinella completed her bachelor's degree in 1993 and her master of integrated humanities and education degree in 1999. She served as director of the Rockhurst Center for Service Learning from 1988-2002. She currently works at home caring for children Jack, 3, and Josie, 1.

Beyond American Graffiti

By Philip A. Morris, '62

Those of us raised and educated under Roman Catholic wings can be surprised at assumptions made by others.

When my Merrill Lynch rep took me to lunch recently, I mentioned I'd gone to a Jesuit college. He assumed "seminary" and thought I'd planned to join the order. "Jesuit schools tend to have the reverse effect," I replied,

remembering the line I'd heard while at Rockhurst (1958-62).

The point implicit in that remark — that a Jesuit education raised more questions than it settled — is an outcome any worthy school might claim. I went on to say that, rather than a narrow religious curriculum, we were exposed to philosophy, logic, ethics and other courses that today might be termed "values-based." He was particularly surprised

that an introduction to economics was part of that core.

It wasn't at all well established then, but somewhere along the line I presume the Jesuits determined that economics was such an important part of the way the world works it ought to be part of everyone's preparation for a responsible life. I was an English lit major and never inclined toward business matters. But, to my own surprise, shortly after graduation in the '60s, I was telling fellow reporters at my first job — *The Daily Oklahoman* in Oklahoma City — that the country could not finance the Vietnam War and President Johnson's aggressive Great Society initiatives without serious inflationary impact. History bore this out, in spades.

Few of us then really appreciated this part of the curriculum. There was a lot of groaning about economics and other required courses. Philosophy left very many of us glazed (or dozing), and I remember a classmate mimicking a particularly serene Jesuit philosophy professor with the line, "I just moved the unmoved mover." And pre-med students with whom I shared a rented house as an upper-classman were aggressive in their disagreements with some biological aspects of "the party line" they were getting.

For me personally, the Rockhurst environment of those years — all-male student body, serious academic atmosphere, location in a city with major cultural attractions — was the right thing at the right time. Though I had lived in Kansas City as a child, I'd finished grade school and high school in Oklahoma City. The Catholic high school there today is well respected, but when I went through in the mid-'50s it was only a few years old, staffed by five or six different orders of teaching nuns and, to our great delight, extremely undisciplined academically or otherwise. We lived *American Graffiti*, and

I'm only half kidding when I tell friends I make a good designated driver because I learned to drive drunk.

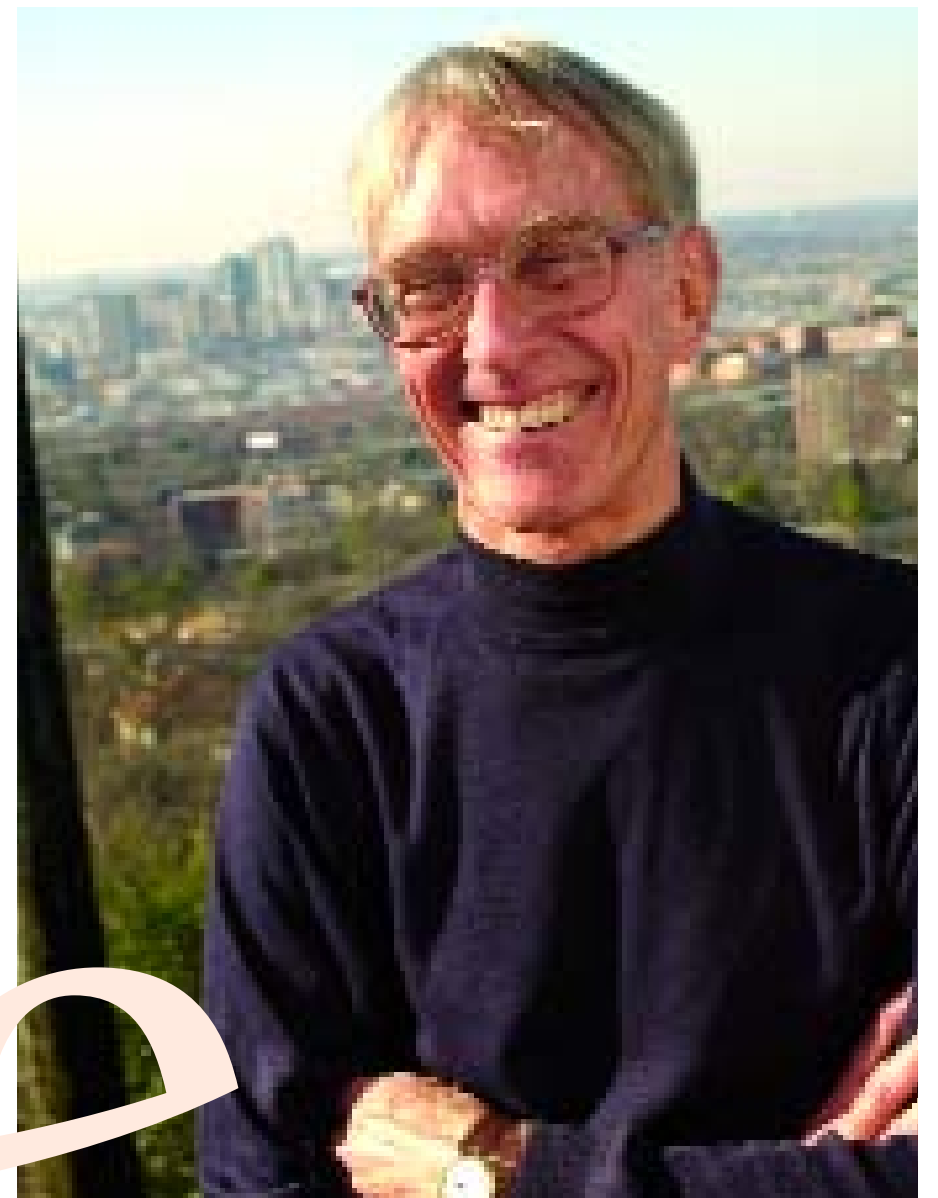
There were many superb teachers amid that tumble, one or two of them brutally candid about our future prospects. I was awful at science but had a natural bent toward writing and art. By senior year I had decided to go to college and to take it seriously and, when a tough-talking Jesuit recruiter for Rockhurst showed up, quickly settled on going there — not least to break with carousing friends.

I suppose the faculty in those days was about half Jesuit, but other than the fact that they wore black robes and lived on campus it didn't seem to affect academics. I had an excellent early mentor in M. Robert Knickerbocker, a rather dour New England-born and educated English professor who gave me my start toward journalism. (He recruited writers for the college paper and ran a noncredit evening introduction to journalism for me and three or four classmates.)

And I learned to read Shakespeare's plays as drama, not literature, from a young Jesuit who had just studied under a leading scholar at the University of Wisconsin. (That he often forgot to take off his coat and just began lecturing was due to intense thought, we assumed, not religious rapture.)

Rockhurst College was small and, in those days, limited on some fronts. For example, I had a budding interest in art and architecture that could not be pursued.

But the intimate size combined with an excellent English literature faculty provided me a solid academic grounding; by senior year those majoring in the field were doing graduate-level work. It helped me decide — while maintaining the highest regard for the academic life — to follow a career path more directly engaged in the world.



After a delayed graduation (I waited too late to take required math and botched it.) I enrolled in architecture school at the University of Oklahoma mainly to give myself some breathing space. Within six months I applied for a daily newspaper job that called for a journalism degree or experience and was hired as a cub reporter. I must have scored well on the test they gave me, though they never said. I had begun what turned out a most satisfying career, writing about architecture and design for major magazines.

My "useless" liberal arts education (e.g. four semesters of Latin) and that Jesuit thinking-person core has

served me well, quaint as that period may seem compared to Rockhurst University today. And, yes, I still pay attention to economics. My favorite periodical is *The Economist*.

Philip A. Morris retired in October 2000 after 31 years with Southern Progress Corp., most spent with Southern Living magazine. At his retirement, he was editor-at-large for Southern Living, Southern Accents and Coastal Living. He remains a contributing editor to the last two and will write for Cottage Living when it debuts next fall. In addition, Morris studied architecture and design as a 1983-84 Loeb Fellow at Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Many young people are deeply interested in making the world a better place. Catholic, Jesuit universities offer students a rich context for this desire for social justice — the Christian faith.

Generations *of* Change

By Mark Michael Seeger, '05

I don't live in Latin America. Still, throughout the last several years, I have grown to have a solemn compassion for the Latin American people.

Here, in the United States — arguably the wealthiest, most powerful nation — we don't consistently worry about political, religious and labor freedom, unemployment, homelessness and hunger as much as the people in Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Colombia or the many other countries that have experienced devastation in the last century. After all, why do you think illegal immigration through the southern border of the United States is such a dilemma? America is the land of opportunity, the cliché says, even though we know that some of these injustices are present in the midst of this land.

Mark Seeger, '05, is an active member of VOICES, the Rockhurst social justice group sponsored by Campus Ministry.



My awakening to the Jesuit tradition of social justice developed throughout my Catholic education at Christ the King grade school in Kansas City and Archbishop O'Hara High School. Sure, I attended one pro-life "chain of life" protest against abortion with a friend's family when I was about 13.

I wrote an essay on abortion in middle school. I was (and still am) involved in the Boy Scouts of America. I did service to others and learned to love the environment dearly. Yet, it wasn't until high school that my activism began to sprout.

During my junior year, I was assigned a project on the School of the Americas. At first, I knew nothing about the topic. Several weeks later, my perception was altered. I bought the documentary *School of Assassins*, narrated by Susan Sarandon.

I learned about Father Roy Bourgeois and the connection of the School of the Americas graduates to torture, massacres and assassinations. I made a bleak mental connection of poverty and militarism. I learned that the movie *Romero* is more than simply a depiction of one man's religious conversion — it should reflect our personal and communal transformation as well.

Rockhurst University appealed to me because of its prestigious reputation and Jesuit background.

During my first experiences on campus, I met Bill Kriege, assistant director of campus ministry. He was showing the very same film I bought several months later.

Although I was uncertain whether I would actually go to Georgia to protest the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation/School of the Americas, I signed up for the group meetings.

Three months later, VOICES was created, a full-page *Catholic Key* article was written about our trip, and I had enriched my first semester of college by applying my faith and

academic education to real life injustices.

Since 2001, VOICES for JUSTICE has become Rockhurst University's social justice organization, four *Catholic Key* articles have been written on VOICES' experiences with activism, and VOICES has successfully campaigned for fair trade coffee to be sold at Rockhurst to help farmers cope with economic instability and unjust working conditions. Ideas are teeming with enthusiasm and creativity during our meetings.

As a history and education major,

"We are all called to do something with our time and resources."

intending to bring my social justice experiences and faith into my vocation, I think it is vital for justice not to simply turn our heads to the oppression present today. As Martin Luther King Jr. says in "Beyond Vietnam," "True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar." True compassion requires that we recognize injustice in our institutions and work for change.

As Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, the current Superior General of the Society of Jesus, writes in "The Service of Faith and the Promotion of Justice":

Our students are involved in every sort of social action — tutoring drop-outs, demonstrating in Seattle, serving in soup kitchens, promoting pro-life, protesting against the School of the

Americas — and we are proud of them for it. But the measure of Jesuit universities is not what our students do but who they become and the adult Christian responsibility they will exercise in the future towards their neighbor and their world. For now, the activities they engage in, even with much good effect, are for their formation. This does not make the university a training camp for social activists. Rather, the students need close involvement with the poor and the marginal now, in order to learn about reality and become adults of solidarity in the future.

I think it is important to remember this message. Social activism is a part of Christianity. Our Catholic, Jesuit tradition is part of our Christianity. Christianity is a lifestyle, not simply a reason for going to a specific school or church on Sundays. Therefore, it becomes a cross or an obligation for Jesuits, professors and students to re-evaluate their lifestyle — including how studies and vocations apply to faith. St. Ignatius is said to have asked three important questions, which I found on the cover of the 2003 Ignatian Family Teach-in Study Guide, "What have I done for Christ? What am I doing for Christ? What will I do for Christ?"

Indeed, I have thought about becoming a priest, a professor in the footsteps of Howard Zinn, or a high school teacher. We are all called to do something with our time and resources. I think it is critical at this point to remember that social transformations in the world reflect our belief in human dignity and God.

I may not be the next Gandhi or Romero, but my life should not be led in apathy, ignorance and inaction amid the presence of the world's injustices. For me, this is part of the core understanding of everyone in the Jesuit community. Our lives do make a difference — will the differences be for the better?

We hope so.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Friend,

How long has it been since you have visited Rockhurst University? If you haven't seen the campus recently, I assure you that you will be impressed. I extend to you a warm invitation to visit us this year and witness the transformation that has taken place.

- A gorgeous new athletic complex, Loyola Park, sits majestically at the southeast corner of the campus between Tracy and the Paseo. The park is home to a baseball field, an intramural field and six lighted tennis courts.

- A 90-foot bell tower and a beautifully landscaped pergola accented by a fountain welcome visitors to campus, replacing a parking lot.

- Students with laptops now plug in and take notes in classrooms originally built in the 1930s in Conway Hall, thanks to a major renovation.

- A new art gallery, the Greenlease Gallery, provides a visually stunning bridge between Sedgwick and Van Ackeren halls.

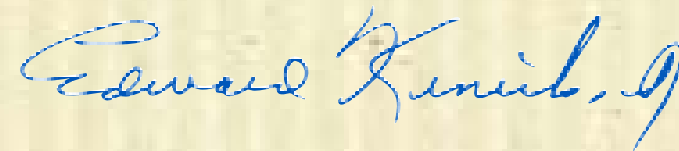
- The Rock Room has been transformed into a cyber café, with bright colors and furniture sure to please anyone 25 and younger, or anyone else young at heart.

- The St. Thomas More cafeteria features new upholstered furniture and à la carte, fresh items cooked to order.

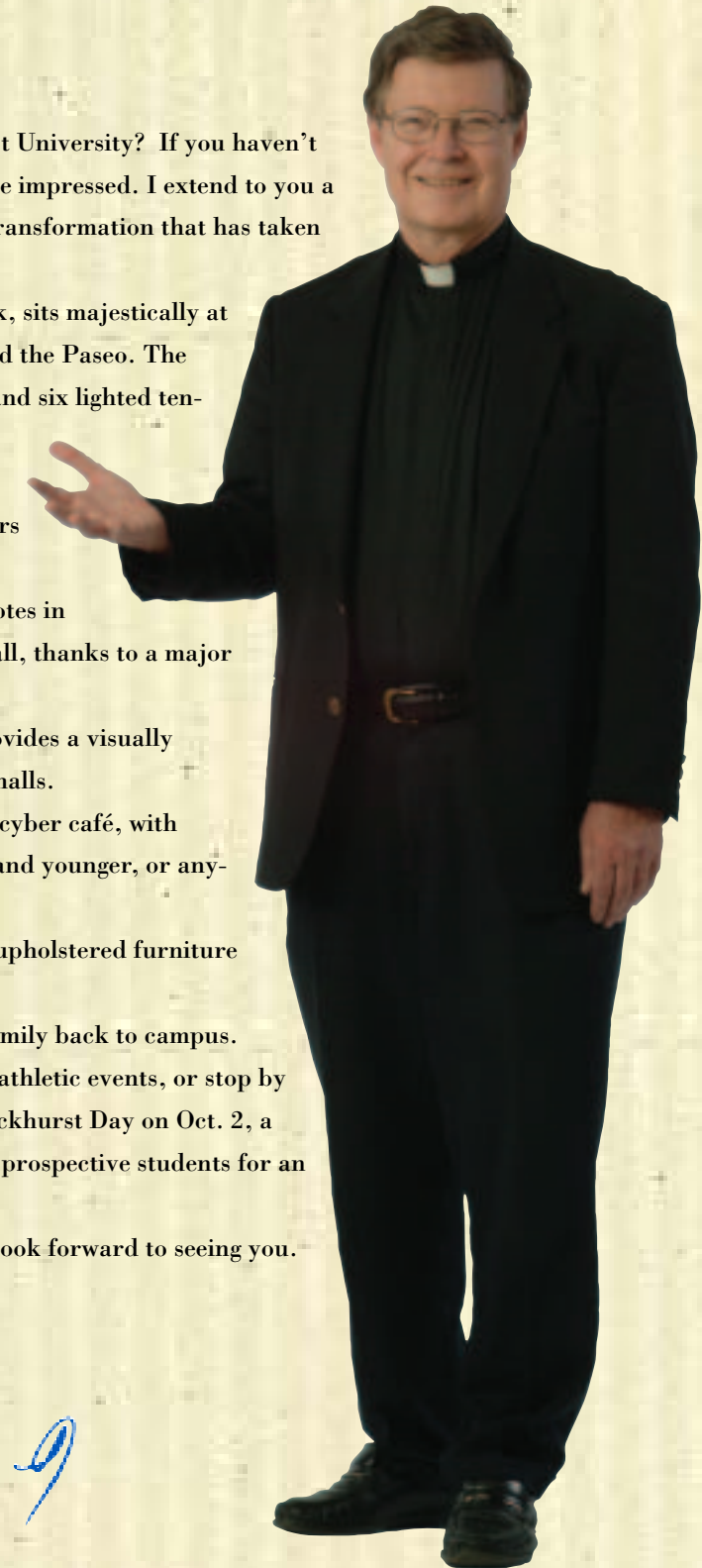
I would be gratified to welcome you and your family back to campus. Choose from one of our engaging Arts and Letters or athletic events, or stop by on your way to the Plaza. Even better, join us for Rockhurst Day on Oct. 2, a tradition we revived last year, welcoming alumni and prospective students for an all-campus celebration.

Make this your year to return to the Rock. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,



Edward Kinerk, S.J.
President



2003

A T A G L A N C E

A \$2.3 million gift from Tom McDonnell '66, and his wife, Jean, '87 MBA, brought Rockhurst closer to completion of the Loyola Park athletic complex. Tom McDonnell is chairman of the Rockhurst University Board of Trustees and president and CEO of DST Systems Inc.

A beautiful, sunny day greeted graduates and relatives for the first on-campus May commencement in 20 years. The event was held on Sunday, May 18, on the picturesque main campus quadrangle. Doves were released at the end of the undergraduate ceremonies in a symbolic gesture of hope for the graduates.

The \$50 million Excellence in the City fund-raising campaign goal was surpassed in May 2003. Most of the funds raised were slated for construction and renovation of facilities. These include: a major renovation of Conway Hall (completed in 2002) and construction of the 16-acre Loyola Park athletic complex.

The Carnegie Foundation designated Rockhurst a national leadership site for the scholarship of teaching and learning. Rockhurst is one of only a handful of universities in the nation to earn this distinction. The University earned this as a result of its commitment to scholarly inquiry into student learning.



The inaugural game at Loyola Park was a highlight of Rockhurst Day.



A sunny day brightened the first on-campus May commencement in 20 years.

Music, fireworks, street performers and an inaugural baseball game greeted some 1,000 visitors to campus for the revival of Rockhurst Day on Sept. 27, 2003. The event combined Family Weekend, an open house for prospective students, a celebration of the culmination of the \$50 million fund-raising campaign and the dedication of Loyola Park.

Corey Flintoff, newscaster for National Public Radio, gave a presentation to a packed audience at the Rockhurst Convocation Center. Flintoff writes and delivers six newscasts each afternoon as part of NPR's newsmagazine "All Things Considered."

Nobel peace laureate Adolfo Pérez Esquivel visited the Rockhurst campus as part of the 2003 PeaceJam. Pérez Esquivel won the Nobel Prize in 1980 for his work in helping his fellow Argentines overcome the oppressive military regime of that country in the 1970s. Local high school students gathered at Rockhurst to participate in service projects and present their own peace plans to Pérez Esquivel.

Soccer coach Tony Tocco, Ph.D., earned victory No. 500 in his 33-year career at Rockhurst. During that time, he has earned a remarkable winning percentage of .802. Only four other collegiate soccer coaches in the nation have recorded more than 500 wins.

Athletic teams had impressive records in 2003. Men's baseball went to 30-16, and fell to eventual Division II national champion Central Missouri State in the regional finals. Men's tennis ended with a 15-6 record, and women's tennis with a 16-5 record. Tennis coach Kendell Hale, whose record sits at 134-52, was again named Regional Coach of the year. Women's volleyball enjoyed another winning season, with a 31-13 record. Other teams making the playoffs included men's soccer and men's basketball.



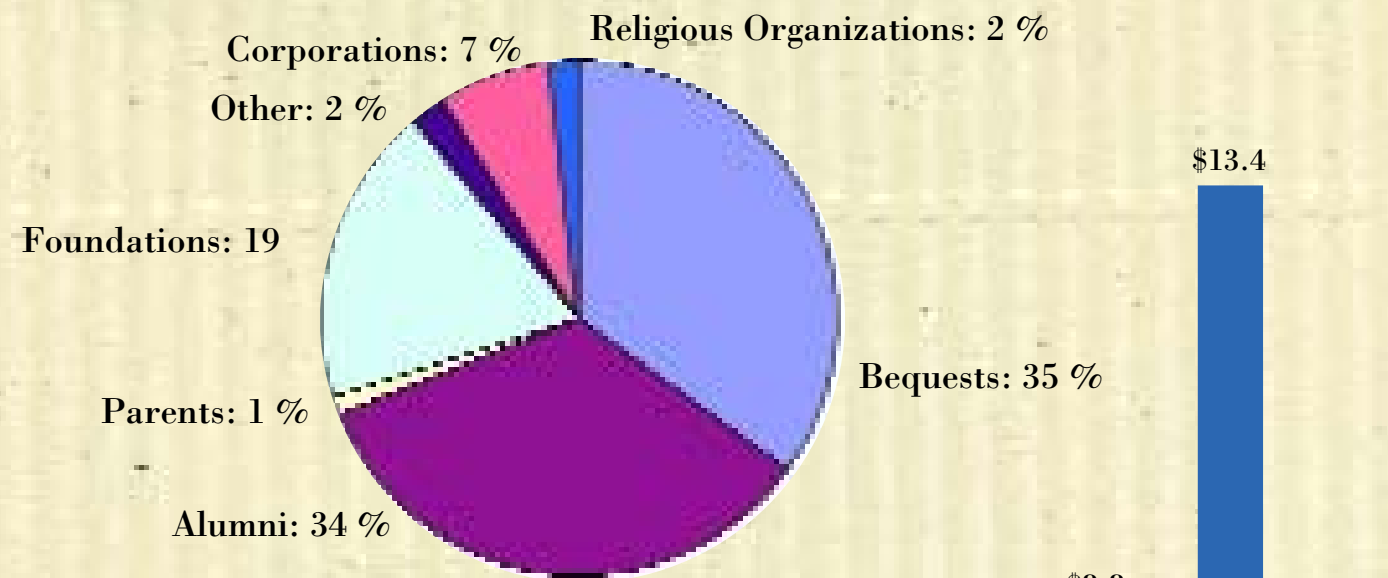
NPR newscaster Corey Flintoff spoke to a packed house in October.

The Rock Room, a popular study and hangout spot for students in Massman Hall, was renovated and transformed into a cyber café. It features a convenience store, coffee shop, big screen television, computer stations and foosball and pool tables.

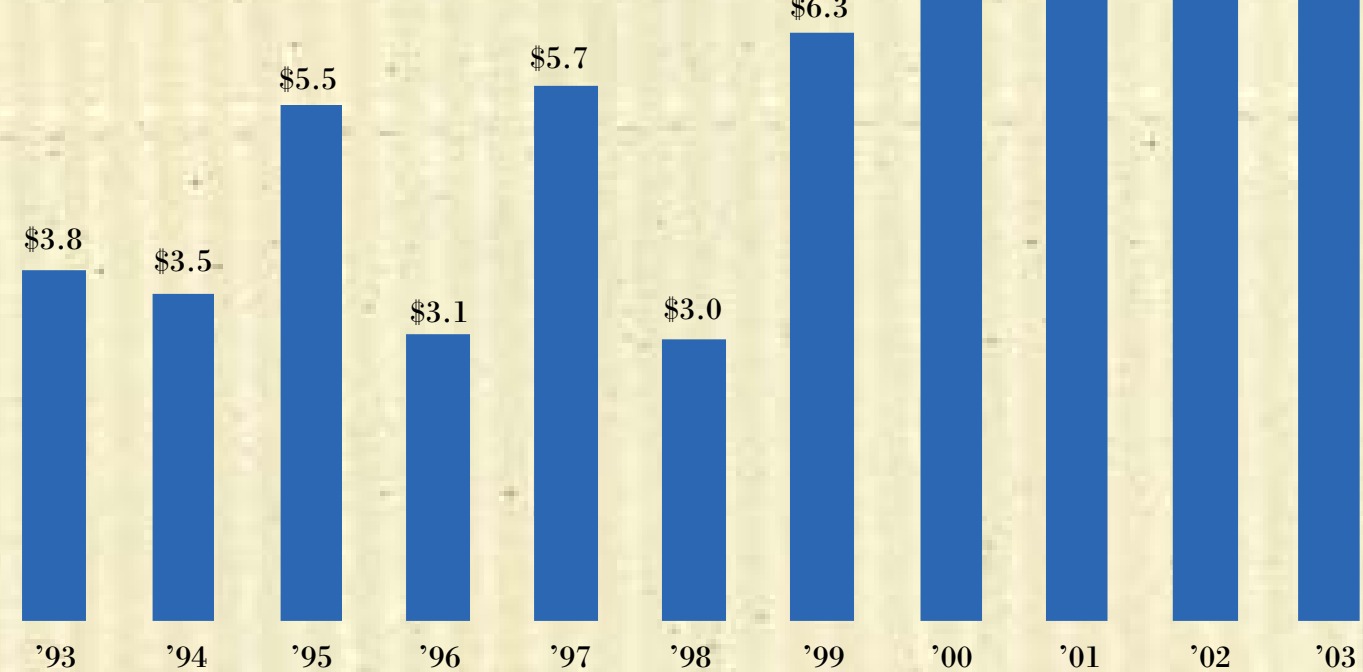
U.S. News and World Report ranked Rockhurst No. 13 in the Midwest Best Universities — Master's category, a move up from last year's No. 14 ranking.

GIFT STATISTICS

Helping to Make Rockhurst Whole: 2002-2003 Giving Communities



Giving to Rockhurst: In Millions as of June 30



FALL Contenders Get Close

For the second straight year, Rockhurst's volleyball and men's soccer teams earned berths in the NCAA II national championships, and the women's soccer crew fell just short of advancing, checking in with a 13-6 record.

Coach Tracy Rietzke's volleyballers, who qualified for the nationals for the fourth time in five years, disposed of West Texas A&M in their first match at Metro State, Denver. In the semifinals, the Lady Hawks ousted No. 7 ranked and top-seeded Metro State. No. 8 rated Nebraska-Kearney foiled Rockhurst in the finals.

"We tailed off a little earlier, but we snapped back and played very well down the stretch and in the nationals," said Rietzke, whose Lady Hawks finished with a 31-13 record. We played well in the nationals with Jessica Shepler, Deanna Shelton and Regiane Manzato making the all-tournament team."

Shepler wound up a remarkable four-year career at Rockhurst, capping it by earning a berth on the first team All-America.

"That's the ultimate honor for a great player," Rietzke said.

It was a frustrating windup for the men in soccer. In their opening match against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, the Hawks battled to a 1-1 double-overtime tie before bowing out when their foes claimed a 5-3 edge in penalty kicks. Coach Tony Tocco's Hawks had two opportunities to score in overtime. SIU-Edwardsville did not get a shot against the aggressive Rockhurst defense.

"Injuries and our inability to finish shots plagued us all season," said Tocco after the Hawks wound up with a 10-8-2 record.

"Overall, I'm disappointed because we had higher aspirations. We were very competitive, but we couldn't cash in on our scoring opportunities. We played very well against SIU-Edwardsville, a 16-3 team that had beaten us 4-0 in October."

The Lady Hawks put a lid on their 13-6 season by whipping Missouri-Rolla 3-1 in a home-field match, a few days after a galling 0-0 tie with Emporia State in which they built advantages of 11-5 in shots and 10-1 in corner kicks.



The grass will be greener when artificial turf is installed on an enlarged Bourke Field this fall, and players' benches will be a safer distance from the action.

Lights, Soccer, Action

The site remains the same, but everything else will be bigger and better when the Rockhurst men's and women's soccer teams begin play next season. Not only will the field be enlarged, but it also will be fitted with artificial turf and lights.

"We're going from an undersized 115-by-64 foot field to NCAA regulation 120-by-70 foot," Athletic Director Frank Diskin said. "Also, there will be another 20 feet from the sidelines of the field to the fences. That will allow for the players' benches to be a safe distance from the action."

Soccer coach Tony Tocco, Ph.D., is enthusiastic about the field's size and artificial turf, SprintTurf.

"Not only will we be able to play night games, but we also will be able to host NCAA playoffs," Tocco said. "The field will have durability in any kind of weather. Also, the maintenance of the field will be much easier. All you have to do is brush it off."

The Hawks will waste no time playing under the lights at home, taking on the University of Indiana in the season opener at 7 p.m. on Aug. 27. On Aug. 28 there will be an alumni game involving "oldtimers" at 6 p.m. and a match between the Hawks and players from the last five years at 7 p.m.

Missouri-Kansas City, Missouri-Rolla, Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, Missouri-St. Louis and Benedictine also will travel to Bourke Field for night matches. Coach Greg Herdlick's Lady Hawks play only one of their eight home matches under the lights, a 7 p.m. encounter with Southwest Baptist on Sept. 14.

Division I Toughens Soccer Player

Kelly Fitzpatrick took a circuitous route to Rockhurst after starting in soccer and basketball for St. Thomas

Aquinas High School in Overland Park, Kan. Before transferring to Rockhurst last season and

Off the soccer field Fitzpatrick also is a standout, earning a 3.8 grade-point-average on the way to a degree in marketing.

quickly emerging as a star for the Lady Hawks in soccer, Fitzpatrick played for two years at Creighton.

She was the second leading scorer for the Division I team as a freshman. Her sophomore season was interrupted in mid-season by a back injury.

As a member of the Lady Hawks, the 5-foot-9 junior quickly became a star last season as she led the 11-5-1 team with 16 goals. She also had two

assists for a team-high 34 points. Four times she had two-goal games.

"Kelly did everything I hoped for — and more," coach Greg Herdlick said. "She's been a tremendous asset. She has great skills with the ball and she's good in the air, too. She has a different level of mentality coming from a Division I school with a great soccer reputation. She has the hunger to succeed both as an individual and on the team level."

Off the soccer field Fitzpatrick also is a standout, earning a 3.8 grade-point-average on the way to a degree in marketing.

"I hope to work in sports marketing after graduation," she said.

Fitzpatrick, who was All-Metro and all-East Kansas League at St. Thomas Aquinas, said she went to

Creighton because she wanted to play Division I soccer.

"Then I decided I wanted to be closer to home," she said.

"Our team at Rockhurst has very good

chemistry.

Playing here is more fun, and I think we can be really good.

Most of our players are coming back, and there is a lot of talent there. We performed well against the very good teams but not as well as we should have against the others."

Fitzpatrick's basketball days are history, however.

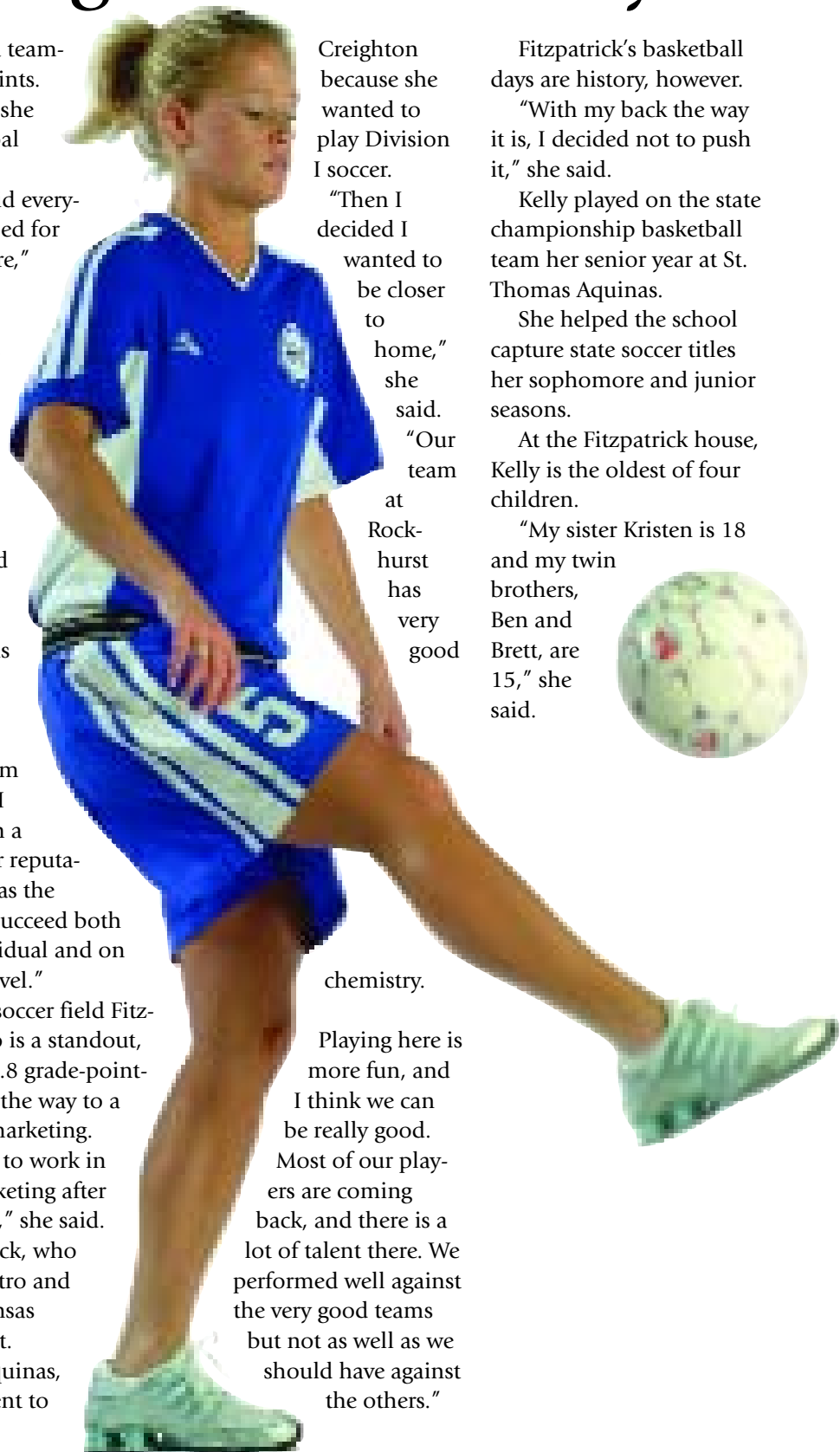
"With my back the way it is, I decided not to push it," she said.

Kelly played on the state championship basketball team her senior year at St. Thomas Aquinas.

She helped the school capture state soccer titles her sophomore and junior seasons.

At the Fitzpatrick house, Kelly is the oldest of four children.

"My sister Kristen is 18 and my twin brothers, Ben and Brett, are 15," she said.



From Cameroon to Kansas City

Vivien Fongue is a prime example of a student-athlete. A native of Bafoussam, Cameroon, Fongue came to Rockhurst by way of Canada. Fongue wasted no time establishing himself as a student, fashioning a 3.8 grade-point-average in pre-med. On the basketball court the story was a little different for the 6-5 senior with tremendous jumping ability.

"Oh, my gosh, I can't describe how much basketball I learned at Rockhurst," said Fongue, who became a solid starter as a senior after playing a backup role for three years.

"Vivien started three or four times before this year," Rockhurst basketball coach Bill O'Connor said. "He was a valuable reserve, a consummate team player, a great hustler."

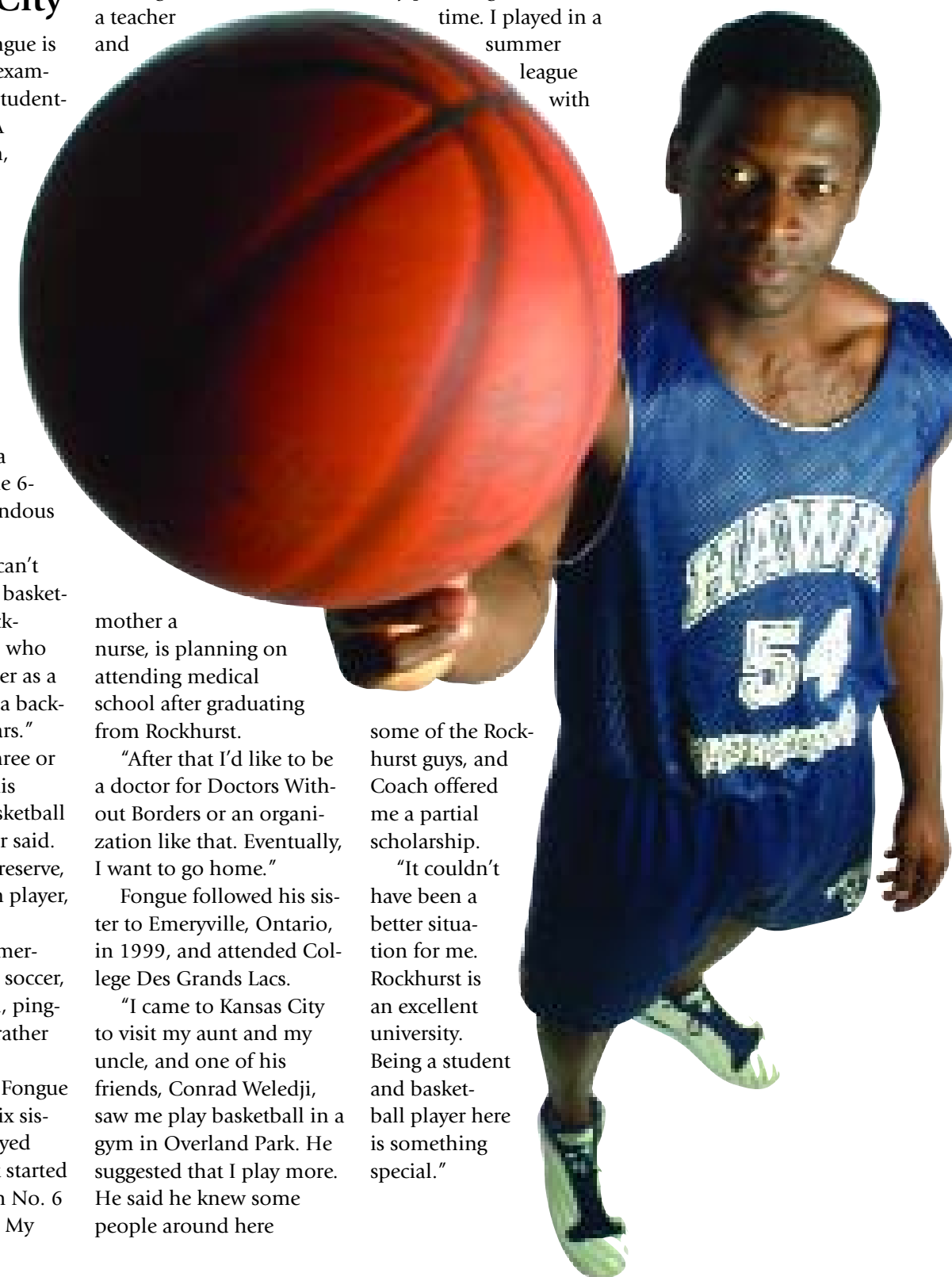
As a youth in Cameroon, Fongue played soccer, handball, volleyball, ping-pong and tennis, a rather busy slate for him.

"No basketball," Fongue smiled. "All of my six sisters and brother played basketball, but I got started in the game late. I'm No. 6 in age in my family. My

youngest sister, who is 14, is 5-11 and plays tennis and basketball."

Fongue, whose father is a teacher and

involved in college basketball. That's when I met coach O'Connor. I spoke very poor English at the time. I played in a summer league with



mother a nurse, is planning on attending medical school after graduating from Rockhurst.

"After that I'd like to be a doctor for Doctors Without Borders or an organization like that. Eventually, I want to go home."

Fongue followed his sister to Emeryville, Ontario, in 1999, and attended College Des Grands Lacs.

"I came to Kansas City to visit my aunt and my uncle, and one of his friends, Conrad Weledji, saw me play basketball in a gym in Overland Park. He suggested that I play more. He said he knew some people around here

some of the Rockhurst guys, and Coach offered me a partial scholarship.

"It couldn't have been a better situation for me. Rockhurst is an excellent university. Being a student and basketball player here is something special."

'97

Heidi (Metzger) Hardcastle and her husband, Raymond, announce the birth of their son, Maxwell Scott, born Aug. 6, 2003.

David Przybylski and his wife, Mieke DeSimone Przybylski, announce the birth of their first child, Anna Marie, born Nov. 9, 2003.

'98

Jane (Newman) Westring and her husband, Kevin, announce the birth of their first child, Jacob Michael, born on Aug. 29, 2003.

'99

Victoria (Rinck) Zadoyan and her husband, Sargis, announce the birth of their daughter, Christine Sargisi Zadoyan, Oct. 17, 2003.

'99 MOT

Darii Wohlers and her husband, Rick, announce the birth of their son, Colin Nathaniel, born May 9, 2003. Colin joins his older sister McKenna, 3.

Deaths

Joseph Howard Doran ('35) Dec. 2, 2003

John B. O'Hern ('38) Dec. 16, 2003

John F. "Jack" Byrne ('38) Sept. 6, 2003

Edward Lee Baty Sr. ('40) Oct. 26, 2003

Joseph John McGee Jr. ('41) Sept. 3, 2003

William J. Troupe ('44) Oct. 19, 2003

Abner Herman Trembly Jr. ('47) Jan. 10, 2004

Louis B. "Putt" Loschke ('48) Sept. 7, 2003

Paul Ruggles Sims ('48) Aug. 13, 2003

James Craig Laird Sr. ('49) Dec. 9, 2003

Maurice M. McNellis ('49) Jan. 15, 2004

Donald J. Flanagan ('55) Oct. 30, 2003

Marvin L. Whitton ('57) Oct. 30, 2003

Aubrey Ellis Richardson ('59) Nov. 16, 2003

Theodore Clyde "Ted" Taylor ('61) Aug. 20, 2003

Robert D. Wholey ('62) Jan. 6, 2004

Lowell Thomas (Tom) Chisam ('63) Sept. 4, 2003

Dennis Farley ('64) Oct. 19, 2003

Michael S. McBride ('68) Aug. 8, 2003

Max D. Pate ('69) Aug. 12, 2003

Robert J. Edwards (71) Oct. 11, 2003

Marvin Ray Reed Sr. ('78) Nov. 4, 2003

Donald Eugene Yantzi Jr. ('78) Jan. 16, 2004

Milton Edward "Milt" Johnson ('84) Dec. 11, 2003

Margot Sue Sturgeon ('89) Oct. 28, 2003

Karla Marie Parker ('94) Sept. 2, 2001



The Rev. Robert R. Burke, S.J., and his sister, Mary Grogan, visited Ireland in 1998 with the Rockhurst Center for Arts and Letters.

Rockhurst Loses a Friend

The Rev. Robert R. Burke, S.J., served Rockhurst for more than 20 years as a faculty member in the English department and a leading supporter of arts and culture on campus. Burke passed away Oct. 26 at the Campion Center at Weston College in Weston, Mass., where he had lived since leaving Rockhurst in 1999.

A Shakespearean scholar, Burke was passionate about his work. "He could quote from Shakespeare to fit any occasion, and frequently did," said Cynthia Cartwright, director of the Center for Arts and Letters.

He was instrumental in creating a vibrant cultural life at Rockhurst and throughout Kansas City. He was a founder of the Center for Arts and Letters in 1989 and the Season of the Arts performing arts series in 1977. He served on the Kansas City Arts Council board, coordinated Shakespeare festivals and served as a charter member of the Missouri Citizens for the Arts.

"He dealt tremendously well with patrons of the arts in our community," said Joseph Cirincione, Ph.D., professor of English.

He helped establish the Center Study Trip to Europe and the West Coast and led 20 annual New York theater trips. Some even may remember Burke performing in Rockhurst theater productions.

In the classroom, he engaged his students in Shakespeare and literature, and his students knew him as a dynamic, colorful teacher. He was awarded emeritus status in 2000.

Burke received his bachelor's degree from Boston College, master's degrees from Boston College and Fordham University, and Ph.D. from the University of Toronto. He taught at Rockhurst from 1975-99.

"We'll miss him a lot," said Cartwright.



The Charles Family: (From left) Peter, Dan, Mary Kate, Mary, Brendan and Patrick.

Now It's Our Turn

"My father was a strong supporter of Jesuit education and I want to pass that along to my children. The world needs more people with critical thinking skills"

— Dan Charles, '88

"When I recall how Fr. Freeman wrote *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*, 'for the greater glory of God,' on the board in class, it reminds me how we're called to think and to act beyond our personal needs"

—Mary Charles, '89

With the Dan and Mary Charles Scholarship, which the couple established through their estate plan, new generations of Rockhurst students will continue the tradition.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT GIVING TO ROCKHURST, CONTACT Thomas Audley at 816-501-4551 or thomas.audley@rockhurst.edu.

