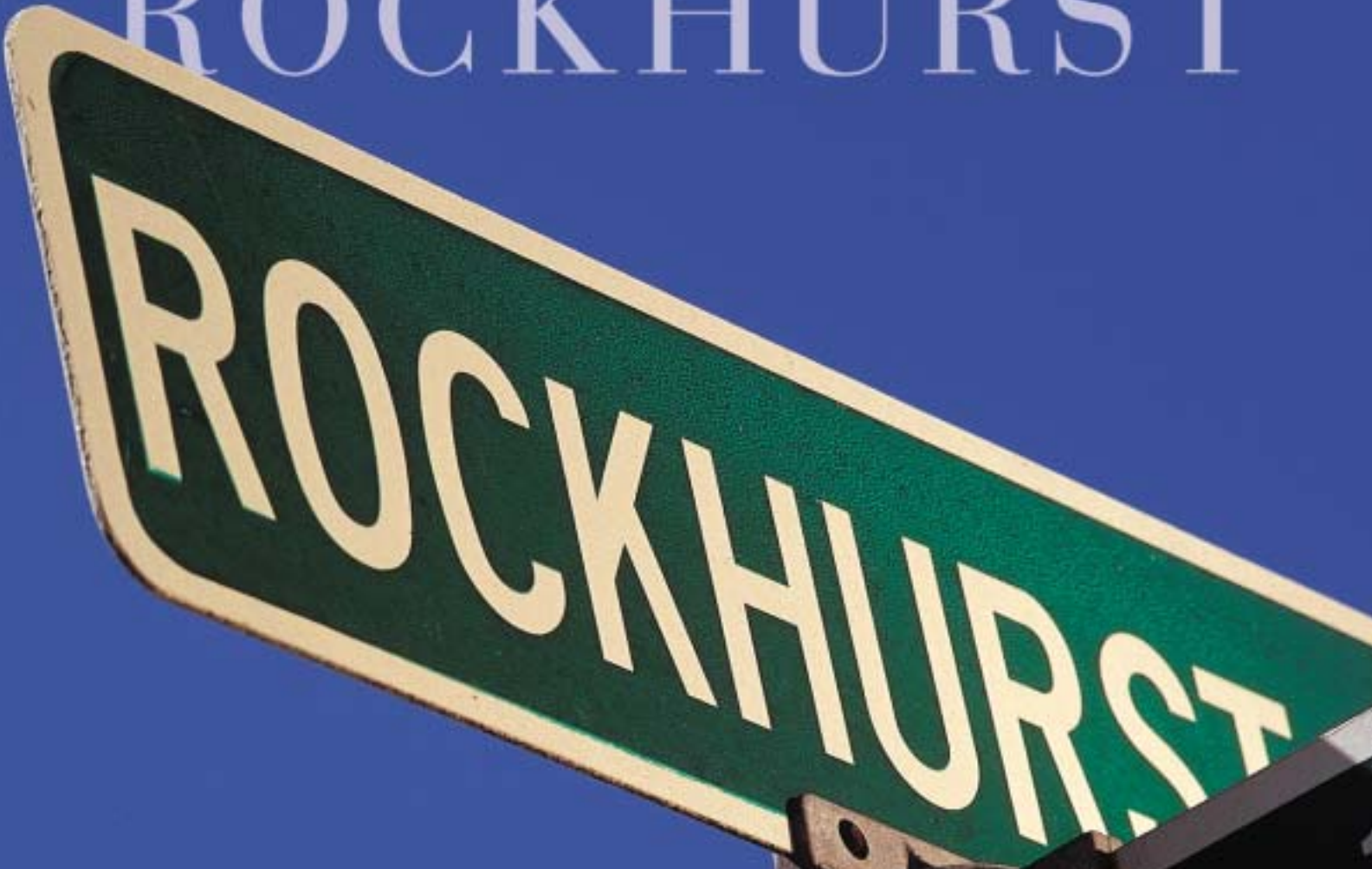


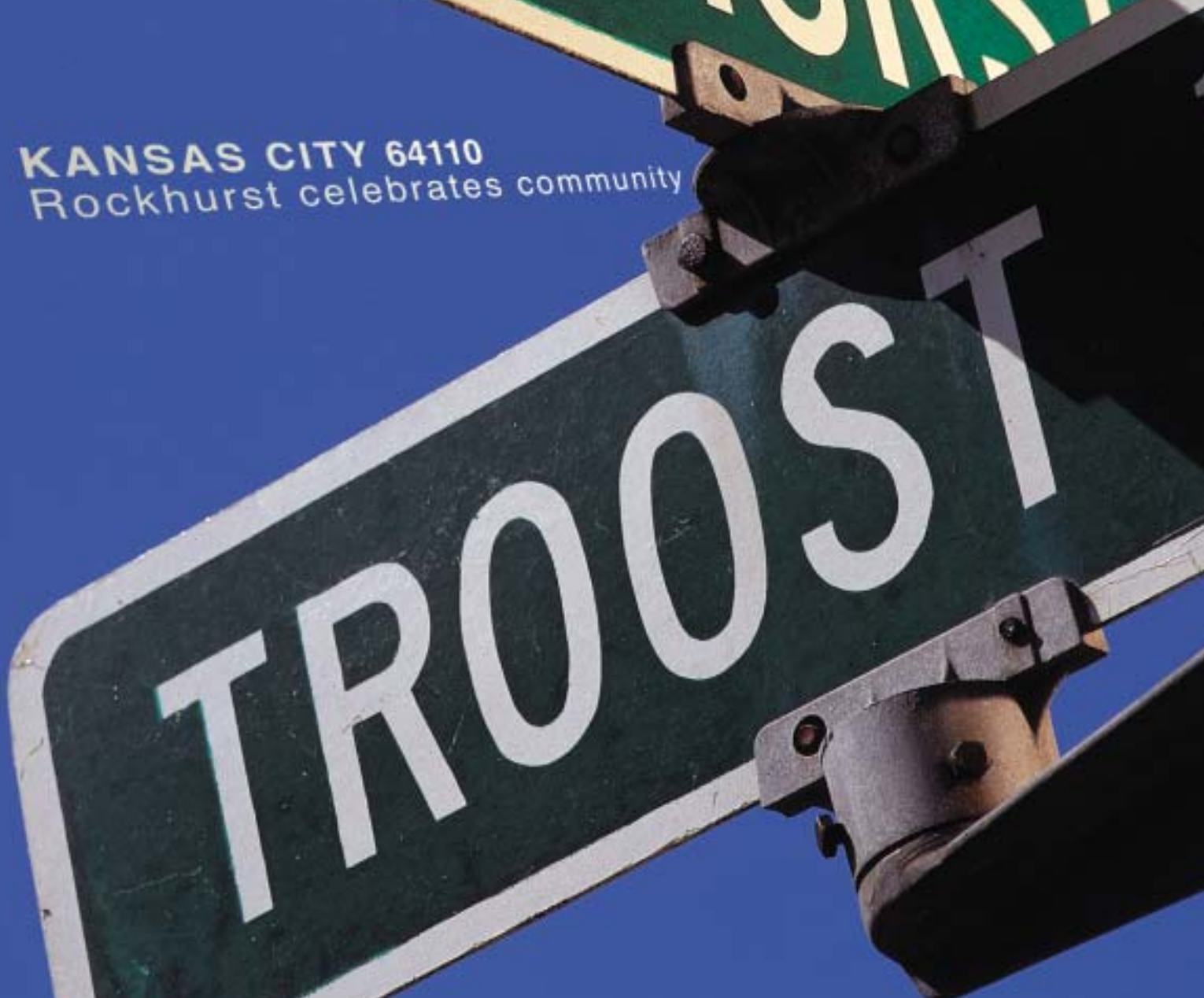
THE MAGAZINE OF ROCKHURST UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2002

ROCKHURST



KANSAS CITY 64110
Rockhurst celebrates community



Women's Wellness Week



A yoga class during Women's Wellness Week, March 18-22, taught participants postures for strengthening and relaxation. Other activities included a session on women's spirituality, an alumni career panel, a self-defense class, a health fair and a financial planning class. Several Rockhurst departments came together to sponsor the event for the campus community and the general public.

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Contents

features

12

Local Color

Rockhurst Writer-in-Residence Whitney Terrell extols the advantages of his diverse neighborhood.



12

14

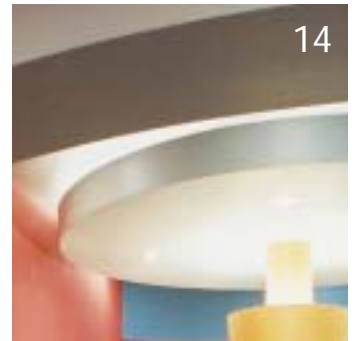
Strengthening Community

Rockhurst welcomes its neighbors with a bright new community center.

18

Big Kids on the Block

In Kansas City, corporations and nonprofits often lead the way in improving the urban landscape.



14

22

Hawks' Nests

Several smaller communities thrive within the Rockhurst community. Campus resident Julie Varner, '02, shows us around.

departments

2

Rockhurst Report

9

Hawk Talk

26

For Alumni

28

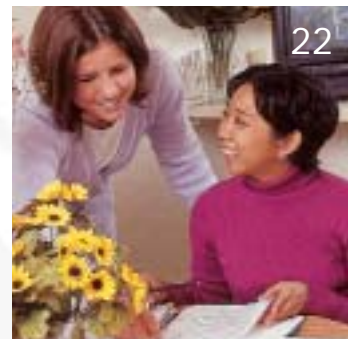
Advancement Digest

30

Class Notes



18



22

on the cover



Some people in Kansas City view Troost Avenue as a racial dividing line. Rockhurst's location at Rockhurst Road (52nd Street) and Troost Avenue offers many opportunities to bridge the gap.

New Sights, Sounds Part of Studying Abroad

The typical Rockhurst student makes it through all four years without seeing a goanna up close, but not Amie Tracy, '02. Wildlife is only one thing Tracy has found to be very different in Australia, where she is spending a semester in a study-abroad program



Photo courtesy of Whitsunday Wilderness Lodge, Airlie Beach, Australia.

"There are goannas here that look like three- to five-foot lizards and they'll bite a toe off if challenged," Tracy said.

Tracy is one of seven Rockhurst students who spent the spring semester far from home. Two students each went to China, Ireland and Spain.

In addition to getting used to predatory lizards and larger-than-at-home possums, Tracy has learned to live with cars that drive on the "wrong" side of the street and conversing with people who are eager to hear about life in the United States, but who are sometimes difficult to understand.

Thick Australian accents aren't the only thing that sets the people there apart from Americans, Tracy said.

"It seems as though Aussies work to live instead of live to work, and success is most often measured by fun or hobbies."

The people also made an impression on Natali Russo, '03, who studied in Galway, Ireland.

"The Irish people are extremely welcoming to exchange students and the scenery around the city is beautiful and green."

Letters Welcomed

Rockhurst magazine welcomes your comments and opinions. Letters may be edited to accommodate length or style constraints. Only signed letters will be considered for publication, but names may be withheld upon request. Send letters to:

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Russo and Tracy both said they hoped to deepen their understanding of other cultures by the end of their stay.

That's a goal that's proving difficult for Chris Conway, '03, who's spending the semester in China.

"My initial impression of China was that this place is so big and so complex that it would take a person years to understand," Conway said. "Now my impression is that China is so complex that it could never be fully understood."

All of the students said their experiences have prompted a re-examination of life at home.

"Being away for five months in a different country allows a person to truly reflect on every aspect of life at home," Russo said. "I think I have learned not to take for granted the friends and relationships I have made at Rockhurst, and to value the fact that I am a U.S. citizen that much more."

Professor Returns After Accident

Frank Smist, Ph.D., professor and chairman of political science, is teaching again after a serious accident last year forced him to take a semester off.

Aug. 5, 2001, began as a gorgeous day. As Smist began to cross Troost Avenue that morning, he was struck by a car.

Witnesses thought he was dead. The impact was so severe that it had destroyed the car's bumper and shattered its windshield.

His wife, Shirley, was at home with their two children. She was told she probably would not make it to the hospital in time to see her husband alive. Smist had sustained a brain injury, brain trauma and coma from the impact.

But Smist amazed doctors as he held on and regained consciousness after about a month. His condition continued to improve as time passed. He was released on the second weekend of September, although for three months he spent several hours every day at Mid-America Rehabilitation Hospital working with therapists.

In his 13th year at Rockhurst, Smist returned this semester to teach his regular spring courses. This summer he will teach two online courses.

"I believe I am truly lucky and blessed to be back on campus teaching this semester," he says, "and I will always be grateful to the men and women of Rockhurst for their care, concern and visits, calls and cards. It's good to be back at a school I dearly love."

Smist also is pre-law adviser and director of the global studies program, and has led many study trips for alumni, students and friends of the University to China, Russia and the Middle East.

“We who have a voice must be a voice for the voiceless.” —Archbishop Oscar Romero

Students Protest Human Rights Abuses

Last November, 20-year-old Mark Seeger, '05, found himself in a crowd of about 10,000 people. In his hand, he held a simple white cross that bore an important name. It was the name of a boy killed by someone trained at the School of the Americas, now called the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC). It was at this moment, with the cross in his hand, that Seeger realized just how meaningful and significant this trip was to him.

Seeger is co-founder of Rockhurst's fledgling student organization Voicing Our Ideas Can Ease Suffering (VOICES), which traveled to Fort Benning, Ga., to demonstrate against the school's human rights abuses.

“It's about doing something that has meaning,” he says. “I came back with a great appreciation for what unity can do for people.”

The WHISC is the U.S. Army's Spanish-language training facility for Latin American military personnel.

Since its inception in 1946, the school has provided military training to more than 60,000 Latin American soldiers, but has been criticized for numerous human rights abuses carried out by several of its graduates.

The cause is of particular interest to the Jesuit community since the 1989 massacre of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter at the University of Central America. Of the military officers in the Salvadoran Army patrol cited for the act, 19 had trained at the School of the Americas.

Bill Kriege, assistant director of campus ministry, accompanied the Rockhurst group.



(From left) Rose Rielley, Katina Foster, Bill Kriege, Michelle Knapp, Mark Seeger, Gabe Javier, Cecilia Solis. (Kneeling) Carrie Field, Chachi Mesa

“We feel our presence shows our government and the world that positive changes can be made through peaceful means,” he says.

For Seeger, who plans a career as a history teacher, the trip was enlightening. Through his involvement in VOICES, he continues to create awareness about this and other issues.

“We believe learning, leadership and service, as the Jesuits say, should be directed toward human rights,” Seeger says.

Scales Could Cause Weighty Problems

How much do you weigh? If you're a man who relies on the scale in your health club's locker room, you may not really know. That annual trip to the doctor's office may not yield information that's much more accurate.

Research on body-weight scales in physicians' offices, weight-loss centers and fitness centers conducted by Risa Stein, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology, found that location is one predictor of accuracy, and scales located in men's locker rooms are among the most inaccurate.

Rigorous standards that govern scale calibration in commercial venues such as paid weight-loss programs don't apply to fitness centers or physicians' offices, Stein says. And, for people who are on medication or have health issues related to weight — such as hypertension, heart disease or diabetes — this could present problems.

“Approximately 50 percent of physicians' scales are off by physicians' standards — meaning they register plus or minus one pound for every 150 pounds of body weight,”

Stein says. “This could potentially, and harmfully, affect patients' medical regimens and decisions pertaining to their care.”

Inaccuracies can be further compounded when there is more than one scale in the physician's office, Stein says. For example, if a 200-pound patient is weighed on one scale that weighs five pounds light, then returns for another appointment and is weighed on a different scale that weighs five pounds heavy, it appears the patient has gained 10 pounds.

Stein says patients who need accurate measurements should ask if scales are calibrated yearly, and, if possible, request to be weighed on the same scale each time to avoid inconsistencies. In addition, she says, no one should make health decisions based on a locker room scale.

The range of inaccuracy for all scales studied, Stein says, is 8.4 pounds under or 10.5 pounds over at 100 pounds, or 15 pounds under or 17.5 pounds over at 250 pounds.

Show Me the Money

Promoting agriculture and serving as a spokesperson for the beef industry are just a few of the duties of the Pettis County (Mo.) Cattlemen's Queen. Jamie Sparks, '03, who was crowned with the title Nov. 17, will represent the organization at functions throughout the year.

This is her first title, but she will continue to compete in pageants for the next few years. Unlike most contestants, however, she would be content to win first-runner-up in every pageant she enters.

"First-runner-up gets all the scholarship money and none of the responsibility," she says, "and every little bit helps when you are financing an education at Rockhurst."

Scholarship money was the reason Sparks began competing in pageants. But she has surprised herself by gaining a lot more from the experience, including opportunities to network, improve her interviewing skills, and educate people about her platform issue, encouraging elementary students to participate in community service.



Jamie Sparks, '03

Another surprising aspect for her has been how little resemblance the contestants she meets bear to the stereotypical pageant girl.

"The public view of pageant contestants is of ditzy beauty queens, but the women I compete with are more worried about bringing issues

forward than about their hair and makeup," she says.

Sparks is definitely no ditzy beauty queen — she is a chemistry major who has been accepted to Rockhurst's highly competitive physical therapy program. In addition to her involvement in pageants, she is a Rockhurst cheerleader, a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha national sorority, and a former editor of the Rockhurst yearbook.

RU Students Provide Language Screenings

Thanks to a new program at Rockhurst, nearly 1,400 children in the Central City Schools now have access to professional screenings for communication problems. Graduate students are working side-by-side with speech-language pathologists to offer screening services that have never before been available to these children.

Central City Schools comprise seven diocesan elementary schools located in the core of Kansas City. They serve approximately 1,200 students, 71 percent of whom are minority children.

"Private schools don't have to provide these services, so that's why this grant is such a great opportunity for the children," says graduate student Christie Allen.

Funding was made available by the John W. and Effie E. Speas Memorial Trust. Since the program was established



(From left) Brookes Metzler, '03, and Leslie Caffrey, '03, work on pronunciation with Ryan Atty, age 4, at St. Monica Elementary School.

in September, Allen and seven other communication sciences and disorders students have been visiting area schools to evaluate children's needs as often as four mornings a week. Two professional speech-language pathologists, assistant professors Betsy Green and Brenda Vann, supervise the group.

Allen will receive a master's degree in communication sciences and disorders in May 2003 and hopes to work

with children in her professional career. Allen gained experience during her undergraduate study at Saint Louis University, and she's excited to continue her work with pre-school through eighth-grade students in this program.

"A strength of this program is learning how to work with multicultural and bilingual populations," says Allen. "That's so important for this field."

"We are preparing our students to work in environments that are culturally diverse, which gives them a real

advantage when you consider the changing demographics of this country," says Vann. "And that advantage will help us attract more students to the program. This is a wonderful training opportunity for students to get a wide variety of experience that will carry over into their professional careers."

Meet the Faculty: Mindi McKenna

How long have you been at Rockhurst?

I've been teaching part time in the MBA program since 1996, and I've been in corporate jobs for 20 years. They started the Health Care Leadership Program last summer, and they hired me and one other person to come on as full-time faculty. So in a way I feel like I've been at Rockhurst forever, and in a way I feel like I'm brand new.



Mindi McKenna, Ph.D.,
assistant professor of
management

Who has inspired you?

My father was a very successful entrepreneurial business manager and owned more than a dozen businesses when I was young, and he was killed in a car accident. My mother, who had been a full-time, stay-at-home mom, stepped in and ran his businesses until she could find a buyer and make that transition. Because she handled that situation with so much grace and poise, it literally never occurred to me, at the age of 8, that women didn't run businesses at that time.

How do you feel about working in such a male-dominated field?

I guess my belief is that if you're really good at what you do, people don't care about your gender. I mean people don't care if you're green, purple or have polka dots. I don't really think about it. It's never been an issue for me.

How would you describe your teaching ethic?

Somewhere along the way it became clear to me that it isn't about how well I teach; it's about how well students learn. When I was interviewed for this position, I had a conversation with Fr. Callahan, who said, "If we hire you, Mindi, it won't be to teach management. It'll be to teach students." And it just gave me chills. To me it's a much higher calling than thinking about how to just package a lecture.

Rockhurst Says Goodbye to Fr. Tom Denzer, S.J.

With his easy smile and kind words, the Rev. Thomas F. Denzer, S.J., embodies for many people the Jesuit tradition upon which Rockhurst is founded. After more than 40 years of service to the University, Fr. Denzer has retired and moved to the St. Louis Jesuit community.

The Rockhurst community gathered March 14 for a reception to honor Fr. Denzer before he left. Rockhurst President the Rev. Edward Kinerk, S.J., presented Fr. Denzer with a clerical stole and a clock bearing the inscription, "To Thomas Denzer, S.J., in gratitude for your faithful service to Rockhurst University."

For more than 25 years, Fr. Denzer taught economics at Rockhurst, showing thoughtful concern for the thousands of students who took his classes. Following his teaching career, Fr. Denzer stayed at Rockhurst to serve as the first chairman of the board of trustees. Later he held the post of director of planned giving, before devoting himself to the support of the Rev. Maurice Van Ackeren, S.J., former Rockhurst president.

In recent years, Fr. Denzer has served as the Jesuit presence in the Office of Institutional Advancement, representing Rockhurst at celebrations of life and death with alumni and friends of the University.

To recognize Fr. Denzer for his outstanding teaching and exemplary service to Rockhurst and to the community, the Library Guild and the Alumni Association established the Fr. Thomas F. Denzer, S.J., Scholarship Fund. Gifts to the fund can be sent to the Advancement Office, Rockhurst University, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561.

Fr. Denzer's new address is: Fusz Pavilion, 3601 Lindell, St. Louis, MO 63108.



Fr. Tom Denzer, S.J., greets well-wishers at his farewell reception.

Campus Ministry Enlivens Spiritual Life



(From left) Paul Vu, nS.J.; Bill Kriege; the Rev. Dan White, S.J.; Maureen Henderson

Some people may feel closer to God when backpacking through a rugged wilderness for a week, others by spending two days meditating in a religious community or working short periods of prayer and reflection into their busy daily routines.

As one part of its service to the Rockhurst community, the campus ministry team has enhanced its retreat program to include a variety of formats aimed at meeting the varied spiritual needs of students, faculty and staff.

The SuperNatural Christians Retreat, an August backpacking adventure in Michigan, is a new offering developed by Bill Kriege, who joined the staff this year as assistant director of campus ministry.

“The idea is to explore our relationship to earth in light of our spirituality,” Kriege said.

The mission of the Office of Campus Ministry, says director Maureen Henderson, is to provide opportunities for people to deepen their faith and for students, especially, to develop a spirituality that will serve them now and in the future.

Other initiatives the staff introduced or expanded this year include a more extensive Lenten program, an old-fashioned three-night revival designed to encourage students not to abuse alcohol, a “Digging Deeper Into Your Faith” series with speakers on topics selected by students and a periodic Mass Under the Stars. Future plans include establishing prayer rooms just off the lobby in each residence hall.

In addition to Henderson and Kriege, the campus ministry staff includes Nina Marsh, '73, office manager. Paul Vu, nS.J., a Jesuit novice, was assigned to the office for the spring semester, and the Rev. Dan White, S.J., associate pastor at St. Francis Xavier Church, also provides assistance.

Aspiring Physicians Have New Option

Rockhurst is bridging the gap between a bachelor's degree and medical school by offering students the opportunity to fulfill the science requirements for entry into medical school through a certificate program. This program is especially helpful for those students who have an undergraduate degree in a nonscience major, or students with science degrees who are in need of a few courses or wish to brush up on a specific area.

Jennifer von Fintel, 28, has an undergraduate degree in industrial engineering from the University of Missouri-Columbia. After a few years of working in her field, she decided a career change was in order and chose to pursue medical school. She's currently completing her pre-med requirements at Rockhurst.

“This program is exactly what I'm looking for,” she says. “It's very nice for someone my age who wants to go back to medical school, which is such a big task. This program makes it seem more attainable.”

Students are advised on an individual basis about their specific needs. The Rev. James Wheeler, S.J., professor of chemistry, is director of Rockhurst's post-baccalaureate pre-medical program.

“The program is intended primarily to help people who are making up their minds about the medical field, regardless of their undergraduate major,” says Fr. Wheeler. “The courses Rockhurst offers in this program are the courses medical schools require or recommend.”

For more information, contact Fr. James Wheeler at (816) 501-4068 or james.wheeler@rockhurst.edu.

Professor Emeritus Dies

Samuel J. "Doc" Kennedy, Ph.D., professor emeritus of philosophy, passed away Feb. 2. Kennedy served on the Rockhurst philosophy faculty from 1957 to 1987. In 1991, he was named an honorary alumnus of Rockhurst.

Kennedy was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and he served as SAE moderator at Rockhurst.

Kennedy is survived by his wife, Margaret A. Kennedy, and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In 1987, SAE members established the Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy Fund to honor his years of service to the fraternity. The fund remains active.

Contributions can be sent to: Dr. Samuel J. Kennedy Fund, Institutional Advancement, Rockhurst University, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110.



Samuel J. "Doc" Kennedy, Ph.D.

Register for Classy Entertainment

Think about the childhood summers you spent exploring special interests – science camp, art programs, music lessons. As an adult, when was the last time you studied something simply because you found it interesting?

This summer, rediscover your passion for learning by enrolling in a course at Rockhurst. Both day and evening classes are offered in a wide variety of fields, from world religions to live theater in Kansas City. There is certain to be a class that will pique your interest.

For the history buff, Rockhurst offers courses on the American presidency, the history of Latin America and a survey of Western civilization. Like movies? Enroll in "Cinema Critique," "The Reel West" or "Woody Allen's Serious Comedy." Want to learn a new language? Both French and Spanish are offered this summer.

Alumni are eligible to take one summer course at a discounted tuition rate. Classes in the first five-week session and the eight-week session begin June 3; the second five-week session begins July 8.

To register or to receive a list of available courses, contact the Admission and Financial Aid Office at (816) 501-4100 or e-mail admission@rockhurst.edu.

Community members over the age of 18 can take selected courses on a noncredit basis for a reduced fee through the Office of Lifelong Learning. For more information, call (816) 501-4164.

retro rockhurst



A host of dignitaries turned out in April 1965 to help Rockhurst break ground for its new library. (From left: Bishop Charles Helmsing, bishop of Kansas City; Joseph Cardinal Ritter, archbishop of St. Louis; the Rev. Joseph E. Gough, S.J. (in background), dean of Rockhurst College; and Rockhurst President the Rev. Maurice Van Ackeren, S.J.)

Belize Trip Broadens Service Experience



(From left) Sarah Holland, '04; Michelle Whitacre, '02; Steven Brown, Ph.D. (in hat); Mary Carol Mazza, '02; and Renee Michael, Ph.D. (far back, far right), worked together with the Belize residents shown to build a Habitat for Humanity house.

Imagine that you have graduated from Rockhurst and are the CEO of a company that could relocate to a country in Central America to pay workers \$18 a week rather than \$18 an hour. Would you make the move?

That's one question upon which a group of Rockhurst students reflected during a spring break service trip to Belize that featured a new approach.

"The trip organizers wanted us to see that service learning involves more than just performing a service project," said Meghan Moran, '02. "It's thinking about how what you do and how you live affects people."

So, in addition to the physically demanding job of mixing and pouring concrete during heavy rain while working on a Habitat for Humanity house, the group also learned about the mix of cultural groups that call Belize home and explored the natural beauty of the Caribbean coastal country.

Most evenings, the nine students, two faculty and one staff member gathered for reflection and discussion.

Renee Michael, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, said the trip was structured to combine the main components of the Rockhurst mission — learning, leadership and service — into one experience, rather than focusing entirely on service.

Belize, with its half-dozen or so ethnic groups, was an excellent setting for the new format, Michael said. One experience that she thought made a particular impact on students was a visit to Maya Center, a village of Maya people displaced because of logging and deforestation.

"I saw many students understand, perhaps for the first time, how modern development encroaches on indigenous people — how so-called progress is not always to their benefit."

Longtime Faculty Member Dies at 91

When Rockhurst admitted female students in 1969, the Rev. Joseph M. Freeman, S.J., said it could be the downfall of the college, remembers James Millard, '64, director of alumni relations. But in recent years, the overwhelming majority of Fr. Freeman's former students who inquired about him were women, Millard said.

"He had the ability to relate to them in a way that made an impression," Millard said. "I know he liked women, he was just concerned at that time that young men at Rockhurst would be led astray."

Fr. Freeman died March 18 in St. Louis at the age of 91.

Fr. Freeman enjoyed a lengthy and distinguished career as an educator. He taught philosophy and theology at Rockhurst from 1946 to 1998.

Among Fr. Freeman's numerous honors and awards were Rockhurst Faculty Member of the Year, the Thomas Hart Benton Associates Award, and Rockhurst College Honorary Alumnus. In 1986, Virginia Greenlease established the Rev. Joseph M. Freeman, S.J., Chair in Philosophy at Rockhurst to honor her longtime friend.

Known to many for his remarkable ability to remember the names of the thousands of people he met, Fr. Freeman was one of the university's most popular speakers. His students remember him for challenging them in the classroom and supporting them on the athletic fields as a regular attendee at Rockhurst sporting events, even past his retirement.

Contributions to the Fr. Joseph M. Freeman, S.J., Scholarship Fund can be sent to the Office of Institutional Advancement, Rockhurst University, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561.



Courting Success, Fielding Dreams

“I like the sport that I am playing at that particular time the best,” said junior Brian Moeller.

Moeller doesn't like to choose between basketball and baseball. He is the starting point guard for the Rockhurst basketball team but can also be found starting in the infield for the baseball squad. Throw in a major in psychology and Moeller continuously has a full plate in front of him.

“It is not horrible,” said Moeller. “I am only practicing both sports at the same time during the fall. During baseball and basketball seasons I am focused on the sport I am playing at the time. I red-shirted my freshman year so I don't have to take a full load of classes but I am still pretty much busy all year considering I play summer baseball.”

Moeller, a native of Independence, Mo., and graduate of Truman High School, narrowed his choices for college down to Rockhurst and William Jewell.

“I wanted to stay close to home,” said Moeller. “The fact that Rockhurst was NCAA Division II and that William Jewell was only NAIA sealed the deal for me.”

Rockhurst basketball coach Bill O'Connor and baseball coach Gary Burns have not been disappointed with the decision. This past season was a breakout year for Moeller in basketball. He established a career high, averaging 8.4 points per game, and led the team in three pointers and assists. He was Heartland Conference player of the week for Jan. 28 through Feb. 3. On the baseball

diamond Moeller's contributions are also stellar. Last season Moeller hit .366 in 36 games and was second on the team in runs batted in with 30.

“In my time at Rockhurst I have gotten a lot better at both sports,” said Moeller. “I feel I am a better baseball player but I have improved greatly in basketball.”

Moeller contrasts his preparation for baseball with how he gears up for basketball.

“Basketball is more of a physical preparation. Getting ready for baseball stresses the mental aspects much more.”

With another basketball season left and two more baseball seasons, Moeller still has some goals he wants to accomplish while at Rockhurst.

“I really want to make the playoffs again this year in baseball,” said Moeller. “One of the greatest accomplishments I have experienced at Rockhurst was freshman year when we made it to the College World Series and finished fourth in the nation.

Also during the next two seasons I would like to

play well enough to make All-America.”

A psychology degree can be used for very diverse purposes and Moeller is a prime illustration of that. He wants to apply his degree to marketing. He hopes his emphasis on statistical psychology can land him a job in consumer research. Moeller's proven success in the classroom, on the court, and on the diamond foretells a bright future.



Brian Moeller, '03

Hawks Make It to Regional Finals

Not only did Coach Bill O'Connor's Hawks break the 20-victory barrier for the first time since going 20-10 in 1988-89, they also rolled into post-season play for the first time since joining the NCAA Division II in 1997.

Buoyed by All-America candidate Davin Winkley, the Hawks fashioned a 22-5 record during the regular season and claimed a tie for first place in the Heartland Conference.

Winkley, a 6-foot-5 senior from Kansas City and nearby Hickman Mills High, led the well-balanced and deep Hawks by averaging 17.1 points — 18.8 in the Heartland Conference — and 7.7 rebounds as they shared the title with Incarnate Word (Texas). An 84-77 loss at Lincoln (Mo.) in the regular-season finale cost Rockhurst the undisputed title with an 8-2 record.

"We had more balance and depth than we've had since I began coaching at Rockhurst in 1994," O'Connor



said. "Then when you also have a great player like Davin Winkley, you can win a lot of games."

Competing in the NCAA II national championship for the first

time, the Hawks whipped Missouri Western 75-68 and host top-seeded Northeastern State (Okla.) 75-70 in double overtime before missing the trip to the Elite Eight by bowing to Northwest Missouri for the South Central Region title 79-73 in Tahlequah, Okla., and finishing 24-6.

Winkley, who earlier was selected for the South Central All-Region first team, and sophomore Nick Biby were picked for the all-tournament team in Tahlequah.

On the way to the finale against No. 5 ranked Northwest Missouri (29-1), the Hawks knocked off two other nationally ranked teams. Missouri Western (23-6) was No. 12 and Northeastern State (28-1) was No. 2.

Coach O'Connor's efforts earned him the title of Heartland Coach of the Year.

National Champions Remembered



The resounding success of this year's Hawks caused many to hearken back to 1964 when Rockhurst won the N.A.I.A. national championship. That team was honored in March during this year's N.A.I.A. championship at Kansas City's Municipal Auditorium. (Front row, from left): Dennis Aliksaites, manager; Rich Grawer; Dick Hennier; Ralph Telken, co-captain; Chuck Dunlap; Tom Fisher; Dennis Rabbitt; Charles Plague, manager. (Back row, from left): Joseph J. "Buddy" Brehmer, head coach; Joel Frisch; Harry Witte; Pat Caldwell; Al Payne; Jim Selzer, co-captain; Walter Tylicki; Patrick Campbell, manager; Joseph Dolor Rehm, assistant coach.

Successful Season Means More Than Wins

The Hawks' stellar record won them many fans this year for their work on the court, but among their biggest fans were area youngsters who attended free clinics hosted by the team.

"We held four clinics for our community service projects," Coach Bill O'Connor said. "And I can actually say that our players seemed to enjoy them as much as the enthusiastic kids."

The Hawks hosted slightly more than 80 kids from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Kansas City, more than 150 kids from the Kansas City, Kan., Parks and Recreation Program and 35 kids and their coaches from Special Olympics.

"We always had 12 to 15 of our players for the 60 to 90 minute clinics," O'Connor said. "Our players really know how to communicate with the kids, and that makes the clinics a lot of fun and useful. Our players are a credit to themselves, our program and Rockhurst University."

O'Connor did not have to twist any of his players' arms.

"I looked forward to every clinic," said Petar Krstic, sophomore point guard from Yugoslavia. "I enjoyed the opportunity to see these kids' eyes light up when they do something they've never done before. They seemed hungry for someone to show them the right way to do things on the basketball court. Most of them left the gym smiling."

In addition, for the second straight year, the Hawks donated the proceeds from their annual two-day Rockhurst Thanksgiving Classic. The Hawks swept past Regis (Colo.) University and Colorado Christian at Mason-Halpin Fieldhouse, and they contributed \$500 and three loads of groceries to the Harvesters food network.

Lady Hawks Net Impressive Record

It was another banner volleyball season for Coach Tracy Rietzke's Lady Hawks, who finished the season with a 34-6 record.

But for the second consecutive year the Lady Hawks were not invited to the NCAA II post-season tournament.

"I thought we had a real chance to go, just like I thought last year when we had a 38-1 record," Rietzke said. "But I'm very proud of the way our players performed this season. Next year we'll just have to keep winning with our goal the post-season tournament."

The Lady Hawks, who have fashioned a remarkable 613-74 win-loss record and 89.2 percentage during Rietzke's 14 seasons at Rockhurst, failed to win the Heartland Conference after a season-ending tournament. Before bowing to a strong St. Edward's crew 28-30, 20-30, 30-17, 21-30,

Rockhurst downed St. Mary's (Texas) and Incarnate Word (Texas) in San Antonio, Texas.

Rockhurst earned five top 25 positions in the NCAA II final statistical report. The Lady Hawks ranked 11th in win-loss percentage with .850, 12th in assists per game with 14.68, 16th in both hitting percentage (.274) and kills per game (15.99) and 19th in blocks per game (2.78).

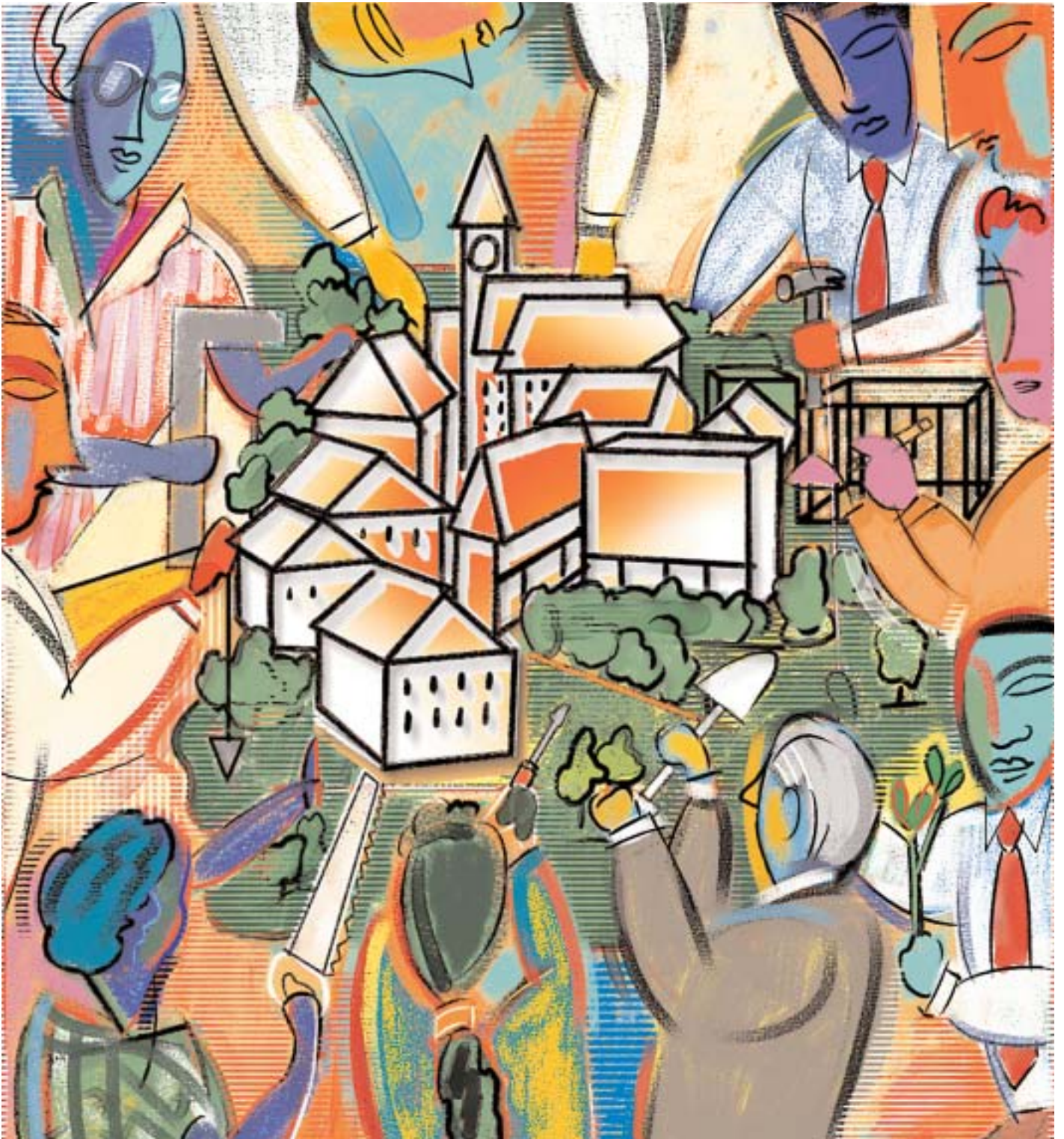
Four players were named to the All-Heartland Conference team, and three were honored as Player of the Week by the Heartland. Sophomore hitter Jessica Shepler was selected National Player of the Week.

"We had a good year," Rietzke said. "Our expectations are always high. It was disappointing that we didn't win the conference and didn't make the playoffs. That is obviously our challenge for next year."



A new look for the Rockhurst Hawk made the mascot a popular guest with young basketball fans this year.

Local COLOR



By Whitney Terrell
*Writer-in-Residence, Rockhurst School
of Professional Studies*

Why don't more people seek out racially integrated neighborhoods when they shop for a house? Whitney Terrell, author of *The Huntsman*, a novel that explores race relations in Kansas City, offers his opinion.

Earlier this year, the census bureau released statistics about the continuing segregation of Americans. The most recent data, it seems, show that little has changed in the last decade — whites remain concentrated in suburban districts and smaller cities, while African-Americans and other “non-whites,” especially in the Midwest, live primarily in larger metropolises.

As a white Midwesterner, I thought it would be interesting to write an essay about my midtown neighborhood — a place whose racial mixture defies the recent census statistics — and I called a friend in the publishing business to pitch the idea. He hummed skeptically for a few moments and then said, “The main thing I’d be worried about is that you’ll come off sounding like a saint.”

“Since when have I had to worry about that?” I asked.

“Just remember,” he cautioned, “being a white guy in a black neighborhood doesn’t give you some kind of moral superiority.”

First of all, I don’t live in a black neighborhood. Technically, it’s about a fifty-fifty split, though my five immediate neighbors all happen to be of African-American descent.

Secondly, when did housing become an issue of moral superiority? I’m talking practicality here, cold hard facts. Five years ago, I bought my three bedroom, one-and-a-half bath house, with its fenced back and side yard, its gardening shed, and its front porch swing for thirty-nine grand. My neighborhood is composed of quiet bungalows and frame houses whose back yards are shaded by elms and mulberry trees. My classroom in Sedgwick Hall, on the Rockhurst University campus, is a block and a half away and the house where my parents live is a five minute walk — though it’s on the other side of Troost Avenue, the city’s de facto color line.

That’s what bugs me about the census numbers. My house costs maybe a third of what a similar house would cost in my parents’ neighborhood on the “white” side of the line. It costs maybe a fifth of what a similar house would cost in primarily white Johnson County. Now, assuming — as most white people will tell

you at least publicly — that we Americans no longer find it intolerable to live on the same street with a person from another race, why don’t more white people move back into the city? Why aren’t many more inner-city neighborhoods “mixed race”?

At this point, suburban residents will say they live where they do because the schools are better — not to avoid blacks. But they aren’t better than, say, any number of parochial schools (or for that matter Exeter) which is where you could afford to send your child if you paid \$39,000 for your house instead of \$300,000.

To me, the real explanation for the new census statistics is the most impractical one of all — fear. The same fear of the unknown that caused whites to invent segregation in the first place.

Just the other day, I did an interview about a novel I wrote that has some black characters in it. The reviewer asked if living in my neighborhood had helped me make the black characters more believable. It was a fair question, I guess. I understood it, too, because before I’d moved here, I’d seen life on the far side of the color line as something exotic, like a foreign country. But the fact is that in five years I haven’t really learned anything exotic. My neighbors mow their lawns, keep gardens, and go to work each day. They worry about their property values, their children, and their pets like neighbors do nearly everywhere.

But, after writing his piece, the reviewer called me back with a question his editor had instructed him to ask.

“How would you respond,” he said, “if someone claimed that a white guy like you, from an upper-class family, was just slumming to live where you do?”

At first, I mentioned my very non-upper class bank account and the price of my house. But something about this bothered me. After a day of reflection, I called the reviewer back myself.

“My neighbors and I would like to ask your editor a question,” I said. “Why does he think our neighborhood is a slum?”

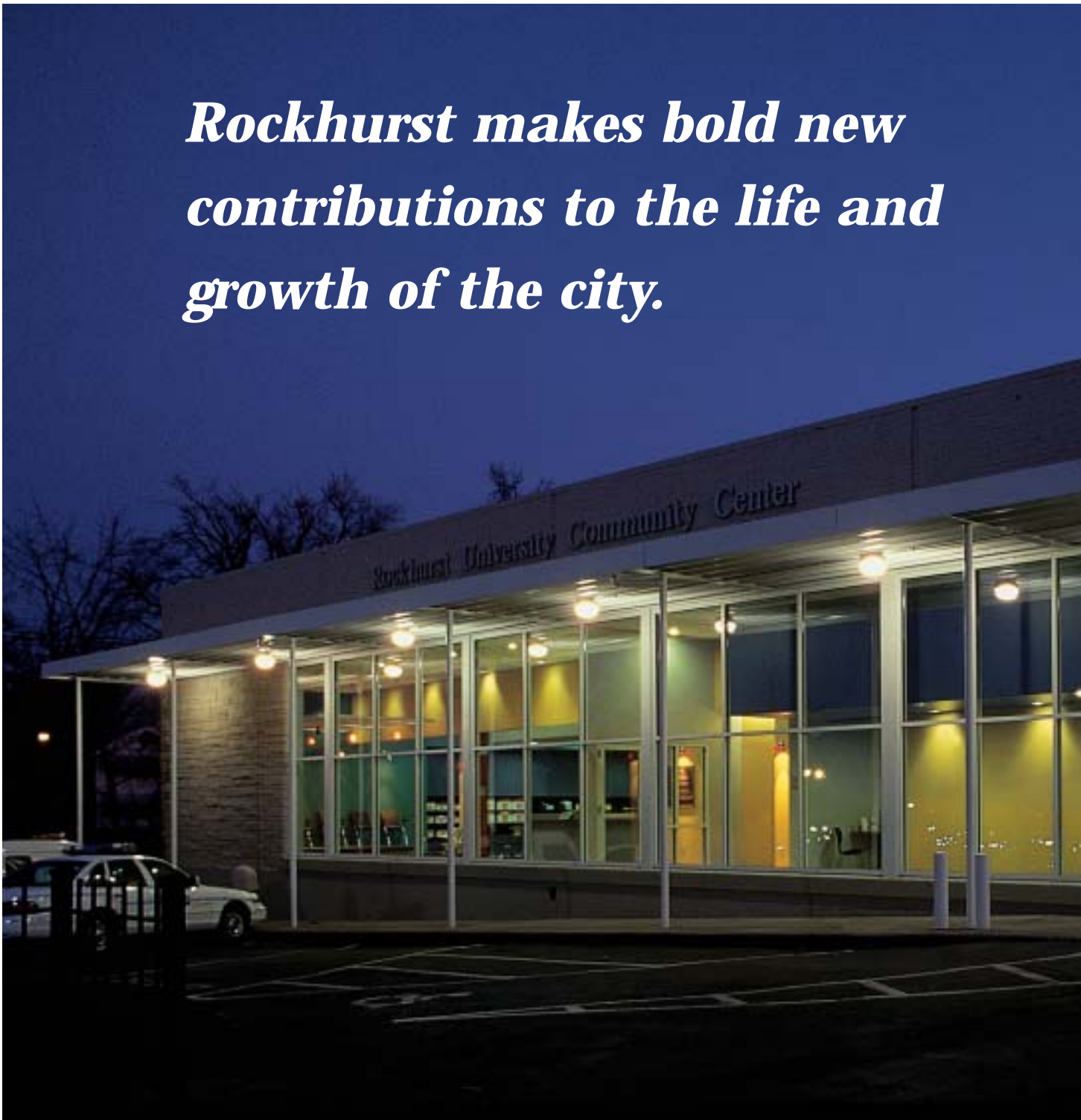
Is that a morally superior thing to wonder? I don’t know. You tell me. ❖



Whitney Terrell

Strengthening
Commun.

Rockhurst makes bold new contributions to the life and growth of the city.



mity



Rockhurst University's location in the heart of Midtown Kansas City is both a blessing and a challenge. The diverse urban neighborhood provides a wealth of opportunities for cultural and educational experiences, and it helps students understand how to live in the city. However, concerns periodically arise regarding crime, violence and poverty.

Some urban universities around the nation have chosen to control access to their campus by erecting fences and gates. Rockhurst has chosen a different path — inviting the neighborhood to come to the campus through a new community center at its main entrance.

FULFILLING ITS MISSION

Because service to others is at the core of Rockhurst's mission, various campus groups and organizations have long served the neighborhood. Student volunteers tutor neighborhood children, the Security Department sponsors a haunted house and bicycle rodeo, and the Athletic Department opens the gym for neighborhood children on Saturday mornings. The Center for Service Learning has arranged partnerships with more than 300 local organizations for students to provide volunteer service.

But, in the Jesuit tradition of *magis*, meaning more, the University wanted to make an even greater impact in the community.

"The community center evolved as staff from across campus began to envision how Rockhurst's institutional resources might be used to better serve others in our immediate neighborhood," says Tirza Kroeker, director of foundation relations.

So the idea was born to convert an old Kroger store on campus property into a place to serve the community. Kroeker brought the project to life by writing grant proposals to secure funding.

"As funders came to visit the former grocery store, they were touched by the unfolding synergy and wanted to participate in the growing vision," she says.

So touched, in fact, that foundations, companies and individuals donated \$1.4 million to pay for the renovation and new programs. The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Francis Families Foundation, the Rose Teicher Estate and the H&R Block Foundation were the major funders.

By Kate Fischer, '98

CREATING A COMMUNITY SPACE

Thanks to the generosity of community center funders, renovations were completed in January and a formal dedication ceremony was held April 2. The bright, colorful new space now houses campus security, a literacy center, community rooms and the office of Alicia Douglas, the new community relations director.

Converting the old grocery store into an inviting space for the neighborhood was the easy part. Douglas has taken on the challenging role of pioneering the center, from creating usage policies to setting hours to writing a Web site. While the task is daunting, Douglas says she is excited about the opportunity to give back to the neighborhood.

“We are being called to serve our community and take an active role in the neighborhood’s decision-making process. It is imperative that we live the University’s mission and work to improve the lives of our neighbors,” she says.

That work will take place through the collaborative efforts of the entire Rockhurst community. As Douglas works with neighborhood organizations, associations and churches, programs will be developed to give Rockhurst students, faculty and staff opportunities to serve the neighborhood.

Solid Relationships

To make the community center a success, solid relationships with neighborhood organizations are imperative. Douglas is continuing Rockhurst’s work with the Troostwood Neighborhood Association, the 49/63 Neighborhood Coalition and Policing Unit and the Community Action Network Unit. She also is working to develop relationships with local churches, utility companies, and other area associations to identify concerns and develop programs to meet neighborhood needs.

The center primarily will serve people residing in the area represented by the 49/63 Neighborhood Coalition. This area is bounded by 49th Street to the north, 63rd Street to the south, The Paseo to the east, and Oak Street to the west.

Future plans to serve the neighborhood include providing meeting space and such programs as winterizing homes and offering tax counseling and diversity training. Other projects in the beginning stages are financial counseling services for neighborhood adults and special programs focused on crime prevention.



ALICIA DOUGLAS

Community Relations Director

Prior Experience:

Multicultural and international student recruiter for Rockhurst University

Educational Background:

B.A. in communication from Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, Wis.

What aspect about the center excites you most?

That we have created a place in the community for people to take pride in and ownership of.

What do you think will be your greatest challenge?

Reaching everyone in the community and trying to determine the best, most relevant programs to offer.

What is your long-term goal for the community center?

For it to be a very inviting, interactive place that connects Rockhurst with the surrounding neighborhood and offers significant programs that meet community needs.

If you want to share your time, talents or resources to strengthen Rockhurst's urban community, contact Alicia Douglas at (816) 501-4306, or alicia.douglas@rockhurst.edu.



IMPROVING FAMILY LITERACY

Another important way Rockhurst is serving the community is through the University's new literacy center, which provides parents and children with the support they need to learn to read. Located in the community center, the literacy center's services include literacy enrichment events, assistance for struggling readers and family literacy activities.

Graduate students in the University's master of education program, under the supervision of experienced faculty members, assess and teach adults and children from the neighborhood. Not only does this provide the neighborhood with a much-needed service, but it also gives students opportunities for practical experience.

Debra Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor of education, has been instrumental in organizing the literacy center. She says the center's curricula and services are uniquely shaped to the strengths and needs of the learners. A variety of literacy enrichment activities will be used, including read alouds, shared and guided reading, language development, word study, strategy lessons for struggling readers, tutoring for adults, reading and writing, and family literacy sessions.

SERVING NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH

A primary goal of the community center is to develop programs for neighborhood youth. The community center houses a McGruff Safe House, which is a place for children to go and get help in case they are afraid or feel threatened. This summer, 150 area middle-school students will participate in a month of free half-day camps. An annual haunted house in the fall and bicycle rodeo in the spring will be offered, as well as a mentoring and reward system for scholastic achievement and community service.

Plans are in the works to fingerprint area children, provide summer recreational activities, and offer educational activities focused on scholastic achievement and crime prevention.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY life

Rockhurst hopes to provide services that truly will contribute to the life and growth of the community. As the reach of the community center grows, the University's hope is that the lives of the neighbors and the members of the campus community will be improved and enriched. ☺

BIG KIDS ON

Institutional Leaders Breathe Life

Wonderful neighbors. Property values on the rise. A view from the hill. Nice houses that don't bear the imprint of a cookie cutter. This is what Anne Sutlief sees when she looks around her neighborhood. And it's a far cry from what she saw when she moved in 12 years ago.

Sutlief lives in Troostwood, which borders the Rockhurst University campus to the north. When she moved there, long-vacant houses awaiting demolition lined some of the streets. The corner of Troost Avenue and Volker Boulevard was characterized by a decaying chain-link fence, abandoned oil drums and other trash. Now it's a park that forms an entranceway up the hill and into the neighborhood.

"We went from having vacant houses to having houses not even hitting the open market," Sutlief says. "People who know people who want to live here are making the connections."

Many people and groups were active in bringing about the transformation, Sutlief says, and among them she credits area nonprofits and institutions — including Rockhurst. The current drive to improve the urban landscape of Kansas City isn't confined to Troostwood — and corporations, educational institutions and other nonprofit organizations are increasingly emerging as major players in these efforts.

You Can Always Go Downtown

Petula Clark may have immortalized the idea of going to glamorous downtown, where the lights are "much brighter" and you can "listen to the music of the traffic in the city," but the only music some people have heard in downtown Kansas City in recent decades is what they would call a swan song.



Anne Sutlief, Troostwood resident, says Rockhurst and other institutions have been good neighbors.

THE BLOCK

Into K.C.'s Urban Core



One company that has refused to sing along is DST Systems. Many credit DST and Tom McDonnell, '66, president and chief executive officer, with the revitalization of the west side of downtown. The firm, which provides technology solutions for the financial, telecommunication and video services industries, occupies 10 buildings on or near Broadway. These comprise a mix of historic buildings renovated by the company and two built for it.

Strong performance over the past 30 years prompted DST, which has called downtown home since 1969, to find the most advantageous way to house its growing staff. It makes sense for a company of DST's size to own its own buildings, says McDonnell, who also is chairman of the Rockhurst University Board of Trustees.

"When someone tells me they wouldn't buy corporate real estate, I ask them if they would rent their own home," McDonnell says. "And just like with homeowners, owner occupants of corporate real estate have a vested interest in the upkeep and growth of the area."

A drive through the Quality Hill neighborhood, with its mix of upscale housing, businesses and cluster of nonprofit agencies, is testament to the company's involvement. DST played a strong role in developing the area.

McDonnell's extensive experience downtown earned him an appointment as co-chair, along with Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes, of the newly formed Greater Downtown Development Authority. The group's effectiveness will depend on whether the Missouri General Assembly passes proposed legislation that will give it power, McDonnell says. If that happens, the GDDA will be charged with leading a massive revitalization plan aimed at attracting a variety of development initiatives.

"The economic potential is significant," McDonnell says.

By Katherine Frohoff

All-New U

Pizza shop. Card store. Miniature golf. Full-service hair salon. Sports bar that serves food and beverages in addition to alcohol. Coffee shop where Rockhurst and University of Missouri-Kansas City students can mingle. And, lose those city buses.

This is a partial wish list for Troost Avenue created by faculty, staff and students of Rockhurst and UMKC. It came from a survey that's part of Troost 2005, the Southtown Council's plan to jumpstart commercial development in the area that includes and surrounds the two universities. The council is a nonprofit organization that brings together businesses, institutions and neighborhood associations to work on economic and community issues.

The idea behind Troost 2005, says Southtown Council Executive Director Marti Lee, XMBA '97, is to create a University District along Troost Avenue that will attract neighborhood residents and students, faculty, staff and daytime employees from Kansas City's largest concentration of higher education, research, health and nonprofit institutions.

The plan identifies several key issues: maintenance, security, marketing and stimulating new investment. Lee says that although some survey respondents said they view Troost Avenue as unsafe, especially at night, the area has long been in the midst of a turnaround and that

people who work and live in the area have the resources to support new commercial development.

"It's amazing how much money has been put into this area in the last 10 years — more than a half billion dollars with more to come," Lee says.



Marti Lee, XMBA '97, and the Southtown Council hope to create a University District on Troost Avenue.

"Then, look at the daytime population — more than 18,000. This is not a neglected area."

Lee says this should encourage business development. And, she adds, the survey results revealed that the longer people study or work in the area, the more their perception of it improves.

To Your Health

If your definition of health care is confined to your annual physical, you're not using the same dictionary as Jim Rice, '63, vice president of community affairs at Health Midwest.

"Health Midwest extends the notion of health care beyond the walls of the hospital and the treatment and prevention of disease," Rice says. "We think it involves healthy, happy people, and we want to create a healthy, happy community around us."

A practical application of this lofty goal is Health Midwest's Partnership for Change, an ambitious plan using tax-increment financing to transform the Southtown corridor and a smaller area near 31st Street and Baltimore. The plan, which was approved by the city council in 1994, focuses on improvements to Health Midwest

Tom McDonnell, '66, and DST have been leaders in redeveloping downtown Kansas City.



campuses, commercial development and residential neighborhood revitalization.

Approximately one half-mile south of Rockhurst, the Southtown corridor extends from 59th Street to Gregory Boulevard, and from Bruce Watkins Drive to Holmes Road. Under the Partnership for Change plan, Health Midwest has identified 14 separate development projects.

This far-reaching vision calls for a series of urban villages that will function as residential neighborhoods, retail shopping areas, service-related centers or mixed-use developments. Some of these — such as the northeast corner of 63rd Street and Troost Avenue where a Walgreen's and automotive businesses replaced buildings that sat in disrepair — have been completed. Others are under way or slated for future activation.

Urban development projects demand to be undertaken on a large scale, according to Rice. He says a developer must gain control of at least 75 percent of a designated project area in order to be able to achieve neighborhood turnaround.

“Urban revitalization is a war. You're fighting poverty and aging infrastructure. You can't do it all at once, you have to have a grand strategy.”

In the area surrounding Health Midwest's Research campus, Rice says the Partnership for Change's work on rehabbing houses and selling them to low- and moderate-income people has brought new life to an aging neighborhood. More than 30 families in this predominantly minority area have become first-time homeowners.

This level of neighborhood involvement by institutions represents a paradigm shift from the late '80s, Rice says, when many had a moat mentality that prompted land acquisition simply to create a buffer zone blanketed by green space.

Won't You Be My Neighbor?

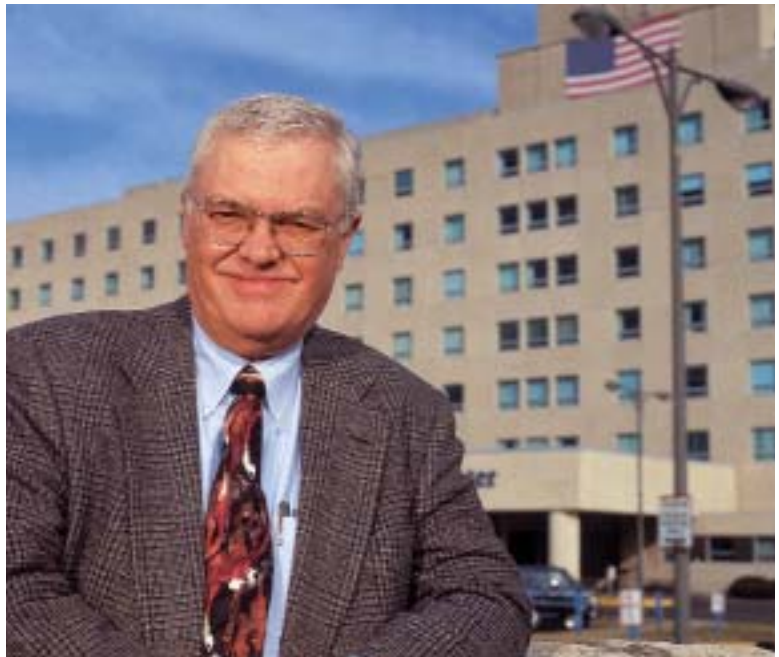
Troostwood resident Anne Sutlief says she hopes the interest in her neighborhood continues, and that she wishes newer neighbors like the Stowers Institute and the Kauffman Foundation — as well as Rockhurst — would encourage their

employees to consider living there.

She wants people to know that it's a good place to live and that it's becoming known as a place that welcomes diversity. When two Rockhurst freshmen from another city stopped in Sutlief's driveway during the Finucane Service Project one year — their first encounter with the community — she says they asked her, “This is a bad neighborhood, isn't it?”

Rather than become defensive, Sutlief says she explained that their university president grew up in this neighborhood, lived and studied here, then returned to head Rockhurst. Sutlief says this is a significant point for her — that she trusts him to “shepherd his ventures in this area.”

Recent improvements on the Rockhurst campus and improvements in nearby neighborhoods have worked to spark a momentum that will help everyone, Sutlief says. For example, when families come to campus shopping for a



Jim Rice, '63, and Health Midwest have begun an ambitious plan to revitalize the Southtown corridor.

college for their child to attend, they notice the appearance of nearby houses, she says.

Southtown's Lee says that businesses in the area already have benefited from Rockhurst's campus beautification efforts and that, as a result, they are more willing to invest in their property.

“We're like Siamese twins,” Sutlief says of Troostwood and Rockhurst. “What each of us does affects the other.”

And recently, the result for her has meant a great view from the hill. ◊

Hawks' Nests

Corcoran Hall



Andy Eck, '05 (Left), and Matt Cindrich, '05, suspended their beds from the ceiling to make room for couches.

Campus Residents

Corcoran Hall

Freshman men have unique ways of building community. In Corcoran Hall, the consensus is if you are looking for entertainment, swipe a guy's towel while he's taking a shower. Or maybe round up some neighbors for a game of basketball at 2 a.m.

A guy's freshman dorm is more than just a place to hang out — it's the foundation for a four-year college career. More precisely, it is a "non-stop, chillin' atmosphere with a bonding experience," according to Eric Thoele, '05.

"Living here is a good way to get to know other guys. There's always something to do — you just go next door and everything is right at hand," said Matt Hahn, '05.

Being away from home for the first time and living in a dorm requires major adjustments. Sharing such a communal space demanded some patience from Andy Eck, '05.

"You have to be more accepting of other people and what they do. Sometimes you have to be more laid back."

McGee Hall

Ask freshmen women what's rough about living in McGee Hall, and they'll tell you it's losing their trash can to the trash chute inadvertently — it happens more than you would think.

Another experience unique to dorm life is the long wait with friends for the elevators in the morning — too sluggish to make the faster route down a flight of stairs.

In McGee Hall, just like in Corcoran, female students also feel that sense of community, becoming closest to those on their floor.

"It helps you feel a lot more connected to the university — the people are a big part of how comfortable you feel on campus," said Ashley Diskin, '05.

The change in dynamic from living at home to living with 40 women to a floor fosters growth — and fun, the residents say.

"I miss McGee when I go home," said Nicole Hoffman, '05. "It has helped me realize my sense of independence — a side I never knew before — and I'm having a great time doing it."

By Julie Varner, '02

More than
600 students live
in the Town House
Village or the three
residence halls on the
Rockhurst University
campus. Add 24 Jesuits
who live and work
together in their own
residence, and you
have a vibrant
campus community.
Here's a look inside.

Display Their Digs

Town House Village

That friendly, neighborhood atmosphere of the Town House Village is reserved for upperclassmen and requires residents to meet certain criteria for housing, including a record of service and academic achievement. A place where everyone knows everyone, the townhouses provide the feeling of off-campus living, yet still are connected to everything by the convenience of proximity.

“The independence and freedom that comes with having your own apartment better reflects the place we are in our lives. We aren’t necessarily tied to campus for our livelihood, but rather we’re becoming more independent,” said Kara Bemboom, ’02.

“Getting to live in the townhouses meant that I could have that stepping-stone between college and the real world.”

Town House Village



Jen Alimagno, '02 (center), and her roommates decorated part of their apartment with sunflowers. Jean Kolich, '02, and Beth Berra, '02, visit.

Jesuit Residence



Jesuit community members and guests often gather on Wednesday evenings for a social hour.



Jesuit Residence

A sometimes-overlooked sub-community of Rockhurst is the Jesuit Residence. Who knew that on Wednesdays all 24 Jesuits spend the evening together? After Mass they gather for dinner and a beer to socialize and then meet over business or a faith sharing discussion, not to mention the occasional movie outings or card game nights.

“I don’t think people think we have fun,” said the V. Rev. Jack Callahan, S.J., rector of the Jesuit community and Rockhurst director of mission and values. “We have the oldest fraternity at Rockhurst, yet we belong to a bigger group of people than just the house.”

The Jesuit Residence, known informally on campus as the Jez Rez, holds a group of men living together in faith, joined by a common mission. The ability to express their faith together, said Fr. Callahan, renews their energy to help other people.

Residents include Jesuits with positions at the University and Rockhurst High School, and those with pastoral appointments.

“I find it’s just plain fun living with a group of people — young and old — who are so different from each other, and yet have the same goals, faith and desires,” said Fr. Callahan. ✧

McGee Hall



Elizabeth Rockey, '05 (Top), and Christi Knox, '05, selected furnishings to give their room a cozy feel.

Alumni Awards

JAMES G. CASTELLANO, '73 *Alumnus of the Year for Outstanding Achievement*



James G. Castellano has shown exemplary leadership and achievement of exceptional career goals. Since 1989, he

has been at the helm of Rubin, Brown, Gornstein & Co. LLP in Clayton, Mo., one of the top 50 accounting firms in the country. The Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants named him Certified Public Accountant of the Year in 1990, and in 2001, he became the first Missourian to serve as chairman of the board of directors of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

In addition to his professional leadership, he also has served as board director for the Cardinal Glennon Hospital Foundation, vice chairman of the PGA Michelob Light Classic Professional Golf Tournament, treasurer of the Clayton Chamber of Commerce board of directors, member of the Saint Louis University alumni board, and member of the corporate partnership committee of the St. Louis Art Museum.

PAUL CORWIN WHEELER, '63 *Science Hall of Fame*



Paul C. Wheeler, Ph.D., lent his exceptional genius to the advancement of nuclear physics through his research and roles as project

leader, liaison to the secretary of defense, and associate director at Lawrence Livermore National Labora-

tories. His innovations in the field of nuclear weaponry led to patents for his inventions and developments. He was awarded the Department of Energy Weapons Recognition Excellence Award and served as scientific editor for the Defense Research Review.

Living his Jesuit education as a "man for others," Wheeler also distinguished himself as a devoted husband and father and a volunteer in his community. He passed away Jan. 30, 2002.

S.J. ENNA, '65 *Science Hall of Fame*



S.J. Enna, Ph.D., is internationally recognized for his research on neurotransmitter receptors. He has published more than 200

research articles and co-edited more than 20 books in the field of pharmacology. Enna, who has received numerous awards in recognition of his discoveries, has served as a consultant and as a member of government and foundation scientific advisory panels. He also has served on the editorial boards of scientific journals and as an elected officer of several scientific societies.

Enna is professor and chair of the department of pharmacology, toxicology and therapeutics at the University of Kansas Medical School. He also has held academic appointments in the departments of neurobiology and pharmacology at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston, in the department of neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and in the department of pharmacology at Tulane University School of Medicine.

ROBERT T. CROSSLEY, '67 *St. Thomas More Academy of Scholars*



Robert T. Crossley, Ph.D., is honored for his significant contributions to an academic field of knowledge. He joined the faculty of

the University of Massachusetts — Boston in 1972 and teaches in the areas of epic poetry, science fiction and utopian literature, apocalyptic literature and Shakespeare. Crossley was appointed the Ford Distinguished Service Professor for 1987-88 at the university, and served as the chair of the English Department for three years.

In addition to numerous articles, reviews and chapters, Crossley has written five books, including a biography of science fiction writer Olaf Stapledon and a book titled *A Cultural History of Mars, 1877-2000*. His research and writing interests are fiction about Mars, science fiction and utopian studies, and literature and pedagogy.

GERALD C. HAAKE, '70 *Alumnus of the Year for Outstanding Service*



Gerald C. Haake has been extremely active in the Kansas City community. He has served as a member of the board for the Saint Joseph

Health Center Advisory Council, the Saint Joseph Health Center Foundation, Bishop Hogan High School, Central City School Fund, Foxcroft Homes Association, Mark Twain South Bank, St. Thomas More

Executive Fellows Graduate Puts Community First

By Jamie Sievering

Church, and the Serra Club of Kansas City. He is a board member of the Independent Insurance Agents Association of Kansas City and a past president of the Professional Insurance Agents Association of Kansas City.

Haake, executive vice president of Haake Companies, is an active Rockhurst alumnus as well. He has been a member of the gala planning committee, the Honorary Directors, the Heritage Society, and the Commission on the Future. He is a past president of the alumni board and is chairman of the Rockhurst Regents.

DOUGLAS G. WEMHOFF, '89 *Athletic Hall of Fame*



Douglas G. Wemhoff's ability as a total basketball player became evident early in his career. As a freshman, he led the Hawks in points by averaging 15.8 per game, and in rebounds with an average of 7.2 per game. That same year, he was named most valuable player by his teammates and was selected to the NAIA All-district team.

Wemhoff went on to record career accomplishments that rank him as a standout among the best to play the game at Rockhurst: 2,063 total points scored (second), season best total points of 655 (third), total season field goals of 284 (second), season field goal percentage of 60 percent (second), 882 career rebounds (fifth) and season scoring average of 21.8 (eighth). Wemhoff truly has established himself as one of the all-time greats in Rockhurst University athletic history.

Ten years ago, Richard Ruiz, '92 XMBA, took a seat in a Rockhurst classroom. He glanced around at his fellow students — professionals like him — but he felt a sinking feeling in his stomach.

Except for the handful of college courses he'd taken, the last classroom he'd sat in was in high school, and that was two decades ago. This was Rockhurst's Executive Fellows MBA Program, which only sparingly

considers candidates who have no undergraduate degree.

"I could tell on the first day of class that I didn't have the skills necessary," he says. "It was either get out or work triple time to succeed."

So he devoted himself to his education, and often spent as many as seven hours a day on his studies, even after a full day of work.

For 24 years, Ruiz has been the executive director of El Centro Inc., a social service, economic-development organization he co-founded in 1976. Throughout his career, he had been encouraging kids to stay in school, and sitting in that classroom that day, he found himself facing the same challenges he'd helped many kids deal with in the past.

"That's what made my experience much more difficult and much more meaningful. I wanted an education — not so much a degree — but an education," he says. "I wanted to help the community that I've dedicated my life to."

El Centro offers a wide range of services, including youth programs, education and job training, childcare, transportation, housing and asset building. The organization concentrates on moving people from welfare to work to home ownership, in an education-focused environment. El Centro has several locations throughout Kansas City to serve low-income people.

Following his studies at Rockhurst, Ruiz set out to expand El Centro's services to embrace the diversity of the Kansas City area. This transformation was a great stretch for the organization, which began only to serve the Hispanic population.

"Racism and discrimination gave birth to El Centro," he says. Ruiz explained that El Centro would not have been needed had the Hispanic population's social-service needs in the area been met. "We concluded that if we worked to serve only Hispanics, we were no better than what had created us."

When Ruiz graduated in 1992, El Centro was a \$500,000 program. Today, it's a \$5 million program. In that time, the organization's assets have grown from \$700,000 to around \$10 million. Ruiz says his education provided the foundation for this impressive growth.

"I don't think El Centro would be this successful had it not been for my Rockhurst education."

Ruiz resides in Kansas City, Kan., with his wife, Rosalind.



Richard Ruiz, '92 XMBA, visits with children at El Centro's newest facility.

Honorary Directors Focus on Scholarships



(From left) Tom Weiford, Fr. Kinerk, John McMeel, William Barlow Neaves, Richard Miller, Rob Metzler

If only students who could pay full tuition were enrolled in our universities, we would have a far different society.”

Keynote speaker William Barlow Neaves, president and chief executive officer of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research, relayed that message to the Rockhurst Honorary Directors gathered for their annual March luncheon.

Neaves commended the organization for its work to provide scholarships for Rockhurst students and said

today’s students are part of an exciting post-genomic era that is spawning many discoveries that will improve human health.

Jennifer Losapio, ’99, now a doctoral student at Saint Louis University, spoke about the excellent education she received at Rockhurst and how a scholarship made it possible.

This year’s Van Ackeren Spirit Award was presented jointly to Richard Miller, ’52, president of the Miller Law Firm, and John P. McMeel, chairman of Andrews McMeel Universal, for their work in founding Christmas in October. As a result of the program, more than 4,700 homes throughout the metro area have been improved.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Honorary Directors Association President Tom Weiford presented a check for more than \$57,000 to Rockhurst for student scholarships. The association’s current endowment stands at \$1.3 million.

Membership in the Honorary Directors Association is open to anyone with an interest in helping deserving students attend Rockhurst. For more information, contact Stacie Cronberg at (816) 501-4807 or stacie.cronberg@rockhurst.edu.



Student Scholarships and All That Jazz

Tim Whitmer, often seen behind the piano at the Phoenix Piano Bar & Grill, is one of Kansas City’s most popular jazz musicians. Known both for his musical talents and his ability to pack the house, Whitmer and his band, the KC Express, did not disappoint on either front when they played Rockhurst’s Jazz Matinee on April 20.

The Jazz Matinee, sponsored by the Black Alumni Club, raised funds for student scholarships. The annual event is one of the club’s most successful fund raisers. This year’s principal benefactors were Robert and Kathleen Rogers and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

The Black Alumni Club is hopeful that events like the Jazz Matinee will help bring students to Rockhurst who otherwise could not afford to attend. If you would like to learn more about this scholarship fund or make a donation, call (816) 501-4025.



Campaign Total Climbs

Last summer, Rockhurst launched the public phase of a \$50 million fund-raising campaign to support scholarships, faculty and student development programs, and campus improvements. As the Excellence in the City campaign enters its final year, the total stands at slightly more than 80 percent of the goal.

This phase of the campaign is extremely important, said Nan Evanson, Ed.D., vice president for institutional advancement.

“Most of our major gifts are in,” Evanson said. “Now we will begin to call on our alumni and friends to ask them to participate in our efforts to make Rockhurst the best University

it can be. Every single gift will be crucial in helping us achieve our goal.”

Campaign goals were detailed in the last issue of Rockhurst magazine. To take another look, or to learn more about how your gift can benefit Rockhurst and its students, visit www.rockhurst.edu and click on “The Campaign for Rockhurst University” in the lower left corner.

Campaign co-chairs are Shirley Helzberg, R. Crosby Kemper III and Thomas A. McDonnell, '66.

Save the Date

Mark your calendar now for the seventh annual Rockhurst University Gala, Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Westin Crown Center. This special black-tie event will raise funds for scholarships and student services.

The evening will include cocktails, dinner and dancing to the music of Galaxy. Larry Moore will preside as master of ceremonies, and the Rev. Edward Kinerk, S.J., Rockhurst University president, will speak about the past year at the University.

This year's gala co-chairs are John and Susan McMeel and William Jackoboice and Maureen McMeel Jackoboice. William Dunn Sr., '46, and his wife, Jean, are the honorary chairs.

For more information about the gala, or to reserve your tickets, call (816) 501-4025.

New Advancement Head Named

Nan Evanson, Ed.D., has been named vice president for institutional advancement. Evanson already is well known at Rockhurst. She has served as registrar, vice president for enrollment management and, most recently, dean of the School of Professional Studies.


“Nan brings a wealth of management experience to this position,” said Rockhurst President the Rev. Edward Kinerk, S.J. “This will be a great asset as we continue our capital campaign.”

Evanson replaces Robin Harris, who left the University at the end of February.



Nan Evanson, Ed.D.

Alumni Notes

- '48 **Michael N. Ingrisano Jr.** has written a recently published book titled *Valor Without Arms*, which chronicles the history of the 316th Troop Carrier Group from 1942-45.
- Herbert Harris** was honored with the naming of a new post office building in Alexandria, Va., which has been designated as the Herb E. Harris Post Office Building.
- '51 **John L. (Larry) Fitzgerald** is the 2001 recipient of the Individual Achievement Award presented by the Adoption and Foster Care Coalition of the State of Missouri for leadership in and significant contributions to the field of adoption law. John has provided legal representation to adoptive petitioners and consenting birth parents in more than 1,400 adoption-related matters since 1958.
- '52 **John J. Jurcyk Jr.** is the recipient of the 2001 KBA Distinguished Service Award for continuous long-standing service on behalf of the legal profession.
- '56  **Warren E. Spehar** wrote an essay titled "Milton, Republicanism and the Buckinghamshire Anti-Stuart Initiatives, 1637-1642," which recently was published in the *Seventeenth-Century News*.
- '61 **James M. Stedman, Ph.D.**, has co-authored a paper titled "The Search for a Philosophy of Science in Psychology" published in the journal *Constructivism in the Human Sciences*. Curtis Hancock, Ph.D., and Brendan Sweetman, Ph.D., of the Rockhurst philosophy department, are co-authors.
- '63 **Edward L. Biersmith III, Ph.D.**, recently retired after more than 30 years as a teacher and administrator at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. He had joined his wife, Barbara, in a franchise business they started 13 years ago — The Sylvan Learning Center at Monroe. Sylvan Corporate recently recognized Barbara and Ed's franchise as the number one supplementary educational franchise in their 550-franchise system.

Alumni Notes

- David R. Huff** has joined the faculty of Tarkio Academy, Tarkio, Mo., as a teacher/counselor with Youth Services International, a program for adolescent and teen offenders. David will continue as a volunteer associate chaplain with the Missouri Department of Corrections at Western Reception Diagnostic Correctional Center, St. Joseph. '70
- James G. Castellano** was named chair of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He is managing partner at Rubin, Brown, Gornstein & Co LLP in St. Louis. '73
- Mark J. Reddan, O.D.**, is the clinical director for Eagle Eye Care in St. Louis, Mo. He and his wife, Alicia, have three children: John, 12, Christina, 11, and David, 7. Reddan is also a captain in the Naval Reserve. '78
- Cheri Schneier** passed the certified internal auditor (CIA) exam in May 2001. She is an internal auditor and CPA for Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis, Mo. '79
- Joan (Haake) Koechig** in October 2000 became coordinator of the crime victims' assistance program of the St. Charles Co. prosecuting attorney's office. Joan also has been an adjunct faculty member at St. Charles Community College in the criminal justice program for many years.
- Kristin D. Graue** joined the Heart of America Family Services as the Vice President of Administration and Finance in February 2001. '82
MBA
- Hector Barreto**, administrator of the Small Business Administration, was profiled in the November 2001 issue of *Black Enterprise* and the January 2002 issue of *Southwest Airlines Spirit*. '83
- Lt. Cmdr. Peter J. France, USNR**, had been recalled to active duty in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom. Lt. Cmdr. France has more than 25 years of service in the United States Navy and Naval Reserve. He has been activated under presidential recall for a period of at least one year. '84

Alumni Notes

'85 **Beth Kluba** was included in the "40 Under 40" list in the *St. Louis Business Journal*. She oversees all business development and military sales campaigns for Boeing in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

'86 **Michelle Lucero** recently was named to the University of Colorado Law Alumni Board of Directors.

'90 **Michael C. Blanco** earned a DVM degree from Iowa State University and did a post-doctoral fellowship in comparative medicine at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a specialist in laboratory animal medicine and a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine, the certifying body for that veterinary specialty. In addition, Blanco is on the staff of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.



Christine DeMarea has been named a member of Husch & Eppenberger LLC. She practices in Husch & Eppenberger's Kansas City office in the Tax and Estate Planning Practice Group with an emphasis on multigenerational planning, business continuity planning, charitable giving and trust administration. In addition, DeMarea has been appointed to the Rockhurst University Planned Giving Committee.

'91 **Joseph A. Smith** and Lynn Marolf Smith are co-owners of a physical therapy private practice. Physical Therapy in Motion, 50 27th Street W., Suite A, Billings, MT 59102, opened in September 2001, serving clients from birth to more than 90 years of age. Four physical therapists, two speech therapists, one massage therapist and two office personnel staff the only privately owned physical therapy practice in Billings.

Jeffrey Bruce Beshoner, Ph.D., is the author of *Ivan Sergeevich Gagarin: The Search for Orthodox and Catholic Union*, which recently was published by the University of Notre Dame Press. For more information, visit www.undpress.nd.edu and click into the Spring 2002 catalog.

'91 **F. Alexandra Gregory, D.M.A.**, is the academic vice president of Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, N.J.

Alumni Notes

Jennifer Lombardi was named as a "Five Star Performer" for outstanding customer service and employee performance in the KU Medical Center newsletter "In the Center," Dec. 13, 2001. She is the unit educator on the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

'94
MBA

Minaz Abji has been promoted to president of CHIP REIT and CHIP Hospitality.

'94
XF MBA

Emily Vann recently competed on "The Price is Right" television game show. She won a grandfather clock and a baby bedroom set. The baby furniture was particularly appropriate because she's expecting her first child later this year. Vann works as a nurse in Orange Co., Calif.

Michael J.C. Taylor, Ph.D., is assistant professor of history at Dickinson State University, in Dickinson, N.D. After graduating from Rockhurst, Taylor began graduate studies at UMKC under the mentorship of Herman Hattaway, Ph.D., a professor thrice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in history. Last May, Taylor graduated with his Ph.D., receiving both master's and doctoral degrees in six years. Curtis Hancock, Ph.D., professor of philosophy at Rockhurst, was a member of his doctoral committee. Taylor started his new position at DSU last August.

'95

Christy Cramer Preston has joined the Hutson Law Firm as an associate in Lebanon, Mo.

'97



Brian J. Huelsmann has joined Rabbitt, Pitzer & Snodgrass PC, St. Louis, as an associate.

'99

Sarah Sheffield has been accepted at the Touro Osteopathic Medical School in Vallejo, Calif.

Tom Finocchiaro received his Project Management Professional certification and has been promoted to principal consultant at Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. He and his wife, Ann, live in Olathe, Kan., with their children Collin, 11, and Eric, 5. Ann works as a team leader at Target Corporation.

'00
MBA

Alumni Marriages

'97 **Brian R. Schenck** married **Leigh Mann** on June 19, 1999. Brian teaches math at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. He recently coached the varsity volleyball team to the Kansas 6-A Championship. Leigh is a project manager at MAI Sports Marketing.

Christy Cramer married Scott S. Preston in Liberty, Mo., on July 28, 2001.

'97 **Leigh Anne Behrmann** married Ryan Hollenbeck on June 16, 2001. The Hollenbecks moved to Portland, Ore., to pursue an opportunity for Ryan with Avery Dennison — industrial product division. Leigh Anne transferred with her employer, HealthSouth, to Portland where she will continue to pursue a career as an occupational therapist working with extensive hand injuries.

'98 **Bryan Joseph (Joe) Pope** married **Bethany P. Bernskoetter** on Oct. 14, 2000.

'00 **Jennifer Naeger** married Jared Lurk on June 2, 2001. Christy Still, '00, Susan Wilson, '00, and Emily Easterday, '00, were bridesmaids. The couple resides in Mission, Kan.

Please Write

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Year of graduation _____

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City/State/ZIP _____

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Evening phone (____) _____

E-mail address _____

Is this a new address? Yes No

Do you have business or personal news (marriage, birth) you would like us to include in the next issue of *Rockhurst* magazine?

Please complete and mail to: Rockhurst University, Office of Alumni Relations, 1100 Rockhurst Road, Kansas City, MO 64110-2561 or e-mail james.millard@rockhurst.edu.

Births

Michel Duncan-Dungan and husband, Justin, announce the birth of a son, Whit Austin, on March 13, 2001.

Janet Calhoun Maceli and her husband, Stephen, welcomed the birth of their first child, Stephen Joseph, born July 15, 2001.

Beverly Baker Jakobe and husband, Jeffrey, had their third child, Clara Marie, on Nov. 29, 2001. She had an older sister, Abigail, age 5, and an older brother, Jesse, age 2.

Trisha Becker and husband, Eric Carmichael, announce the birth of their first child, Gabrielle Ann, on Dec. 17, 2000.

Shannon (Shaw) Coleman and husband, Jonathan, announce the birth of their son, Reece Noel, born Dec. 17, 2001.

Shana Ryan and husband, Hugh, announce the birth of Anna Katherine, born Nov. 5, 2001.

Duke Jones and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of their first child, Austin Duke, born April 23, 2001.

Shelli (Thomas) Pateidl and husband, Matthew, announce the birth of their son, Hunter Thomas, born March 30, 2001.

Meredith (Martin) Dickinson and husband, Mark, announce the birth of their first child, Tyler Lee, born Nov. 8, 2001.

Matthew Allgeyer is the proud father of a baby boy, Jack Allgeyer, born Sept. 23, 2001.

In Memoriam

John C. (Jack) Morley ('36) — Sept. 11, 2001
Cornelius F. "Key" Cole, Jr. ('37) — Sept. 11, 2001
Thomas J. Corcoran Sr. ('47) — Dec. 24, 2001
Joseph J. McAntire ('56) — Oct. 7, 2001
William E. Stevinson ('57) — Sept. 14, 2001
Charles Jerome Aziere ('59) — Dec. 28, 2001
Don F. Zaner ('64) — Dec. 30, 2001
Mary E. Smith ('74) — Sept. 25, 2001
Thomas J. Finn, D.O. ('79) — Sept. 17, 2001
Eileen I. Jones ('83) — Nov. 4, 2001

**“I believe
within the next decade,
Rockhurst has a
chance to be one of
the finest universities
in the country.”**

The Rev. Edward Kinerk, S.J.
President, Rockhurst University

You can help Rockhurst achieve Fr. Kinerk's vision. The Excellence in the City campaign provides the opportunity for friends and alumni to arrange gifts or bequest designations. These will help Rockhurst update programs and provide scholarships to attract the best and brightest students and faculty.

To arrange a gift, contact Thomas J. Audley at (816) 501-4551 or thomas.audley@rockhurst.edu.



**Building Greatness —
Together We Can.**

May

15 KC Alumni Golf
Tournament

August

18 Finucane Service
Project

September

5 Mass of the Holy Spirit

October

26 Rockhurst University
Gala



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