



Roy Mitchell and Susan Trawick

Mardi Gras ‘Under the Big Top’

The circus came to the University of St. Thomas, drawing more than 600 revelers who celebrated Fat Tuesday on the Campus Life Mall with circus performers, Midway treats and a tantalizing menu orchestrated by Houston restaurateur and chef Michael Cordúa. This year’s Mardi Gras Gala, themed “Under the Big Top,” was co-chaired by Odis and Carol Peavy with UST President Robert Ivany serving as the evening’s Ringmaster. The record-breaking event raised \$1 million for the Frances E. Monaghan Scholarship Fund, which enables current and future St. Thomas students to benefit from a values-based education.

This year’s honoree was Elizabeth “Liz” Lyons Ghrist, who successfully led the University’s Capital Campaign that raised \$67 million for facilities, scholarships and endowments. The Campus Life Mall and many of the surrounding buildings weren’t even built when Ghrist publicly launched the University’s most successful campaign in 2001. The Mardi Gras Gala is a UST tradition that reaches back to the school’s founding in 1947.

This year’s event featured UST’s Roy Mitchell and Susan Trawick, student king and queen, who described how scholarship funds have made possible their educations at UST.

UST Makes Largest Land Acquisition in its History

The University of St. Thomas recently acquired 1 1/2 blocks of prime property at Richmond and Montrose Boulevard that gives UST a dominant presence along Montrose from West Alabama to Richmond.

The purchase comprises two office buildings – one on the corner of Richmond and Montrose and the other on Yoakum. The office buildings are approximately 75,000 and 33,000 square feet, respectively. The purchase also includes a retail center with an adjoining 144-car garage and 11,500 square feet of retail space.

With this recent transaction, the University of St. Thomas now occupies almost 19 city blocks, said Jim Booth, vice president for Finance. “After this purchase, which is contiguous to our property, the University owns a full 10 blocks and parts of nine others.” This purchase will anchor the southeast corner of the University’s campus in accordance with the master plan for much-needed physical expansion to serve more students.

“The University launched a \$20 million fundraising effort to pay for the property acquisition and associated costs, as well as estimated renovations,” Booth said. The UST Board, alumni and friends, and major foundations are being solicited for philanthropic funds.

Irish Fulbright Scholar to Teach in Fall 2007

Dr. Fergal McGrath, an authority in Europe on the emerging field of knowledge management, is coming from Ireland to the Cameron School of Business as a Fulbright Scholar in Residence this fall. He will teach two undergraduate courses and participating in the Center of Irish Studies.

“We are privileged to have Dr. McGrath as an Irish cultural ambassador for our students and the community,” says Lori Gallagher, Center for Irish Studies director.

McGrath is both director of the Centre for Information and Knowledge Management and chair of the Management and Marketing Department at the Kemmy School of Business at the University of Limerick. In addition to teaching courses in knowledge management, McGrath will collaborate on research with Cameron School faculty.

The prestigious Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship program in international educational exchange. Grants are awarded to scholars to provide

university lectures and advanced research, teaching in elementary and secondary schools and graduate study.



According to Dr. Charles Davis, professor of Management Information Systems in the Cameron School of Business, McGrath's field of knowledge management is a new and rapidly developing area of study that encompasses under-

standing how people use knowledge in various contexts, such as business, and how they store and access it so it can be used most effectively and efficiently.

“Knowledge management is the latest in a progression within information systems that began with data management in the 1960s and then morphed into information management in the 1980s,” Davis said. “It is very likely that [it] will embody the future of information technologies.”

“The American approach to knowledge management is more limited in scope than its European counterpart,” Davis said. “Dr. McGrath will bring this European perspective to our campus.”

Campus Ministry Brings ‘Stories from Streets’

The desperation of young, drug-addicted male prostitutes on the street hardly seems fodder for entertainment. Yet Andi and Al Tauber, a Chicago-based song-and-dance duo, have transformed their long hours of work with such homeless boys and men into a

poignant and pointed performance, “Stories from the Streets.” It is an extension of their street ministry that evokes both laughter and tears. The two will perform at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, in the Council of Clubs Room, Crooker Center, 3909 Graustark.

Lenten Lecture Series

Dr. Jean Kitchel, professor of philosophy, will give the Lenten lecture titled “Healing Wisely—The Role of Informed Consent,” 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, in Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum.



Interviewing Techniques

Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society presents Dr. Gayle R. Slaughter, Baylor College of Medicine, discussing “Interviewing Techniques for Graduate School,” 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, in Anderson Hall Auditorium.



Lenten Reflection

The Order of Malta, in conjunction with Campus Ministry, is presenting a Lenten Evening of Reflection from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 15, in the Chapel of St. Basil.



Tuition to be Increased for Next Academic Year

Tuition will increase approximately 7 percent for the 2007/08 school year.

Undergraduate tuition will be \$630 an hour; graduate tuition will be \$705 an hour. This is up from \$590 per credit hour for undergraduates and \$660 for graduates for the 2006/07 academic year. These increases were approved by the board of directors on Feb. 28.

Compared with other small, private, faith-based universities in Texas, St. Thomas has increased tuition the least over the past three years. Budgeted student aid for the 2007/08 academic year will also increase from \$5.7 million to \$6.1 million.



Work as a Vocation

Prof. Michael Naughton of the University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, will give the Rev. William J. Young, CSB Lecture at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, Jones Hall, 3910 Yoakum Blvd.

Naughton's talk is presented in conjunction with the Social Justice Studies Program, and will address the topic "Work as a Vocation: Drawing on the Catholic Social Tradition 26 Years after Pope John Paul II's *Laborem Exercens*."

This event is cosponsored by the UST Social Justice Studies Program and the Cameron School of Business. For more information contact Dr. John F. Burke at 713-525-3814 or Dr. Michele Simms at 713-942-5918.

Naughton, director of the John A. Ryan Institute for Catholic Social Thought, will also give a workshop "Integrating Catholic Social Teaching into Catholic Institutions" from 9-11:30 a.m. Friday, March 16, in the Council of Clubs Room, Crooker Center, 3909 Graustark. Both events are free and open to the public.

For more information contact Dr. John Burke at 713-525-3814.



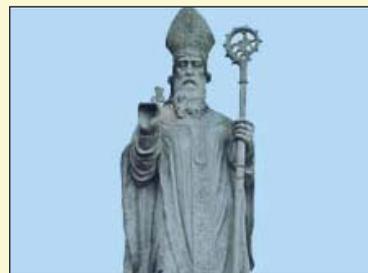
Scholarship Winners

Words cannot describe the feeling of "gagnant," a French word for "winner," that Roberto González, sophomore finance and marketing major, became when he won the 2007 L' Alliance Française Scholarship. The only word that came to his mind was "excitement."

The L' Alliance Française scholarship will award González \$3,000 to study abroad in France over the summer. He was one of six Houston university students, and the only University of St. Thomas student, to win this scholarship award. With the support of his professors, González will consider attending the Université Michel de Montaigne in Bordeaux, France to study for a month this summer.

Sophomore Veronica Vittone, a French major in the Pre-med program, was chosen as alternate and will take advantage of the scholarship if any of the other six winning students are not able to go. "I am very honored to receive the alternate position," Vittone said. "It means I will work harder and try again next year."

Learn more about González and Vittone at stthom.edu/ia/publicaffairs/features/.



Celebrate St. Pat's Day

Join the Center for Irish Studies for a St. Patrick's Day Mass at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 17, in the Chapel of St. Basil, 3802 Yoakum. Archbishop Daniel DiNardo will be the principal celebrant. Other celebrants are welcome. UST's Dr. John Burke and the De Burgo Ensemble will perform the liturgical music.

Breakfast will follow Mass in Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center, 4000 Mt. Vernon. Breakfast is \$10 per person and will benefit the Center for Irish Studies.

RSVP for breakfast by Wednesday, March 14 by calling 713-942-5906; leave your name, number in party and telephone number.

For more information contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592 or irishstudies@stthom.edu.



No Argument: Mock Trial Team Attracts Notice

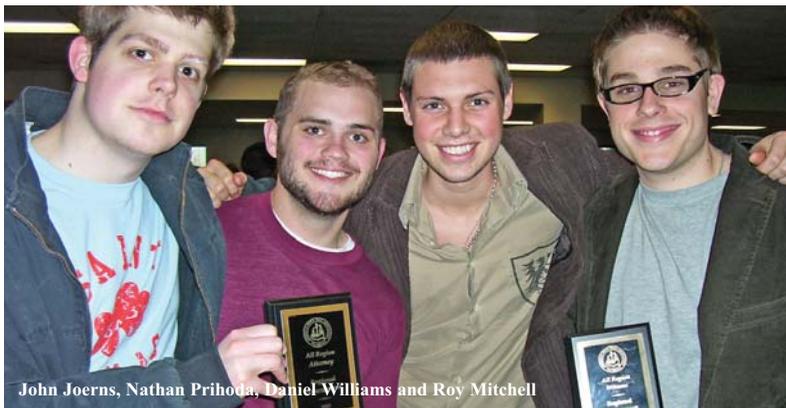
They almost made the playoffs, and two of the players made the all-stars. “Not bad for an expansion team,” said University of St. Thomas Political Science Department Chair Dr. Jon Taylor. His metaphor, of course, was to sports, but the “sport” was the American Mock Trial Association’s Great Southern Regional Qualifier Mock Trial Tournament.

In its inaugural year, the UST Fighting Celts team achieved an overall record of 4-4, narrowly missing the national tournament by one ballot. Two team members received high individual honors.

The competition, hosted by Southern Methodist University on Feb. 24-25 in Dallas, pitted UST against 23 teams from 13 schools including Rice, Houston Baptist University, Southern Methodist University, University of Texas, Texas A&M, Air Force Academy, Mississippi State, and Ole Miss, among others. The UST team consisted of seniors Erin McClarty (team captain), Reina Cisneros, Robert Dodaro, John Joerns, Roy Mitchell, Nathan Prihoda, Ciro Samperi and junior Daniel Williams.

They were coached by Lisa Linney, an attorney and adjunct professor in the Political Science Department. In addition to the team’s four wins, John Joerns was awarded “All Region Attorney” out of 144 competitors, and Roy Mitchell was named “All Region Witness” out of another 144 students. Only three other teams achieved the same recognition.

“It was an impressive perform-



John Joerns, Nathan Prihoda, Daniel Williams and Roy Mitchell

ance by a first-year team,” said Jason Butler, an AMTA representative. The team’s coach and advisors were equally excited about the results.

“From a forensic perspective, our competitors are as good as many practicing lawyers,” said Jeremy Heallen, a UST adjunct professor and attorney who practices law and consulted for the team along with his mother, UST alumna Kelly Heallen. “To compete and win at this level of competition the first time out is quite an accomplishment,” he said.

According to the team’s coach Linney, who is married to Jeremy Heallen, larger universities took notice of the UST team and its staff. Four days following the competition, UST was approached about co-sponsoring a Houston-area invitational tournament next fall.

In addition to consulting, Kelly Heallen donated use of her office space for individual practice sessions. The Hon. Judy Warne, also a UST alumna, offered her courtroom for practice trials. “The

loyalty of these graduates to the University is a testament to the values UST instills in its students,” Linney said. “Support from the University and its graduates is crucial.”

In the wake of the team’s success, the UST mock trial coach and advisors have started preparing and recruiting for the 2007-2008 season. “We have already seen the formula for success in action with this year’s team,” Linney said. “With some polishing and refinement, the national competition is within our grasp.”

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