Parents of SCU grads: Has your son or daughter moved? E-mail us at scmagazine@scu.edu with their updated addresses so they’ll be sure to continue receiving this magazine.
There are photographs which, when you happen upon them, startle for a moment and then let you go a dramatic instant framed, message transmitted, received, over and out. The meaning, while not necessarily insignificant, is right there on the surface. And then there are those photos, like the one on the cover of this magazine, which ask you to see in a way that perhaps you haven’t before—or if you have, it’s been a long time. But more than that, this act of seeing is not something to be rushed. Nor is it neatly packaged in cellophane and waiting to be unwrapped, consumed, forgotten. Rather, it is a plea for understanding, the promise of a wisdom to be gained over time. What gives the image this quality? Perhaps it is the luminous whiteness of the garment, its pale folds speaking of something simple and true. Of course it is the learned hands, cradling the threaded beads. Count your worries and speak your prayers. And it is the gaze that holds you transfixed: welcoming, questioning. He lives in the village of Bereba, in the Country of Honorable People—a West African nation you might know better as Burkina Faso. Photographer and SCU lecturer David Pace was there this past winter visiting Santa Clara colleagues Leslie Gray and Michael Kevane, whose work in Africa includes a libraries project lectured David Pace was there this past winter visiting Santa Clara colleagues Leslie Gray and Michael Kevane, whose work in Africa includes a libraries project, a project that stretches back some years. As for the cover photo, it’s part of an essay in this issue asking you to take a moment to try and see the person in front of you—indeed. The pieces in this magazine that look at current events in Iraq and Iran—difficult: amid violence and mayhem, to find the ability to see deeply. Interviews with Leon Panetta and Reza Aslan—bring that point home. So does the piece by writer James Purcell, whose work in Africa includes a libraries project. Indeed. The pieces in this magazine that look at current events in Iraq and Iran—difficult: amid violence and mayhem, to find the ability to see deeply. Interviews with Leon Panetta and Reza Aslan—bring that point home. So does the piece by writer James Purcell, whose work in Africa includes a libraries project. Indeed. The pieces in this magazine that look at current events in Iraq and Iran—difficult: amid violence and mayhem, to find the ability to see deeply. Interviews with Leon Panetta and Reza Aslan—bring that point home. So does the piece by writer James Purcell, whose work in Africa includes a libraries project.
A day in the life of the president, S.J.

What a wonderful article is “A day in the life of the president,” in the Fall 2007 Santa Clara Magazine. Between Ron Hansen’s writings and Chuck Barry’s photos (especially the cover) one has to ask: How does Paul L. Locatelli, S.J., do it? He looks so relaxed, so enjoying the role. I imagine he has a piece fullfilled the journalistic maxim of leaving the reader with a sense of “Holy cow. I didn’t know that!”

I wish my college magazine (Boston College Magazine) published more articles like this.

GENE ROMAN
New York, N.Y.

Beneath the surface of our experience

When turning to page 34 in reading the article on “Let your life speak” (Fall 2007 SCM), I was struck by the poems “Batano Ridge,” juxtaposed with an essay discussing the Ignatian approach to examining our deeper feelings. Rebecca Black’s poem is a jewel. Being a poet myself, I understand how Professor Diane Dreher’s commentary on the Ignatian practice of discernment [complement] the poem’s power to probe “beneath the surface of our experience” and to “reflect on the motions of the soul.”

Without question, the learnings from my own faith journey continue to be enlivened by eloquent prose and poetry. Thanks to Diane and Rebecca!

WILBUR R. MORTON ’41
Palo Alto

Built by immigrants

I once asked my Boston College pal Fr. Joseph Appleby why many of the Jesuits at SCU and USF had Italian surnames. Gerald McKeever’s article [in the Fall 2007 issue] answered most of my questions about that fact.

As a journalist, I always try to ignite a sense of wonder and surprise with my articles. Fr. McKeever’s piece fulfilled the journalistic maxim of leaving the reader with a sense of “Holy cow. I didn’t know that!”

I wish my college magazine (Boston College Magazine) published more articles like this.

GENE ROMAN
New York, N.Y.

An AVID fan

I enjoyed the profile of SCU alumnus John Ybarra ’96, who volunteers for the AVID program amid his duties as a CHP officer [Fall 2007 SCM]. I taught AVID for four years in an at-risk high school outside of Denver and can appreciate the power of the program in bringing minority students in particular our college path.

I highly encourage all SCU graduates to consider exploring AVID programs in their area. Few districts can afford to pay their AVID tutors, and they need strong community participation to help students with weekly tutoring and mentoring. Students especially bond to college-age tutors, so recent SCU alumni in particular should consider giving their time as AVID volunteers. What a way to expand SCU’s spirit of community and compassion!

SHAWNABABULA’01, M.A. ’03
Kushville, Ill.

No open-toed shoes allowed

Your Summer 2007 Issue of Santa Clara Magazine [Vol. 49, No. 3] featured two articles regarding the subject of “construction.” In both, you accompany the article with magnificent photographs.

Having spent 54 years in manufacturing and building safety, I know the importance of hard hats. But open-toed sandals and bare feet do not complement construction safety.

In the future, I would suggest that when a photograph is staged, all of the elements of safety should be presented and foot construction should be discarded.

JOSEPH B. ALLEGRETTI
Carson City, Nev.

Farewell, Fr. Germann

My husband Tim (75) and I flew from Washington state to Santa Clara to join friends in singing at Dan Germann’s memorial service on Sept. 28. I just had to say goodbye to the most amazing man I’ve ever known.

There are enough Dan stories to fill volumes, and they’re all either hilarious, or touching, or both.

Dan was my first professor in my first class on my first day of college. At first, his presence intimidated me, until I learned to relax and understand that his intensity was born of his dedication to his subject. Dan taught Christian Liturgy, and I wish I could somehow have made it mandatory for every Catholic on the planet to take his courses.

As Director of Campus Ministry, Dan was the driving force behind the Freshman Weekend, 10 p.m. Mass on Sundays, the St. Clare Festival, and the annual Baccalaureate Mass. Just when you thought he couldn’t come up with another original feast to use as a conduit to integrate Christian ritual into daily college life, he would—and in the most energetic and genuine way.

When my father died in December last year, Dan and I had dinner together and I had the opportunity to converse, one of the great joys of my senior year, Dan was by my side, holding me up, letting me cry.

When our first son was born, the little guy became Brian Daniel (or, as Dan called him, “B. Daniel”). When that baby girl had to undergo abdominal surgery as an infant, Dan came to the hospital, blessed him, and sat with us. He did it again for our second son in an identical situation four years later.

In July 2006, friends and fellow Jesuits planned an anointing ceremony held at Sacred Heart Center in Los Gatos. The outpouring of love and affection from people Dan had known and loved throughout his life clearly moved him, and he revealed in the healing power of Scripture, touch, music, and laughter.

As Dan’s health declined over the past several years, despite the terrors and other physical symptoms, he was 100 percent on track mentally almost until the very end. His ability to converse, one of the great joys and talents of his life, was severely compromised, but he always found a way to indicate that he got the joke, remembered the anecdote. He was comfortable with the idea of his impending death, and rather than feeling frightened, he seemed to be frustrated because there was still work yet to be done, things yet to be said to the people he loved.

Dan died, and tried to teach others, that there is such raw joy and beauty in life and the world God has created, and that our time here is short, and we’d best not waste it.

Rest in peace, Dan, and save us a seat.

SHARON MCCARTHY DEAN ’78
Vancouver, Wash.

To Our Readers:

We welcome your letters in response to articles. We print a representative selection of letters as space allows. Please limit copy to 200 words and include your hometown and class year (if appropriate) in your letter. Address correspondence to The Editor, Santa Clara Magazine, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, 95053-9100; fax, 408-551-5464; e-mail, SCM@magazine.scsu.edu.

We may edit letters for style, clarity, civility, and length. Questions? Call 408-551-1840.

You can read more letters online. On the Web EXCLUSIVES

Visit www.santclararamagazine.com and follow the “Letters” link.
Mike Carey ’71

Carey’s convocation counsel: It’s about respect

A nd Mike Carey ’71 about the meaning of leadership, and the answer will likely start and end with respect: for self as well as for others. For others, it’s not just for what they do, but by virtue of their humanity.

As for gaining respect from other people, Carey said, it’s about “commanding—not demanding.”

With more than 35 years as an NFL official, Carey became in 1995 the second African American to serve as a head referee. He still heads up a team of officials on the field, so that means he bumps up alongside plenty of professional-sized egos every week. Also the founder of Seirus Innovation, a major manufacturer of snow sports accessories, he’s the inventor on several patents—and, for the past decade, a member of the SCU Board of Trustees.

On Sept. 17, as part of the University convocation marking the beginning of the academic year, he spoke to students and faculty at the Leavey Center and shared what Santa Clara had taught him through lessons inside the classroom and out. “Think critically and act responsibly,” he said. “Learn not only to come up with the right answers, but to ask the right questions.”

As a college student in the “vibrant” late ’60s, Carey said, he found the right questions.

“I tell my players, ‘Never look for a moment when you can stop learning,’” he said. “Learn not only to come through lessons inside the classroom and out.”

That included hosting guest speakers from across the political spectrum—from Angela Davis to Bob Hope. Drawing parallels to the turbulent political situation in which the nation finds itself today, he encouraged students to take advantage of the diversity on campus and to get to know those they might not normally associate with.

Carey also confessed that, in his undergrad days studying biology at SCU, he would see the members of the Board of Trustees on campus and could hardly imagine how they connected with his experience. Now he finds himself a member of the body charged with governing the University. “Somebody in this group, years from now,” he told students, “will be in the same position.”

As for asking questions of Carey—see Page 14 for an extended Q&A.

Global possibilities and contradictions

The pace of globalization in the 21st century presents higher education with a paradox, President Paul Locatelli, S.J., reminded the SCU faculty assembled for faculty convocation on Sept. 11. The speed of change today is unprecedented, and understanding its effects requires dedicated, even “chloroform, scholarly research,” Locatelli said. It also requires in-depth learning that encompasses the “gritty reality” that the poor and vulnerable experience, “to use Jesuit Superior General Peter Hans Kolvenbach’s phrase.”

As Secretary of Higher Education for the Society of Jesus, Locatelli has been meeting with university leaders in East Asia and Latin America, in part to understand the “major challenges and priorities” that Jesuit institutions worldwide may face over the next decade. For many Jesuit universities outside the U.S., “gritty reality” and poverty strike close to home.

The faculty convocation was held on a date that signifies for many the realization of a world suddenly smaller. In that vein, Locatelli observed, “the conflict that radical Islam has with the West is as much about cultural values, which emanate from religious values, as it is about poverty. Religious fundamentalism has distorted the tenets of faith for political purposes, a distortion which has caused only conflicts and violence.”

That informs the responsibilities facing higher education, Locatelli said. “Santa Clara should focus its research and teaching on efforts to discover the root causes of the critical problems of our time, paying special attention to their ethical and religious dimensions.”

By taking on this responsibility, the University will continue to prepare “ethical citizens who will leave the world with knowledge, justice, virtue, and wisdom.” —DK and SBS

A new scu.edu

Construction is a familiar sight around the Santa Clara campus these days, but some of the most recent work was all virtual. A redesigned University Web site, nearly nine months in the making, went live the morning of Sept. 12, just in time for the start of the academic year.

Nigh on every pixel and link got a makeover on the new site. There are hundreds of new photographs of the campus and community, more informative navigation, and animated slideshows on the University homepage and the home pages of the schools and colleges. Visitors have also noticed improvements to the faculty and staff directory, campus map, online events calendar, and search tools. There’s also a new tier of pages that didn’t exist before, notes University Webmaster Brian Washburn—to help users get to content quickly.

Because the Web is constantly changing and updating, this isn’t the end of SCU’s online improvements. Look for new interactive elements and more rich media content in the coming year.—SS

On the Web

EXCLUSIVES

Read President Locatelli’s convocation address in its entirety online. Visit this article at www.santaclaramagazine.com and follow the link.

Santa Clara Magazine recognized with national award

We knew from the moment we saw Marty Stormt’s essay about Bill Spohn that it was a remarkable piece of writing about a unique man, and it was a privilege to publish it in these pages. So it was doubly gratifying to have “The School of Hope,” published in the Winter 2006 issue, recognized with a national award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), which honored Marty and SCM with a silver medal for Best Article of the Year. The awards were presented in July at the CASE national conference in Chicago.

More than 250 articles were submitted nationwide, with the judges surprised that the best of the lot could just as easily have found a home in The American Scholar, The Atlantic Monthly, or Harper’s. Sharing the silver limelight with SCM were articles from publications that include Harvard Magazine, Stanford Magazine, and Yale Alumni Magazine. —SBS
mission matters

Best in the West

The results are in, and “America’s Best Colleges 2008” has offered SCU high marks—for the 18th year in a row. Santa Clara ranked second overall among 127 master’s universities in the West in the U.S. News & World Report annual ranking of the country’s colleges and universities.

SCU is ranked among other similar comprehensive universities that offer a full range of undergraduate programs and master’s degrees, but few doctoral programs; the Western region includes schools from Colorado to the West Coast, including Texas. Joining SCU in the West’s top 10 this year are Jesuit schools Gonzaga and Seattle University, and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Of master’s universities in the West, Santa Clara is also listed among the top 15 in the “Great Schools, Great Prices” category.

Santa Clara continues to have the highest average freshman retention rate—93 percent—in its class, and boasts the second-highest peer assessment score. SCU’s average undergraduate graduation rate, 85 percent, ranks nationally as the second highest of all 574 master’s level universities.

The School of Engineering is No. 20 among the top 87 engineering schools in the country that focus on undergraduate and master’s engineering programs. And a section titled “Programs to Look For” commends SCU’s residential learning communities, where students in residence halls take courses as a group to get to know one another and their professors better.

A rising star with personal touch

It’s always better when an admissions staff regards you as a person, not an enrollment target,” opines one new college guide. Amen. “Unfortunately, such is not always the case.” Too true. So where will you find these sage words? In the 2008 edition of Princeton Review’s The Best 366 Colleges, an 800-page paperback tome. More specifically, they’re in a write-up of SCU that commends the University because, it says, “Santa Clara University deserves recognition as a rising star that still manages to be highly personal and accessible.”

The guide also surmises that it “would be hard to find a place that is more receptive to minority students. There is a very significant minority presence here because Santa Clara works hard and earnestly to make everyone feel at home.” Which leads to the conclusion: “The university’s popularity is increasing across the board, which proves that nice guys sometimes finish first.”

In the realm of education, what students have to say counts for more than a little. The Best 366 also quotes from students who describe the academic workload at SCU as “excessive and insane” with professors who are, in the words of one junior, “brilliant, fascinating, humane people who have been nothing short of an inspiration to my friends and me.” Our favorite line, though, comes from praise heaped upon specific departments and programs. “The math department is too awesome for words.” —SS & DA

Santa Clara shines in Solar Decathlon

When a team of Santa Clara students embarked on the Solar Decathlon competition just over 18 months ago, they knew they had a long way to go—the longest, in fact, of any university stateside, since SCU was the only school west of the Rockies to compete. But as Richard King, head of the U.S. Department of Energy-sponsored competition, assessed when he visited SCU in August, this team just might have some surprises in store for the veteran schools in the contest.

What kind of surprises? A very big one indeed. Santa Clara outscored every other U.S. team save one, beating the likes of MIT and Cornell, to finish third in the international competition. The judging itself took place on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., over one week in October, with final results announced Oct. 19. The “solar village” of entries from 20 universities from the U.S. and internationally drew some 200,000 visitors—as well as the attention of Fortune 500 companies interested in how the students designed and built houses meant to be energy self-sufficient, attractive, and affordable.

Each entry was judged on 10 categories, and the competition included a battery of scored tests, adding up to a total of 1,200 possible points. The German Technische Universitat Darmstadt captured first place with 1,024 points. The University of Maryland took second with 999 points. Santa Clara scored 979 points, finishing first in two categories, second in three categories, and in the top 10 of all categories save “Architecture.”

We’ll have details in the next issue of SCM. In the meantime, you can check out the SCU Solar Decathlon site and other news stories by visiting this article online at www.santaclaramagazine.com and following the links. —SS & DA

A new dean for engineering

Godfrey Mungal, the new dean of Santa Clara University’s School of Engineering, describes himself as “a teacher who does research,” so he feels he’ll be a great match for SCU’s teaching scholar model of education. “Engineering fits so well with the Jesuit tradition of being able to change the world,” he says. Born in Trinidad, Mungal earned his Ph.D. in aeronautics from Cal Tech and has spent his career focused on turbulence and thermosciences. Before joining the SCU faculty, he spent more than 20 years at Stanford University, serving as a professor of mechanical engineering, associate dean, associate chair, and director of the High Temperature Gasdynamics Laboratory.

He is the author or co-author of more than 150 papers and has won several teaching and advising awards, including Stanford’s Tau Beta Pi award for excellence in undergraduate engineering teaching. Mungal began his duties here Sept. 5, meeting with engineering faculty and getting his bearings before the start of the quarter, but even before that, he was taking in the engineering atmosphere. He was able to tour SCU’s house under construction for the national Solar Decathlon before it shipped to Washington, D.C., describing it as a “tremendous project.” As dean, Mungal will seek ways to promote the University’s goals of increasing enrollment in the undergraduate and graduate engineering programs, and forming partnerships within the Silicon Valley community to enrich the curricula. Although the job is new, Mungal is already quite familiar with what it means to be a Bronco. One of his daughters is a 2004 alumna, the other is an SCU sophomore.

—SS & DA

We can do it! Senior Meghan Monney (aka, Meghan the Riveter) joins fellow SCU students in putting finishing touches on the Solar Decathlon House.

Inspiring and accessible: a religious studies seminar with Associate Professor Paul Fitzgerald, S.J.
mission matters

Introducing the international studies minor

Economic, social, and public health problems have a tendency not to respect national boundaries. And so to study these problems requires a broader focus. Enter the new international studies minor for Santa Clara undergrads in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Leavey School of Business. Students can choose between an area studies emphasis with a focus on Africa, Europe, or Latin America or a thematic emphasis with a focus on a topic, such as poverty and development, international human rights, or peace studies. Learn more about the program by visiting this article online and following the links. —SBS

Going global

We are always pleased to see writers make their first foray into the world of print magazines. Especially when the effort includes poignant images and stories from SCU students and recent alumni, as you'll find assembled for the inaugural issue of OneWorld magazine, published in May. The latterly heartbreaking and inspiring stories traverse the globe from Tijuana to Thailand. —JC

For the inaugural abuelitas workshop this past July at the Church of St. Mary of the Nativity in east Salinas, Pineda served as facilitator and delivered the keynote address—with the goal of inspiring her audience and reminding the grandmothers that they could be a powerful force in curtailing gangs.

Fractured families

The Salinas Valley has been afflicted with gang violence for decades, and today the issue is frequently met with feelings of cynicism and fear. Salinas’s agricultural-based economy attracts a large number of migrant workers who are often forced to separate for work. These fractured families can make children feel torn between cultures, isolated, and often lacking in direct supervision—ingredients that can easily lead youth to join a gang.

The Observer, the newsletter of the diocese of Monterey, reported that dozens attended the first abuelitas workshop—most of them who either knew a gang member or someone killed as a result of gang violence. Grandmothers frequently fill the space left by an absent parent, becoming primary caregivers and keeping families together.

“Women often provide knowledge of cultural identity,” Pineda says. “In the Latino community especially, grandmothers pass on to their children and grandchildren religious and cultural traditions.”

In preparing for the workshop, Pineda spoke with Santa Clara students from her courses. They told her that some powerful examples she had shared with them seemed to offer lessons here, too: stories of women who, in the face of intolerable oppression and violence, found creative ways to turn the tide. Among them: the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Argentina—whose children were “disappeared” under the dictatorship between 1976-83.

In Salinas, Pineda asked her audience to find ways they can make who they are and what they believe in a force for greater good. The abuelitas drew inspiration from each other, brainstorming ways to set strong examples—be it leading a drug-free life, praying, encouraging involvement in sports and groups like Boy Scouts, or working to provide each child in the city with a library card and supporting reading. And they left with a stronger sense of affecting change within their community—with more gatherings planned.

So where did the idea of tapping the abuelitas originate? Bishop Garcia said he was inspired by conversations with prison inmates about the positive role that grandmothers played in their lives. As for asking the abuelitas to step up, Pineda offers a counter to the old adage that you’re never too old to learn. “You’re never too old to educate someone,” she says. —EE

Seeing the future: a woman and child at the Salinas meeting

Charity matters

New program in bioengineering

Bioengineering has the potential to drastically improve the lives of millions in the years ahead. And thanks to a new program jointly developed by the School of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences, Santa Clara undergrads now have a program specifically designed to prepare them for work in a field that has become the fastest-growing segment of engineering today.

At SCU, Electrical Engineering Chair Samiha Mourad led a task force composed of faculty from both schools to establish the new program, which is designed to prepare students for careers in the medical-device and biotechnology industries, biomedical research, graduate studies in bioengineering, or entry into medical school. The curriculum integrates engineering analysis and design with the necessary background in biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics.

Professor Timothy Hight, program advisor and mechanical engineering chair, cites SCU’s Silicon Valley location as an ideal spot to study bioengineering, given that the region is home to some of the most innovative biotechnology and medical device companies in the world. “The opportunity for internships and hands-on industrial and technical experience here is remarkable,” he notes. Find out more about the program by visiting this article online and following the links. —SBS

Hands-on work: par for the course in bioengineering

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The opera was directed by Michael Zampelli, S.J., associate professor of theatre and dance at SCU. In spring 2006, for the Jesuit Jubilee, he directed performances in Rome, and he’s headed up productions elsewhere statewide. But this is the West Coast premiere for “San Ignacio,” and having it performed in a Mission church is, Zampelli says, a kind of homecoming. “San Ignacio” is a missionary opera—originally performed by and for the Chiquitos, indigenous people of South America. It was composed in Spanish and, in its original form, included a parallel drama in the Chiquitanian dialect. The music was composed by Domenico Zipoli, S.J., (1684-1726), Martin Schmid, S.J., (1694-1712), and a third anonymous composer. The libretto was written by two unknown Spanish Jesuits. When it comes to the look and feel of this baroque chamber opera, it’s another homecoming for SCU’s Department of Theatre and Dance—whose talents have been on display in the opera performances already given in other cities and countries. Costumes were designed by associate professor Barbara Murray ’73 and sewn under the direction of Joanne Martin, who supervises the department costume shop. Jerald Enos, founding director of SCU’s Center of Performing Arts, oversaw stage and set design. “It’s a jewel of a piece,” says Zampelli—one created amid a confluence of cultures, offering a message of understanding and hope.

An aria for San Ignacio

In true operatic fashion, “San Ignacio de Loyola” is a story about love and faith, courage, and temptation. To underscore the epic nature of this tale, angels and demons mount the stage. ¿Qué tristes! lament San Ignacio in his opening lines—sung in a special one-night performance at the Mission Church on Oct. 12.

In this story, we know that good shall triumph and that St. Ignatius’ companion, Francis Xavier, will carry on the Jesuit mission in places to which Ignatius cannot go. And, thanks to a discovery of a manuscript in the remote Bolivian Church of the Immaculate Conception in 1986, we see—and hear—how the story came to life in performances in the Jesuit missions of the Province of Paraguay three centuries ago.

Check your sources, lest you come to grief

For the past seven years, grief counseling has been getting a bad rap. Scientific literature has often called it weakly effective or even potentially harmful to clients. But a new review of such literature, co-authored by SCU counseling psychology professor Dale G. Larson, now calls these claims unfounded.

The review looked at the origins of a widely-cited research summary that claimed 38 percent of clients and nearly 50 percent of “normal” grievers deteriorated with grief counseling. The source, it turns out, was unpublished data and a non-peer-reviewed student thesis. Not the ideal basis for making sweeping conclusions.

But this research summary, published in 2000, was cited in later articles, suggesting that those authors never read the student dissertation itself, while still spreading its negative conclusions. When Larson and his co-author William T. Hoyt of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, had experts peer-review the dissertation, they found its statistical analysis for basing its deterioration claims was seriously flawed. Larson and Hoyt’s review is in the August 2007 issue of Professional Psychology: Research and Practice.

Recently, Larson was also the recipient of the 2007 Hospice Award of Excellence, presented by Hospice of Northeastern Illinois. The award is given to individuals or organizations that have made a significant difference in the arena of hospice care on a regional, state, or national level.

Pre-emptive sit-down strike

Look at religions in practice across the globe today, and too often the outcome of faith traditions at odds seems to be mayhem and terror. But juxtapose that with the writings of Trappist monk Thomas Merton: “Solitude and silence teach me to love my brothers for what they are, not for what they say.” Therein resides some hope that religious practice can in fact overcome violence.

Sarita Tamayo-Moraga and Philip “Boo” Riley, respectively lecturer and associate professor of religious studies, saw students’ frustrations with those in pain.

But it’s clear in this class, Tamayo-Moraga says, that students are walking away with a better understanding of these religious traditions through active engagement. Does this mean students are trying to prayer their way to world peace? Not exactly. While meditating, students reflect on real world issues both large and small: the war on terror, what it would be like to live in a war zone, acts of compassion and generosity, or conflict with a friend or family member.

This being college, students’ coursework and participation in upcoming sporting events get attention, too. In both Zen and Christian traditions, the outcome of this kind of contemplation is supposed to lead to action, transforming suffering in our world by creating more mindful, self-aware, and compassionate people—while issuing a call to action to help those in pain.

The majority of students say they have left the class seeing their contemplative life as a resource for making difficult decisions in a non-reactive way, especially when it comes to making choices that might be unpopular, such as supporting (or not supporting) the war in Iraq, personal issues such as going against the wishes of a loved one—and even centering themselves before taking tests come finals week.
Snell, who led SCU with 11 goals in 2006, also has high hopes for the 2007 season. An All-WCC honoree last year, Snell and the Broncos have their sights set on the program’s 11th College Cup. She helped SCU post a 15-3-1 record last year and earn a number one seed in the NCAA Tournament. For her career, she has scored 17 goals and recorded 11 assists. —JM

Coaching changes in tennis

The Bronco tennis programs had some changes over the past summer. Interim women’s head coach Ben Cabell shed the interim label on July 16, while longtime men’s head coach George Husack stepped down on Aug. 10. Husack has been replaced by former Saint Louis University head coach Derek Mills.

Cabell led the shorthanded Broncos to a strong season in 2006-07. Wrist injuries knocking out a number of key players, SCU has an 8-12 record and a fifth-place finish in the West Coast Conference. Three players, Erika Barnes, Kim Daniel, and Casey Knutson, were named All-WCC under Cabell. He becomes the 10th head coach in program history.

“I am very excited to be named the head coach at Santa Clara,” said Cabell. “SCU is a great fit for me and I think that we have everything in place to build a great program. There is no limit as to how far this program can go, so I am looking forward to continuing my work here.”

On the men’s side, Husack stepped down after 12 seasons at Santa Clara as an assistant coach and head coach. He posted a 68-63 overall record on the Mission Campus and led the team to a number of wins over nationally-ranked opponents. This past year, the Broncos had the best season in program history, posting a 20-8 mark and earning a No. 59 ranking in the country. Eight players received All-WCC accolades and the team earned the number two seed in the conference tournament.

“I am truly grateful for the many opportunities given to me here at Santa Clara University,” said Husack. “The relationships established with players, coaches, administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and fans have meant so much to me as they impacted my life both personally and professionally.”

Mills, who headed both men’s and women’s tennis at SLU from 1999-01, coached three All-Conference USA players, and his team posted a GPA of 3.3. He also spent time as an assistant coach at Brigham Young and Northwest Missouri State. —JM

A trophy in the works?

Santa Clara seniors Peter Lowry and Meagan Snell were both named to the Missouri Athletic Club’s Hermann Trophy watch list this fall. The M.A.C. Hermann Trophy is presented each year to the outstanding player in Division I soccer for both men’s and women’s soccer. Lowry is one of 29 male soccer players from around the nation on the list and Snell is one of 45 female players.

Watch that man: Lowry is in the running to be named to the national on the list and Snell is one of 45 female players.

More accolades for a pair of Bronco legends

Bronco basketball stars Bud and Ralph Ogden have been inducted into the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame. In a ceremony that was slated to take place in mid-November, as this magazine was going to press, the San Jose natives were recognized for their contributions to sports in San Jose.

The Ogden brothers helped Bronco basketball reach new heights in the late 1960s and early 1970s, setting program records and elevating the team to a number three national ranking in 1969. Here at the Mission Campus, Bud had his jersey raised to the Leavey Center rafters, alongside teammate Dennis Awtrey’s, in a halftime ceremony on Feb. 5, 2007. The brothers are the only former Broncos to be inducted into the Hall of Fame recently. In 2006 former Bronco football player and coach Bill McPherson was inducted. McPherson is best known for being the San Francisco 49ers defensive coordinator and helping them win five Super Bowls. A year before, in 2005, Brent Jones, a former Bronco football player who had an illustrious career at tight-end with the San Francisco 49ers, was also inducted. —SJS

WCC Commissioner’s Honor Roll

More than 100 Bronco student-athletes were honored this summer by being named to the West Coast Conference 2006-07 Commissioner’s Honor Roll. Earning Gold, Silver, or Bronze honors were 122 SCU student-athletes—an increase of nearly 50 student-athletes over the 2005-06 academic year. The honor roll honors student-athletes that attained at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

Cross country runner Shannon Bell led the way once more with a perfect 4.0 GPA, which she has maintained since she arrived on the Bronco campus. And be sure to check out the latest Bronco Blog.
Tough Call

By Jim Shepard

Mike Carey ’71 on what it takes to earn your stripes as a head ref in the NFL

Mike Carey—No. 94
Born August 1949, San Diego
Graduated from SCU in 1971 with a B.S. in biology
Varsity football for 4 years, MVP 1967
More than 35 years experience officiating
In 1995 became second African American to serve as NFL referee
Founder and owner of Seirus Innovation, Inc., a major manufacturer of snow sports accessories
Inventor of five patents
Member of SCU Board of Trustees since 1996

Jim Shepard: What are the biggest challenges, in terms of officiating at the pro level versus college?
Mike Carey: I think it’s that the game is completely different: It takes a quantum leap in speed and impact—the collisions are much bigger and faster, and you have to adapt to that. That’s probably the biggest change.

Q: That would mean that making the right call is a matter of slowing down a spectacularly fast game. How do you do that?
A: Practice. You watch a lot of film. Some people are naturally able to do it and some never make the transition. There are some people considered some of the top officials in college football who can’t cut it on the NFL level.

Q: Is that film preparation mostly information-gathering, or are you trying to train your own perceptions: getting ready to see stuff at a faster clip?
A: I think it’s how you’re wired, to be able to do that. That puts you at a base level. But without a lot of practice and film work, and concentration, it’s easily lost. If you’re not ready at any game, a game can outspeed you, so you really need to work on it all the time. And then there’s the level of scrutiny in the NFL.

Q: I assume that all good officials obsess over what they worry were mistakes. And that you’re tougher on your own mistakes than any fan. But what sort of methods do you have to put the previous week behind you?
A: It’s a matter of going over mistakes that you’ve made and thinking, faced with those circumstances again, what would you do? And that repetition in your head, it’s like muscle memory: It puts you in a position again, what would you do? And that repetition in your head and you have to adapt to that. That’s probably the biggest change.

Q: Would you like to address, here and now and once and for all, the ordinary fan’s conviction that bad calls are often redressed with makeup calls?
A: There are two things that it seems like people are absolutely sure of: one, that if we think we made a bad call, we make a makeup call, and two, that we’re always for the other team. Both are completely untrue. The worst thing you can do is lay a mistake with another mistake.

Q: No one other than the players has seen the game more intimately than officials. Has it evolved in the last 10 years?
A: It’s always changing; it’s dynamic, that’s what makes it so entertaining. The players’ size, speed, agility, and skills are improving all the time, and that’s phenomenal, I think.

Q: What’s the best thing about officiating?
A: The game: a tight game, right down to the wire. Being right in the middle of the action, with the crowd so loud it’s just white noise: just that whole atmosphere of our crew being really tight, communication-wise, and covering everything, and a really big, hard-hitting, fast, close game. That’s the best.

Jim Shepard is the author of Like You’d Understand Anyway and Project X. He teaches writing, literature, and film at Williams College.
Redefining nature

BY STEVEN BOYD SAUM  One study by Santa Clara scientists says that wild places are effectively a thing of the past. Another finds that some genetically modified crops are better for the environment. So what does this mean for the future of the planet?

DISAPPEARING WILDERNESS

The good news: Malthus got it wrong. Human population growth hasn’t outstripped the food supply. The species Homo sapiens has domesticated nature in ways that have yielded, among other things, energy-rich grains and the ability to harvest meat and dairy products at will. But at what cost?

A study published this June in the journal Science sets out to answer that very question. Or, rather, while the study acknowledges the tremendous gains from taming landscapes, it calls for scientists to get systematic about trying to understand what the tradeoffs are when it comes to managing ecosystems. The study, “Domesticated Nature: Shaping Landscapes and Ecosystems for Human Welfare,” is co-authored by Peter Kareiva, who directs the conservation science program for SCU’s Environmental Studies Institute (ESI), and Sean Watts, who also teaches in ESI, in collaboration with researchers from The Nature Conservancy and Harvard University.

Up until now, the study notes, conservationists have relied on “protecting nature from people as the primary form of stewardship.” But put this together with the fact that only 17 percent of the Earth remains “untouched”—along with the recognition that thousands of years of human activity even in so-called “virgin” rainforests should lead us to rethink our terminology—and you have an approach to stewardship set up for failure. The study also notes, “Apart from reproduction, the most natural of all human activities may be the domestication of nature.”

Yet domestication may give birth to a cascade of unintended crises. For example, humans have mostly eradicated cougars from parts of Utah’s Zion National Park. That’s good for hikers, and good for mule deer—too good, in fact. The deer population has exploded, leading to overgrazing, which, in turn, has exacerbated streambank erosion, increasing sedimentation of streams that is harmful to fish. Plus, deer overpopulation can lead to deer starvation.

On a larger scale, development of levees and channels might protect farmlands and urban areas, but this can lead to loss of wetlands where rivers meet the sea. That’s not just bad for cranes and cattails; when extreme weather hits, the wetlands’ inability to absorb storm surges is acutely felt by humans as well (cf. Katrina).

Ultimately, at stake are social as well as scientific questions. Kareiva, Watts, and their co-authors suggest that resilience theory, “which suggests a link between simplified ecosystems and a loss of resilience,” might help provide a basis for understanding the consequences of choices in managing ecosystems. The goal? A planet where “nature and people simultaneously thrive.” As opposed to one where the ecosystem is pushed beyond the point of no return.

GENETICALLY MODIFIED SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE?

First there’s the matter of trust in public institutions and agribusiness. Then there’s the question of personal values. For some, it’s given that pesticides are bad for the environment and that biotechnology is gene splicing us toward a future of Frankenfoods with unforeseen consequences for biodiversity and human health. Perhaps lost along the way is a hard look at the scientific research itself as to what the ecological consequences are of genetically modified (GM) crops.

Enter a study published this June in Science looking at the data on harms and possible benefits of crops modified to carry the Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) gene, which kills targeted insects. Michelle Marvier ’90, head of Santa Clara’s ESI, led the four-member research team, which included SCU colleague Kareiva; Chanel McCready ’95, who began work on the study as an SCU senior and continued as ESI staff, as well as a researcher from the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis at UC Santa Barbara. Together, the team has done something no other scientists have: analyzed environmental impact data from field experiments all over the world involving corn and cotton with a Bt gene inserted for insecticidal properties. The results have given GM boosters and detractors alike something to chew on.

Compared to chemically sprayed crops, it turns out that GM crops might just be better for the environment. The study is titled “A Meta-Analysis of Effects of Bt Cotton and Maize on Nontarget Invertebrates.” And it finds that the likes of ladybugs, earthworms, and bees all do better with these Bt crops than they do with crops that use large-scale insecticide spraying.

“We carried out this research,” says Marvier, “because we found that most of the studies submitted by industry to the U.S. regulatory bodies (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and USDA) had been poorly replicated and therefore could have ‘missed’ important side effects of these crops. We can now answer the question: Do Bt crops have effects on beneficial insects and worms? The answer is that it depends to a large degree upon the type of comparison one makes.”

Case in point: While the good bugs do better with Bt crops than with sprayed crops, they do better still with non-Bt crops that haven’t been sprayed. So what conclusions can be drawn? One, further investigation is necessary—as is understanding that whether you judge technologies “good” or “bad” depends on the goals of your agro-ecosystems.

The study does conclude with one clear assertion: “Regardless of one’s philosophical perspectives on risk assessment for GM crops, enough experimental data has accumulated to begin drawing empirically based conclusions, as opposed to arguing on the basis of anecdote or hand-picked examples.”

—Steven Boyd Saum is managing editor for Santa Clara Magazine

Wildly accurate

Percentage of the world’s land surface converted to grazed land or cultivated crops: 50

In Europe alone, square kilometers of coastline covered with concrete or asphalt: 22,000

Should you worry about pesticides? If you ate nothing but Bt crops, you’d be eating one-seventh of your diet as Bt protein. For comparison, a 300-lb person consumes on average 3 tbsp of soy protein a day, ignoring the fact that soybeans dominate corn production.

As of 1995, percentage of world’s land area that had escaped direct influence by humans: 17

Of the land that has been converted to agriculture, 25 percent is periodically returned to its natural state. In other words, nature is not fixed, and what we call wild places are just the opposite of human-driven landscapes. But with the advent of global communication and the internet, the wild is no longer remote. For example, a team of researchers from ESI got a grant to monitor a Bt cotton field in China by live video relay. Of course, nature has been shaped by humans for thousands of years, so we should appreciate the changes. The question is whether we can learn from the past and avoid repeating the mistakes.
I have been a photographer for more than 25 years. For the past decade I have been traveling around the world observing and recording the effects of globalization on contemporary cultures. I photograph ordinary people at work, at play, and at rest in the course of their everyday lives.

Each portrait is the result of a collaboration, a tacit agreement built upon honesty and respect. An image emerges from a dialogue, sometimes directly, sometimes through an interpreter or a simple gesture: The camera is my intermediary and my witness.

Most of my earlier work had explored the villages and towns of Italy and Spain and the great cities of Central Europe. But the focus of my project shifted dramatically in fall 2004 when I visited El Salvador with a group of faculty from Santa Clara University. On this trip, sponsored by the Ignatian Center for Jesuit Education, we learned about El Salvador’s complex history, its devastating civil war—including the role the United States played—and the serious economic and social challenges facing the country. The tragedies recounted by the Salvadorans were deeply disturbing, yet the courage and strength we saw in their faces gave us hope. I have returned to the country twice during the last three years, supported in part by a grant from Santa Clara’s Bannan Institute.

Last winter I traveled to Africa, and my project took on a new dimension. Santa Clara colleagues Michael Kevane of the economics department and Leslie Gray of the Environmental Studies Institute invited me to visit them in Burkina Faso, the West African country where they have been doing research for more than 10 years. I spent time in Bereba, a small village without running water or electricity. Life is hard, but the villagers are generous and hospitable. Many have never left the village, yet all are aware of the broader context of their lives. Whether they are weaving cotton cloth in traditional patterns or building village libraries where their children can learn to read, they integrate local practices into a global economy with good humor and ingenuity.

Through Santa Clara’s International Studies Program I was able to visit Cuba as well. Although poor in resources, Cuba is a country rich in culture and tradition. Music and dance—both traditional and contemporary—are vibrant and ubiquitous. Food and drink are shared willingly. It’s a country of stark contrasts: literacy and health care are almost universal, yet ox-drawn carts are not uncommon sights.

In El Salvador, Cuba, and Burkina Faso, I encountered three very different stories about tradition and modernization, global culture and local custom, tragedy and hope. Each community welcomed me and stood proudly before the camera. And each asked me to share the stories of their experiences and the images of their lives more broadly.

Juan Velasco, a poet who teaches in Santa Clara’s English and modern languages and literatures departments, has said: “When you really pay attention to the person in front of you, when you really ‘see’ the person in front of you—then you can really help this world.” These photographs are part of my attempt to really see individual lives in all their richness and beauty.

Photographer, musician, and filmmaker David Pace is a lecturer in SCU’s art and art history department.
Opposite page:
Conservatorio
Esteban Salas,
Santiago, Cuba 2006

Top:
On the road to
Guanantamno,
Cuba 2006

Bottom left:
Santiago, Cuba 2006

Bottom right:
Guanantamno,
Cuba 2006
Top:
Santa Ana,
El Salvador 2005

Bottom:
“Aranca Cebolla (Pulling the onion)”
—La Chacra,
El Salvador 2004

Opposite Page:
Santa Cruz Parish,
Soyapango,
El Salvador 2004
A moment of truth in the U.S. occupation of Iraq came in September: General David Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker testified before Congress on what had been achieved nine months into the so-called surge of American forces. Following that testimony and the presentation of the Petraeus Report, SCU political scientist Farid Senzai spoke with Leon Panetta to examine what was being said—and to look at hard truths that will need to be dealt with in the months ahead.

FARID SENZAI: What are your initial thoughts in regards to General Petraeus’ assessment of the situation in Iraq?

LEON PANETTA: If you’re going to understand what’s going on in Iraq, you really have to look at a very big picture—what’s happening in that country in a number of areas. With regards to one piece of that, the issue of the military surge and what Petraeus was testifying about: I don’t think there’s much question that when you add 30,000 more troops, that it is going to have some impact, in terms of level of violence, particularly from Baghdad. I also think what they’re doing in Anbar is probably helping to get some control over violence.

But having said that, when you look at the larger mission of why we’re in Iraq—which is, in President Bush’s terms, to have an Iraq that can govern itself and sustain itself and defend itself—that’s where you get a much more discouraging viewpoint. Some of it was confirmed by Ambassador Crocker. A lot of it is in the context of the reports that were presented to the Congress. When it comes to that larger mission of having an Iraq that ultimately can control its own destiny, the mission there is far from accomplished.

SENZAI: Has the surge contributed to success for Iraq, outside of Anbar? Or is this Anbar success directly due to the surge?

PANETTA: This isn’t the first surge we’ve done there. And the whole point of these surges is to do what the military calls “clear, hold, and build.” Unfortunately in the past, we’ve cleared, and the Iraqis have been unable to hold or build. In terms of the mission of trying to eliminate the conditions that produce sectarian violence, we have not been successful at that with the past surges.

With regards to this surge, what we decided is, frankly, that we were not only going to clear, but we were going to hold these areas. There’s no question, we’ve been able to—at least on a temporary basis—reduce some of the violence.

On Anbar, the idea of using this tactic of a bottoms-up approach, using the insurgents to go after al-Qaida and to reduce violence: It’s a bold effort. I can’t tell you that it’s the kind of thing that can repeat itself in other provinces. But at least with regards to Anbar, it’s certainly proven itself.

FARID SENZAI: Leon, General Petraeus stated that the political situation has not caught up with the security situation. Is that, in some ways, an attempt to shift blame to the Iraqi government for not moving as quickly, even though the security situation, in his view, is progressing?

PANETTA: Exactly.

FARID SENZAI: Is that, in some ways, an attempt to shift blame to the Iraqi government for not moving as quickly, even though the security situation, in his view, is progressing?

PANETTA: Again, you have to go back to: What was the mission here? What was the purpose of the surge? The purpose of it was not simply to try to reduce violence but, by reducing violence, to create the breathing room for the Iraqis to implement the political reforms and meet the political benchmarks that they had set for themselves. Unfortunately, that has not happened.
You have to ask the question, even though we’ve reduced violence on a temporary basis. Has it fulfilled the fundamental mission for which it was designed—which is to have the Iraqis implement the reforms that ultimately are the only way to control sectarian violence?

STRONG DIPLOMACY

SENZAI: The diplomatic offensive that you have spoken about in the Iraq Study Group—do you think that has in fact taken place, or has the Bush administration been too slow in that approach?

PANETTA: The best way to say it is that what was missing from the military surge was a diplomatic and political surge to complement it. Where I think the administration failed is in developing that strong diplomatic initiative in the region that the Iraq Study Group recommended: a support group, made up of the nations in the region, to provide the support and encouragement to the Iraqis to do what they have to do to prevent a reprise of the kind of violence we’ve seen. There was kind of a hit-and-miss effort to meet with Iran and some other countries. But frankly, they just haven’t put enough into the diplomatic effort.

SENZAI: That leads to the question of Iran, which the Iraq Study Group emphasized. It seems that rather than engaging with Iran, in fact, the tension has risen. And some suggest that before they leave office this administration is keen on militarily responding to Iran.

PANETTA: I think that’s part of the problem. In the Iraq Study Group, as you know, one of the co-chairs was Jim Baker, former secretary of state, who continued stressed the fact that if you’re going to engage diplomatically there, you’ve got to engage with all the countries, and you have to pursue it in a very aggressive and continuing manner.

He pointed to the fact that when he was working on the Middle East effort, he had to go to Syria eight times in order to eventually get them to support that initiative [in the first Gulf War]. He’s a believer that you have to engage. You have to communicate. And you have to do this on a continuing basis. And I think frankly, this administration has really never learned how to implement strong diplomacy.

SENZAI: In the president’s Sept. 13 address to the nation, he suggested there may be long-term military bases in Iraq. Clearly that sends the wrong message to the region.

PANETTA: Sure, because it means we’ll have a large presence there for a long time without engaging those other countries. And one of the problems we’ve had is, by virtue of our large military presence in Iraq, these other countries are standing on the sidelines and not doing what they should be doing to try to help.

SENZAI: In terms of the troop levels, General Petraeus suggested that we could begin to reduce the number by December to 130,000.

PANETTA: In many ways, as has been pointed out, they don’t have a lot of choice. Because in April 2006, they either have to extend tours of duty or they’re going to bring them home. I think they’ve made the decision that they’re not going to extend people in an election year. So the likelihood is that they are going to have to bring back at least 30,000. If you listened to the comments by Secretary [Roben] Gates you know that he’s planning to probably increase that number. He’s talking about reaching a level of about 100,000 by the end of 2008. I wouldn’t be surprised if they move in that direction.

ELECTION-YEAR STRATEGY

SENZAI: Why do you think the Democrats have had such a difficult time making the case for reducing troops from Iraq?

PANETTA: The biggest problem they’ve had is translating public concern about Iraq and the war and where it’s heading into an effective alternative strategy that would gain Republican votes in the Senate. Without those Republican votes in the Senate, unfortunately, they’re not going to get anything done.

SENZAI: So do you think that there is much difference among the candidates’ positions on withdrawing U.S. troops from Iraq?

PANETTA: My viewpoint is that most of these candidates, like the administration, have not really, in a clear manner, developed what the overall strategy is that they would implement as President of the United States if they have to face this issue. What really has been lacking in the Bush administration’s approach—and as I said, I don’t get a lot of comfort from what these candidates are saying on the campaign trail—what’s been lacking is a clear strategy about how we are going to transition from a combat to a support role, and how we are gradually going to transition out of Iraq.

We’ve talked surge, we’ve talked benchmarks. But there has not been that clear strategy about how are we going to—province-by-province in Iraq—gradually transition control to the Iraqi government.

SENZAI: Have any of the candidates taken the Iraq Study Group report seriously and suggested that they would in fact try to implement the recommendations?

PANETTA: I haven’t gotten that impression. They use, obviously, some of the pieces that we recommended. But I have not heard either a Democratic or Republican candidate, for that matter, embrace the key recommendations that we made.

SENZAI: What do you think these means in terms of our relations and our status in Iraq, with the larger Arab and Muslim world?

PANETTA: That is the most important challenge that we face. It’s not just Iraq, it’s our relationship in the Middle East. And what are we doing to try to prevent the Middle East from imploding into a series of sectarian wars? What’s been missing here, in addition to a clear strategy in Iraq, is a clear strategy for the Middle East that has to begin with Israel and the Palestinians, and resolving that issue; and ultimately has to move to Lebanon, Syria, and Iran.

I don’t see any kind of broad effort to try to resolve these issues. For that reason, we are in a very dangerous period, in terms of the Middle East.

SENZAI: Do you think that there should be direct dialogue with current government in Iran?

PANETTA: There should be continuing dialogue with the government in Iran, with Syria, and obviously with all of the other countries in the region. We are never going to achieve any kind of peaceful resolution without everybody at the table.

SENZAI: In November 2002, the president came out very strongly suggesting that our 60-year effort historically in the Middle East has failed, and we need to shift gears and try to promote democracy. Initially there was an effort, including money being spent. But because of the consequences of that—bringing people in that we may not like—the administration seems to have backed off from that effort.

PANETTA: I have always felt that our primary goal ought to be security and stability. And unless you provide that, you’ll never get to democracy. We thought somehow we could leapfrog to Jeffersonian democracy. Frankly, that’s never going to happen in the Middle East. You’ve got to walk before you run. For most of those countries, you need to establish not only political stability but begin to improve the quality of life for people in the region. That is not just giving them a parliament; it’s giving them food and healthcare, and a good education.

Farid Senzai in director of research at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding. He has researched foreign policy and Muslim politics for the Brookings Institution, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the World Bank. He teaches U.S. foreign policy and Middle East politics at SCU.

IN THE PAST, WE’VE CLEARED, AND THE IRAQIS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO HOLD OR BUILD.
There is a reformation taking place in Islam, says Reza Aslan '95.

But the battlefield for jihadists isn't Baghdad. It's not even in this world.

The problem is, if you fight this enemy on their terms, they win.

By Steven Boyd Saum

How to Win a Cosmic War
ONE WEDNESDAY IN JANUARY, AS I WAS ENJOYING A PLEASANT LUNCH WITH REZA ASLAN IN THE ADOBE LODGE, THE CONVERSATION TURNED TO WORLD WAR. Not in the historic sense, but rather future tense. And not in some abstract realm, but in terms of cause and effect from the disintegration of the security situation in Iraq, which would draw in bordering nations and, in turn, a few superpowers with a vested interest in the region. That’s the first scenario.

It’s not that Aslan is a doom-sayer by nature. (He dismisses Iran’s claim, made in September, to have 3,000 centrifuges running to enrich uranium, as a gross exaggeration at best.) Nor does he subscribe to the notion of a clash of civilizations. But his first book, No god but God: The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam, has led some to compare his work to that of Thomas Friedman, Bernard Lewis, and Samuel P. “Craft of Civilizations” Huntington. When Religious Studies Chair Paul Crowley, S.J., mentioned the comparison in introducing Aslan for the launch of the President’s Speaker Series earlier this year, Aslan had to confess he wasn’t sure what to make of it. “I do know, though, that I could take all three in a fight,” Aslan said. “Probably at the same time.”

That is a source of humor—along with swiftly moving hands and an urgency in the voice—often on display. When Aslan speaks, it’s as if his fingers are literally trying to grab skewed assumptions and set them right. To those who look at the turmoil in the Muslim world today and assign blame to the imams, the mosques, and the madrassas, Aslan says, “That’s a complete reversal of what is actually taking place.” As for the notion of Islam vs. the West: “This isn’t so much a war between us and them,” he says, “as it is a war between them and them.” All but one that the West has been dragged into with little hope of a clean exodus.

Reza Aslan was born in Tehran in 1972. His family fled the country in 1979, after the revolution. Raised in San Jose, he came to Santa Clara in 1991 and earned a degree in religious studies, he thanks one of his teachers, SCU Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies Catherine Bell, in the acknowledgments for No god but God. To his arsenal of degrees he’s added a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard and an M.F.A. from the Writers Workshop at the University of Iowa; he is currently completing his Ph.D. in the sociology of religion at UC Santa Barbara, is a senior fellow at the University of Southern California’s Center for Public Diplomacy and an assistant profes- sor at U.C. Santa Barbara.

With a head of wavy black hair and just a touch gray at the temples, he also cuts a hipper and more youthful figure than most plying the trade of Middle East analyst. He’s gathered a self-described “intellectual groupies” that congregate on his MySpace page. (And yes, given that Friedman is in his 70s, Huntington in his 80s, and Lewis the far sale of 90, Aslan just might be the best job of being the promoter in a fight.) These days you’ll find him in high demand as a commentator and speaker, both in the U.S. and internationally—an interest, it’s safe to say, fueled as much by his articulate, startling assessments of current events as by the widespread desire to understand the religious, cultural, and political conflicts of the Middle East and Islam. Across the political spectrum, most would agree that ignorance is no longer an option.

THE WEST CANNOT EXTRICATE ITSELF FROM THIS…. NOR SHOULD WE TRY.

In what at first sounds like the beginning of an argument for keeping a large American footprint in Iraq, Aslan assesses, “The West cannot extricate itself from this….Nor should we try.” Instead, he says, “We have to do a better job of being the promoter of middle way ideas. Right now, we’d, we say, the exact opposite. We are, in our actions, in our rhetoric—and certainly, in our war in Iraq—the larger war on terror—the greatest recruiting tool for extremism. By the end of 2001, most scholars of the region were talking about jihadism as a dying movement on its last legs. Our actions and our rhetoric have transformed it into a movement that is, according to our own National Security Estimate, stronger than ever.”

In other words, while there are no good choices for the U.S. in Iraq, Aslan argues that withdrawal is a prerequisite. “The best case scenario in Iraq,” Aslan says, “is a gradual withdrawal that leaves as few Iraqis dead as possible. And that in itself is impossible without the robust participation of not just the international community but, more importantly, the help of Iraq’s neighbors.”

Marking the anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, 9/11 Commission leaders Lee Hamilton and Thomas Kean published an op-ed citing polls that show support for democracy values all throughout the Muslim world—while, at the same time, anti-Americanism has never been higher. “These principles that we are supposedly fighting for are principles that the region already accepts,” Aslan concurs.

At the same time, democracy and America have become synonymous—but not in a positive way. “Democracy is seen very much as a hypocritical element whose pur- pose is to promote American interests in the region,” Aslan says. “Any objective observer could understand why that is. We pushed for free elections in Lebanon, we pushed for free elections in Palestine, we pushed for free elections in Egypt. In all three of those cases the elections don’t turn out exactly how we want, so we shut down the process.”

WHY IS JIHADISM WANTED?

It’s a litany which may have changed over time, but the goals of jihadists seem to include the annihilation of the U.S. military—or at least driving it out of all Muslim countries; the destruction of Israel; and the establishment of a Muslim caliphate. Regarding item No. 3 on the agenda, Aslan says, “I’ve read almost everything that both bin Laden and Zawahiri have written,” Aslan says, “and rarely do they actually bring this up. In fact, I would say that the President of the United States talks more about the caliphate than bin Laden ever does.” The reality is that there is no actionable policy that could yield the desired results. “It’s like an aspiration of jihadism. But it’s not a possibility.”

Which leads back to the question: What do the jihadists want? “The answer,” Aslan says, “which I think would come as a shock to a lot of Americans, is nothing. Nothing.” Their rationale is a clash of civilizations, cosmic war mentality that divides the universe between the forces of good—themselves and their...
followers—and the forces of evil.... They're fighting a war in the heavenly plane. So for them, what happens here is totally irrelevant.

The problem is, Aslan says, “We’ve fallen into the same trap. We’ve essentially adopted their terminology, their cosmology of what’s going on, and we’re now fighting the same war that they’re fighting: a cosmic war, not a real war.”

The title of Aslan’s next book, due out this summer, is *How to Win a Cosmic War*. The subtitle: Why We’re Losing the War on Terror.

Jihadism is an ideology that can be defeated, Aslan contends—but not with guns. At least, not ones fired by Americans. In September, during General David Petraeus’s testimony before Congress, one of the success stories shared from the U.S. military’s surge was the fact that, in Anbar province, Iraqis were going after the insurgents. “There is a reason why the Sunnis tribesmen in Anbar are killing al-Qaeda in Iraq,” Aslan says. “No, because they want to be on our side; they couldn’t care less about us. But because what al-Qaeda represents, what the jihadis represent, goes against everything which almost every sector of society in almost every country in the Middle East stands for.”

As for the argument that the departure of U.S. troops from Iraq would allow the jihadists to take over, “That is the most absurd and most insidious kind of joke,” Aslan says. “Even our political leaders know that’s impossible.” To the extent that al-Qaeda in Iraq is being challenged by Iraqis, Aslan says it is that they serve one purpose: “They kill Americans.” So if U.S. troops leave? “Yes, the consequences could be disastrous for a whole host of reasons. But the first thing that would happen is that the Iraqis themselves would wipe al-Qaeda in Iraq out of existence.”

SLOW IT DOWN

Aslan hopes that the presidential primary season will close the window of possibility for the U.S. to bomb Iraq. “That is the most absurd and most insidious kind of joke,” Aslan says. “Even our political leaders know that’s impossible.” To the extent that al-Qaeda in Iraq is being challenged by Iraqis, Aslan says it is that they serve one purpose: “They kill Americans.” So if U.S. troops leave? “Yes, the consequences could be disastrous for a whole host of reasons. But the first thing that would happen is that the Iraqis themselves would wipe al-Qaeda in Iraq out of existence.”

WHAT KIND OF WAR?

Some argue that a proxy war with Iran is already underway in Iraq. Though Aslan contends the conflict is nothing like the hell that Iran could unleash if it so chose. As for how that would involve U.S. forces, “We’re not really talking about war in Iran,” Aslan says. “That’s not possible for us…. Certainly, we would engage in aerial bombardment of select targets. But the war with Iran will be fought inside of Iraq, and that is where the real potential is for the possibility of not just a wider regional war but a war that would bring in the major superpowers.”

Aslan cites the enormous trade relations Iran maintains with Russia and China. As with these at stake, and with concerns that if the U.S. isn’t stopped now, it will only be more difficult to push back later, then for China and Russia this might be seen as the right moment to clip America’s wings.

Aslan has said that promoting peace and tolerance is the only weapon we have. “In this case,” he told the anonymous young woman in the crowd, “the responsibility that you have is to make sure that there isn’t this massive divide between us and them—that the other is not this faceless demonic enemy that we have turned it into but is very much a part of us, part of how we understand the world.”

When we find ourselves enjoned in a clash of monothetheisms, Aslan said, “stuck in this ideological battle that we are fighting for the very future of civilization, as the president has said, the only weapon that we have at our disposal is knowledge.”

Steven Boyd Saum is managing editor for Santa Clara Magazine.

On the Web

Hearing podcasts of Reza Aslan speaking at SCU and a panel looking at the ethical choices confronting the U.S. in Iraq. Visit www.santaclaramagazine.com

WHAT AL-QUAIDA REPRESENTS, WHAT THE HIJADIS REPRESENT, GOES AGAINST EVERYTHING WHICH ALMOST EVERY SECTOR OF SOCIETY IN ALMOST EVERY COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST STANDS FOR.

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Kabul’s Splendid Son

BY JUSTIN GERDES

A country that hosted al-Qaeda—Hosseini resisted. Roya, a debate major in college, and lawyer, urged him on. Osama bin Laden, the Taliban, and the War on Terror dominated the discussion about Afghanistan, she told him. Why not show people a different side of the country? Hosseini returned to the manuscript in December 2001. In June 2002, he sent the manuscript, the first Afghan novel written in English, to literary agent Elaine Koster, who sold it to Riverhead Books.

Released in June 2003 without much of a marketing push, the novel, despite its unknown author, soon became a popular book club selection and, eventually, a New York Times bestseller. Astonishment at his good fortune probably gave way to acceptance for Hosseini one day late in 2004. On a cross-country flight, Hosseini says that he watched as the passenger next to him reached into her bag and pulled out a copy of The Kite Runner. A moment that, for any writer, says, “I’ve arrived.” This summer, the book served as the “common reading” text for all incoming first-year students at Santa Clara.

The goodwill envoy

Hosseini was soon offered a platform to match his growing celebrity. In 2006, officials with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) presented Hosseini with a humanitarian award for his depiction of the plight of Afghan refugees in The Kite Runner, and they invited him to speak at World Refugee Day. Hosseini, however, wanted to do more. “I felt that I wanted to speak out, to take some action,” he told the Los Angeles Times in June 2007. Named a Goodwill Envoy by UNHCR, Hosseini traveled first to eastern Chad to visit with survivors of the violence in the Darfur region of Sudan, and later, in September 2007, he visited Afghanistan for the first time since the publication of The Kite Runner and A Thousand Splendid Suns.

For all his fame, one senses that Hosseini—who, more than perhaps anyone else has made the lives of ordinary Afghans, within and without the country, real to the world—has also made it his mission not to let the world forget about his birthplace. Forgetting should be more difficult come December, when the film version of The Kite Runner arrives in theaters in the United States. The studio delayed the film’s release by six weeks after concerns were raised about three young Afghan actors who appear in the film—a scene in which one adolescent boy rapes another might lead to persecution of the child actors in Afghanistan. The studio has offered to move the boys and their families to another country after the end of the Afghan school year in December. But there are no plans to cut the pivotal scene; it illustrates, most poignantly, what it means to stand by and do nothing while another human being is brutalized. Already, this September, President Bush and the First Lady, a fan of the book, invited Hosseini to a screening of the film at the White House attended by Vice President Cheney and U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., and ethnic Afghan, Zalmay Khalilzad.

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Even so, in an interview with Renee Montagne on NPR’s “Morning Edition” just after his recent trip to Afghanistan, Hosseini described a country still in need of the world’s attention. In village after village, in the countryside outside Kabul, he saw families living in mud shelters or tents exposed to the environment. He met families who spent months huddled in earthen pits, exposed to freezing cold. He described a country where more than half the population doesn’t have access to potable water, and many work for less than $1 per day. Yet, remarkably, Hosseini said, despite a raging insurgency (and resurgent Taliban), increased opium production, joblessness, homelessness and abject poverty, Afghans, nearly 80 percent according to one survey, remain hopeful about their future. “We just cannot afford to give up on these people,” he said.

Justin Gerdes has written on politics, culture, and the environment for Mother Jones, the Culture: A Thousand Splendid Suns. He serves as editor for The Human Power.

“Afghanistan is a country populated by ordinary people who want the same things as people do here,” Hosseini says.
Paleolithic Burial

When he died they hunched him up like baby in womb, curled him into a shallow scoop in the cave-floor, planted him like a seed as he slowly stiffened, covering his slumped and earthen limbs with a layer of red ochre, sprinkling him with wildflowers—then turned away.

Moon comes back each month, so bright, then curls itself into a dying crescent—baby struggles out of a woman’s darkness—petals of delicate blue, pale yellow, in the wet woods, how do they know when sun is past dying and comes to life again?

This is older than cities or books, older than prayers or earnest discussions, older than farming, something buried and burst open long before words, ideas, church or temple or crudest holy place, older than farming, older than prayers or earnest discussions, older than farming, something buried and burst open long before words, ideas, church or temple or crudest holy place.

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The Buried Life

On making a poem

Our son Seth, currently living a bachelor life that’s included two rough-and-tumble years in Fairbanks, recently told us about “Hobo Hash.” The recipe is, to say the least, flexible, though it often includes eggs and potatoes, even those aren’t strictly necessary. You simply mix together what you’ve got. This, of course, is stew, a dish for which we have at least 8,000 years of archaeological evidence, with the supposition that the invention of pottery 10,000 years ago led directly to its invention.

And though it’s a homely metaphor, I think it’s an apt one for the writing of poems. Humans are always making and combining things. A poem, like a stew, usually comes from what’s near to hand. Again and again I find that whatever’s been knocking around in my mind will suddenly, mysteriously, come together in a poem. There are rules. As with Hobo Hash, you can’t just dump in anything—eggs and whipped cream don’t go together, and stews don’t always turn out the way they should; many of the poems I write aren’t really edible.

But the ancient art of making a poem results, often enough, in nourishing food for heart, mind, and spirit. And a good poem often reveals a harmony among disparate elements that we hadn’t suspected before.

In this case, I’d spent years fascinated with the dawn-of-humanity burials archaeologists have discovered around the world. (I’d read a particular account a few days before this poem came to be.) Many include the body placed in a special position—often the fetal position—and covered with red ochre. A good number include flowers strewn over the corpse, discernible across the centuries to the expertise of paleoanthropologists. There was more in my head at that time, too. I’d become a parent, and that mystery, having filled my life, is always with me. And I watch the moon endlessly, wondering and, to some degree, adoring. And when we lived in upstate New York near the Canadian border I saw how the wildflowers tended to be smaller and paler there. So all of this was churning and bubbling inside me—not so unlike a stew simmering in a pot.

And of course my endless longing for God. —TM

Bierce the beloved curmudgeon

I n the pithy and acerbic Devil’s Dictionary, Ambrose Bierce defined realism as “the art of depicting nature as it is seen by toads.” And in Essential Bierce: A Selection of the Writings of Ambrose Bierce (Heyday Books, 2007, $11.95), edited by John R. Dunlap ’68, you’ll find the stuff that makes the curmudgeon Bierce beloved even today. But this anthology also offers readers some of Bierce’s compelling war and horror stories. The collection is part of the California Legacy Series, a collaboration between SCU and Heyday. As for editor Dunlap, in addition to holding his bachelor’s degree from Santa Clara, he has taught at SCU for more than 30 years—now serving as a senior lecturer in both classics and English.

Keeping youth SAFE

I n July, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles agreed to pay an estimated $660 million to more than 500 victims of child sexual abuse by clergy. The Southern Baptist Convention has also been riven by an abuse scandal across multiple states. With an eye toward preventing future abuse in religious and secular organizations alike, Michelle Smith ’97 has co-authored and edited SAFE (Screening Applicants for Effectiveness): Guidelines to Prevent Child Molestation in Mentoring and Youth-Serving Organizations (Friends for Youth, Inc., 2006, $25). The book educates readers on issues concerning how to prevent child molestation and offers screening and monitoring procedures for organizations.

Tasting the water of freedom

L auren Hackworth Petersen ’79 discovered her passion for art history while a senior at SCU. She is now an associate professor of art history at the University of Delaware and author, most recently, of The Freedman in Roman Art and Art History (Cambridge University Press, 2006, $90). The book comes out of several summers spent examining the tombs and tombs of freedmen (freed slaves) in Pompeii—who were prodigious patrons of art and architecture—and offers insights into the lives of everyday people in ancient Rome and Pompeii.

A prayer for all seasons

W hy has the rosary remained such a popular Catholic devotional prayer? An answer to that lies in the Rosary Handbook: A Guide for Newcomers, Old-Timers, and Those In Between (The Word Among Us Press, 2007, $11.95) by Mitch Finley ’73. In clear, accessible prose, Finley explains how the simplicity and depth of the rosary make it a prayer for all seasons.

From the redwood forest

N eil Young lives there now. Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters once called it home. So, for a time, did the outlaws who rode with Jesse James. And they all make an appearance in La Honda (Arcadia Publishing, 2007, $19.99) by Bob Dougherty M.S. ’91 MBA ’96. Part of the Images of America series, Dougherty’s collection chronicles the history of this rural community in the redwood forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains that was once a logger’s dream. When Kesey and co. lived there, Hunter S. Thompson dubbed their cabin “the world capital of madness.” Things have settled down a little, but there’s tremendous beauty in this mountain community near the sea.
That chapter begins this spring, as the national team reconvenes with a new coach. The players’ mission is to put the controversial World Cup experience behind them and prepare to defend their Olympic gold medal in Beijing this August.

“I think this team will regroup very quickly,” Dalmy said. “I think we’ll be very motivated. We have a lot to prove, and what better time to show it than the Olympics?”

Only the University of North Carolina produced more members than Santa Clara on the 21-player U.S. roster, the top-ranked team coming into the World Cup. But the experience for the Broncos was mixed in China.

Midfielder Leslie Osborne received the most playing time, starting four games and subbing in another. Called on to mark the opposition’s best player, the one-time Honda Player of the Year performed exceptionally well. But she may be most remembered for one play—an own goal against Brazil, the first score in a 4-0 defeat that would unravel the U.S. team’s dreams.

“Unfortunately, I made a mistake,” Osborne said. “I didn’t hear anything, and someone was on me. I tried to make a play. A lot of things happened in that game.”

The error was, in part, the result of a far bigger controversy. The person who should have called off Osborne from heading the ball was goalkeeper Briana Scurry. Scurry, who had played sparingly in the preparation for the World Cup, was named the starter by coach Greg Ryan. Ryan benched Hope Solo, who had started every World Cup game until that point.

The aftermath of the Brazil game turned Osborne’s mise in a footnote. Solo lashed out in an emotional outburst after the game and was banned from the team for the final World Cup game. The controversy became the team’s signature moment of the tournament. Ryan was let go by U.S. Soccer in October.

“It was unfortunate that it happened and became the focus,” Osborne said. Wagner also called the situation regrettable. “It’s too bad it played out that way,” she said. At the same time, Wagner underscored the caliber of the team—individually and collectively.

“The Hope situation got way too much attention, but I’m proud of the way we came together as a group.”

Against Norway, they showed just how well they could come together, dominating the game and winning 4-1.

**Eyes on Beijing**

Her lone start was particularly gratifying for Wagner—one of the more experienced players on the roster. Wagner, limited by a lingering groin injury and coaching decisions, had been frustrated by her lack of play.

“It was definitely frustrating to watch from the bench,” said the San Jose native. “I wanted to help. It was hard to see them struggle.”

Of the Santa Clara trio, Wagner—who led the Broncos to the 2001 national championship—is the veteran presence. Dalmy—the 2006 WCC Player of the Year—is the youngest. Osborne’s time at Santa Clara bridged the careers of the other two. They all say their experience at Santa Clara helped grow them for the international stage.

“I couldn’t have been better prepared,” Osborne said.

We enjoy playing with each other because we have the same ideas about how the game should be played,” Wagner said.

Watching the final game back home, Santa Clara Head Coach Jerry Smith was happy for the way things ended for his former players.

“I was proud of the way they played when they were called upon,” he said. “I think all of them will contribute going forward.”

Forward and onward, the Broncos and the rest of the team look to the Beijing Olympics. This time, they hope to realize their dreams.

“Go Broncos!”

**Kathy**

Kathryn Kale ’86 Executive Director, Alumni Association

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...and all for one

From a World Cup bronze—to Olympic gold?

By Ann Killion

Amidst the debris of broken dreams at the Women’s World Cup in China in September, three Santa Clara Broncos rose to the occasion.

“In the first game, we were all sitting on the bench, looking at each other,” Aly Wagner ’03 said. “But in the last game we were all in the starting lineup. We were very proud to be starting next to each other.”

Former Broncos players Wagner, Leslie Osborne ’05, and Marian Dalmy ’07 all played well in that finale—a third-place victory over Norway. And though the 2007 World Cup didn’t turn out the way any of them—or their teammates—had hoped, the finale was an indication that the Broncos will be key factors in the next chapter of U.S. Soccer.

Former Bronco players Wagner, Leslie Osborne ’05, and Marian Dalmy ’07 played well in that finale—a third-place victory over Norway. And though the 2007 World Cup didn’t turn out the way any of them—or their teammates—had hoped, the finale was an indication that the Broncos will be key factors in the next chapter of U.S. Soccer.

Santa Clara Alumni Association

Pack your bags

W e hope you’ll join us next summer for an unforgettable trip. Santa Clara alumni and friends are headed to Ireland in August and September. Accompanied by knowledgeable Santa Clara professors and staff, you can expect a uniquely Santa Clara experience with exceptional service. Our trip itinerary is varied and balances well-known sites with lesser-traveled stops throughout this beautiful country, with SCU faculty lectures during our travels.

Dates for this 12-day trip are Aug. 24 to Sept. 4, 2008. The itinerary includes Belfast, Derry, Galway, Adare, Dingle Peninsula, Killarney, Cork, Kildare, and Dublin (San Jose’s sister city). More information on pricing and a detailed itinerary will soon be available on the SCU Alumni Web site.

Last year’s Alumni Trip to Italy was, in the words of Tiffany Hippensteel ’96, “a trip of a lifetime.” And Jim Torrens, S.J., called it “enriching, pleasant, companionable, well-planned and executed. Our city and personal guide were special, beyond what I could have foreseen. It is one of those broadening ventures that alumni need—the world beyond the SCU campus.”

To sign up for more information or to join our mailing list, please contact Amy (Madden) Teedeschi ’97 in the SCU Alumni Office at 408-554-5085, 866-554-6800 (toll-free), or via e-mail at atedeschi@scu.edu. And learn more about past and upcoming trips at www.scu.edu/alumnitravel.

Reunion weekend

During the weekend of Sept. 7–9, the classes of 1952, 1956, and 1957 celebrated their reunions with class dinners, the Gianera Society Lunch, and Sunday masses and brunches. There was also a small reunion group who call themselves the “Fighting 40s.” They include men who graduated in the 1940s and went into the military at the same time to serve in World War II. All the alumni had fun looking through yearbooks, watching slideshows, reminiscing about old times, and catching up on each others’ lives.

Since the Class of 1957 marked its 50th anniversary, its members were inducted into Gianera Society during a ceremony on Sept. 8. The Society pays tribute to the legacy provided by our “Golden Broncos” and acknowledges their long-standing loyalty to the University, their classmates, and the Alumni Association. Seeing classmates reunited—after 50 years or more!—is such a wonderful reminder of the strength and longevity of our Santa Clara family! I hope you’ll consider coming back to campus for your next reunion.

Go Broncos!
Undergraduate Alumni

52 Norman Slaughter reports that he “finally” has a grandson attending Santa Clara.

63 Robert B. Vents J.D. ’68 retired as a judge of the Santa Cruz County Superior Court in January and immediately started part-time as a mediator and arbitrator with JAMS, a nationwide group of more than 200 retired judges. Vents and his wife, Bjoig, a stone sculptor, live in Soquel. Their family includes two children and 14 grandchildren.


65 Colleen Stinnett is the 2007 president of the California Association of Realtors. She worked for Bergman and Dacey Inc. since 1989.

67 Kevin Kelly reports that he is “living the reflective life in and on the Pacific Ocean” aboard the sailing vessel overseas, with his wife, Ruth. The vessel’s home ports are Santa Cruz and Lahaina, Hawaii.

73 Steve Rychly and his wife, Anna, Michelle, live in the Chicago suburbs with their two sons, Sean, 17, and Jothannah, 15. Steve is a regional sales manager for Apple.

Shirley Trevino was named one of the 100 most influential Latinas in the Silicon Valley by the Mexican American Community Services Agency. Shirley has worked for more than 30 years in labor relations and is co-founder of OFJUSA and the Institute for Non-Violence.

74 William E. (Bill) Brown was elected president of the California Association of Realtors for 2007.

Dan and Thelma (Silvia) Dietsch completed the four-year distance-education program for the Chicago archdiocese, and Dan was ordained a deacon.

Robert E. Strunk is featured in the newly released book, Defending the Damned: Inside Chicago’s Cook County Public Defender’s Office, which discusses the office’s Murder Task Force and the defense of death penalty cases.

77 Robert Mason is legal advisor for the Public Utilities Commission. He has worked for Bergman and Dacey Inc. since 1989.

84 Mickey Pierce and Nancy (Schiet) Pierce were married at Mission Santa Clara on Aug. 26, 2006. Mickey is a hazardous substance scientist for the state of California, and Nancy is a technical sales manager for Igenex Datalab. They live in Willow Glen.

96 Undergraduate Alumni reports that “finally” has a grandson attending Santa Clara.

97 Heath (Dabel) Hignite and her husband, Dennis, announced the birth of their first child, Corey Thomas, on April 2.

Sarah (Deininger) Vasquez oversees 29 shopping centers as senior vice president of Westfield Corporation. She and her husband Richard have two children and live in San Jose.

Frank Baich was recently presented an Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate in Reinsurance Program. This award is given each year to two graduates with outstanding cumulative grade averages for the national examinations in this Insurance Institute of America program. Since graduating from Santa Clara, Frank has completed more than 20 insurance examinations and has earned four insurance designations. He is employed by Fireman’s Fund Insurance working as a senior inland marine underwriter. Frank and his wife, Jennifer, recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They live in Petaluma, with their twin boys, Taylor, 15, and Jonathan, 13.

George Lotti is chief financial officer of Heat and Control Inc., an international company based in Hayward. George’s wife, Lisa (Edison) ’89, is a middle school teacher in San Jose. Both operate a nonprofit animal rescue organization—Unconditional Love Animal Rescue—that has rescues more than 1,000 animals from local shelters and placed them in homes. The couple lives in the Willow Glen area of San Jose with their six cats and one bunny.

Barbara Calvin was promoted to associate at Cenicer, a global architecture, design, planning, and strategic consulting firm headquartered in San Francisco. She joined Cenicer in 2003 and serves as project accountant, managing accounting matters for such clients as the Cap Inc., Cisco, and Network Appliance. Prior to joining Cenicer, Barbara served in the Peace Corps in Poland and worked as a high school teacher for five years.

Stacy (Hawes) Molle has expanded her responsibilities at NBC Universal Digital Distribution as vice president of marketing to include not only video-on-demand, but also electronic sell-through, and mobile and interactive television for all TV and film content.

Eric Stille ’81

Eric doesn’t really like to cook himself,” Kate confesses. “He is a big fan of our good-to-go, chef prepared entrees and side dishes—all along with a good bottle of wine, of course!”

Aside from business, Stille’s other passion is his family. He and Kate have raised their three children in Davis. With this next generation coming forward the Nugget family business, Stille says it is too soon to tell, but daughter Stephanie is a senior at SCU, majoring in business.—Karen Kuffa
THE SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY  INVITES YOU TO SAVE THE DATE BOARD OF FELLOWS 2008 THE 42ND ANNUAL GOLDEN CIRCLE THEATRE PARTY STARRING Kenny Loggins FEBRUARY 9, 2008 4:30 p.m. Mass St. Joseph’s Cathedral 5:30 p.m. Doors Open San Jose Center for the Performing Arts 6:00 p.m. Show Time An Evening with Kenny Loggins 7:30 p.m. Cocktails & Dinner San Jose Fairmont Hotel For more information, please call 408-554-6912 or e-mail mgrasser@scu.edu
January 16, 2008

Robert M. Salpolsky

The Biology of Our Individuality

How does biology shape individuality? In this talk, the renowned behavioral biologist discusses how to make sense of our behavior in the context of brains, genes, and hormones.

March 12, 2008

Paul Berg

The Gerald and Sally DeNardo Lectureship

A conversation with the Nobel Prize-winning biochemist, teacher, and research advocate. He will answer some of the difficult questions facing stem-cell researchers and policy-makers today.

May 6, 2008

Michael S. Malone

The Significance of the Entrepreneur in American History

Journalist and double-SCU grad Malone ’75, MBA ’77, looks at the trans-formation of the place we call Silicon Valley and takes stock of where we are required. The series is co-sponsored by SCU’s Center of the Performing Arts.

April 27, 2008

William N. “Budd” Compagno Jr. M.E. ’67

A native of San Francisco, he worked for IBM for 30 years. Following his corporate career, he formed his own consulting firm. After his retirement in 2000 he was able to pursue his lifelong love of woodwork. He is survived by his wife, Leanne; three daughters, and six grandchildren.

Winter 2007

Five from ’57

This summer we received the sad news of the passing of Bronco Bob Jones ’51 and we went looking for a photo that might capture him in his eternal spring. Behold, the graduating baseball-playing seniors of the Class of ’57 from left, Norm Huleta, Dan Gaffney, George Soetie, Robert E. “Bob” Jones, and Dick Venema.

San Francisco native Jones died June 20. A baseball scholarship brought him to Santa Clara—and he turned down a football scholarship to UCLA to come here. He went on to become captain of the baseball team, and he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi. After college, he went into the U.S. Army, where he was a captain in the 53d Airborne Maroon Berets and a medic for two years, before landing a job with Ford Motor Company in San Jose. Work took him to many cities, including Cincinnati and New Orleans, before he retired as district sales manager after 50-plus years of service. He is survived by four children and five grandchildren.

For more information, call 408-554-4400.

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY

www.scu.edu/speakersseries
Daniel Germann, S.J.

From the time he arrived at Santa Clara University in 1970, and later through his struggle with Parkinson’s disease, Daniel Germann, S.J., never stopped believing in the power of faith and of social justice. When he died Monday, Sept. 24, at the Jesuit Center in Los Gatos, he left behind a legacy of love and commitment that will serve the University for generations to come.

“Dan Germann was an extraordinarily kind and pastoral Jesuit who welcomed anyone and everyone into his friendship,” said President Paul Locatelli, S.J. “His leadership of Campus Ministry at Santa Clara built a liturgical and pastoral program that was recognized as among the best for Catholic universities across the country.”

Known for his gentle nature and engaging sense of humor, Fr. Germann was a consummate community-builder. He understood and championed those in need—from the homeless in San Jose to the destitute in poverty-stricken, emerging nations.

“Dan wanted people to find God—be it in a liturgy or in the search for social justice,” said Sonny Manaligong, S.J., rector for the Jesuit community at SCU, and, along with Germann, a co-founder of the Eastside Project. “The core of his work was to meet the needs of other people.”

Father Germann traveled on one of the University’s first immersion trips to Mexico, impressing upon students the importance of becoming involved in the world around them. The trips, he believed, were critical to the education and spiritual development of those who participated in them.

“Dan’s inclusiveness touched us all in so many ways,” said Jennifer Konecny ’68, member of the SCU board of trustees. Konecny worked with Fr. Germann in the Campus Ministry soon after she graduated from Santa Clara. “The core of everything Dan did centered on his ability to bring diverse people together and build a community based in faith and love.”

“Dan Germann was an extraordinarily kind and passionate man,” said President Paul Locatelli, S.J. “His leadership of Campus Ministry at Santa Clara built a liturgical and pastoral program that was recognized as among the best for Catholic universities across the country.”

Recognizing his 25 years of service to SCU and his lifelong commitment to faith and justice, more than a decade ago the University created The Daniel V. Germann, S.J., Endowed Fund for Ministry and Community Engagement, intended to support the University’s immersion programs and immersion trips. For his part, Germann also created the Alumni For Other programs—which Jan Purcell, vice president for University relations, considers for providing alumni a “vehicle for helping the needy and allows them to carry out the University’s mission of making the world a better place even after they graduate.”

Robert Senewicz, professor of history at SCU and a longtime friend of Germann’s, notes, “Dan was known and loved by generations of Santa Clara students. His gentleness, humor, patience, and understanding made him a Jesuit who had a profound influence upon Santa Clara students, faculty, staff, and alumni. He transformed a traditional ‘chaplain’s’ office into an inclusive and inviting campus ministry office, which was marked by collaboration between clergy and laity, openness to a variety of religious traditions, and an emphasis on liturgy and worship as an expression of the community’s genuine concerns.”

One manifestation of the affection the Santa Clara community returned to Fr. Germann: He was asked to officiate at more weddings, funerals, and baptisms than any other Jesuit priest on the Santa Clara campus.

A Mass was held for Fr. Germann Sept. 28 in the Mission church. Donations can be made in his memory to The Daniel V. Germann, S.J., Fund for Ministry and Community Engagement. —Deacon Arno

Read more tributes to Dan Germann, S.J., from friends and Santa Clara alumni online—and contribute your memories of Fr. Germann as well. Please visit www.santclaramagazine.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Daniel Germann, S.J.

THE UNIVERSITY'S CURRICULUM, giving students a chance to learn from and develop relationships with people most in need. The project also resulted in many community-based learning sites at schools, parishes, and agencies across Silicon Valley.

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by J. David Pleins, author of When the Great Abyss Opened: Classic and Contemporary Readings of Noah’s Flood (Oxford University Press), is Professor of Religious Studies at Santa Clara University.

Somehow the Bible always seems to be at the center of our culture wars. The battle this past summer was over Noah’s Ark.

Fundamentalists made a splash as arch defender of biblical literalism Ken Ham opened his $27 million Creation Museum, complete with dinosaurs going two-by-two on board the maiden voyage of Noah’s luxury liner. The dinosaurs, as Ham explains, were “juvenile”—small tykes that still left room on the boat for representatives from the rest of creation.

Since dinosaurs died out soon after the flood, according to Ken Ham, one wonders why God put Noah to so much trouble.

In any event, Ham’s museum gives the slighest pitch yet to biblical literalism with its six days (24 hours each) of the world’s creation—some 6,000 years ago. The museum’s fundamentalists appear “scientific” while seeking to undermine all of modern science’s views of life’s developments.

Why embrace the 13-billion-year-old Big Bang, the fossil record, or the genome that binds humans to apes, when for the price of admission the visitor can be assured that the first 11 chapters of Genesis are all the science of origins they’ll ever need to know?

Doubtless many put the Creation Museum on their vacation agendas this past summer, but biblical literalists were not the only ones caught up in the Noah’s Ark craze. Secularists also got in on the act.

The Greenpeace organization, that bastion of progressive environmentalism, decided to use the best available in the Bible while remaining true to their secular environmental creed.

But environmentalists got more than their share of the Bible this summer with the arrival of Evan Almighty, a blockbuster with a strong environmental twist. In this film sequel to The God Delusion to tar- and-feather believers as sloppy scientists, poor philosophers, and religious militarists. Needless to say, Dawkins and his crowd sound about as shrill as the creationists who raise their ire.

As if to redress the balance, another of the summer’s featured bestsellers came from Collins, head of the Human Genome Project. His book, The Language of God, seeks to use the best of modern science to defend a religious belief system that does not fall into the biblical literalist trap.

The lone holdout among the secularists was the evolutionary-sociologist Edward O. Wilson—himself a humanist raised in a fundamentalist household—whose book The Creation: An Appeal to Save Earth on Earth called on both ecologists and biblical literalists to engage in a common struggle to protect the environment.

The message in all this is simple: For the sake of the planet and posterity, we need to lay down our arms in the culture wars to at least save the world for another round of bickering.

Now if I could just lay my hands on a copy of Saving Earth for Dummies...

God and the Culture Wars

By J. David Pleins

The 1960s represent an important period of social, historical, and cultural transformation in the United States. Artistically the decade saw many dramatic changes as well, as artists searched for new modes of expression. This exhibition will celebrate the artistic legacy of this decade in all of its dynamic diversity—including a focus on California artists.

A tremendous range of media by artists are represented. Among them: Ann Albers, Josef Albers, Robert Antoine, Bruce Beasley, Billy Al Bengston, Fletcher Benton, Wallace Berman, Leo Bontoc, Bruce Conner, Ronald Davis, Richard Diebenkorn, Sam Francis, Helen Frankenthaler, Robert Indiana, Jasper Johns, Philip Guston, art, Bruce Nauman, Barnett Newman, Claes Oldenburg, Nathan Oliveira, David Park, Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Reinhardt, Sam Richardson, Ed Ruscha, Frank Stella, Wayne Thiebaud, H. C. Westermann, etc.

For more information, visit www.santaclaramagazine.com for updates.

Eye on the Sixties

Vision, Body, and Soul

Selections from the Collection of Harry W. and Mary Margaret Anderson

Feb. 2–March 20, 2008

March 29–June 15, 2008

For more information, visit www.santaclaramagazine.com for updates.