SBU establishes major in sport studies

A new bachelor of science degree in sport studies at St. Bonaventure University has been designed for students interested in pursuing careers in the leisure, recreation or fitness industries.

This non-teaching major offered through the School of Education will prepare undergraduates for careers in the fields of leisure industries, sports management, sports communication, sport sociology, allied health fields, sports psychology, rehabilitation, fitness and coaching.

“It will also be a great launching point for advanced study at the graduate level,” said Dr. Paul Brawdy, chair of the Department of Physical Education at St. Bonaventure.

Study in human movement and exercise will provide sport studies majors with a comprehensive understanding of the physiological and psychosocial foundations of movement in exercise and sport, Brawdy said.

The framework of the program offers students a unique movement-based experience, from which they’ll be able to choose from among five cognate tracks — Human Development and Learning, Sport Sociology, Human Movement Sciences, Sports Communications, and Sports Management.

“Students will be broadening their understanding of physical activity in general,” said Miguel Narvaez, assistant professor of sport studies, who just joined the St. Bonaventure faculty from the University of Texas-Tyler.

More information about the sport studies major is available at www.sbu.edu or by contacting Brawdy at (716) 375-2248 or pbrawdy@sbu.edu.
St. Bonaventure opens door to new era of science excellence

St. Bonaventure dedicated the $14.6 million William F. Walsh Science Center on Wednesday, capping a period of dramatic physical transformation at the 150-year-old University.

Donors, administrators, faculty, students and politicians — including U.S. Rep. James T. Walsh (R-Syracuse), who helped secure federal NASA funding for the project — were on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The building is named after Rep. Walsh’s father, William, a 1934 alumnus of St. Bonaventure, the mayor of Syracuse in the 1960s, and a three-term congressman in the 1970s. Now 96, William Walsh was “bitterly disappointed” that he was unable to attend, but health concerns prevented him from doing so, his son said.

Construction of the 46,500-square-foot Science Center and the renovation of the adjacent De La Roche Hall mark one of the most ambitious projects in University history. The Walsh Center houses state-of-the-art computer science, laboratory and classroom space, biology labs, organic and general chemistry labs, a Natural World lab, a 150-seat indoor amphitheater, and faculty offices integrated with lab space for better student-teacher accessibility.

“The Walsh Center and the renovated De La Roche Hall will make us better able to compete for high-quality students and faculty who want to be a part of a unique and distinctive scholarly environment,” said Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., University president. “This project testifies that this University continues to thrive because we have wonderful partners in our alumni, our friends and our legislators. They all believe in the University’s commitment to enable students to become extraordinary.”

The renovation to De La Roche, the oldest academic building on campus, brings that facility into the modern era and creates a seamless connection between new and old. The project makes use of green technologies, including the use of ground water to cool both buildings.

“One of the happiest moments of this project was seeing the contractors, who did remarkable work all along the way, walking out the back door of Walsh, and students this week coming in the front door,” said Phil Winger, associate vice president for facilities.

Fall semester classes began Monday at St. Bonaventure, where enrollment in the sciences has spiked since the Walsh Center project was first announced in 2005.

“Even while the overall interest level of prospective students in the sciences has decline nationwide, as Congressman Walsh pointed out, we have tripled the incoming enrollment in the sciences over the last four years,” said Steve Stahl, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

The completion of the Walsh Center comes on the heels of Café La Verna, the new coffeehouse and deli that opened in 2007; major dining and residence hall upgrades, completed in 2006; and the Sandra A. and William L. Richter Center, a state-of-the-art
Re-cycles program makes pedal power a community effort

Fourteen brown and white bicycles will pop up across the St. Bonaventure University campus this weekend as organizers roll out the Bona Re-Cycles bike share program.

The bikes, creatively and distinctively painted in Bonaventure colors, will be parked in University bike racks and are available to any campus community member who wants to pedal instead of hoof it across campus.

Bona Re-Cycles is a “completely grass roots effort,” said Nancy Casey, associate professor of education. “The idea was hatched one day last fall when a bunch of us were riding our bikes. We had some conversations and just decided to try it.”

The idea is not new, said Casey. Bike share programs have sprung up on college campuses and in cities across the U.S. The time was right to try it at Bona’s.

The call for used bicycles went out to students, faculty and staff. Of the 20 two-wheelers that came in, 14 have been made road worthy while the remainder wait for needed repairs. The bikes were painted by students as a Welcome Days activity at the start of the semester.

“We had 50 students come out to help,” said Casey. “They can’t wait to ride them.”

Participation in the program couldn’t be easier. Need a bike? See a bike? Take it. Just remember to park it in a University rack when you’re done with it so someone else can use it. There’s no fee, no form to fill out – and no guarantee that the bike you borrowed to get to your class in Plassmann Hall on time will be waiting for you when class is over. “That’s the serendipity of it,” said Casey. “Hey, what the heck! You have to have a little fun in life.”

The Bona Re-Cycles program is so new that there is no formal overseeing organization, just Casey and a handful of good-intentioned University faculty and staff. “We’re working to get a group together to really guide this,” said Casey, adding it could become an organization chartered through Student Government.

Presently, she is working with Philip Winger, associate vice president for facilities, and others to secure more bike racks for placement around campus. Donations of bikes in working order are being accepted, and those who know something about bicycle repair are invited to volunteer their services.

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of students with bicycles on campus this year, said Casey, a sign, perhaps, that high gas prices and go-green movements are changing behavior. “I think the time is right for this kind of thing,” she said. “We’ve had a terrific response from students and faculty. And with Bona Re-Cycles, students who don’t have bikes can get in the riding habit, too.”
University to welcome Voice of the Faithful founder and 1965 alumnus James Post

Voice of the Faithful founder Dr. James E. Post will discuss “Leadership and Accountability — Paradox of Power” during a lecture at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, in The Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts at St. Bonaventure University.

The program is free and open to the public.

Post is co-founder and former president of Voice of the Faithful, a group that was formed by concerned Roman Catholics in the wake of the clergy sex-abuse scandals. Drawing on their baptismal responsibility for the life and work of the church, Voice of the Faithful members commit themselves to supporting survivors; supporting priests who are helping to heal survivors and correct institutional flaws; and working to reform governing structures so that abuse of authority could not happen again.

Post, a 1965 graduate of St. Bonaventure, is also a professor of management policy and faculty director of the doctoral program in the School of Management at Boston University. He previously served as faculty director of the Public & Nonprofit Management Program and as chairman of the Management Policy department.

Post holds degrees in law and management (MBA, Ph.D.) and teaches strategic management, government relations, and managing nonprofit organizations.

In 1994-95, Post served as research director of business and society studies at The Conference Board (New York). Subsequently, he was named a Senior Research Fellow at the board, a professional research organization that is known for its studies of economic and management trends.

(more)

Post has served as a consultant or adviser for a number of agencies, including the Rockefeller Foundation, Ford Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, Corporate Conservation Council, President’s Commission on Sustainable Development, U.S. Agency for International Development, and the office of the United Nations Secretary General (Global Compact Program). He has also advised companies and taught in executive education programs in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe, and Australia. He served as a member of the Nestle Audit Commission, an independent body that audited that company’s compliance with the World Health Organization’s international code of conduct.

The author, co-author, or editor of 20 books and more than 150 scholarly papers, Post’s most recent publication was a leading textbook, “Business and Society: Stakeholders, Ethics, Public Policy,” published by McGraw-Hill and now in its 11th edition.

In addition to his Sept. 16 public lecture, Post will give guest lectures to Clare College and School of Business classes.

More information about Voice of the Faithful is available at votf.org.
Newsmakers

Dr. Mark Huddle, associate professor of history,” recently published an article, “Harlem, the ‘New Negro,’ and the South: History and the Politics of Place,” in the July 2008 edition of Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies. The article explores the interconnections between the “New Negro Movement” and the writers of the so-called Southern Renascence as a means of revising American cultural history in the period between the world wars.”

Darwin L. King, professor of accounting, and Edward D. King, SBU Class of 2005, had an article titled “Christmas Tree Accounting and Tax Regulations” published in the June 2008 issue of the Oil, Gas & Energy Quarterly. The article discussed various accounting and tax regulations affecting owners of Christmas tree businesses. This is King’s 19th article published in this journal since 2000. The Oil, Gas & Energy Quarterly serves accountants and attorneys nationwide.

Dr. Charles Walker, professor of psychology, presented research on “The Role of Audiences in the Autotelic and Syntelic Flow Experiences of Athletes” at the fourth European Conference on Positive Psychology held in Opatija, Croatia. Walker found that emotional synchrony between audience and athlete was much more evident in highly social sports like hockey or soccer than less social sports like figure skating or professional golf. Only the audiences of highly social team sports try to keep their athletes in flow states.

Dr. Rene’ Wroblewski, assistant professor in the School of Education, conducted a one-day workshop at Niagara University on co-teaching in inclusive classrooms. This workshop was based the results of a case study of two teachers in a co-teaching relationship in a local school and was attended by teachers and administrators from schools in the Niagara Falls area.

Dr. Kimberly Young, professor of management sciences, was an invited speaker for the Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati on July 28. The full day workshop, “Internet addiction: diagnosis and treatment,” was attended by clinicians, nurses, psychologists, and psychiatrists in the surrounding area and explored the clinical impact of the Internet on adult and adolescent populations and reviewed new treatment approaches with these patients.

Career Center News ...

The Career Center’s recruiting season is well under way. Resume submission deadlines for companies including PricewaterhouseCoopers, Ernst & Young, KPMG, and Deloitte & Touche are fast approaching. To view the current recruiting calendar, click here.

Additional information related to upcoming resume open hours, as well as the graduate school search and the Greater WNY Law School Fair, is available in the September issue of the Center’s monthly newsletter, Directions.
Friday Forum

All SBU faculty, staff and administrators are welcome to Friday Forums.

Date: Friday, Sept. 5, 2008
Time: 12:30 to 2 p.m.
Place: University Club (above Hickey Dining Hall)
Speaker: Della Moore
Topic: "Billie Holiday and African American women in Jazz"
Abstract: Moore will present a tape on Billie Holiday when she had a television show, and then present a 10-minute slide presentation showcasing some of the African American women jazz musicians who have laid the foundation for today's jazz singers.
Cost: $3