August 26, 2010

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**St. Bonaventure ranks in the top 10 for value, and top 30 overall, for universities in the North**

Generous scholarship and aid packages have earned St. Bonaventure University the No. 9 ranking on U.S. News & World Report’s 2011 list of best college values in the North. “U.S. News has once again validated what we’ve always known — that we are much more affordable than people often realize,” said Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., university president. “Our financial aid people work tirelessly to do everything they can to make a Bonaventure education possible for students.”

The average financial aid and scholarship package for an incoming St. Bonaventure freshman is more than $22,000. The formula used to determine which colleges offer the best value relates a school’s academic quality, as indicated by its 2011 U.S. News ranking, to the 2009–2010 academic year net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal, ranking officials said. St. Bonaventure’s high ranking on the “Great Schools, Great Prices” list correlated to its high overall rating in the category for northern colleges that offer master’s degrees.

SBU ranked No. 29 out of 172 institutions, placing it in the top 17 percent. Prospective students can calculate their scholarship eligibility at www.sbu.edu/finaid. The magazine’s annual rankings of “America’s Best Colleges” were released this morning.

Complete rankings of more than 1,400 schools nationwide are available at www.usnews.com/colleges. They will also be published in the September issue of the U.S. News & World Report magazine, on newsstands starting today.

**St. Bonaventure professor to give presentation on his journey through China**

Dr. Barry L. Gan, professor of philosophy and director of the Center for Nonviolence, will share his impressions of his 2,000-mile journey...
through China this summer in a talk at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13, at Olean Public Library.

The presentation will consist of an informal talk accompanied by slides and movie clips. Gan's host, Zhang Miaoli, a lifelong resident of China, introduced him to four different cities in China, representing the newest and the oldest aspects of Chinese culture. During his journey, by taxi, private car, rail, and air, Gan spoke about Gandhi at two different universities and spent time in three different households.

He saw the usual tourist attractions, including the World Exposition in Shanghai, the Great Wall, and the Terra Cotta Soldiers. He also experienced China's record-setting summer heat wave marked by temperatures well over 100 degrees and high humidity. Gan said he hopes that he can help dispel many false perceptions that Americans entertain about China, and he welcomes questions and comments throughout the talk. Gan is editor of The Acorn: Journal of the Gandhi-King Society, and is co-editor with Robert L. Holmes of “Nonviolence in Theory and Practice,” a leading anthology of writings about nonviolence.

He has lived with his wife and two children in Cuba and Olean over the past 27 years.

St. Bonaventure University freshmen to lend a hand to area agencies during Aug. 28 Day of Service

First-year undergraduates at St. Bonaventure University will be hard at work their first weekend on campus — but they'll be cracking open paint cans instead of books. SBU’s class of 2014 will be introduced to the Olean-area community during an Aug. 28 Day of Service. The students' 1,000 helping hands will be installing steps at the house of a World War II veteran, painting at Cattaraugus Community Action, washing cars for a Haiti fundraiser and cleaning a youth center. Other community service sites include Mt. Irenaeus, Pfeiffer Nature Center, Genesis House, SPCA in Cattaraugus County, Canticle Farm and the Allegheny River Valley Trail.

"We will be sending students off campus as well as assigning some students to engage in service right on campus," said Abby Cohen, assistant director of St. Bonaventure's First-Year Experience program, which is collaborating with the campus's Center for Community Engagement and BonaResponds for the project. “The importance of this activity goes beyond volunteering," explained Larry Sorokes, director of the CCE. “Students are being introduced to many of the local non-profit agencies that serve our region and partner with SBU and the CCE office."

Most of these local partners also sponsor and host service internships throughout the year, as well as service opportunities for students in the Clare 401 Forum (who are required to complete a Local Action Project). "We are very grateful to Dr. Jim Mahar of BonaResponds for his guidance and leadership in this effort to engage all freshmen," said Sorokes. The university's First-Year Experience program supports students as they transition to university life and promotes success in academic, social and residential environments. The CCE is a department on campus that both students and Olean-area community members can connect with throughout the entire year. New students will move into their residence halls Thursday, Aug. 26, followed by the Day of Service Aug. 28.

More information:

Center for Community Engagement — www.sbu.edu/cce
First-Year Experience — www.sbu.edu/fye
BonaResponds — www.bonaresponds.org

Newsmakers
The All Bonaventure Reads program and comments from ABR Committee chair Jean Trevarton Ehman are featured on www.commonreads.com, which features news, program information, and resources related to common reading programs at high schools, universities, and within communities.

Lee Coppola, dean of the Russell J. Jandoli School of Journalism and Mass Communication, was a guest on G. Gordon Liddy's program on Radio America. The topic was the Mafia.

Dr. Joel Horowitz, professor of history, presented a paper, “Soccer Clubs and Civic Associations: Politics and Soccer in Buenos Aires between the Two World Wars,” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies held in Montreal in June 2010.

Chris Mackowski, associate professor of journalism and mass communication, has been elected to serve as a member of the Board of Stewards for the Clockhouse Writers Conference (CWC). The CWC, affiliated with Goddard College in Plainfield, Vt., is an annual conference for graduates of the college's M.F.A. program in creative writing. As a member of the Board of Stewards, Mackowski will assist with a new strategic planning initiative to shape medium- and long-range goals for CWC.

Dr. Rodney Paul, Professor of Economics in the Department of Finance, had the paper "Totals Markets as Evidence Against Widespread Point Shaving" accepted for publication in the Journal of Prediction Markets. The paper provides evidence against allegations of point shaving by college athletes, as has been suggested in recent years in academic research and in the media.

Dr. Paula Scraba, associate professor of physical education, was the keynote presenter for the Chapter of Mats for the Franciscan Sisters of Jesus of St. Louis, Mo., held Aug. 8-14, 2010, at Il Ritiro in Dittmer, Mo. The theme was “Build with Living Stones.” Scraba, as a member of National Board for Build with Living Stones, facilitated a one week training session for the community to be facilitators of the Franciscan Institute program "Build With Living Stones: Formation for Franciscan Life and Work." This program is based upon the internationally recognized “Comprehensive Course on the Franciscan Charism.” This new edition by the Franciscan Institute brings together Franciscans on Mission and provides resources on Franciscan life and work that are applicable in a North American context.

John B. Stevens, MBA Director, gave a presentation on "Franciscan Values in the Classroom" at Hilbert College faculty orientation Aug. 19.

Breea Willingham, assistant professor of journalism and mass communication taught an English course in July 2010 at the "High School to College" program at Hilbert College. HSTC is a three-week program designed to introduce African American juniors and seniors to college life. This is Willingham's third summer teaching the English course. This year she taught a condensed version of the "Writings From Prison" course she taught at Bona's last year.

Jean-François Godet-Calogeras, professor of Franciscan studies, and Bob Donius, vice president for University Ministries, traveled with their wives, Athena and Kim, to Provence, France, where they offered a concert in the Chapel of Saint Maxime in the village of Riez. During their stay, Godet-Calogeras taught a seminar on the writings of Francis to Clare to the Poor Clare Sisters, whose community life and engaging hospitality are a vitalizing presence in the surrounding community.

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Women's soccer team welcomes Special Olympians for clinic and scrimmage

St. Bonaventure women's soccer team hosted a Western Regional Special Olympics Soccer Competition on Saturday, Aug. 21, prior to the team's season home opener.

The SBU women's soccer team went through a training session the day before the competition with Shelby Baker, New York Special Olympics
Western Region program director, and Steve Fuller, vice president for Special Olympics of New York.

The event was coordinated by Manoj Khettry, SBU women’s soccer coach; Lance Brennan, director of marketing and promotions for Athletics; and Dr. Paula Scraba of the Department of Physical Education, along with volunteers from Southern Tier Premier Football Club. The Special Olympics teams came from Buffalo, Clarence, Jamestown, and Olean. The women’s soccer team provided an exciting and friendly atmosphere, as well as a competitive event with positive support as they cheered the athletes on.

Later in the stands the Special Olympians returned the favor as they rooted their SBU peer coaches on.

“The women’s soccer team went on to a victory 3-2 over Bucknell. But what they are still talking about is their time spent before their game and how much the experience meant to them to work with the athletes from Special Olympics,” said Scraba. Baker commended the event, “where so many people from the university community came together to assist in some way. The women’s soccer team was amazing — with running the skills competition and working with and supporting the athletes.” See more photos via gobonnie.com and Twitpic.

SBU Family Weekend to feature Casino Night, hypnotist, and annual Bonagany celebration with Allegany

This year’s Family Weekend celebration at St. Bonaventure University promises fun for the whole family with music, games, presentations and festivals over three days. The festivities run from Friday, Sept. 24, through Sunday, Sept. 26, and will allow family members to get out and see the wider campus community in action.

The entire schedule of events is available at www.sbu.edu/familyweekend.

Family Weekend is sponsored and planned by the Campus Activities Board (CAB), whose president is Ali Dykeman.

“The Campus Activities Board works hard all year long to plan and organize a fun-filled Family Weekend with hopes that it is one to remember,” said Dykeman. “We wish all students, families, and friends a joyous celebration of laughter and great moments to last the whole year through. Remember, when you’re here, you’re family!”

Family Weekend activities will kick off on Friday, Sept. 24, with a performance by the Wind Soloists of New York at SBU’s Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts at 7:30 p.m. Ticket information is available at www.sbu.edu/quickcenter. Also included in the schedule for that night is Casino Night at the Richter Center from 8 to 11 p.m., where participants will have a shot at prizes for winning games of chance with play money, as well as music and fun at the Rathskeller courtesy of DJ Dylan Stone from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Saturday morning events will include a golf tournament at the SBU Golf Course from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and a BonaFit 5K Walk and Run on the Allegheny River Valley Trail in celebration of National Family Health and Fitness Day. Register online for the 5K Run/Walk.

From 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., the SBU community is invited to have coffee with University President Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., in the Hall of Fame room in the Reilly Center. In addition, there will be an information session on SBU’s MBA program with director John Stevens in Room 107 of the John J. Murphy Professional Building from 9:30 to 11 a.m., and Dr. Roger Keener, director of the Counseling Center, will talk about a student’s first month and what parents should expect during a session from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Robert R. Jones Board of Trustee’s Room in Doyle Hall.
Also, an alumni reception for all alumni and families will be held in the Hall of Fame room at the Reilly Center from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., while the ROTC Fall Awards Ceremony will begin at the Quick Center with a reception at 10:30 a.m., followed by the ceremony at 11 a.m.

The St. Bonaventure community is then invited to join the Allegany community at Bonagany, the annual festival that commemorates the unique relationship between the university and the village. The celebration will begin at 11 a.m. on Main Street in the village and will include music, food, entertainment, a student organizational fair, and displays by local artists. Shuttle service will be provided between the village and the campus.

With the festival under way, on-campus events will continue with the excitement and spirit of the SBU rugby teams, who have two matches scheduled for Saturday. The women will take on SUNY Oswego at 11 a.m., followed by the men's match against SUNY Albany at 1 p.m.

Saturday afternoon events will include an open house at Mt. Irenaeus Franciscan Retreat in Allegany County from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a reflection and prayer service at 1 p.m. Directions to Mt. Irenaeus can be found at the Merton Center on campus or at www.mounti.com. In addition, there will be a Phi Eta Sigma induction ceremony for honorees and their families at the University Chapel at noon.

The fun continues into Saturday night when hypnotist Keith Karkut presents Hypnotic Intoxication in the Murphy Building's Dresser Auditorium at 8 p.m. There will also be darts, billiards, video games, and cover songs from Rod Tucker at the Rathskeller from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Family Weekend events will conclude with a special Mass in the Reilly Center Arena at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 26. All are welcome to attend.