Bruess Reenvisions MSA

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Bruess Reenvisions MSA

GRAEME GALLAGHER | CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The restructuring of Mission and Student Affairs targets student retention and inclusion as one of the “most important changes” for students that the college has ever made, according to Pres. Bruess.

In an interview with the St. Norbert Times, Pres. Brian Bruess stated that the recent changes to the Mission and Student Affairs (MSA) divisions will be “one of the most important changes the college has ever made for students in a long time.”

Announced on Jan. 17, the change restructures the once(combined divisions into what Bruess described as “appropriately autonomous units.” While the divisions now stand alone, the change is expected to foster “wildly unbridled collaboration.”

“Part of what I’m believing this college needs to do is to think in more interdisciplinary, more integrative ways,” stated Bruess. “It’s harder work, it’s more complex, but it’s also more powerful and it is more sustaining.”

The decision to change was not shaped by the events of last semester, but rather has been in the works since Bruess entered the presidency. One of the main factors for the decision rests in the institution’s and students’ needs for the future.

“I would say this, when Tom Kunkel combined mission and student affairs at the time that he did it, that was the right thing to do. I probably would have done the same thing,” said Bruess. “But, what students need today is different.”

In order to satisfy these needs, the changes are honing in on two specific and crucial areas of student experience: student retention and equity, inclusion and diversity.

In regards to retention, Bruess believes that the first-year retention and four-year graduation rate needs to be higher, and that can only be achieved through intense focus on the curricular and co-curricular student experience. To do so, Bruess wants to focus

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Leadership: Love Your Community

JANELLE KNICK | NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Every month the Sturzl Center and LSE office present a “Leadership” for the students of St. Norbert College. Each Leadership has a different subject and is run by different individuals. The theme of the most recent Leadership on February 24 was community work and volunteering.

Leading by Molly Freye, the representative from the LSE office, and Randi Groff, the representative from the Sturzl Center, the “Love Your Community” Leadership focused on how St. Norbert Students, both as individuals and Student Organizations, could get involved in the community.

At the beginning of the meeting, Freye and Groff discussed why volunteering is important for individuals as both students and members of the community. The ladies opened by stating, “never doubt that a small group can make a difference.” They also had the group of attendees recall a personal volunteering experience that they had had recently and how that experience had changed both the volunteer and those that were being helped through the volunteering. Volunteering, especially if it occurs frequently, at a place with the same people, builds valuable relationships that last for a lifetime.

After discussing the importance of volunteering, Freye and Groff discuss how to determine which community partner is the perfect fit for your volunteering needs and desires. If you are volunteering as a group, it is important to know how many people are coming at any given time, as some organizations can only accommodate a certain number of people. Distance from campus creates another factor to consider since distance can be problematic at times. Additionally, it is important to work with a community program that matches your organization’s mission and philanthropy since “motivated service is the best kind of service.” One of the bigger pieces of advice Freye and Groff offered was that St. Norbert organizations should designate a singular person to create a solid line of communication, especially if your organization is repeatedly returning to a particular community program. Additionally, it was stressed that volunteers need to be flexible for their Community Partner, and Student Organizations should not expect their community partners to be flexible for them.

Some different partners that this Leadership noted as prominent figures in the community that oftentimes need help include Paul’s Pantry, the YMCA, The Salvation Army, and De Pere Christian Outreach.

In regards to volunteering, Freye and Groff also discussed the importance of the students “learning by doing.” This could mean helping on campus or volunteering in the community. It is important for students to learn how you are named and what you should expect from volunteering.

SEE LEADERSHIP Page 2 >
The St. Norbert Times strives to be an informative student-run newspaper that acts as a balanced and accurate source of news about St. Norbert College, as well as the world around it. In the spirit of the Norbertine tradition and the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Times will encourage and defend the principles of free inquiry, vigorous debate and the pursuit of truth.

In the spirit of the Norbertine tradition, we embrace the following creed:

> "Almighty Father, the scriptures inform us that: 'THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE!'"

Free from compromising principles
Free from being self-servings
Free from suspicion
Free from prejudice
Free from intolerance
Free from fear of retaliation
Free to be courageous and bold
Free to be honest and forthright.

> "Bless those who speak, promote and value the truth. Bless those who have made and continue to make the St. Norbert Times a vehicle for honesty, truth and courageous information, who make it a beacon for the enlightened progress of St. Norbert College, protecting it from half-truths and misinformation. Help the staff know that they are called and chosen to be that voice crying in the wilderness, especially for the students whom they enlighten and inform, helping them to take up the banner of truth courageously and openly for their welfare and to help St. Norbert College be the shining beacon it is called and destined to be."

Rev. Rowland De Peaux, O.Praem.
St. Norbert Times Banquet
April 30, 2008

> LEADERSHIP
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Strutz Center has an available google calendar where all upcoming volunteering opportunities are listed.

Aside from being an important part of being an active community member, St. Norbert Organizations are required to complete varying levels of service work. The average Student Organization must complete at least one service event per semester. Greek life has some new requirements; each member of the group needs to have 5 hours average. Luckily, Leadershops do count for these hours.

Finally, this Leadership motivated those attending to create a plan to volunteer for both their Student Organizations and their personal volunteering experience. To motivate the actual creation and following through of this plan, those running the Leadership are offering the chance for those that complete the provided forms and submit them to win $100 and a VIP pass to the front of Easter dinner line. If you are interested in learning more and filling out the form to create a plan to volunteer, contact randi.groff@snc.edu.

Zumba Class | Aysiah Jaeke

Good news to those who are looking for a workout that will help you get the exercise you want while also having fun! Aysiah Jaeke, a student here at St. Norbert College, is a certified Zumba Instructor who works diligently every week to bring her sessions to life.

A former dance team member in high school, Jaeke knows the commitment to a team can be strenuous, so she wanted to offer an escape from the busy college life. The idea for a Zumba class came to her during finals week during the Fall 2019 semester. “I wanted a break, and a way to relieve my stress,” she shares. After reaching out to the Campus Center office if St. Norbert offered any Zumba classes, she decided to take matters into her own hands to provide a safe space for students to dance their hearts out while forgetting about all the things they had to do. The Campus Center confirmed that they would employ her if she became a certified Zumba Instructor. So began her journey.

Over winter break Jaeke went to Racine, Wis., where she spent an 8 hour day learning the ins and outs of being an instructor. It was there she learned the basic moves, how to teach a class and how to run her own business. It proved to be a long, difficult day, but Jaeke prevailed and came out strong in the end certification in hand.
Getting to Know RHA

KAITLIN FOLEY | NEWS CORRESPONDENT

With housing deadlines approaching, many SNC students are frantically attempting to square-away with whom and where they will be living. There are many factors to consider when choosing a dorm, ensuring that wherever you live, it gives the best possible on-campus experience. An organization that works to improve residence life is the Residence Hall Association, or RHA, that works to ensure that Residential Education and Housing better serves the student population here at St. Norbert.

RHA is a student-run organization that meets every other week to discuss and propose various improvements or programs that could take place in their halls. The council is made up with representatives from the majority of the dorms, ranging from freshmen to seniors. The main purpose is to improve the residential housing experience for all students, tackling the big problems along with the small ones. For example, RHA brought up student concerns with the laundry fees, and worked to bring free laundry to campus. They focus on listening to student needs and carrying it out with the funds they are provided. They bring small improvements too, working to better the day-to-day living of all residents. This past semester, they have brought dorms various appliances such as toasters, microwaves, drinking fountains, and much more. Residents are their first priority; whatever problem is brought to their attention, they figure out a way to address that need. By working with other staff at the college, they work to provide long-term solutions to any problems that are encountered in the dorms.

The Residence Hall Association does not just focus on physical improvements when it comes to residential life, but also on improving the overall student experience. This past semester, there have been all-hall dinners, halloween parties, movie marathons, study-breaks, and tournaments with prizes, just to name a few. This embraces the idea of communio by bringing together all the students and staff that live in each hall. Getting to know the people that you live with helps the building feel that much more like a home. RHA strives to help residents feel comfortable with their fellow students, from freshman dorms like Madeline-Lorraine to upperclassmen living options like Gries Apartments. RHA also offers free trips and excursions that are of zero cost to students. In the fall, a group of around 50 was able to go to a trampoline park for no cost, courtesy of the funding and programming offered by RHA. If you missed out on this event, do not fret--a similar event will be hosted on Apr. 3. RHA is hosting a ‘mystery bus tour’, free of charge to all SNC students. This event has always been a favorite, with past locations including escape rooms, trampoline parks, movie theaters, and more! The possibilities are endless when it comes where this trip may take you!

The Residence Hall Association works to provide students with the best residential experience. Whenever you decide to live next fall, remember that RHA is present in every dorm to make sure your experience is a positive one.
Cru Hosts EII Business Forum

ERIKA DITZMAN | CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

St. Norbert College student leaders were invited to the Executive and Entrepreneurial Forum on Wednesday, March 4, where local business leaders revealed the secret to their success.

The forum is a national program that thrives upon Christian men and women who live with a passion for their Lord Jesus and recognize the forum’s potential to influence others.

“We unapologetically first and foremost want people to hear about the most important message in the world,” says Jim Kelly, co-founder of Metal Man Values.

“Work hard to accomplish your tasks, work as called work because it’s work.”

“Work smart. Do your work in a way that doesn’t waste time, energy, or money.”

“Work creatively. So you can become an innovator.”

“Work with excellence in mind, if we can’t provide it internally find someone outside who can.”

“Work in a way to understand your strengths, passions, and limits so you can achieve greater fulfillment on the job.”

“Work, because it’s not about to give us life, purpose, and fulfillment. We want students to hear it from successful men and women of faith.”

The night began with a short reception that allowed all students and business executives to mingle.

The first speaker, David Anderson, outlined his Metal Man Values, inspired by his company, Metal Man Gear Co.:

Metal Man Values

Metal Man is a company driven by creative, profitable growth and seeks to provide knowledgeable customer service before, during and after the sale.

- Work hard to accomplish your tasks. Work as called work because it’s work.
- Work smart. Do your work in a way that doesn’t waste time, energy, or money.
- Work creatively. So you can become an innovator.
- Work with excellence in mind. If we can’t provide it internally, find someone outside who can.
- Work in a way to understand your strengths, passions, and limits so you can achieve greater fulfillment on the job.
- Work. Because it’s not about to give us life, purpose, and fulfillment. We want students to hear it from successful men and women of faith.

BSU Brings Cultural Awareness

KYRA KRONBERG | NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Every year, the SNC Black Student Union puts together events to celebrate and raise awareness for Black History Month. This year, the group put together a series of events to highlight black excellence in and outside of the SNC community.

“I want to accomplish this school realizing that it’s black history month, and that we do have some black people on campus. It’s not portrayed as often on campus. Just to educate the campus on black history. Leaving a stamp.” said Daijah Brown ‘22.

The multicultural center kicked off the month with the soul food dinner, which took place in Michels Commons Ballroom on Feb. 8. Several students helped put the event together as part of the multicultural scholarship. Over 100 students and community members enjoyed southern-style food as they listened to speakers and watched other performances.

After the excitement of the soul food dinner, clip talk was a new event that was added this year that took place in the library on Feb. 11.

On Valentine’s Day, students in BSU were invited to attend African Heritage Incorporated conference in Appleton, Wis., an event run by Dr. Bola Delano and another professor in the area run. Students were granted the opportunity to network with students from colleges and high schools in the Green Bay and Fox Valley areas.

“It’s more of a chance for us to interact with other African Americans that go to PWI [primarily white institutions]. We talk about things going on, how to be better as leaders, how to make different impacts on our campuses. There are also keynote speakers,” said Daijah Brown ‘22.

One event the group puts on every year is Mr. SNC, a male pageant in the campus center that is open to all men on campus to compete for a $100 prize. This year, Beaux Meyers ’20 won first place.

As part of a final BHM celebration, the group threw one last party at Brick House on Feb. 29.

“It’s a last little celebration. Anyone is welcome. It’s not that black history month has an end to it. We are always celebrating it. But for the end of February, we just decided to have a party,” said Brown.

Going forward, Black Student Union is in the process of planning other volunteer projects and events throughout the year. They are even teaming up with the Math club to show Hidden Figures, a movie that african american women that worked with NASA during the time of the civil right movement.

“It’s things like them having to walk across the whole place to go to that bathroom and them dealing with backlash of people and all that in general,” said Brown.

“This month isn’t just to highlight the struggles of black people. It’s mostly just to educate the students. I know SNC is big on diversity, but just to have them actually immersed in diversity and actually learn about the good stuff,” said Henderson.
Immigration: Returning to Common Ground

ALDO GONZALEZ | OPINION COLUMNIST

Before the recent past, as hard as it is to believe, both sides of the aisle used to visibly hold central points of agreement on immigration. If you look at our politicians and media from the past few years, we see those points are not as visible anymore. Instead, both sides are doubting each other’s motives and doubling down on their disagreements.

On the Republican side, there is an increasingly pervasive stereotype of Democrats as wanting open borders. By this, I mean, their end goal is portrayed as a border patrol agent standing there going, “Come right in! And here, take your citizenship!” Now, I have little interest in defending Democratic politicians, because politicians say many strange things, and the early Democratic debates did not help their case. I am instead defending the everyday Democratic voter. The one who does want to make sure our borders are in check, all while taking compassionate consideration for those who are yearning to become citizens.

On the Democratic side, it seems natural to get swept up by the insanely partisan rhetoric happening on Capitol Hill, thereby forgetting that there was common ground with Republicans not too long ago.

As a litmus test, read the following quote, and try to imagine who’s saying it: “We don’t even know how many of these kids don’t make it and may have been waylaid into sex trafficking or killed because they fell off a train. We have no way of tracking that. So that is our direct message to the families in Central America. Do not send your children to the borders. If they do make it, they’ll get sent back. More importantly, they may not make it.” For someone from either party, this might seem like a quote from a Republican. But, it was actually from former President Barack Obama back in 2014. So, yes, as shocking as it might be, both sides used to have visible common ground.

How do we go back to that? What kinds of bipartisan immigration principles should we base our policy on? I’d say securing the border goes first. Does that necessarily mean a wall? No, of course not. It could be any barrier, such as fencing, as long as some are placed wherever needed. It could also include more border patrol agents. According to ABC, there was a dramatic surge in people trying to cross the southern border last year (“Tens of thousands of migrants evade Border Patrol during year of record apprehensions: CBP”). The difficulty that border patrol agents had in managing this situation gives credibility to the fact that they need more help. Lastly, technology is used at the border for various purposes, such as tracking who goes in and out of the country. This and other similar resources should continue to be funded.

As mentioned, securing the border helps to deter people from making the dangerous journey, but it can also propel us to better focus on pathways to citizenship. First, our legal immigration system needs some work. It takes far too long to become a citizen, and that is if you even get the chance. I have a relative who lives in Mexico. He is hardworking, smart, and has held critical local positions. He has applied for a Visa several times—which is no cheap endeavor—but has yet to be accepted. Hence, it does not surprise me that the process of citizenship is much worse.

Then there is the issue of people who entered the country illegally. Here is where the right can be unhelpful to finding agreement, because common responses like “laws are laws,” are shot out. I think a better starting point is that just as no one has a “right” to go into someone else’s home, neither does any non-citizen have a “right” to come into this country. Can we recognize that while also pursuing a pathway for some? I think so.

Many non-citizens in this country are hardworking, skilled, and contribute culturally. Our country could make great use of their full presence here. That is why I am in favor of a tailored pathway to citizenship. The original DACA recipients might be fair starting points, because, in the words of Republican Representative Dan Crenshaw, why wouldn’t we want college students who are fluent in English and studying hard? Then we could move onto the adults, who could be selected via debatable criteria, but ultimately asking whether they would be of benefit to the country.

This was not meant to be an exhaustive analysis of policy, but an attempt to bring everyone to the table via some general, common-ground principles. With this, not only would we be putting border security first, but we would also care for both the people who want to come into the country and those within it living in the shadows.
A Favorite Quote

EMILY BUELLESBACH | OPINION COLUMNIST

A couple weeks ago, I was at my dance team practice and our coach sat us down and asked us what our favorite quotes were. She wanted to hear them to learn more about us, but first she shared hers, “don’t settle for anything or anyone in life.” I thought that it was interesting and it said a lot about her strength and outlook towards life. As we went around the circle, I couldn’t decide which quote to share. I admired several quotes, but to pick one to tell to my team felt like a bigger deal than it was. I ended up choosing, “You are the sky. Everything else – it’s just the weather” from Pema Chödrön. It was not until after I left practice that I realized why it was a difficult decision for me to choose a quote. An inspirational quote that sticks with a person and becomes their mantra can speak volumes about what kind of individual they are and how they approach life. When shared with others there is a chance that it can affect judgements about one’s merit. Quotes can be an output for inspiration and motivation, and as we navigate life we turn to our favorite quotes to help us handle hardships and other situations. Out of the millions of quotes, people typically have one that stays with them and that one quote has the power to share what an individual’s outlook on life is and can shape what is important to us.

My quote means that within yourself there are thoughts, emotions, distractions, etc, which create internal noise that can hinder you. However, there is always a way to separate that noise to create a clear conscience so you can perform and live your best life. It’s a reminder that there is a cloudless sky in us but we have the power and choice to wipe away the weather to let ourselves shine. I chose this quote because I felt that it described my perspective and attitude towards life itself. Sweating the small stuff and worrying about things that haven’t happened yet are common for me, but during those times I always remember that I have the power to overcome any mess and create my own happiness.

For my coach, her quote made sense because she exhales confidence in what decisions she makes for our team and she strives only for the best. One of my teammates quotes was very cheesy, “create your own sunshine.” We laughed at it but only because it was so like her to have this as her favorite quote. She views life in a positive light and even if situations are not ideal premise is that the fake news epidemic contributes to what I like to call the fake new epidemic or the other, that is, if they even pay attention to the news at all. Consequently, this lack of purely factual-based news turns people away from understanding current events all together, which results in an uneducated population. Therefore, short of constantly watching C-Span, there is no true way to get honest news. One way to mend this systematically broken practice is to implement credible news stations that not only tells the truth, but does so in a way that the majority of the public will understand.

As mentioned before, the controversy of this topic usually comes between individuals who want factual news versus those who want partisan news. Personally, I think we need both. Factual news helps to truly distinguish the truth from the lies. On the other hand, partisan news gives the public a perspective on how those facts should be interpreted. Both kinds are important, but only one is recognized throughout society.

I understand that individuals gravitate towards news stations that match their own ideology, and that is to be expected. However, no matter what side of the aisle you learn towards, I think it should be every one’s prerogative to seek the truth rather than the distorted truth that some news stations try to convey daily.

The Fake News Epidemic

DAYNA ERICKSON | OPINION COLUMNIST

Although everyone’s definition of what they think is considered “fake news” is different, the overall premise is that some news stations report biased and, potentially, inaccurate news. The controversy comes between those who think news should be straight forward and only include proven facts, while others think that these news stations and their personal beliefs should be able to report based on ideology. Like most things, the ideal situation lies somewhere in the middle. Also, before I really get into what I think, I want to make it clear that both parties are guilty of spinning the story to favor their side. One side might be a little more biased than the other, but, nonetheless, they both do it.

Anyways, the main factor, in my opinion, that contributes to what I like to call the fake news epidemic is the blatant finger-pointing. For example, CNN swears that Fox News is corrupt and full of lies, and Fox News says the same thing about CNN. The lack of accountability is disappointing, but, beyond that, the pettiness that both of these institutions display is downright disgusting. In my last article I talked about America’s call out culture, and, in this case, I could not name a better example of such behavior.

In this matter, the issue is not always what is being reported, but rather the lack of credible sources available to the public. Therefore, people are being forced to pick one side or the other, that is, if they even pay attention to the news at all. Consequently, this lack of purely factual-based news turns people away from understanding current events all together, which results in an uneducated population. Therefore, short of constantly watching C-Span, there is no true way to get honest news. One way to mend this systematically broken practice is to implement credible news stations that not only tells the truth, but does so in a way that the
The Benefits of Bad Friends

JARED GARTZKE | OPINION EDITOR

This semester I am taking a class called ‘Christian Ethics’. It is an interesting class to take as a non-believer and we cover a lot more topics than I expected to in the class. Among other things I didn’t think would be discussed during my time in that class, we recently talked about friendship and Christianity rules to follow in our friendships. One rule that I have heard repeated ad nauseam through my life is that your friends should be people who push you, people who make you better and generally speaking you should be friends with people who you can get a lot of positive outcome from your relationship with them. Hearing this again after every school guidance counselor drone on about it through elementary school and high school made me once again reflect on who I chose to have as a friend.

I don’t know if it started from a subconscious need to defy authority or I have always just found more value or entertainment from the oddballs in life, but this is a rule that I didn’t follow for my best friends. My group of friends that started almost ten years ago sucks. They aren’t good people, they don’t donate their time or money, they’re smoke, dropouts, dropouts, they drink too much, one is constantly in between different jobs, another still holds grudges from kindergarten, all of us hate the government for different reasons, we don’t call our parents, at any given point one of us has gone too long without showering, we barely have goals or aspirations in life, we are not model citizens, we are scumbags of the highest degree. Or at least that’s what everyone else would have you believe.

My friends might suck by your standards or societys standards; but I have kept them around for so long not because I’m stuck with them but because I prefer them to anybody. I think it is a reasonable question to ask why I would have friends like them when I don’t seem to get much of a positive effect out of them. I think this is a fair criticism of my friendship practices. I certainly don’t think it is something that other people should try because I don’t think it would work well for other people to have suboptimal friends. I don’t know if it comes from an innate human sense or is something that has been driven into us by a capitalist economy but I think sometimes we ask too much of people. If you want friends that you get lots out of that is a reasonable and rational choice. Admittedly a lot of my other friendships are based on the value we get out of it. Another part about having friends that aren’t focused on making each other better is that nobody wants to have those kinds of friends. In a certain sense it is definitely important to have friends to help make you better but I think that my highest quality friendships I don’t get much out of.

So what is it that keeps my friendship with bad friends going? First I don’t think it would be fair not to acknowledge that there are a lot of things that I get from and learn from my friends. They are all geese in their own way and each of them has unique and vastly different opinions from the other which makes conversations and debates more interesting than the ones I have in college. What I value even more than these things is what I don’t get from my friends. With my best friends there isn’t the expectation to be a great friend or a pressure to be a better one. For them all they expect is me, because I’m already good enough. With the amount of pressure on people today, having a place where you can exist free of that burden isn’t something many people get to experience. I think we have all just become accustomed to the feeling of constant pressures and expectation, we have adapted ourselves so that it feels like the norm. Which is a shame, because letting go of that stress even when it is just for a little while is one of the most euphoric feelings of freedom you can get nowadays.

Having the relationship I have with my best friends is something I couldn’t replicate with other people and I think if I tried to recreate it, it would fail miserably. Admittedly, I probably got unbelievably lucky in falling into friendship with by best friends; but in way I think all friendship is based on luck, I just don’t want to be stupid enough to squander my luck by making my friendship about the value I get out of it.

Coronavirus Around the World

JIMMY GROOM | OPINION COLUMNIST

Since the start of recorded history, humans have been afraid of many things. Often times it’s war, famine, genocide and death. Perhaps the greatest killer of all is man himself, group, instead, it’s sickness. In the 1300’s, Europe was ravaged by the bubonic plague. From the 1400’s-1600’s, nearly 90% of Indigenous Americans were killed by diseases brought over by the Europeans like smallpox, measles and influenza.

Sickness and epidemics have been the greatest mass murderer in the history of the world. To give the reader an idea how destructive diseases can be, the Spanish Flu lasted for almost 3 years. Within that time, around 50 million people died. World War II lasted only 6 years and it took 56 million people died.

The reader can see that diseases can be as lethal if not more lethal than any person or group could ever be. Today, the Coronavirus is slowly spreading around the globe. With thousands dead in China and countless people being diagnosed from America to North Korea. If the CDC and organizations like it around the world do not have a proper plan of action for combating the disease, then the world could be on the brink of a global pandemic. The CDC and the UN believe that the virus began in a seafood market in Wuhan, China. Wuhan is an incredibly dense city with about 11 million people in and near the city. It probably started because this market is a popular trading spot for animals such as rabbits, bats and snakes which can be hosts for the disease in early December. By early January 2020, there were reports of a strange type of pneumonia that was spreading across Wuhan. Days later, officials began to explore other possible diseases. They quickly discovered that it was the Coronavirus, by it was too late. Due to the population density. The virus had surely spread across the city and probably outside of the country. The UN immediately issued reports to neighboring countries about the developing case.

Unfortunately, it was not long until Iran and North Korea would get their first diagnosed patience. The virus later spread to Japan as well. By late January, the Coronavirus was in the US. There have been reports of a patient in Madison, Wisconsin as well. Latin America has received reports of the virus along with several North African and Sub-Saharan countries.

As of March 1, 2020, the first case of Coronavirus has reached the state of Maine, and a case on a cruise ship off the coast of the Dominican Republic. The CDC has issued warnings throughout the American public that law enforcement, fire department and government services could be severely affected if the trend of diagnosis’s increases. The US and Chinese economy have been affected by the virus. The US has temporarily cut off trade with China in the hopes that it prevents the spread of the virus into the US at much higher rates. Economists at Oxford University say that the Coronavirus could potentially cost the world economy over $1.1 trillion. Personally, I am concerned that this virus is spreading much faster than we have seen previous viruses. The only other outbreak that I can remember that has news has covered as extensively as the Coronavirus was the Ebola outbreak in Western Africa. The big difference between the Ebola outbreak and the Coronavirus is the speed in which it spreads. Every continent has multiple cases of the virus and the population density of the original site of the virus raises huge concerns. The Coronavirus could become one of the largest pandemics of the 21st Century if we do not respond immediately.
Bringing us the Best of Broadway

ANNA DENUCCI | FEATURES EDITOR

If you have not attended a Knights on Broadway show yet, then you are missing some of our highly talented peers raising their voices to match some of the best musicals on Broadway. Knights on Broadway (KOB) is an extracurricular group on campus that students audition for each year to sing and dance their way through a variety of performances meant to entertain and enliven their audience.

As senior member Andrew Lococo '20 explains it, this is a unique opportunity to experience “hits from the Broadway stage, both old and new” in a well-rounded, high caliber show right here at SNC.

There are four seniors this year, Alyssa Higley '20, John Dicks '20, Andrew Lococo, and Nick Surprise '20. Surprise and Higley joined fall of 2017 and have been with KOB since. Dicks jumped on a year later in 2018 and Lococo is the most recent senior to have been offered a position this past fall.

All have been engaged in this group as well as other musical opportunities on campus, such as Lococo’s involvement with the en’s Concert Choir during his senior year and still singing for ensemble, performing throughout the year.

What makes KOB so unique, other than its talented vocalists, is the actual structure of the performances. While in most musical theatre opportunities, people are stuck playing one character throughout the entire show, KOB does a compilation of songs from a variety of musicals to tell a story, “so you get to be a bunch of different personas within each song or show,” says Higley. This allows for a lot of creativity in how each student connects with each song individually and has the chance to be a different character each time they are on stage. There is theatre and choirs.” Dicks’ musical experience took both him and his fourth grade music teacher by surprise when he did a solo that showed off his talent. He began his musical career “with awful stage fright” and never anticipated how much he would enjoy performing. However, now Dicks is a theatre major and music minor, showing quite the turn around to follow his passions.

This means that everyone who was in KOB before has to reaudition. This allows all students the chance to show their talents and for the director to coordinate a group of perfect harmonizing vocals each year.

Auditions are only held fall semester and typically consist of two parts. The first part involves setting up a pre-audition, or private audition, with Prof. Paulsen. Those auditioning will have to prepare for two solos, in which one of them is more serious sounding to showcase vocal ability while the second solo typically holds more character and will allow the director to see the potential acting ability of the candidate.

After these initial auditions, Prof. Paulsen decides who he wants to see at callbacks, where the same pieces are performed but in more public spaces such as Dudley Birder or Walter Theatre. There will also be a panel of judges at the second audition, who are a mix of professors within the music and theatre departments on campus and community members involved in the arts outside of campus. The hopeful students will utilize the whole stage to present their solos to the panel and after a few days of deliberation, the ten to fourteen chosen students will get an email inviting them to be apart of KOB for the year.

Starting in October, practices will begin, usually scheduling for about two or three times a week, though before a show there may be a few more. The small number of people and the dedication it takes to put on a show helps to bond the group. Dicks expressed his admiration for his peers as he notes without the talent and “commitment of the people within the group… we could never be as good as we are.” Lococo shared a similar viewpoint explaining the importance of “the camaraderie [they] share to make music together.”

As for shows, KOB has a Christmas and Spring show with roughly seven performances each. The group will also sing for SNC Day, the President’s Club, with Daddy D local theatre group and, perhaps the most fun, go to Florida to perform for alumni and donors. Lococo, again, describes perfectly how the audience “will be delighted to hear hits from [Knights on Broadway’s] eclectic repertoire interpreted by our very own students.” So make sure to keep KOB in mind as the semester dwindles closer to an end and make sure to grab tickets to their spring showcase.
Cancer Cells and Career Choices

CRYSTAL SCHUSTER | FEATURES COLUMNIST

“To teach by word and example,” St. Norbert College’s motto, is found in many aspects of academia, but especially so in the research done here on campus. There are many different disciplines of research opportunities offered at SNC and a variety of subject matters, in which professors will work with students to create hands-on learning experiences. One such department heavily involved in research is the biology department. A particular example of such hands-on opportunities can be seen in Dr. Ferier’s lab, which has been involved with cancer cell research for the past few years.

In Dr. Ferier’s lab, Mona Nolte ’20, Sarah Vorderbruggen ’22, Lauren Gray ’20 and Aysiah Jacke ’21, are looking at how certain compounds in combination with one cancer cell can have a metabolic effect to reduce a cancer cell’s viability and, therefore, reduce the number of living cancer cells. Currently, Nolte and Jacke are working on protein analysis of samples while Gray and Vorderbruggen work with cellular assays. Throughout the protein analysis process, Nolte and Jacke are looking at how treatments affect the presence of various proteins within the cell, hoping, in turn, that these treatments result in an increased presence of proteins. This would prevent further cell replication and, therefore, further cancer cell growth as a result. Gray and Vorderbruggen, with their cellular assays, delve deeper into cell viability after the cells have gone through their treatment period.

Although Nolte and Jacke joined the research team at different times, both acknowledge how grateful they are to be part of these research opportunities at St. Norbert College. Their research projects and experiences have opened up many other connections for them, which has led them to consider continuing to pursue research in their future career paths.

Jaeke joined this particular lab about halfway through her first semester at St. Norbert College. She is honored to have been given the chance to work in Dr. Ferier’s lab so early on, as most professors like to see how students do in their general classes before investing the time to train them to assist in their research. Prior to coming to St. Norbert College, Jaeke had been exposed to the research process at Marquette University (Milwaukee) through a program which was run by a PhD candidate. Participating in this program opened her interest to the research process, and instilled in her the desire to join a lab on campus.

When talking about her research experiences thus far, Jaeke says, “I really love everyone I have worked with, and have learned so much through working in the lab.” Jaeke also noted the benefits come from cultivating strong connections throughout the research process and with SNC alumni, as she was selected to work in a diabetes research lab at the Medical College of WI this summer. One of Dr. Ferier’s previous research students is a principal investigator at the lab, which Jaeke is grateful to have the opportunity to work with. This is just one example of how St. Norbert connections can help students gain opportunities and research experience at even larger institutions.

Coming from the other side of the lab table, so to speak, Nolte’s first real experience with research was in Dr. Feirer’s lab. She joined the lab in the first semester of her third year here at St. Norbert College and found the research carried out within Dr. Feirer’s lab to be “extremely intriguing” and something that she would enjoy participating in.

Nolte admits that “starting out in a lab can be rather daunting,” especially since it was her first time truly participating in a research lab and “there was a bit of a learning curve.” Although it took some time to learn the techniques and protocols of the lab, every faculty member within the biology department wants their students to succeed. Nolte stated that she is especially grateful to Dr. Feirer who was “willing to patiently walk students through protocols and answer [any] questions.”

Additionally, being in a research lab can be a large time commitment, but professors are attentive to students’ needs. Jaeke says, “Professors are always making sure that you are supported and have time to complete all you need to do.”

These students are great examples of how many peers at St. Norbert College engage in research and have it impact their prospective career choices and fields of study. Both Jaeke and Nolte expressed that they were set on attending medical school but after having the opportunity to see the potential within research, they both are considering alternate post-graduate plans.

Jaeke says, “Before joining Dr. Ferier’s lab, I was dead set on going to medical school. However, due to these experiences, I have found my true passion.” Jaeke now plans on applying to graduate school with the hope to continue working in research for the rest of her life, exclaiming “I had no idea how big of an impact doing research at SNC would have on my entire life.”

Nolte says that research has also caused her to re-think her initial post-graduate plans of medical school as it has “definitely been an eye-opening experience.” Nolte explains that she has gotten a lot from working in his lab and “truly enjoyed working with everyone that [she has] met!”

Therefore, if you’re looking for ways to get involved in research, St. Norbert has a variety of opportunities and resources including the Undergraduate Research Forum, which the College hosts to recognize students who have been working throughout the year and provide them with the opportunity to present their research. This is a great opportunity to see what fellow SNC students are working on as well as see the various research topics and opportunities that are present on St. Norbert’s campus.

Nolte describes her research experience at SNC to have been truly life-changing and provide students with incredible opportunities such as the trip Dr. Ferier’s lab will take to San Diego, Calif. in April to present their research findings at the American Association for Cancer Research’s annual conference.

Other resources for engaging potential interest in research topics include contacting faculty about possible labs to join, as well as reaching out to other students to hear about their research experiences. From the lab table, to the cancer cell, to career development, whether students are working in the lab or just looking for opportunities, there are a variety of unique resources for students to embrace their inner scientist and experiment with research, one test tube at a time!
Student Spotlight
Marki Hietpas ’23 | Knights on Broadway

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY GRAEME GALLAGHER | CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

1. What is your major/minor? Hometown?
My major is sociology and I am from Little Chute (Wisconsin lol)

2. What was your experience in theater and singing before coming to St. Norbert? Why did you choose to come to SNC?
Before coming to SNC, I was super involved in singing and performing! All throughout high school I performed in 4 musicals and 4 plays, and was actively involved in a performing arts club called Destination Imagination. In addition, I sang in concert choir all of high school as well as chamber singers for two and a half years, and show choir for one.

3. What role did you play in Tuck Everlasting and was that your first experience performing at St. Norbert? What was your favorite part of the whole experience? Were there struggles that you faced?
I played the part of Hugo in Tuck Everlasting, and aside from Knights on Broadway, this was my first performance at SNC! I loved the experience because it brought the cast so close and I gained so many new friends!! There were struggles, yes. Whether it be trying to work through schedule changes or push through the 10 hour rehearsals, we as a cast and directing team pushed through to make Tuck the best it could be!

4. What was your experience like being a part of Knights on Broadway? What songs were your favorite? How did you grow from being in this group? Any favorite moments?
Auditioning for Knights on Broadway was probably one of the best decisions I ever made coming to SNC! Everyone is so much fun and they made me feel welcome from the start. I consider my fellow KOB members some of my closest friends now :) In the Christmas show, my favorite songs would have to have been either Angels We Have Heard in High or the Hallelujah Medley! I grew from being in KOB because it forced me to step out of my shell and be confident in my performing abilities. Before KOB I was afraid to sing around such talented people, but since then I’ve pushed to raise the bar for myself. One of my favorite moments from KOB would probably have to have been the backstage shenanigans that occur during every KOB show.

5. What are you looking most forward to for the rest of this semester? I’m looking forward to my first KOB spring show as well as performing in John Dicks’ theatre capstone!

Word Search

Spring Break:
- Sunshine
- Airplane
- Blossoms
- Vacation
- Rain Boots
- Sunshine
- Sleeping in
- Games
- Road Trip
- Spring
- Tulips

Did You Know???

Spring Breakers: Dumb, Drunk and Stupid
Every year, between 1.5 and 2 million students in the US go on spring break and collectively spend over $1 billion.

During Spring break the average male consumes about 18 alcoholic drinks a day, and the average woman consumes 10 alcoholic drinks per day.

The five top destinations for US spring breakers are 1) Panama City Beach, Fla., 2) Cancun, Mexico; 3) Daytona Beach, Fla.; 4) South Padre Island, Texas; and Colorado’s ski resorts.

Spring break is tied intricately to corporate marketing and advertising. Major beverage companies, such as Red Bull and Budweiser, are a ubiquitous presence during the break because they know that if they can turn a college student into a loyal customer, the student will buy their products for the next 30-40 years.

Several universities and communities are attempting to “evolve” spring break. Specially, alternative spring break organizers are offering a chance to participate in community service and other social causes, such as tutoring migrant farmers in Florida or registering voters in Mississippi.

Over half of men on spring break and more than 40% of women drank alcohol until they became sick or passed out.

(tactretriever.com)
A coming of age story

Teen dramas are INEQUIVOCALLY
They come in every form and shape and size, big screen or
telekinetic superpowers. It sounds unique, yet not
at all. Themes of abuse and sexuality are introduced in the show with little grace. A character comes to school with their
family and friends after a family tragedy on top of her new
television adaptation turned hugely popular

This is Derek’s story, the other way around.
He wasn’t one of the boys as a kid; he admired, befriended,
and socialized with the girls. He wasn’t one of the boys as
a kid; he admired, befriended, and socialized with the girls.
He wasn’t one of the boys as a kid; he admired, befriended,
and socialized with the girls. He wasn’t one of the boys as
a kid; he admired, befriended, and socialized with the girls.
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and socialized with the girls. He wasn’t one of the boys as
a kid; he admired, befriended, and socialized with the girls.

However, even though “Genderqueer” takes place in the 70s, there are many parallels to today’s world that will make the story resonate with today’s LGBTQ youth. Derek’s confusion and desperation to understand who he is and what he’s going through anything similar, will be able to relate. With this story, Alan D. Hunter sheds light on a gender identity that is relatively unknown to the general public while also giving others who share a similar story to him validation that there is nothing wrong with who they are. Because of how much background is given on Derek’s life and how much build-up there is for his eventual coming out, I would’ve liked to see the ending expanded upon more, as it is my favorite part of the book. The author does a really great job of educating on the genderqueer, and more specifically the “gender invert,” identity, but I wanted to know more about the author’s life today and how he’s learned to accept himself. It felt a bit to me like the ending was rushed when the beginning was much more drawn out, and I think I would have been more satisfied if it was the other way around.

Even more so, I would’ve liked more about Derek’s experience in the mental institution because for me, it is one of the most profound moments of his story. This comes at a time when Derek is finally feeling like he knows who he is, and he gets locked up for it, for writing essays about a topic that people don’t understand or don’t want to understand.

There is some really great commentary about the state of the mental health system at the time that is summed up in this quote: “For all those years I had felt so desperately lonely and deeply worried that something was profoundly wrong with me and in need of fixing, and had come in to counselors and mental health service providers, and they had essentially patted me gently on the head and sent me on my way again, unable to help, unable to tell me anything useful. But now, when for the first time since I was a little kid I was confidently certain I was okay and was feeling good about myself, now I get locked up as a crazy person.”

Still, my issue with the pacing of this book doesn’t take much away from the fact that “Genderqueer” is a much needed book in a world that is much more accepting of different sexual identities than it is of different gender identities. “Genderqueer” is self-reflective, introspective and unconventional; it asks you to take a hard look at your biases and stereotypes and to throw them out the window while telling the raw and often heart-breaking story of self-realization. Although it helps to have some background knowledge of gender and LGBTQ issues, I wouldn’t discourage anyone from reading this book; I’d greatly encourage it. “Genderqueer: A Story From A Different Closet” has one and we, as a society, are not going to run out of stories like this. The book also does not shy away from John Hughes references and I was taken aback by how charmless they were. I found Syd incredibly difficult to relate to. Not only was she frustratingly ignorant and needlessly destructive, but she was also unsympathetic in the worst possible way. I want to send an angry email to the writers of this show and compare immature teen antics to sociopathic narcissist behaviors. Her relationship with her little brother is the only sweet element of the show but it does not take long for that to sour. The relationship Syd shares with her mother was complex and I enjoyed that, but it seems that the writers are saving that dynamic for another season. Do not get me started on Syd’s interactions with Stanley, who is the only character I feel anything for (pity) or Syd’s “best friend” Dina, who is somehow more shallow than Syd. I want to know if the writers have ever met a teenage girl in their life, let alone listened to one. I am not familiar with the source material for the show, a comic of the same name which is drawn in a “The Family Circus” style, created by Charles Forsman who also made “The End of the F***ing World,” another dark teen comedy-drama turned largely popular Netflix adaptation. I have not seen “The End of the F***ing World” but I figure it might not click with me either, since both series are both mature in content, though heavily aimed at a teen audience.

Book Review: “Genderqueer”

I was incredibly excited when the SNC Times got an email asking us to review this book, entitled “Genderqueer: A Story From A Different Closet” by Alan D. Hunter because I knew that it would be an important book to the LGBTQ community, as it sheds light on a very under-represented part of that group.

Summary from Goodreads: “Derek is a girl. He wasn’t one of the boys as a kid; he admired, befriended, and socialized with the girls and always knew he was one of them, despite being male. That wasn’t always accepted or understood, but he didn’t care how he was. Now he’s a teenager and boys and girls are flirting and dating and his identity has become a lot more complicated: he’s attracted to the girls. The other way around.

Derek is Derek’s story, the story of a different kind of male hero — a genderqueer person’s tale.”

First and foremost, what this book does really well is testify to the importance of the “Q” in LGBTQ. When many people furrowed their eyebrows at the mention of the acronym, people like this author were fighting to show how necessary it was. Derek’s story takes place in a time way before the “Q” was introduced, way before most began to understand or care about gender issues.
A Place to Shine: Most Casting Directors Are Women

HEIDI SWANSON | ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Though the majority of Hollywood directors, cinematographers, editors, producers and writers are men, there is one major job that is making its way into the hands of women. In a study done by Women and Hollywood, in the top 300 films from 2016 to 2018, 83.4 percent of casting directors were women. Since casting directors are responsible for making a director’s vision become reality; the choice of an actor can determine whether or not a movie will succeed. The Marvel Cinematic Universe’s main casting director is Sarah Finn, who has been working in the industry for over 20 years. She is responsible for some of the biggest names in the MCU: Robert Downey Jr., Tom Holland, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Scarlett Johansson, Chris Pratt, Danai Gurira. We might not have had RDJ as Tony Stark had it not been for her; after personal and legal issues, Marcia Cross was cut, and she took over. Then, in 1964, Dougherty was one of the first independent casting directors. She gave numerous actors their “big break,” including Robert Duvall, Martin Sheen, Dustin Hoffman, Robert Redford and Al Pacino. Her assistant was Juliet Taylor, who went on to become the casting director for many of Woody Allen’s films. Jenkins speaks to Dougherty’s continuing influence in casting directors to contemporary Hollywood: “And Marion Dougherty, more than anybody in the old guard, is responsible for how the casting system became female-dominated. . . . Her young assistants — Juliet Taylor and Wally Nicas – went on to become the next rank. Then they became the tutors and passed on the mantle to their apprentices. It went from woman-to-woman, starting with Marion.”

Another theory behind the female dominant art of casting is simply that women are more willing to start as assistants. Casting is not taught at film school; instead, it is something taught on the job. Culturally, men are taught to believe that being an assistant is weak or degrading, but women are willing to take these jobs because they view it as a stepping stone to promotion within the industry. In recent years, film awards have begun to acknowledge a casting director’s role in a successful movie. Can you imagine anyone other than Tom Hanks in “Forest Gump”? Or Marlon Brando as “The Godfather”? Or Morgan Freeman in “Shawshank Redemption”? The BAFTAs added a casting award, its first new award in 21 years. All five films nominated included at least one woman in the casting group. Shanya Markowitz, who has been part of the casting team for projects like “The Hunger Games” and “Ocean’s 8,” won for casting “Joker.” Because of this move by the BAFTAs, more people have been calling for a casting award for the Oscars. In fact, casting directors are the only crew members shown in the opening credits that do not receive an award. Hopefully, the Academy soon recognizes the work of actors who connect actors and roles.

Below: Marion Dougherty | The RGB Studio

> “REVIEW” page 10

I was surprised by the violence displayed in the series. There are very heavy sexual themes and harsh language, which disincentivized me because the main cast and crew are white and neurotypical. I had a difficult time coming to terms with my 16 year old cousin getting a tattoo. What confused me during my first watch was who the series was originally aimed at; the Disney Channel sitcom dialogue and visceral approach to adolescent trauma did not blend well in the on-screen execution. Without you enjoying it, if they said the f-word in “Dog with a Blog?” I would not. I’m getting off track, but please do not watch this show with small children or family, that’s the point.

Before I go into the performances, I want to preface something: I haven’t seen the new “IT” movies, I don’t plan on seeing the new “IT” movies. I’m not going to purchase copies of the new “IT” movies and it’s going to last that way until someone sets me down and makes me watch them because I’m too polite to decline. Okay, we are good to go. I was familiar with Sophia Lillis in “Sharp Objects,” an HBO miniseries adapted from Gillian Flynn’s psychological thriller novel, in which she played the younger version of Amy Adams’ character. Despite playing child versions of powerful redheaded actresses, Lillis was great in “Sharp Objects” and captured the emotional complexity of Camille, who was emotionally and mentally abused by her mother. Wyatt Oleff’s performance was the best of the entire season. I was told that he played the younger version of Andy Bean in “IT,” whose performance I loved in “Swamp Thing,” so of course I referred to him as ‘Baby Swamp Thing’ whenever I forgot his character’s name, which was often. The two are the top-billed members of the cast and I felt compelled to write about them because for some people, that’s the only reason why they are watching the show in the first place. I’m sorry to tell you that not even the performances of Lillis and Oleff saved the show for me. I understand actors have to work with the content they’re given but it wasn’t much to begin with.

The first season ends with a very extreme cliffhanger that screams “don’t worry, we know we are getting re–newed,” which left a very bad taste in my mouth. I have no idea what direction the story is headed and I am, unfortunately, concerned for Baby Swamp Thing, so chances are we will continue watching the series. One thing I can appreciate about the series is that I could not help but stay interested, so if that appeals to you, feel free to watch “I Am Not Okay With This.”

Cover from “I Am Not Okay With This” | Comic | Variety.com

Upcoming Events

*For more details, contact the Ticket Office at (920) 403-3950 or visit snc.edu/tickets

3/2-4/1 Negotiating Space: Recent Paintings by Ginnie Cappaert and Marjorie Mau
Bush Art Center-Bauer Gallery

3/2-4/1 (Re)Fashioned
Bush Art Center - Godschals Gallery

3/15 SNC Youth Orchestra Concert
Weidner Center @6/4

3/19-3/22 “The Little Mermaid”
Hall of Fine Arts - Walter Theatre
Times vary

Movies in Theaters

“The Invisible Man”
“Birds of Prey”
“Sonic the Hedgehog”
“The Way Back”
“Onward”
“Extra Ordinary”

Upcoming Movies

“The Bloodshot” 3/13
“My Spy” 3/13
“The Hunt” 3/13
“Big Time Adolescence” 3/13
“I Still Believe” 3/13
“A Quiet Place: Part II” 3/20
Junk Drawer: Favorite Video Game

Heidi: Super Mario 64
When I was about ten, my cousin Adam gave me his Nintendo 64. He is about ten years older than I am, and he got the game console at a garage sale, so I have no idea how old this thing is. Okay, I’ve just looked it up, and it was discontinued in 2002. It was released in 1996, which means this console is older than I am. But one of the games I played on it is still my favorite video game of all time: “Super Mario 64.” Apparently, you are supposed to try to collect golden threads, but I always just explored the different worlds within the game. I think that is why I liked this game so much; I love wandering, and this game allowed me to do that.

Anna: Mario Kart
“My Kart” is hands-down the best video game, and I won’t hear any arguments against it. I don’t even really have a preference for a specific iteration of the game; it could be on Nintendo 64, Nintendo DS, Game Cube, Wii, whatever, it doesn’t really matter to me. Of course, I play it on the Wii the most, so that one is probably my favorite, but I’d be happy playing any version of “Kart” on any console. I love the competitive nature of the game along with all the different courses and characters to choose from (Yoshi is always my go-to). Growing up, “Kart” was a favorite among my group of friends, to the point where we would have a drawn-out, bracketed tournament to see who was the best. I think “Kart” is one of those games that is timeless and will never not be fun to play; it’s the first video game I can remember playing, and it’s still a favorite now.

Series Recommendation: “The Folk of the Air”

HEIDI SWANSON | ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

You know those books that are so good you don’t want to put them down? The books that you absolutely need to read because the anticipation and wonder you get while reading them is so incredible? “The Folk of the Air,” a series by Holly Black, does the improbable; all three books within these series are the type of book I’m talking about. It’s so well executed. I was actually satisfied with the ending, which is good because I’ve become wary of series’ endings after so many creators let me down.

The first book, entitled “The Cruel Prince,” follows Jude Duarte. When she was seven, her parents were murdered. Jude, her twin sister Taryn, and her older sister Vivienne are stolen away to the High Court of Faerie. But the High Court of Faerie is not a place meant for humans.

The book follows Jude and her quest to find her place in a world not meant for humans. “The Cruel Prince” succeeds because Jude is such a great character; she seems real, in a way some literary figures aren’t. She’s flawed and funny and cruel and kind and loyal and clever. I also love the relationship between Jude and Cardan (the so-called cruel prince). Holly Black constructs a fascinating world, filled with strange creatures and even stranger rules. It’s clear that she spent a long time working on the world in which “The Cruel Prince” takes place.

Favorite Quote: “Desire is an odd thing. As soon as it’s sated, it transmutes. If we receive golden thread, we desire the golden needle.”

Rating: 5/5
You know how most sequels, no matter how good they are, are never as good as the first one? “The Wicked King” is not one of those sequels. “The Cruel Prince” is good, but “The Wicked King” does what the first book did, improves it, and then adds to it. I don’t want to do a summary so I don’t spoil the first book, but trust me when I say it’s amazing. What I love about this book is that you genuinely feel worried for Jude as she navigates the danger of the Faerie court. You never really know what’s going to happen; you’re not worried, but you are intrigued.

Favorite Quote: “He looks up at me with his night-colored eyes, beautiful and terrible all at once. ‘For a moment,’ he says, ‘I wondered if it wasn’t you shooting bolts at me.’ I make a face at him. ‘And what made you decide it wasn’t?’ He grins up at me. ‘They missed.’”

Rating: 5/5
The last book, “The Queen of Nothing” packs a punch. I couldn’t put the book down when I got it. I had to know the ending. And it was actually satisfying! I left this world, sad that it had ended but so content with Black’s clear grasp of her characters. They each earn an ending that they deserve. And it never feels like the characters are there to further the plot. Instead, the characters are real; everyone, from main characters like Jude and Cardan to background characters like Val Moren and The Ghost, are fleshed out, possessing positive and negative qualities that never become character types.

Favorite Quote: “Come home and shout at me. Come home and fight with me. Come home and break my heart, if you must.”

Rating: 5/5 (duh)

And, if you’re looking for more books to read, there are two other books that take place within the world of this series: “The Coldest Girl in Coldtown” and “The Darkest Part of the Forest.”

Black has also written other series, most notably “The Spiderwick Chronicles.”

Covers for “The Folk of the Air” Series | amazon.com
Diving In: SNC Divers Find Success

GRAEME GALLAGHER | SPORTS EDITOR

At the Midwest Conference Championship in February, St. Norbert divers Taylor Lewis ’23 and Will Bethard ’23 competed and succeeded against the top talent in the conference.

Lewis completed her full list of 11 dives in the one meter and Bethard took home fifth place in both the one meter and the three meter dives. To the unknowing observer, the St. Norbert divers looked as comfortable and competitive on the boards as their competitors from other schools.

However, unlike many of their competitors, Lewis and Bethard did not come to St. Norbert for diving. In fact, neither of the Green Knight first-years had any prior experience jumping off the boards.

“I’ve never even been on a board before,” explained Lewis. “Like I had been on the diving boards in pools in the summer, but never an official springboard for diving.”

“I definitely feel proud about how much progress me and Taylor have made this year because we literally learned a sport and then we went out and competed,” said Bethard.

While diving was new to Bethard and Lewis, competing was not. Having done gymnastics all throughout her life, Lewis came into St. Norbert this year without a sport to compete in.

“I did gymnastics throughout elementary school, all of middle school, all of high school and I completed through club so it was a year-round commitment,” said Lewis. “They don’t have it at most colleges so it’s kind of something most people have to give up by the time they come to college.”

Unsurprisingly, St. Norbert is without a gymnastics team and Lewis was without a team or competition. However, it was an early November weekend when Lewis took a chance to give diving a try.

“It was the first weekend of November when, I remember, I was in 1095 GMS and I was sitting there and I was like, ‘You know, I should go for it,’” explained Lewis. “So I reached out to the coach and I told her a bit of my story and we met the following Tuesday and that was my first day of practice.”

Taylor’s transfer from gymnastics to diving gymnasts is not a rare occurrence. As many colleges do not have gymnastics programs, many gymnasts make the switch over to diving due to similar flipping and twisting movements between the two sports.

“I like flipping, which sounds really cliché,” said Lewis. “One I started, I realized that I’ve been interested in diving for a really long time, it’s just never something I’d really realized I was so interested in.”

Heading into the first practice, she described herself as “nervous,” but also “open” to the whole experience.

“For my first two weeks of practice, Lewis was the only diver on the team until Bethard joined the diving team in January.”

However, Bethard was no stranger to the water and was actually a swimmer for St. Norbert in the first half of the season. Recruited by St. Norbert to swim the 200 and 300 Fly, Bethard had been swimming since he was in sixth grade.

Yet, Bethard realized that his “swimming journey” was coming to an end halfway through the season.

“I had put down a time in my 200 Free that for me it felt good, but I had just realized that I wasn’t very happy about getting the time,” recalled Bethard. “It didn’t mean anything to me, and at that point I knew I had to do something where I was going to want to show up everyday and give my all.”

With the realization dawning over him, Bethard went up to the coach that same night to explain his decision to switch to diving.

“I went up to her and she was like, ‘I think I have more fun when I’m going off the boards than I do when I’m in the pool,’” said Bethard. “She said, ‘Yeah, I’ve been thinking that I’ve seen that from you yourself.’”

Always having an urge to be on a team, the switch

SEE DIVING IN
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Knights Complete Comeback; Fall Short

GRAEME GALLAGHER | SPORTS EDITOR

The St. Norbert Men’s Basketball team overcame an 18-point deficit at halftime, but came up short in a 67-60 defeat to the University of St. Thomas in the first-round of the NCAA Div. III Tournament.

After being down 43-25 at halftime in Platteville, the Green Knights clawed their way back to hold a 58-57 lead with less than three minutes to go. However, St. Norbert were unable to hold the lead and the game as they went cold from the field in the final two minutes of the game.

Coming into the game, St. Norbert finished the regular season with 22 wins, which tied a school record for the most in a season, and went 17-1 in Midwest Conference (MWC) play. The Green Knights lost in the championship round of the MWC tournament to Ripon college, but received an at-large selection to the NCAA Men’s Volleyball Division III tournament.

On Friday, Mar. 6, the St. Norbert College men’s volleyball team hosted Rockford University, in which the Green Knights lost to the Regents in straight sets 3-0. The three sets boasted scores of 25-18, 25-23, 26-24.

Looking to avenge their most recent loss to conference foe Lakeland University earlier in the week, the Green Knights fell behind early in the first set 12-5 and could not recover.

However, the Green Knights responded well in the second set and held a 23-22 lead after a kill by Josh Hauke ’23. Unfortunately for the Knights, the Regents responded with a 7-2 run down the stretch as the Knights could not find the basket when they needed it the most. Even with the completed comeback, the Knights came up short with a final score of 67-60.

SARA DILLON | SPORTS COLUMNIST

On Friday, Mar. 6, the St. Norbert Men’s Volleyball team overcame an 18-point deficit at halftime, but came up short in a 67-60 defeat to the University of St. Thomas in the first-round of the NCAA Div. III Tournament.

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I was so happy,” explained Lewis.

“That was probably one of the moments where I was like, ‘Ok, I can do this now,’”

For Bethard, his goal was to prove that he can compete with divers who have been doing it longer and were more experienced.

“I think my biggest thing was I wanted to be competitive with people around me because most of the other divers in the conference had been diving for at least three years,” said Bethard.

So when Bethard finished fifth in both the one meter and three meter dives, he was more happy with who he placed over.

“The places, they look nice on paper, but the part that I was really excited about was that there was a Lakeforest diver, that I knew and am friends with, and at our duel meet he had beat me by a couple of points. I knew that he was trained and had a lot more training than me, and I beat him for fifth place,” said Bethard. “I think that’s when I really felt like I belonged on the boards.”

Both Bethard and Lewis is looking to place among the top-three at conference.

Bethard is looking to place and were more experienced to grow their confidence which was integral to their success at the conference meet.

Coming into conference, Lewis had one goal in mind: to get a complete list or to complete all of her required dives. From her start in November, Lewis had been unable to fulfill this goal. While being able to complete all of her dives except for two, the reverse dive pike and the reverse somersault tuck, conference was the time to learn and finish her list.

“I did it and it’s something that I had been so hesitant to do for so long. Once I entered and then I came back up, I beamed because it comes to twisting and stuff,” said Lewis. “But, he knows the water so he can help me with that approach and everything that he’s so much better at.”

“We are both supportive and there for each other and I think that’s something that having a smaller team really is that I have trust in. When she is there, she’s going to help me do the best I can,” said Bethard.

Bethard officially joined the diving team in January and immediately began practicing with Lewi. She was really helpful to learn with form and technique with both of them coming in inexperienced but with different skill sets, the partnership between Bethard and Lewis allowed for incredible growth as the season went on.

“With Will and I, it has been really helpful to learn together because I have the gymnastics background with is really helpful when it comes to twisting and stuff,” said Lewis. “But, he knows the water so he can help me with that approach and everything that he’s so much better at.”

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Bethard and Lewis preparing for dive | Will Bethard

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Being able to support each both physically with form and technique on dives was important for both emerging divers. However, as the pair practiced and competed in meets throughout the season, they especially tried

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Baseball**

- Mar. 14-21 - Central Florida Invitational
- Mar. 28 - vs. Ripon College (DH)
- Mar. 29 - at Ripon College (DH)

**Softball**

- Mar. 15-22 - The Spring Games
- Mar. 28 - vs. Lake Forest College (DH)
- Mar. 29 - vs. Carthage College (DH)

**Track and Field**

- Mar. 13-14 - MWC Indoor Championship
- Mar. 28 - Carroll Univ. Invitational
- Apr. 4 - Wisc. Private College Champ.

**Men’s Tennis**

- Mar. 10 - vs. Marian Univ.
- Mar. 14 - at Univ. of St. Thomas
- Mar. 28 - at Monmouth College

**Men’s Volleyball**

- Mar. 14 - at MSOE
- Mar. 14 - at Mount St. Joseph
- Mar. 20 - at Dominican Univ.