

\$1 million donated anonymously for gym renovation



Renovation of the 54-year-old De La Salle Gymnasium is scheduled to begin this spring due to an anonymous gift of \$1 million. Improvements will include stadium seating, a new hospitality suite, a new Hall of Fame conference room, and a new snack bar lobby.

An anonymous donor has given a million-dollar gift to CBU for the renovation of De La Salle Gymnasium. The gymnasium has been a landmark structure at the corner of Parkway and Central since its construction in 1950. It is dedicated to the founder of the Christian Brothers, Saint John Baptist de La Salle, a statue of whom stands above the main entrance. It has long served the recreational needs of CBU students and served as home court for the intercollegiate basketball and volleyball teams.

"This generous gift will allow us to make a beloved but tired building a more suitable place for our basketball and volleyball teams and provide better facilities for our student-athletes, coaches, and fans," says Nick Scully, vice president for institutional advancement and athletics.

The renovation of De La Salle will provide a new arena with capacity for 1,000 in new, stadium-style seating as well as

new blocks of both fixed and retractable bleachers. The current lobby of the building will be restructured to include a Hall of Fame conference room and new restrooms. A new entry lobby will be added to the north side of the building, facing Boshwit Courtyard and including a new snack café for students. The west mezzanine of the arena will be transformed into a glass-enclosed hospitality suite, complete with kitchen, and new office space for athletic staff. The fitness area currently located on that mezzanine will be moved across the arena to the east mezzanine, where it will also be enlarged and improved.

Other improvements will include new heating and air conditioning, new lighting, and new truss-mounted basketball goals.

Brother Stan Sobczyk, CBU president, says the long-awaited renovation is "the next great step for the future by improving yet another important facility for our students."

Construction and renovation will begin in April. ■

Bethlehem University president receives Dozier



Brother Vincent Malham (left), president of Bethlehem University in Palestine, was presented the Dozier Award by Brother Stan Sobczyk at a ceremony in Spain Auditorium on January 28.

BROTHER VINCENT MALHAM, president of Bethlehem University, was awarded the 2003-2004 Bishop Carroll T. Dozier Award for Peace and Justice at a special ceremony on January 28 in Spain Auditorium on the CBU campus.

Brother Vincent has been president of Bethlehem University since 1998. The university, in the center of the West Bank city, provides a university education to more than 2,000 students of all faiths and backgrounds. During particularly tense moments last year, the university was at the center of the Israeli Army's movement into the city as hostilities between Israelis and Palestinians escalated.

"It would be an honor to accept this coveted recognition if I can do so in the name of the University I serve, the many Brothers who have worked there through the years to help keep it open, and my colleagues and students," Brother Vincent said in his remarks.

"We at Bethlehem University walk with Palestinians, from years of occupation to liberation and taking of national sovereignty, its rights and responsibilities," he continued. "We are not only educating, in very stressful and violent times, but we are being educated. We have something to teach, and we have something to learn."

In addition to his service in the Middle East, Brother Vincent

is also remembered for his work and scholarship at CBU where he initiated the university's music program in 1973, which he continued to direct until 1989. He also served as CBU dean of arts from 1981 through 1987.

The Dozier award is named for Bishop Carroll T. Dozier, the first bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Memphis, a leader in race relations, peace, and justice. Bishop Dozier served as Bishop of Memphis from 1971 to 1982. He died in 1985. ■

CBU project helps teens learn about business

A NEW PROJECT at CBU's Center for Entrepreneurship is providing a group of 20 Memphis area high school juniors and seniors with the opportunity to learn about business.

The 16-week program is designed for students in Memphis Challenge, an organization established in 1989 that recruits minority students based on academic achievement and leadership. Fifty students are selected each year to participate in an internship program and are provided assistance with their college application process, resume-writing skills, and interviewing skills.

Students in the CBU project meet once a week for a class taught by School of Business faculty members and Memphis Challenge coordinators. In the class, the teens will learn how to develop a business plan. Students will also have the opportunity to meet with CBU faculty members and Memphis business leaders.

Memphis-area venture capitalists will be invited to critique the business plans on the last night of class in May when student teams present their final plans.

The CBU School of Business Center for Entrepreneurship was initiated in Fall 2003 with the mission to develop programs, curriculum, and interactive learning opportunities in the areas of free enterprise and entrepreneurship. These initiatives are designed to reach students in kindergarten through college in inner-city Memphis schools, Shelby County Schools, private schools, and colleges/universities in the Memphis area.

Dr. Dale Bails, CBU professor of management and marketing, is the center's director. Dr. Bevalee Pray, associate professor of accounting and finance, is helping to direct the project.

"This project will give these students an understanding of the free enterprise system and the role of entrepreneurship in the market process," says Pray. "The students will also develop skills needed for working in groups and on teams."

In addition, students who complete the program will be awarded college credit at CBU and will be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship. The project is funded in part by the Hughes-Coleman Foundation of Chicago. ■

CBU takes third in TVA Investment Challenge



Dr. Bevalee Pray, CBU associate professor of finance, and Julia Gass, of the Tennessee Valley Authority, hold the \$5,000 check awarded by TVA for the third place finish by CBU students in the Investment Challenge. The students managed a \$400,000 portfolio and made a 41.4% return on their investments.

THE 2003 TVA INVESTMENT Challenge Project concluded in February with CBU taking third place in what its organizers called "probably our closest race yet." The Challenge is a program set up by the Tennessee Valley Authority in which students at 26 colleges and universities make recommendations, buy and sell, and help manage a portfolio valued at \$400,000.

CBU's twelve students were members of a special finance class taught by Dr. Bevalee Pray. Each student in the class was nominated by a member of the business faculty and then interviewed with Dr. Pray for admission in the Challenge. CBU won third place with a 41.4% return on the students' investment portfolios. CBU also wins \$5,000 for their efforts. The University of Memphis won the competition with a 41.7% return, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville took second place with a 41.6%. Using benchmark gauges, CBU's investment class came in second behind the University of Memphis by outperforming the Standard & Poors 500. ■

CBU Engineering hosts packaging program for high school students

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS who have an interest in engineering as a career are invited to attend a summer program in packaging engineering at Christian Brothers University, June 14-18.

Students will be introduced to various aspects of packaging engineering, including materials, distribution systems, design, testing, and evaluation methods. The program will also include discussions on economic and environmental issues and field trips to local packaging operations. Sessions each day are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program is sponsored by International Paper Foundation.

CBU is the only university in the region that offers a packaging engineering program. The program is supported by state-of-the-art packaging labs funded by the Assisi Foundation of Memphis. Other support comes from the Medtronic Foundation, International Paper Foundation, and FedEx. CBU engineering students can obtain a Packaging Engineering Certificate in addition to a traditional B.S. degree in chemical, civil, electrical, or

mechanical engineering.

Packaging engineering is an interdisciplinary field, in which scientific and engineering principles are applied to develop and produce packages that contain, protect and preserve, transport, inform, and sell a product. Packaging is a \$100 billion a year business and the third largest industry in the United States. Packaging engineers are employed in such areas as development, sales, purchasing, structure design, production, research, and marketing. ■

CBU's physics students deemed "outstanding"

THE SOCIETY OF PHYSICS Students has named the Christian Brothers University chapter as "outstanding" for its work during the 2002-2003 academic year. Only 10 percent of the SPS chapters on college and university campuses nationwide receive the designation.

Selection is based on the depth and breadth of various activities and projects in physics research, science outreach, and tutoring programs. The CBU chapter is active in a variety of science outreach projects including presenting programs at Target House, Highland Street Kindergarten, and St. Louis School. Chapter



Participants in CBU's Fall Pilgrimage Tour of the Ozarks gathered aboard the Branson Belle for a luncheon cruise last October. The tour was organized by CBU and Great Southern Travel, offering stops in Little Rock and Heber Springs (AR) as well as Branson, MO.

members also help judge at the annual Memphis/Shelby County Science Fair.

CBU currently has more than 200 students majoring in the sciences. The chapter advisor for the CBU Society of Physics Students is Dr. John Varriano, associate professor of physics and natural science. SPS is open to students majoring in physics, as well as non-majors. The only requirement for membership is an interest in physics. ■

Who's Who Among Students selects 17 from CBU

SEVENTEEN CBU STUDENTS have been named to *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* for

2004. Selection to *Who's Who* is based on academic achievement, community service, leadership and potential for success. The university and college *Who's Who* has been published since 1934.

The CBU students selected this year are: Levolyn Anderson-Williams (Education, '03), Jessica A. Bell (Business Administration, '05), Josh Thomas Brewer (Electrical Engineering, '04), Whitney Teresa Canale (ECCM, '04), Tequilla Nicole Clayton (Electrical Engineering, '04), Janet Lillian Eichholz (Biology, '04), Ashleigh Frith (Biology, '04), Anna Land (Human Development, '04), Kelsie Kandrece Mans (Business Administration, '04), Emily Meadows (Psychology, '04), Xuandao Nguyen (Biology, '04), Stephanie M. Oliver (Business Administration, '04), Emily C. Pate (English, '04), Daniel Vincent Russell (Business Administration, '04), Khyati Shastri (Electrical Engineering, '04), Lauren Smith (Business Administration, '04), and Vivian Lynette Wright (ECCM, '04). ■

Deal, Forsdick, France to be honored at graduation



Dr. Rose G. Deal
Maurelian Medal Recipient



H. Lance Forsdick ('61)
Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters



Jerry M. France ('68)
Distinguished Alumnus

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS UNIVERSITY will hold its 2004 commencement exercises on Friday, May 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the Memphis Mid South Coliseum. Nearly 400 undergraduate and graduate students will receive their diplomas.

The university will also honor three individuals this year. Dr. Rosa G. Deal will receive the Maurelian Medal, one of the university's highest honors, Mr. H. Lance Forsdick ('61) will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters, and Mr. Jerry France ('68) will be recognized as Distinguished Alumnus.

Named for Brother Maurelian Sheel, the university's founding president, the Maurelian Medal is awarded to an individual who has contributed in a significant way through service to the university or the community, or to someone who has distinguished himself/herself in the field of education. Dr. Deal has done both.

A graduate of the University of Naples (Italy), Dr. Deal served for 33 years as professor of literature and languages. During that tenure, she collected and documented historic papers, catalogs, and newsletters that have proved to be a valuable part of the university archives. In 2001, Dr. Deal donated a significant of academic papers from her private collection to the university. In 2002, she was named an affiliate member of the Christian Brothers, the highest honor and recognition given by the Brothers of the Christian Schools.

Dr. Deal is known by generations of CBC and CBU students. In 1990, she received the Brother Lawrence Egbert Distinguished Service Award from the CBU alumni association. In 1993, she was selected to be in the first edition of *Who's Who Among Italian*

Americans, and was the only woman from Tennessee to be so honored.

H. Lance Forsdick graduated from Christian Brothers College in 1961 with a Bachelor's degree in business administration. He has operated various construction and development companies, real estate development, property management, and personal financial investment companies. In addition to his entrepreneurial endeavors, Forsdick has been an active philanthropist and friend to many organizations, schools, and programs in the Memphis area.

In 1993, Forsdick was also awarded affiliate membership in the Christian Brothers. In 1994, he was named Humanitarian of the Year by the National Council of Christians and Jews and received the highest papal award given to a layman, the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Cross*, in 1999. He is a founding member of the Christian Brothers High School Board of Directors and served as chairman of the CBU Board of Trustees for ten years. Forsdick is currently co-chair of the CBU Capital Campaign.

Jerry France was actually presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award last October during Alumni Weekend, but he will also be recognized at commencement. France graduated from CBC in 1968 with a degree in mechanical engineering. After receiving the M.B.A. from Harvard University in 1973, he founded France Drilling Company (which he later sold to W.R. Grace and Company). He was president and CEO of Arkla Exploration Company in the 1990s, and currently presides over a business that specializes in private investments in oil and gas. France is also a

former CBU trustee, and belongs to a family of alumni — brother Ed France graduated in 1963, brother John France graduated in 1966, and brother Dr. Gene France graduated in 1972.

CBU seniors and their parents will also attend a Baccalaureate Service on Thursday, May 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the CBU Theatre. The service is open to the public. For more information on the commencement weekend activities at CBU, call the Office of Campus Activities at 901-321-3529 or visit the CBU website at www.cbu.edu. ■

Service-learning project takes students to the dogs

"PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING" is a senior-level course at CBU that covers theory, research, and applications of behavioristic learning. Dr. Tracie Burke, an associate professor of psychology who is teaching the course this spring, explains that it focuses on classical and operant conditioning, the principles of reinforcement and punishment, and other factors that influence the process of learning.

"Since behaviorism is such an applied field, I thought it would be nice to include a service-learning component in the course," Burke says. "With the Memphis Humane Society located just up the street, working with them seemed a logical choice."

The two goals of the class service-learning project are to make the dogs at the Humane Society more adoptable by teaching them to obey basic commands and to give the students a hands-on learning experience in applied behaviorism.

To prepare for the project, students have read *Don't Shoot the Dog*, a classic book on dog training by Karen Pryor, along with the course text. The first half of the semester consisted of lectures and class projects on classical conditioning, wherein the students were introduced to the basics of operant conditioning. Liz Goldstein, a volunteer trainer from the Humane Society, visited the class with her dog, Sophia, and introduced the students to "clicker training."

According to Pryor's website (www.clickertraining.com), clicker training is a system for teaching behavior with positive reinforcement. The trainer uses a marker signal — in this case, the sound of a toy clicker — to tell the animal when it's correctly performing an action that will pay off with a treat. The system was first widely used by dolphin trainers who needed a way to teach behavior without using physical force. Clicker trainers focus on building good behavior rather than stopping bad behavior. Dogs quickly learn that the click means a reward is coming, then further realize they can make the trainer click and reward by repeating the



Trainer Liz Goldstein (left) advises CBU psychology students Nicole Workman ('05) and Mindy Parnell ('05) on "clicker training," a behavioristic learning method for dogs and other animals. They are teaching dogs at the Memphis Humane Society to obey basic commands in hope of making them more adoptable.

desired behavior.

During the second half of the semester, the students visited the Humane Society, received orientation, and started working with their dogs. The goal for the first day was just to train the dog to associate the clicker with the treat and to start working on the basic "sit" command. The students will then return to the Humane Society one or two more times to work on other basic commands, such as "down," and "come."

"I am proud of the students for preparing themselves for this project and for jumping in with both feet, despite the fact that some of them are fearful of dogs," Burke says. "I hope this year's group is successful enough that the Humane Society will continue to provide this opportunity to our CBU psychology students." ■

Professor finds willing subjects for alcohol research



Students in Dr. Stan Eisen's "Biology of Addiction" course measure the effects of alcohol vapor on fruit flies (left), as well as the effects of substances such as caffeine on themselves (right). Eisen is also writing a textbook for the course, due to be published in 2005.

By DAVID ROYER
Memphis Business Journal

ALCOHOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS have traditionally gone together like gin and tonic, but rarely do the two converge inside the classroom.

Christian Brothers University professor Stan Eisen is taking a new approach to teaching students about the effects drugs and alcohol have on their brains.

He's serving them cocktails during class.

It's just one experiment students will undergo during lab exercises in Eisen's "Biology of Addiction" course, which covers the physiological actions drugs take on the body and the brain, as well as the treatment of drug addictions.

"You have no idea what kind of teasing I'm getting, that there's going to be a lab for alcohol and drug abuse," says Eisen.

"Oh, you're going to have the lab Friday afternoons at Huey's, right?" he says, imitating his colleagues. "No, we're not."

Eisen, who specializes in researching chemical dependencies, has been teaching his "Biology of Addiction" lecture course for four years. But he's also put together an accompanying lab so students can experience some of what they learn in lecture firsthand. During one lab session, students (the ones over 21, of course) will down four Screwdrivers, then measure the decline in their coordination, equilibrium, and reasoning through a battery of motor skills tests. Younger students will assist in taking measurements.



In other experiments, students will measure the increase in their heart rates after swallowing caffeine pills. They'll test the efficacy of drug tests to see if they can get the tests to throw a false positive after the students ingest poppy seeds and Tylenol with codeine.

And they'll load up on one of nature's most tempting psychoactive substances — chocolate — which contains small amounts of serotonin, and substances that mimic the effects of marijuana (though he says you'd have to eat about five pounds of the stuff to feel any effect).

It's all in the name of science, after all.

Eisen says his research niche in chemical addictions is one he's fallen into over time, beginning in 1999 when he studied a strain of fruit flies who were bred with an increased sensitivity to alcohol.

"You put these flies into a chamber, bubble through alcohol vapor, and they will keel over and pass out," Eisen says. The scientific name for the alcoholic strain: cheapdate.

Eisen found that as the concentration of alcohol vapor in the air is increased, the number of cheapdate flies born plummets, as does their size. An increase in ethanol dehydrogenase in the flies' blood means their tolerance to alcohol is increased.

"One of the hallmarks of addiction is tolerance," Eisen says. "A person gets exposed to a particular drug, gets a tremendous high, and then spends the rest of his time trying to find that same high."

The research indicated that fruit flies are, at least as far as alcohol addiction, an analogous model for humans. Eisen temporarily

shelved the study in 2002 to devote more time to the Biology of Addiction course, though during the lab, students will get a chance to run some of the fruit fly experiments themselves on a smaller scale.

Eisen was prompted to focus more time on the Biology of Addiction course after a recent incident at a doctor's office. As his teenage son was preparing for eye surgery, an anaesthesiologist told him that he would prescribe Mepergan Fortis, a powerful pain killer. When his son asked why he would be getting that drug instead of Valium, the doctor replied, "It has a higher street value."

"This conversation, that I was witness to, convinced me that I needed to do something about enlightening people about addictive drugs," Eisen says. The problem of addiction is especially conspicuous in cities like Memphis, where 80 percent of all crimes are related to drugs.

Eisen began writing a textbook for the course, compiling experiments to illustrate the principles and devising experiments of his own. Last August, his work caught the attention of Jeremy Hayhurst, senior editor of physical sciences at Elsevier Publishers.

"I was interested in a book in this area, and particularly Dr. Eisen's, because of the significant insights into addiction provided by recent work in neuroscience and biochemistry," says Hayhurst. "It's been estimated that on the order of 60 million people in the U.S. alone that have some kind of addictive behavior. It's a very exciting area of research."

Hayhurst expects the textbook to be published in 2005.

Directed at non-major biology students, the class delves deep into the complex chemical reactions that accompany alcohol, opi-

ates, and LSD.

But Eisen says all the science just proves the old saw correct: "You are what you eat," he says. ■ (Reprinted with permission of Memphis Business Journal. Further reproduction is prohibited.)

CBU engineering major takes first place at IEEE



Tequilla Clayton with Allan Long of MLGW, John Ventura (CBU's IEEE faculty advisor), and Philip Lim of MLGW.

TEQUILLA CLAYTON ('04), a CBU electrical engineering major, won first place and \$800 in the student paper contest at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers' Southeast Conference 2004 held in Greensboro, NC in March. Her paper was titled "Network Protector Monitoring System for the Downtown Memphis Electric Network." Engineering students representing over 40 colleges and universities from across the Southeast and the Caribbean presented papers at the conference.

Clayton works as an engineering intern at Memphis Light, Gas and Water under the direction of Jim Warberg, P.E. and Philip Cox, P.E. ('80), analyzing hardware and software electrical networking monitoring systems to determine which systems are cost effective. The analysis includes conceptual testing for requirement specifications by reviewing technical manuals of products and evaluating the advantages and disadvantages of all systems.

Memphis Light, Gas and Water was also recognized at the conference its outstanding contributions to the continuing education and professional development of engineers. MLGW received the "Employer Professional Development Award."

Clayton was also honored as the 2004 Featured Electrical Engineering Student at CBU and attends CBU on a Christian Brothers Lasallian Academic Scholarship. She has also interned with Cummins Diesel Recon Company, assisting in the implementation of quality systems from QS9000 to ISO/TS 16949. ■

President's Report Corrections

The following donors were inadvertently omitted from the Honor Roll of Donors in the 2003 President's Report, which appeared in the Fall 2003 issue of *Bell Tower*. Our sincere apologies are offered along with our belated recognition.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

(Gifts of \$1,200-\$2,499)

Mr. Robert F. Litviak ('73)

FRIENDS OF THE BROTHERS

(Gifts of \$500-\$1,199)

Mr. William C. Haas ('65)

Mr. David D. Silberberg ('56)

CBU ASSOCIATES

(Up to \$99)

Ms. Patricia T. Papachristou

CBU joins engineering management honor society



The inaugural members of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Mu Eta at the February 28 induction ceremony (l-r): Phil Ryan (Vice President), Christine Scifert (President), Trevor Stedke, Bethany King, Jason Snyder (Secretary), Danny Barulli, and Joe Polk

BY DR. NEAL JACKSON
Director of Graduate Engineering

THE MASTER OF ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT (MEM) Program has long needed a way to appropriately recognize superior students. Toward that end, Graduate Engineering has chartered the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Mu Eta, the Engineering Management Honor Society. Epsilon Mu Eta is a national organization associated with the American Society for Engineering Management. As faculty of the MEM Program and Charter Members of Epsilon Mu Eta, Dr. Juan Carlos Olabe-Basogain and Dr. Eric Welch serve as faculty advisors for the Chapter. In addition to student recognition, CBU's Chapter of the Society promotes Engineering Management as an engineering discipline in the Memphis and mid south area.

Membership in the Alpha Delta Chapter is open to students enrolled in the Master of Engineering Management Program elected to membership and those members of the Epsilon Mu Eta affiliated with Christian Brothers University. To be elected to membership, students must have shown both superior academic achievement and excellent character. Superior character is defined by the student's leadership, professionalism, integrity, and other demonstrated principles that define the core values of the Master

of Engineering Management Program and Christian Brothers University.

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of Epsilon Mu Eta, and the Constitution of the Alpha Delta Chapter, seven students were inducted into the Honor Society at a ceremony and dinner on February 27. We congratulate the following 2003-04 members of the Alpha Delta Chapter for their achievements and this recognition, and for the honor they bring to CBU. We also congratulate each of them on receiving the Master of Engineering Management degree in either May or August.

Daniel D. Barulli is an operations manager at Federal Express. He holds a B.S. in aerospace engineering from the United States Military Academy, as well as a Master of Divinity from Harding University. Barulli started at FedEx in 1997 as a night side hub outbound manager. After positions in industrial engineering and customer service, he went back into management at the beginning of this year. He leads a department that supports invoicing for duty and taxes for U.S. import shipments.

Bethany A. King is a senior engineer in Global Services Planning & Engineering at FedEx Express. She holds a B.S.M.E. from Tennessee State University. King is a native Memphian and a graduate of Memphis Central High School. During her career with FedEx, she has worked as an engineer in three different divi-

sions of the company: Air Ground & Freight Services, Central Support Services, and Worldwide Customer Service. Presently, she is working on a major company project to develop an issue management computer application that will enhance the FedEx Customer Experience.

Joseph M. Polk, Jr., P.E., is manager of construction administration for the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority. He holds a B.S.C.E. from the University of Tennessee. Polk is responsible for oversight of construction for all major airside construction projects. He is also involved in design review and some design administrative activities, and serves as liaison between MSCAA and project management/construction groups.

Phillip A. Ryan is a senior product development engineer at Gyrus-ENT, Inc. He holds a B.S.M.E. from Auburn University. Ryan is currently in the Rhinology Business Unit at Gyrus-ENT, where he is responsible for the design, development and implementation of new powered surgical instruments for otolaryngologists.

Christine N. Scifert is manager of regulatory affairs for Medtronic Sofamor Danek, Inc. She holds a B.S. in physics from Hamline University and a M.S. in biomedical engineering from the University of Iowa. Scifert manages a department of eight people that is responsible for domestic and international submissions to gain product registrations. Activities include design control processes, labeling, standards, sterilization validations, submissions and CE Marking.

Jason R. Snyder is a mechanical engineering consultant for Ellers, Oakley, Chester, and Rike, Inc. He holds a B.S.M.E. from the University of Tennessee. Snyder's responsibilities include project management and the design of HVAC equipment for new and existing buildings throughout the southeast. He supports the local chapter of ASHRAE (American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers) as a member of the Board of Governors.

Trevor J. Stedke is senior manager of aircraft engineering at FedEx Air Operations. He holds a B.S. in aviation and atmospheric science from Ohio State University. Stedke directs engineering functions that support FedEx Express Air Operations to ensure safe, legal, and reliable aircraft through effectiveness maintenance and inspection processes.

Why did these seven individuals select Christian Brothers University and the Master of Engineering Management Program? What are benefits of the MEM degree? The following is a collective summary of their comments:

- After thoroughly researching many local business and engineering masters programs, the MEM program best fit their goals for an investment in graduate study based on accreditation, experience and qualifications of faculty, student relationships, program quality, course descriptions, program flexibility, and selective stu-

dent acceptance qualifications.

- They also valued the program perspective of capitalizing on student experiences, encouraging group discussion in the classroom, and the requirement for students to have minimum employment experience from which they can draw and contribute to the MEM program.

The MEM program fit their desire to be involved with a graduate program that far exceeded a "check the box" degree. Several noted that the goal of some schools seemed to be pushing as many students through their programs as possible.

They noted that the program sets the student apart from traditional graduate degrees. It is a unique program that bridges the gap that typically exists between those with technical expertise and business leaders in corporations today by combining aspects of both fields in its field of study. Likewise, they recognized an opportunity to build close friendships and local business networking relationships with other students and local corporations.

For more information on the Alpha Delta Chapter and CBU's MEM program, visit www.cbu.edu/memp or call the MEM office at (901) 321-3283. ■



Members of the CBU Board of Ambassadors visited De La Salle Elementary School at Blessed Sacrament in January. The Board of Ambassadors is made up of members of the local community and is designed to develop channels of communication between CBU and its friends. The BOA also makes recommendations to the board of trustees and the president for the betterment of the university. Pictured above are (l-r) McCall Wilson of the Bank of Moscow (TN), Jenny Turner Koltnow of the Memphis Grizzlies, Dr. Robert E. Tooms, Thomas Grimes of Mid-America Apartment Communities, and Brother Stan Sobczyk.

Encore! Encore! CBU drama club celebrates ten years



The cast of last fall's one-act festival, "Oh Men, Oh Women," takes a bow.

BY CORY DUGAN & SHAWNA G. ENGEL ('93)

IN THE SPRING OF 1994, the Encore! Drama Club presented *The Dining Room*, by playwright A.R. Gurney. This was the second production of the CBU theatre group founded the previous fall by a group of interested students and faculty advisor Ken McCulough. "We had a very dedicated and enthusiastic group of theatre students that year," recalls McCulough, now a professor at Florida Community College at Jacksonville. "Those students were really the impetus for starting Encore! as a permanent and more visible university organization to support theatre on campus."

Ten years later, in the spring of 2004, the drama club is staging *The Dining Room* again.

"It was an early success," says Brother Matt Szatkowski, the club's faculty advisor and assistant professor of theatre arts. "We thought it was appropriate to bring it back for the anniversary." Brother Matt came to CBU in 1987 while working on his Master of Fine Arts degree at the University of Memphis; he assumed the helm of the theatre for the first production of *The Dining Room*.

In the ten years since the drama club was founded, it has staged 27 shows — a mixture of comedies, dramas, and one-act collections. Productions have included *The Night Thoreau Spent in*

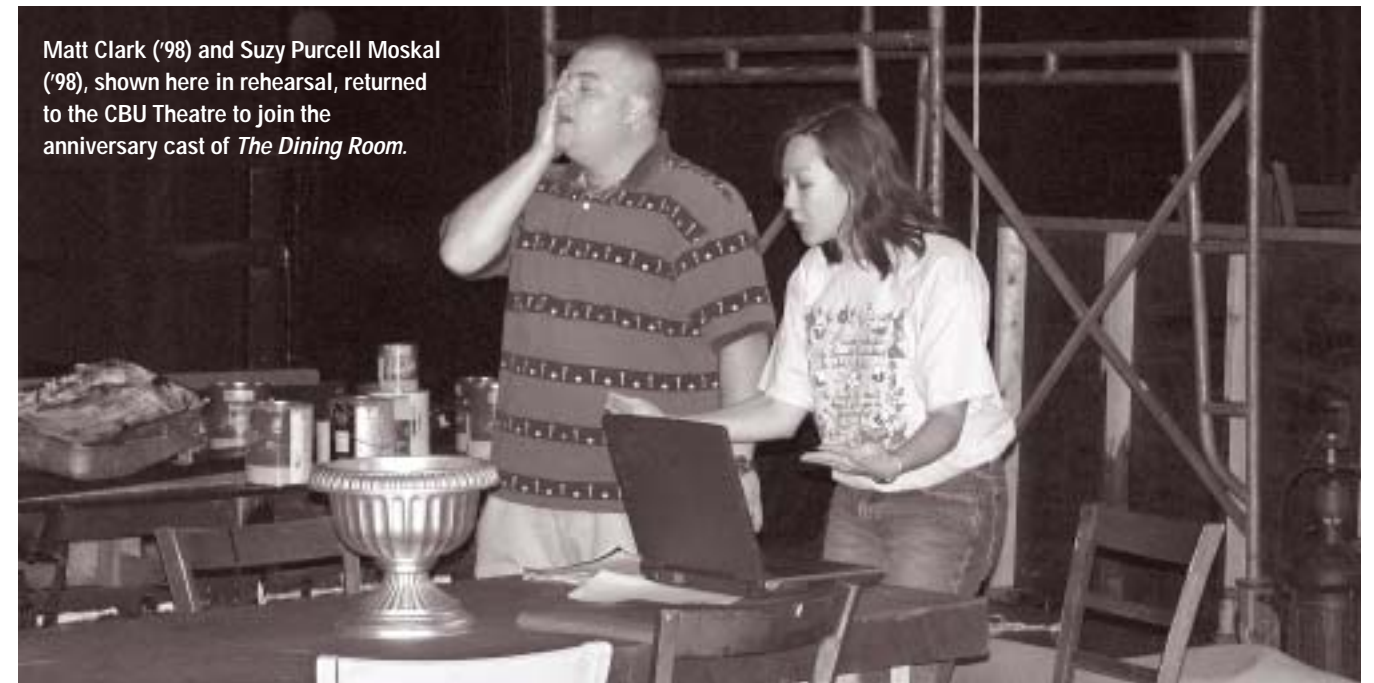
Jail, A Man for All Seasons, God (by Woody Allen), *Ten Little Indians, The Lottery, Arsenic and Old Lace, The Cmplt Wrks of Willm Shkspr (Abridged), Fools, and What I Did Last Summer* (also by Gurney). The one-act festivals have included short plays by established and emerging playwrights alike — including the 1996 staging of *Lest We Forget*, by Mike Moskal ('99). Last fall's one-act festival was a series of ten-minute plays gathered under the theme of "Oh Men, Oh Women."

Brother Matt says that the CBU drama program is small, but it serves as a valuable experience and training ground whether or not students pursue theatre beyond CBU. "There are several CBU actors who are active in local theatre companies," he points out, including Barry Lehman, Steve Burk ('01), Heather Hill, and Jeremy Smith ('99).

"Our approach is different from most theatre programs," he adds. "Most local programs put on proscenium-style productions, where the actors and audience are separated by the stage. All our plays are done dinner theatre-style, with audience and actors on stage together."

"I loved being a part of the theatre when I was a student," says Tracey Reckart Pentzer ('99), now a tax analyst at FedEx. "I think every student needs a break from their studies, something fun that

"I think every student needs... something fun that acts as a stress relief from the everyday college stuff. That's what theatre was to me." — Tracey Reckart Pentzer ('99)



Matt Clark ('98) and Suzy Purcell Moskal ('98), shown here in rehearsal, returned to the CBU Theatre to join the anniversary cast of *The Dining Room*.

acts as a stress relief from the everyday college stuff. That's what theatre was to me."

Pentzer is one of six alumni returning to the CBU Theatre for the anniversary production of *The Dining Room*. Joining her on stage along with current student actors are Matt Clark ('98), Suzy Purcell Moskal ('98), Orian Millaway ('99), and Jennifer Murphy Menon ('99). Mike Moskal returns as technical director for the production.

"It has been such a joy to return to the sights, sounds and smells of the CBU Theatre," says Jennifer Menon, who is currently information systems project manager at Baptist Memorial Health Care Systems. "Returning as an alum has been a challenge with my hectic work and personal schedule, but the rewards of helping my alma mater make it all worthwhile. It's also nice to meet all the bright students who are taking my place in the theatre, doing what I was doing just five short years ago. And it's great to have the opportunity to work with old friends again."

Pentzer agrees. "I'm so glad Brother Matt decided to invite alum to come back and be a part of the play this spring," she says. "I'm having so much fun, and it's taking me on a trip down memory lane."

"Brother Matt has kept me informed about the CBU theatre



Brother Matt Szatkowski provides direction during a rehearsal of A.R. Gurney's *The Dining Room*, the tenth anniversary production of the Encore! Drama Club at the CBU Theatre.

program over the years," McCulough says. "I am so proud that he has kept it going and has built it into what it is today." ■