

# ARCHES

*A newsletter for neighbors of the University of St. Thomas*

*October 2002*

## Join Tommies young and old on Homecoming-Reunion weekend Oct. 12-13

Family fun's in store for friends and neighbors at St. Thomas' annual Homecoming-Reunion celebration:

### **Saturday, Oct. 12**

St. Thomas' annual **Sports Kickoff Breakfast** is planned from 9 to 10 a.m. in the third-floor lounge, Murray-Herrick Campus Center. This year's breakfast celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's athletics at St. Thomas. Cost is \$5 per adult and \$2.50 for kids 12 and under. To reserve your spot, call (651) 962-6430 and send a check payable to UST to the St. Thomas Alumni Association, Mail #LOR508, 2115 Summit Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105.

Bring the family to the **traditional homecoming parade**, which begins at 10:30 a.m. along Summit Avenue between Fry Street and Cretin Avenue. Music and "celebrities" rev up the crowd. Kids are invited to decorate their bikes, trikes or wagons and ride in the parade, too. Streamers and balloons will be provided. Kids and parents should arrive in the university's parking lot G, adjacent to O'Shaughnessy Educational Center on Cleveland Avenue near Ashland Avenue, at 9:30 a.m. They will join the parade on Summit Avenue from Cleveland to Cretin avenues.

All this fun should have you hungry by now, and the **Taste of St. Thomas** food festival is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the campus quadrangle (rain site: Coughlan Field House). Enjoy foods served by student clubs and organizations. Little kids can play on the moon-walks, get their faces painted and have fun with the clown balloon artist while the "big kids" eat all the treats.

**The homecoming football game** kicks off at 1 p.m. in O'Shaughnessy Stadium. The Tommies take on the Gusties of Gustavus Adolphus College. Ticket sales and gates open at noon. Tickets are \$4 for adults; \$2 students; free for children under 10 and for St. Thomas students, faculty and staff with IDs.

### **Sunday, Oct. 13**

An 11 a.m. **Homecoming-Reunion Mass** will be celebrated in the Chapel

of St. Thomas Aquinas. University neighbors and friends are welcome.

For further information about Homecoming-Reunion activities at St. Thomas, call the St. Thomas Alumni Association, (651) 962-6430, or St. Thomas Activities and Recreation, (651) 962-6136.



*Tommie Tomcat found a cuddly friend at this summer's Neighborfest, and we're sure he'll find more at the Homecoming celebration this weekend.*



UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

# AROUND THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

## **Fall 2002 enrollment: Number of students down, number of classes up**

The University of St. Thomas fall semester enrollment took a slight dip this year, although the size of the freshman class and the overall number of classes that students are taking are at record highs.

According to the St. Thomas Registrar's Office, enrollment this fall is 11,366, a decrease of about 1 percent from last year's 11,570.

Undergraduate enrollment this semester stands at 5,429, which is up slightly from last year's 5,416, and just shy of the record-high 5,469 in fall 2000. Graduate enrollment is 5,937, which is down 217, or about 3 percent, from last year's record 6,154.

There are 1,097 new freshmen on campus this fall. This is the largest freshman class on record and the fifth consecutive year that St. Thomas has enrolled 1,000 or more new freshmen.

Based on test scores and other criteria, the class of 2006 comes with some excellent academic credentials. The average ACT comprehensive score of this year's freshman class is 24.9, which ties the record-high average last year and the year before. Members of this year's class tallied 25 perfect ACT scores in English, math, reading or science, compared to 13 last year.

The class has seven National Merit Scholars, compared to 11 last year, and 134 students who had 4.0 or higher high school grade-point averages.

In recent years the trend at St. Thomas, as at many colleges and universities, has been a growing percentage of women students. That growth has leveled off at St. Tho-

mas. Overall, 51 percent of students are women, compared to 52 percent last year. At the undergraduate level, 52 percent of the students are women. At the graduate level, 51 percent are women.

The number of credit hours, which reflects the number of classes students are taking, reached a record high this year. This year undergraduates are taking 77,821 credit hours compared to 76,514 last year. Graduate students are taking 32,728 credit hours compared to 32,161 last year. Overall, the number of credit hours increased 2 percent, from 108,675 last year to 110,549 this year.

Enrollment at the university's St. Paul campus is 7,483; that's down from last year's 7,642 and well below the 10,000-student ceiling required under a city zoning agreement. The Minneapolis campus, meanwhile, has 3,374, up from 3,332 last year.

Of note to neighbors: The university's St. Paul campus has 2,120 resident students. Of those, all but 50 are undergraduates.

Finally, enrollment includes 83 students who take classes primarily online, an increase from 72 last year and 64 in 2000.

The university enrolls 545 international students, not counting the non-U.S. citizens enrolled in St. Thomas programs in Greece and Taiwan. This is a decrease of 57 from last year's count of 602. While no hard data is available for the reasons behind the decrease, three factors likely have influenced the decline: the multiple effects of Sept. 11, 2001; the general downturn in the economy; and the downturn in the high-tech job

market.

Overall, 14 percent of St. Thomas students are people of color. At the undergraduate level, 10 percent are people of color; at the graduate level, 17 percent are people of color. These percentages include international students of color, and are essentially unchanged from last year.

St. Thomas' fall enrollment statistics are available online at <http://www.stthomas.edu/irp/InstitutionalInformationandData/>



## **UST holds steady in U.S. News rankings**

U.S. News & World Report again has ranked the University of St. Thomas in the second tier of the national universities-doctoral category in the magazine's annual "America's Best Colleges" survey.

This is the second year that U.S. News has classified UST in the national universities-doctoral category.

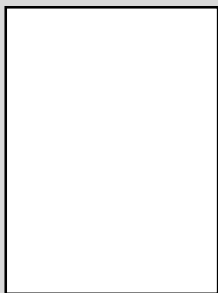
U.S. News assigns numerical ratings to the top 50 national universities. Second-tier (No. 52-129), third-tier (No. 130-194) and fourth-tier (No. 195-249) schools are ranked alphabetically within those tiers.

In a repeat from last year, Princeton finished No. 1 in the national universities-doctoral category, followed by Harvard and Yale in a tie for second.

Joining St. Thomas in the second tier are the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities as well as a number of Catholic universities, including Catholic University of America, Fordham University, Loyola University in Chicago, Seton Hall University and the University of San Diego.



## Over the back fence ... *by John Hershey, neighborhood liaison*



I'd like to share with you a couple of new initiatives that we've employed to try to

educate our student renters in the immediate neighborhood.

You may know that this is the time of the year when I mail renter-information packets to UST students who live in houses or apartments. A letter from me and the dean of students welcomes them to the neighborhood, encourages them to think about what it means to live in a mixed residential neighborhood, and provides advice on items ranging from recycling to snow removal to parking to party issues. We provide a host of

enclosures, including the parking regulations, the attorney general's "Landlords and Tenants: Rights and Responsibilities" publication, a recycling schedule, and information about renters' rights to privacy.

Though this mailing is full of helpful information, I'm never sure how often it is read. So, this year, we added a new twist: Members of the St. Thomas All College Council, the student government body, delivered more than 400 packets to students' doors in early September. They made the effort to personally contact as many of our students as possible. I'd like to thank the ACC for its work and I hope that personal delivery increases the packets' educational effectiveness.

I also mail similar packets to students who live in apartment buildings, but delivery has been hit and miss because of a lack of accu-

rate apartment numbers. This fall I enlisted the aid of several apartment managers, who agreed to distribute them to students in their buildings. I hope this helps as well.

Finally, I'd like to offer an apology. A woman who is new to the neighborhood called me back in late August and requested a return call so that she could find out about student babysitting options. She left her first name and a phone number that I could not decipher. I always want to return phone calls, even when the news is not pleasant, but that was not possible in this case. So to the unknown woman who called for babysitting information: I hope you found what you were looking for. If not, call back and I'll assist you as I am able!

## UST encouraging public transportation

St. Thomas began a pilot program this fall to offer reduced-price bus passes to faculty and staff without campus parking permits.

The reduced-rate passes, available at St. Thomas' Public Safety and Parking Services offices, are designed to encourage UST employees to use public transportation.

So far, the passes are quite popular.

Students, along with employees ineligible for the pilot program, are encouraged to participate in the TransitSchools Program. Through TransitSchools, the university offers a 5 to 10 percent discount on 31-day passes and Stored Value Cards.

## Alumni Association to host fall Community Cleanup Nov. 2

The St. Thomas Alumni Association will host its fall Community Cleanup from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 2.

Last fall a record-breaking 325 students, staff and alumni visited 38 homes in the St. Thomas neighborhood to rake the yards and perform other fall cleanup chores for elderly and disabled residents.

If you'd like some help with your fall yard work or if you'd like to join the helpers, contact Kelly Koerpel in the Alumni Association, (651) 962-6436.

Volunteers will meet at 9 a.m. in Parking Lot H (corner of Cretin and

Summit avenues). A continental breakfast will be available for volunteers at check-in. Plan to work until about noon.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. THOMAS?

Join the St. Thomas community for these speakers, events and performances.  
For more information, call the number listed with the event or (651) 962-6400.

## Through Oct. 29

*Sacred Arts Festival:* Free and open to the public, the 24th annual festival includes a variety of artistic traditions that articulate humanity's understanding of the divine.

Remaining events include:

- “**The Visible Word: Icons by Nicholas Markell,**” an exhibit through Oct. 29 in St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity foyer.
  - A concert by the **Salem Baptist Choir** at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, in O’Shaughnessy Educational Center auditorium.
  - The 1973 film, “**Mean Streets**” – a story of revenge and redemption – at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, in O’Shaughnessy Educational Center auditorium.
  - A recital by internationally renowned **concert organist James David Christie** at 8:15 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, in the Chapel of St. Thomas Aquinas.
- Information: (651) 962-6560.

## Oct. 31

*Exhibit:* “Michael Price: Portraits and Figures” is an exhibit of works by the late sculptor in O’Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center. The exhibit is open during the library’s regular hours: noon to midnight Sundays; 8 a.m. to midnight Mondays through Thursdays; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Fridays; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays.

The exhibit opened in conjunc-



tion with the Sixth International F. Scott Fitzgerald Conference last month at the Landmark Center in St. Paul. Price is best known here for his sculpture of Fitzgerald in Rice Park.

The St. Thomas exhibit includes – among other sculptures, drawings and reliefs – a life-size drawing of Fitzgerald’s coat and hat that might have been used as a study for the Rice Park statue.

Price’s work at St. Thomas also is prominent. His life-size sculpture of the university’s founder, Archbishop John Ireland (pictured above), is a centerpiece of the university’s St. Paul campus. His works also include the reliefs and fountain in the university’s Koch Commons and a sculpture of Pope John Paul II in its main library.

Price was 60 when he died of cancer in May 2001. He and his

wife, Susan Davis Price, lived in the nearby Merriam Park neighborhood; Susan is an author and a reference librarian at St. Thomas.

Information: (651) 962-5014.

## Through Dec. 13

*Exhibit:* “Defying the Invisible” is the title of a free mixed-media exhibit in the O’Shaughnessy Educational Center lobby gallery.

The exhibit features works by artists Sister Mary Virginia Micka, C.S.J., and Melinda Kordich.

Information: (651) 962-5560.

## Oct. 18-Dec. 18

*Exhibit:* Portraying the gifts and the challenges of older women’s lives, “Revealing the Invisible” is an exhibit of works by three leading Minnesota photographers – Bette Globus Goodman, Keri Pickett and Judy Olausen. The exhibit will be displayed in the lobby gallery of O’Shaughnessy Educational Center. An opening reception is scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18. The exhibit and the reception are free and open to the public.

Information: (651) 962-5560.

## Oct. 20

*Concert:* UST Bands and Concert Choir present a free concert at 2 p.m. in Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis.

Information: (651) 962-5850.