

the Circuit

 @BC_Circuit

 BC Circuit



Amber Mascarenas' back windscreen; photo has been edited for profanity. Photo by Amber Mascarenas

Student Finds Slur Drawn on Car

Rachel Oberfoell
The Circuit

It's an email that most students received.

"This type of behavior is completely contrary to the mission of Benedictine College and the teachings of the Catholic Church. It is inconsistent with the recognition of the inherent dignity of every person. Benedictine College has zero tolerance for this behavior and condemns all forms of racism," the Benedictine administration wrote in the email.

It was written in response to an incident earlier this month.

Amber Mascarenas, junior, walked to her car in the McDonald Hall parking lot on Oct 7 to

discover that someone drew an obscenity and a racial slur on her back windshield.

After taking a picture and erasing the statement, Mascarenas posted the photo to her Twitter account, tagging Benedictine.

"So in the past 24 hours someone decides to erase the "BLM" that I wrote and instead wrote "f*ck n-words" (hard r) on my car. If you still think BC doesn't have a racism problem, wake up. @BenedictineKS," the tweet said.

The tweet spread quickly, earning over 20 retweets and 50 likes.

Not knowing what to do next, Mascarenas described her reaction.

"I felt really sick afterwards, just thinking that that phrase had been there in full on my car at one point and that someone could have seen it," Mascarenas said. "I was also really mad they had erased the 'BLM' part, like you have your opinion, but to erase it and then write that [phrase] on my car, like what goes through someone's mind to think that that's OK?"

The next day, a student who had had a similar experience, encouraged her to go to Student Life to file a report. She was then directed to meet with her Resident Director, who ended up filing the report.

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Benedictine Abbey Quarantine

Angelica Nelson
The Circuit

St. Benedict's Abbey is under lockdown after some of the monks of the Abbey tested positive for COVID-19 this past weekend.

On Oct.10, the Abbey announced that it was entering a state of lockdown, suspending the celebration of Mass and Reconciliation.

Four hours later, the Abbey released more information stating that four priests were cleared by the Atchison County Health Officials to celebrate Mass and reconciliation. The four priests, Abbot James Albers, Fr. Luke Turner, Fr. Ryan Richardson and Fr. Steve Mills, are staying in the Abbey Guest House, separated from the other monks.

According to Prior Leven Harton, one of the monks under lockdown, the Abbey is uncertain exactly where the virus originated from within the community but believes it may have spread through the monks' community recreation nights.

"On Sunday nights and Tuesday nights we have scheduled extra time in the evening for us to recreate together. This often includes eating and drinking-- which means removal of masks, sometimes in close quarters. These events were the most likely nexus points for transmission," Harton said.

The Abbey has asked for patience during this time since responsibilities are delegated to only four priests. Fr. Turner has been busy keeping up with the

See **Abbey** pg. 7

What's inside?

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Reading his old articles in the Rambler was, and still is, a revelation...”

- Fisher Ward

“

Benedictine College chose to move some events to virtual participation.”

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.. He develops guys to become good citizens, good husbands, good fathers...”

- Shaefer Schuetz

theCircuit



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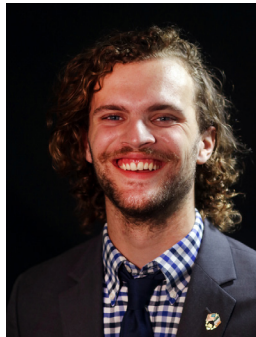
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voices

Blood and ink: My writing legacy



Liam Keating
Managing Editor

Freshman year I chose to study Journalism. But maybe I did not have a choice; maybe it chose me.

My grandfather and namesake, William Keating was a local reporter and columnist for his town's newspaper, *The Putnam County Courier* in Mahopac, New York. My grandfather wrote smart, witty columns centered around fictional back and forth letters titled, "Dear Harvey".

My favorite of his "Dear Harvey" columns was titled "Ladies stores are for men only". In this column my grandfather urges Harvey for the necessity of a women's store to be open only for husbands so they can shop peacefully and without awkwardness during the Christmas season.

"I understand if you give the salesgirl a couple of clues, while she rounds up some gifts for your lady-fair so you can enjoy the painkillers at the free bar provided by the management. It's obviously a great way to shop."

A great observation that any man would truly love. A worker to pick your gift out for you while you sip on a cocktail, ah the luxury.

My other grandfather, Joseph Cowden, was a features writer for *The Voice*, St. Francis College's student publication in Brooklyn.

He wrote informative articles that spotlighted individuals on campus that were making an

impact in Brooklyn. His section titled, "Franciscan of the Week" was well balanced and positive during a time of great hardship for students in the 1940s.

Lastly, my father, James, has written 14 books on various theological topics. His books are long, arduous and do not have any pictures. Thus, I have yet to read them; I will report back when I do.

He has instilled some writing rules in me though. I remember he edited one of my papers in 6th grade and scolded me for using contractions because they are not "professional to use."

In honor of that one interaction, you won't see any contractions in the Circuit or any piece of my writing.

Did I choose this life or did this life choose me? Not sure, but regardless my blood is steeped in the art form of writing and I intend not to give it up.

The Rambler: Returns



Fisher Ward
Copy Editor

I suppose I've always had a relationship to journalism, though I probably didn't realize it. Interestingly, said relationship is also tied to my grandpa's legacy at Benedictine.

My grandpa, Robert V. Ward,

attended from 1949 – 1953, back when Benedictine was St. Benedict's College and the Circuit was the Rambler.

Robert Ward was a Political Science major, and joined the staff of the Rambler as a reporter in 1950, and eventually became the news editor and later editor in chief from 1952-1953.

I was aware that Grandpa wrote for the school paper when I first considered attending Benedictine, and I knew that one of his articles somehow made it into the hands of President Harry S. Truman. (story for another time) but I was not really aware of his contributions to the paper.

Reading his old articles in the Rambler was, and still is, a revelation. His articles, usually

covering politics of the day or some mundane college activities, are written with a dry sense of humor that fills me with curiosity.

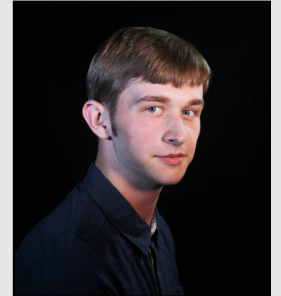
I would love to ask Grandpa about his time at St. Benedict's and what the post-WWII world was like. Sadly, I can't, but I can at least read his articles for an insight. I hope that, by stepping in as copy editor for the Circuit, I can keep his memory alive.

For those interested, old copies of the Rambler can be found on the top floor of the library.

The legacy Grandpa left for me (and my sisters) at Benedictine is one of hard work, a strong ethical stance, and a wry sense of humor to keep people smiling. Still smiling Grandpa.

Cheers!

Legacy media



John Tuttle
Online Editor

There's something fascinating about the older generations that's more than nostalgia. My family ancestors fought for what they believed, and were no strangers to adventure.

My maternal grandmother was quite a personality. She was strong-willed, and it's been said I inherited that from her.

But before I was accounted for, Grandma had a rather eventful role in the Catholic media landscape. She was a pro-life advocate and ran a religious goods store for some years.

Her advocacy was marked by newspapers like *The Wanderer*, and she herself wrote for *Culture Wars* magazine. She befriended many religious, including the late Fr. James J. Downey of St. Benedict's Abbey.

Most remarkably was the fact that Grandma had her own show at a small TV station. My grandfather, Mom, and my aunts were even able to help out with camera operating and editing. She even acquired a conversation with Franciszek Gajowniczek, the man whose life was saved by St. Maximilian Kolbe.

Looking back at Grandma's side career in media in addition to raising a family, I admire her boldness and her ideals. I'm ever conscious of the role of media and its potency, and it's likely that Grandma's passion has rubbed off on me.

The Inclusive Exclusive

Division Street renamed Unity Street to "show solidarity"



Left: The street sign for Unity Street being put up at 2nd and Unity Street on Oct. 1. Right: Atchison residents gather around the new street sign. Photo courtesy of James Howey

Will Alexander
The Circuit

The recent name change of a main thorough fare in Atchison was something Michael Ross wished his mother, the former mayor, could have witnessed.

"It's less of an original idea, it's more of a passing of the torch from her to my siblings to me," Ross said. "This was meant to unify Atchison and slay the dragon of division and for me and my

family personally it was a way to honor my late great mother."

Division Street was changed to Unity Street on Oct. 1 in Atchison. Division Street's original purpose was to be a dividing line between old and new Atchison.

Many residents in Atchison believe the meaning of Division Street had a deeper connotation. The northern area of Division Street was perceived as the low income side of Atchison where

Blacks lived, while south of Division Street is where white, middle class families resided.

Ross, 32, has been an Atchison resident his entire life. The changing of the street name is not only a way for him to be able to honor his late mother but for a way Atchison can become anti-racist .

Ross was not the only one who was a part of this fight, Atchison United has been working for this

change for months. The group has been petitioning, speaking to city officials and people in the community to get their take on the street's former name.

Tyler Sheppard a member of Atchison United and a Graduate Assistant for Diversity Initiatives at Benedictine, spoke about how Unity Street changes a message that we all so desperately need today; instead of focusing on differences, unity and togetherness is

important

"To have the name of Division Street changed to Unity Street was a great stride in progress for our town and the college. Students come to Benedictine and hear the stories of the meaning of the street and the implications that it has. In a time where racial turmoil is at its peak, our community came together to make a stance and show solidarity," Sheppard said.

A Mexican delicacy deriving from the Mayans: Tamales Rojos



Jazmine Diaz with her favorite dish of tamales rojos. Photo courtesy of Jazmine Diaz

Liam Keating
Managing Editor

Jazmine Diaz, senior, enjoys tamales rojos with her family during the colder months.

It has become a tradition for the Diaz family as they spend time around the table eating this meal.

"My family and I love making these because it reminds us of the country we are from and it makes us feel a bit closer to home," Diaz said.

This recipe dates back to the Mayan civilization in Mexico. People have eaten these tamales for thousands years.

Enjoy this traditional meal.

Ingredients

- Dried New Mexico chiles
- Puya chiles (optional)
- Garlic cloves
- Salt
- Pork
- Tamale dough
- Corn husks

Directions

1. Soak the dried New Mexico chiles in boiling water until soft.
2. Place in blender with 2

cloves of garlic and 1 tsp of cumin.

3. Once blended, set aside.
4. Boil pork until fully cooked and add salt.
5. Shred pork.
6. Once shredded combine chile with pork.
7. Place tamale dough in large bowl, add 1/2 lb of shortening and salt.
8. Once combined, add water that was used to boil pork into dough.

9. Soak corn husks in lukewarm water and clean thoroughly.

10. Once cleaned, add medium amount of dough into corn husk, then add pork, and wrap snugly.
11. Once they are fully wrapped, place in a large pot to steam for 1 hour.
12. Once fully steamed, they are ready to enjoy.

Coach Larry Wilcox's

Head Coach Wilcox expected to bring new style to football program

By Mary Watson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Benedictine College announced the resignation of athletic director and head football coach Matt May December 15, 1978.

Benedictine College announced the appointment of Larry Wilcox to the vacant head football coaching position January 19, 1979.

"I was pleasantly surprised," Wilcox said. "There was good competition for the position. I thought it was time for a head coaching situation and I wanted to maintain my affiliation with the pro-



gram here."

Wilcox's affiliation with the football program at BC has spanned a period of nine years. "I've been with the program since day one," said Wilcox, "three years as a player and six years as a coach."

Wilcox said the College offered a quality education as well as a quality athletic program. These necessitate a strong staff. He plans to build his program around the athletes already involved in the program, and through the recruitment of quality athletes.

"I'm very happy to have this opportunity," Wilcox said, "and with the number of good people around us, both students and employees of the College, we'll be able to give to the College a successful and meaningful program."

The College is firmly committed to such a quality program, former head football coach May said. Football at BC serves the College in several facets. The program stimulates community interest in the College, it provides an identity for the student body in the fall, provides social opportunities such as

1979-1980 football squad, the team is expected to take on a new look.

"I'm happy Wilcox was appointed because he's dedicated to his work and he's a winner," said senior runningback Keith Hertling. "I think he has what it takes to build this team back up. I have a lot of respect for him, but he has his work cut out for him."

"Coach Wilcox coaches differently than Coach May," said senior quarterback Paul Durkin. "I think Wilcox will be a more aggressive coach. He'll probably psyche his players up. Coach May physically prepared us for the game and let us psyche ourselves up. Many of the players couldn't handle that."

"He'll be very methodical due to his limited experience," May said of the new coach. "He'll probably go by the book, whichever one he selects."

"No one can coach like anyone else," May added. "There are contrasts in style. You've got to be yourself. You're working with the development of young people."

"Everyone coaches differently. Just



LARRY WILCOX

Coach May dealt with the individual and really cared for him.

"Coach Wilcox learned a lot from Coach May and this past season," Hertling continued. "And even though he's young, he has enough experience to deal with the people on the team and

Sport Shorts

Wilcox appointed to director's position

Larry Wilcox, in addition to his duties as head football coach, was named athletic director of the men's and women's programs at Benedictine College this summer.

"I feel that, at this time, Benedictine College is beginning a new era in athletics," Wilcox said. "The College has made some very meaningful commitments to its athletic teams."

Five new coaches train BC athletes

The varsity athlete may be hearing a different tune in the locker room this season as five new coaches take over the head coaching vacancies.

Larry Wilcox is making his debut as head mentor of the Benedictine football team. Wilcox, a native of St. Joseph, Mo., formerly coached baseball at BC

February 16, 1979

September 6, 1979

April 27, 1979



"I'm doing the work that I most enjoy at the place I most enjoy, with the people I want to work with."
- Coach Wilcox

"I feel that, at this time, Benedictine College is beginning a new era in athletics."
- Coach Wilcox

Larry Wilcox: Man of all trades at Benedictine

By Mary Watson
Member of the Staff

Head football coach, head baseball coach, physical education director, men's dorm director, etc., etc., etc. . . . It's the kind of staff that every physical education major fantasizes about and any red-blooded resume would drool over. Making these already impressive statistics doubly eye-catching is the fact that they are attributed to a gentleman under 30 and only seven years out of college. Not bad for a Benedictine

College education graduate from East St. Louis, Ill.

Larry Wilcox is one of those few and fortunate individuals who is exactly where he wants to be, doing exactly what he wants to do. After talking with Benedictine's new head football coach, one can't help but feel that his good fortune is more than a stroke of luck. Larry Wilcox wasn't a victim of happenstance; he designed his own fate.

"When I was a freshman I thought I wanted to be a dentist or an accountant—someone who made a lot of money. But during my sophomore year, as I became more involved in the physical education department, I realized I wanted to go into coaching."

And so it was to be. The atmosphere was ripe and a coach was born.

"I was influenced greatly by my coaches when I was in school here. The type of people that I associated with (Coach Ralph Niles and Coach Tom Colwell) had a lot to do with my decision to go into coaching. I learned from their different attitudes and styles of handling people. They were both downcast figures in my life."

Coach Larry Wilcox. The title had a nice sound. However, it was for neither fame nor fortune that Wilcox gravitated toward the coaching ranks.

"When I was at Benedictine, I saw the great personal sacrifice that good coaches must be willing to make for their players. They must put in many long hours and be willing to work hard. The coaches here weren't working for the money or fame (obviously, there are many jobs that pay a lot more) but out of sheer dedication."

An authoritative figure on the field and off, dorm director Wilcox runs a tight ship in Augustine Hall with apparent ease. Restating his favorite phrase (which may someday appear in all dorm director

surprise me anymore." Perhaps it is this sort of knowledge that explains why dorm director Wilcox has lost his temper only a few times in the past five years.

"I believe in realistic honesty. If someone has done something, I expect them to come forward and admit it. I tell the guys that they have the freedom to do what they want, but in here, they must be man enough to face the consequences for whatever they choose to do."

Where does Larry Wilcox see himself 10 years from now?

"Actually, I didn't think I'd live this long. For now, though, I want to do the best job that I can at Benedictine. I'm really very happy now. I'm doing the work that I most enjoy at the place I want to work with. Just since I was a sophomore in college, I knew I wanted to coach at Benedictine. I've seen many colleges, but no other can compare with the atmosphere of the students at Benedictine."

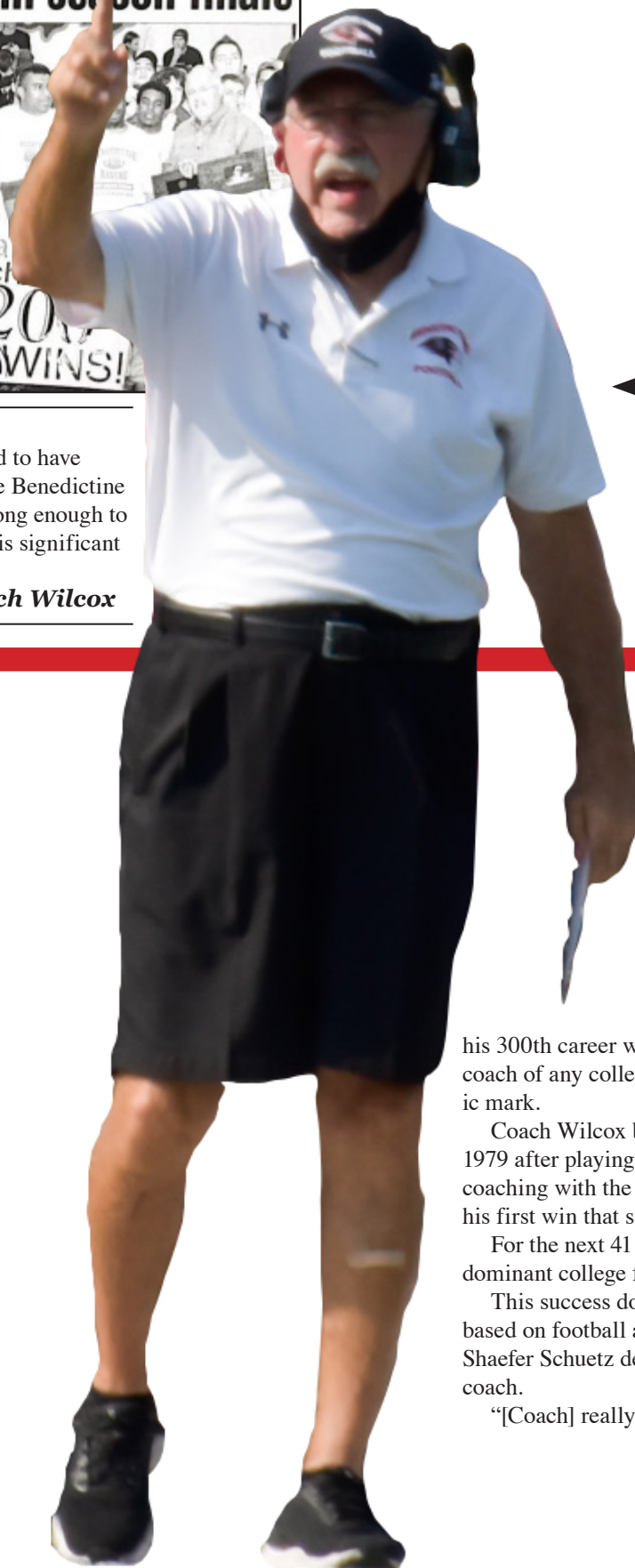
FREE SINGLE
Dairy Queen
brazier
thru 5/11

Disco wharf

Timeline to 300 wins



“ I really appreciate that (people were focused on his 300th win), but we've got a lot of work to do this season.”
- Coach Wilcox



November 30, 2007

“ I am honored to have been a part of the Benedictine College family long enough to have gotten to this significant point.”
- Coach Wilcox

October 10, 2020



Wilcox earns 300 career wins for the Ravens

Austin Canatella
The Circuit

Benedictine Head Football Coach Larry Wilcox picked up

his 300th career win on October 10. He is the 14th coach of any college division to ever reach this historic mark.

Coach Wilcox began his head coaching career in 1979 after playing as a student at Benedictine and coaching with the Ravens as an assistant. He earned his first win that same year as the head coach.

For the next 41 years and counting, he has brought dominant college football to Atchison.

This success does not come easy and is not totally based on football alone. Former Raven quarterback Shafer Schuetz describes his special relationship with coach.

“[Coach] really presses in putting his time into

See **Wilcox** pg. 5

November 2, 1995

Wilcox celebrates win 100 with his parents



Photo By CHRIS MINE

During half time of the football game over Parents' Weekend, Coach Wilcox's parents were in hand to honor him for his 100th career win on September 30. Also pictured is Coach Dennis Murphy and Dr. Dan Carey, president of the college. During the ceremony, several former football players took the field to honor their former Coach. A reception for Coach Wilcox followed the game. For more information on Parents' Weekend, see page 3.

Homecoming 2020



President Minnis greeting visitors during the Parade on Friday.
Photo by John Tuttle



Students of St. Joseph Hall dance during the parade on Friday.
Photo by John Tuttle



Memorial Hall residents hoist the Raven Cup on Saturday.
Photo by McKenna Elder



Rayshon Milis runs the ball against Evangel on Saturday.
Photo by Liam Keating



Wyatt Iseman crowns Mary Harpole as Homecoming Queen on Saturday.
Photo by Liam Keating

"Take Me Home, Country Roads," sees array of changes

John Tuttle
The Circuit

For Benedictine College, this year's campus-wide Homecoming celebration took a turn from what it has looked like in the past. Alterations in the annual festivities ranged from COVID-19 precautions to new routes for the bed races.

The theme this year was "Take Me Home, Country Roads," borrowed from the eponymous John

Denver's classic.

During Homecoming, the campus's dorms and apartments found ways to personalize their on-campus housing identity and sport their school pride.

Benedictine alumni and loved ones attended popular weekend games like the bed races, a long-established tradition at the college.

See **Homecoming** pg. 7

features



The Memo Bed Race team prepares for the race. Photo by McKenna Elder

Homecoming from page 6 ...

While many of the traditional events were not canceled, they were planned and executed differently this year. The parade and bed races had relatively few health stipulations put into effect in comparison to other student events and competitions.

The college began Homecoming Week on Monday, Oct. 12 with the lighting of a temporary lantern placed in the outstretched hand of the central statue of St. Benedict.

Like a number of other higher-ed academia across the US, Benedictine College chose to move some events to virtual participation.

The institution hosted a virtual pep rally on a private YouTube live stream, and a variety of games, though held in-person, took place with limited clusters of players and a virtual audience.

Josh Pippert, junior, attended several of the main events and shared his thoughts with The Circuit.

“They had a pep rally this year, but it wasn’t quite as exciting as they usually are each year. They had to just watch live streams from their dorms,” Pippert said.

The bed races went along a changed route this year. Previously, the races began at the intersection of 5th Street and Kansas Avenue and ended on

campus. The bed race route this year started off at the intersection of 5th and Unity Street.

The finish line was also moved, marking the culmination of the races at the intersection of 2nd Street and Harper Drive.

Apart from this, the parade and bed races were not dissimilar to those of previous years, except more people were wearing masks, Pippert said.

Mary Vowles, a freshman, was also among the spectators in attendance at the bed races.

“I really enjoyed the bed races. It was so fun to cheer everyone on, and it was really intense,” Vowles said.

that distribute Holy Communion, and now, I’m a one man show,” Turner said.

However, Harton and Turner both agreed that the most difficult part of this lockdown has been being unable to pray together.

“The first morning after our public recitation of the Divine Office was suspended, it felt very odd, like, ‘What’s the point?’ Of

course, the desire for God stirred in my heart, but the awareness that no one else was part of it was very strange and empty,” Harton said.

Despite these challenges, Turner said that Campus Ministry has greatly helped the community. Andrew Reasor, Sophomore at Benedictine College, is a member of Campus Ministry and thinks

Slur from page 1 ...

Due to the timing of the incident and there being no security cameras in the McDonald parking lot, the perpetrator has not been identified.

Since meeting with her RD, there have been no new developments in the case even though Mascarenas hopes someone is held accountable.

“I think there needs to be a fine. If you’re caught writing or doing something racist, that should be a pretty big fine. And I

would just like a formal apology from whoever did it, and like [have them] genuinely apologize,” Mascarenas said.

Joseph Wurtz, dean of students, was made aware of the situation after seeing Mascarenas’ tweet. He explained the actions being taken to prevent something like this from happening again.

“We have increased our security presence, and we still educate students on bystander intervention, so that if they see something, they respond. There have also been discussions about increasing more lighting,” Wurtz said.

Tyler Sheppard, Graduate Assistant for Diversity Initiatives and member of the class of 2019, gave his opinion on the situation.

“It’s distasteful, it’s hurtful, and it’s a hate crime.”
- Tyler Sheppard

“It’s distasteful, it’s hurtful, and it’s a hate crime. It’s something nobody should be doing. And I think we all need to take

responsibility for what’s going on our campus,” Shepherd said.

If you have questions, concerns or tips regarding this situation or any other incidents on campus, please contact the Student Life office at (913) 360-7500 or studentlife@benedictine.edu .

Abbey from page 1 ...

extra work.
“We’re used to having the support of the entire community. So, for example, the 12:10 Mass there’s so many things you take for granted. You know there’s a monk that’s a sacristan, the monks that are in the schola, the monks that serve mass, the monks that are lectors, the monks

this is an opportunity for students to give back.

“While it’s been limited, I know they’re all working really hard to make sure we can receive the sacraments like normal. Help with the masses if you can. Maybe even write them letters, and just let them know we’re praying for them,” Reasor said.

As of Wednesday, six of the

twenty-eight monks at the Abbey had positive cases, but none were in critical condition. Multiple rounds of testing are being conducted regularly to determine which monks need to be in isolation.

Updates regarding Mass and confession schedules and the Abbey’s quarantine can be found on their website.

sports

The 30 year anniversary of the great mascot heist

Liam Keating
Managing Editor

Phil Lombardi, Fr. Dan Andrews and three others began their Saturday at breakfast before their lives would change forever in October of 1990.

The group decided to pile into Andrews' 1973 Volkswagen van and set off for Kansas City, MO for BC's soccer match against Rockhurst.

Before heading into the stadium, the group stopped to use the restroom inside the athletic offices. In a corner near the restrooms, a large object rested undisturbed.

"We walked by the [Rockhurst] mascot sitting in a blue heap in a corner," Lombardi said.

The sophomores entered the bathroom with the same idea.

"We go into the restroom and there is this silence. Then someone said, 'We're not leaving here without that are we?' The rest of us said, 'nope,'" Andrews said.

Lombardi exited the restroom and began to put the Rockhurst mascot on himself when the Rockhurst athletics secretary approached him.

"Oh, did you want to wear that for the game today?" she asked.

Lombardi could barely see through the Hawk's head but saw his friends suggesting, 'yes.'

The usual mascot wearer was away and could not participate



Phil Lombardi, second from the left, and Fr. Dan Andrews, front, pose with the Rockhurst mascot. Photo courtesy of Fr. Dan Andrews

in the soccer game, so Lombardi stepped in to help.

"The athletic secretary helped me get dressed up in this thing," Lombardi said.

Lombardi was ushered onto the field by Andrews ready to participate in the biggest game of the season for Rockhurst. It was the Hawks Homecoming as the stands were packed to watch the two rival teams face each other.

"The first half of the game, Phil is the Rockhurst Hawk," Andrews said. "He's out there and going up to our players and

talking trash."

"I am heckling Benedictine Soccer players," Lombardi said. "I would open the beak and show them who I was."

The first half concluded as Lombardi had a decision to make.

"We are trying to find an exit strategy. But we can't leave at halftime, it's Homecoming," Lombardi said. "I have to be on the field with their Homecoming Court. Otherwise, it looks too suspicious."

Lombardi stayed on the field with the Homecoming Court

as he hugged girls and gave handshakes to the men. He was a crowd favorite, so much so he received a new job opportunity. The Athletic Director of Rockhurst came to Lombardi with good news.

"He told me, 'I don't know who the last mascot was, but you're much better than him. This is your job from now on,'" Lombardi said. "They offered me the job almost immediately."

Five minutes inside the second half, Lombardi and the group had to escape.

"I pulled my van around and pushed the sliding door open," Andrews said.

Lombardi tried his best to escape quietly, but the old mascot was too restricting.

"This thing had big yellow floppy feet, there was no way to carefully walk away," Lombardi said.

With the sliding door open and the van running, Lombardi made the ultimate getaway.

"Phil runs out with the big webbed feet and dives into the van," Andrews said.

"I took the head off and threw it into the van before I dove into the van. I'll never forget the woman's look who was in the car behind Fr. Dan," Lombardi said. "The door slammed behind me and we were gone."

"We make the big escape and off we go and head back to Atchison," Andrews said.

Lombardi kept the Rockhurst mascot for four months utilizing it as a Halloween costume during its stint in Atchison.

In February, 1991, the Rockhurst basketball team came to Atchison to face the Ravens. Lombardi was ready with his secret weapon.

Lombardi suited up in the Hawk mascot at halftime of the game and ran into the gym.

"I clapped at the Rockhurst students, gave them a thumbs down and dove headfirst into our pit," Lombardi said. "Our student section went crazy."

The Benedictine student section mocked and jeered at the Rockhurst students while chanting, "Where's your bird? We got your bird!"

After the game, Benedictine Administration told Lombardi it was time to give it back. There were zero questions asked and no disciplinary action taken.

"The plan was to keep it forever," Lombardi said.

Lombardi, Andrews and the rest of the crew had just been a part of the best heist in school history.

Not everything was lost though. Lombardi still has a keepsake from this momentous time as a student at BC.

"There was a tail that was pinned on, I ripped the tail off," Lombardi said. "The tail is still in my possession."

Wilcox from page 5...

creating a culture of guys who are solid people," Schuetz said.

Wilcox is not only looking to develop players into talented football players, but into well-rounded people.

"He develops guys to become good citizens, good husbands,

good fathers and strong guys in the work force," Schuetz said.

Athletic Director and Defensive Coordinator, Charlie Gartenmeyer, has worked with Wilcox for 46 years at Benedictine.

"Words that pop into my mind [about Wilcox] are persistence, hard-working, attention to detail

and tenacity," Gartenmeyer said.

Along with developing young men into successful athletes, Gartenmeyer adds Coach Wilcox takes joy in seeing his players succeed in the classroom.

"On graduation day, he is ecstatic to see those young men get their degree, knowing all of

the hard work they put in and the sacrifices they made to get there," Gartenmeyer said.

Offensive Lineman Sam Clardy, senior, can attest to Coach Wilcox's tenacious work ethic.

"What has gotten him 300 wins is him not settling for anything less than excellent. He

surrounds himself with great coaches and players and that's what it takes to get where he is at today," Clardy said.

Wilcox has guided his team to a 4-1 record this season as the Ravens look to win another Heart Conference Championship this fall.