Dear Alumni and Friends of Briar Cliff University,

Each year, I charge the graduating class as they receive their diplomas. As I think about it, it is a charge that is relevant for all of us in our daily lives. At Briar Cliff University, we educate men and women in a Franciscan tradition that marries the mind and the heart. Our mission is to provide a foundation for learning that emphasizes care, compassion and service so that we may use our professional skills to the fullest benefit of our communities and the world.

This year’s class of 252 bachelor’s degree, 15 master’s degree and two associate degree recipients will be forever and uniquely linked as the 75th graduating class during the 75th Anniversary celebration year. Our end of the year survey shows that a number of graduates will be attending graduate school and many have accepted a job offer in their field. In this class we had twin sisters graduate with the same degree and a mother and daughter graduate with the same degree. From this class are members of the inaugural football team and this year’s inaugural women’s tennis team. Among the many accomplishments of the class are the annual mission trips to Honduras and Mississippi where students and employees put into action the Franciscan values that we hold as so important.

Beginning with the St. Anthony’s walk last August, the university celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a series of events that reminded us of our unique heritage. On Palm Sunday weekend, as we dedicated a new statue of St. Clare (front cover), Joanne Schatzlein, OSF, gave a wonderful presentation of St. Clare and her life; illustrating a new perspective on the values on which this university was founded. Anniversary events concluded in May with an afternoon tea for alumnae from the 40’s, 50’s and 60’s.

It has been a remarkable and eventful year. Thank you to everyone who contributed in making this a memorable 75th Anniversary!

God’s blessings,

Beverly A. Wharton

Beverly A. Wharton
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On The Cover

This statue of St. Clare is now a permanent fixture on the Briar Cliff University campus. About five-feet tall, this bronze-painted sculpture was placed in the piazza of the Stark Student Center and dedicated on April 8, 2006, in honor of St. Clare.

Briar Cliff University Magazine is an official publication of Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa. Briar Cliff University Magazine is published three times a year by the Briar Cliff University Office of Institutional Advancement and is mailed free of charge to alumni and friends of Briar Cliff University. Copyright © 2006 by Briar Cliff University.

At Briar Cliff University there will be no discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, age, disability or national origin in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This principle applies to, but is not limited to, educational programs, admissions, activities, financial aid and/or employment policies.
BCU MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

In September 2006, Briar Cliff University will begin the second of a three-year sequence of studies for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). The MSN is a two-track, 38- to 42-hour program for baccalaureate-prepared nurses who are interested in serving as family nurse practitioners or as nurse educators.

Briar Cliff University’s Master of Science in Nursing features a strong clinical component. Courses are offered every other week in a one evening format with web augmentation and clinical experiences between class sessions. Students will have access to BCU’s state-of-the-art nursing laboratory, and the program has interim approval from the Iowa Board of Nursing. All Briar Cliff programs are guided by Christian principles within a Catholic and Franciscan framework.

For more information, please go to the Briar Cliff University homepage, under “Academics” and click on the “Graduate Programs” link. Scroll down and click on the “Master of Science in Nursing” link to see the MSN program and fact sheet.

SISTER MURIEL FORD PROGRAM LAUNCHES AT BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

A new mentoring program is helping female students at Briar Cliff get a head start in both their personal and professional lives. Established this past year, the Sister Muriel Ford Circle of Mentors for Women hosted two events on campus this year: an inaugural meeting in January that featured a program on the importance of networking and the second event in April, “Dress for Success - Tools You Will Use the Rest of Your Life,” was devoted to etiquette training.

Named after Sister Muriel Ford, the alumni director at Briar Cliff from 1946 to 1969 who was also a member and chair of the sociology department for 35 years, the Sister Muriel Ford Circle was created to serve as an opportunity for members to share their leadership and professional skills with young women in the initial stages of their careers. The Sister Muriel Ford Circle will also recognize alumnae and students of Briar Cliff, and work to attract outstanding women to Briar Cliff University.

Members of the Sister Muriel Ford Circle Executive Committee include Charese Yanney, partner of Guarantee Roofing and Siding; Jana Hector, BCU graduate ’05; Judy Kellen, Sioux City Police Department; Lisa Preston, director of alumni relations at Briar Cliff University; Gladys Smith, Boys & Girls Home and Family Services; Sharisue Wilcoxson, vice president for enrollment management at Briar Cliff University; and Do Yanney, community volunteer.

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The cool blue of a Pepsi can proved to be a perfect match for the blue and gold of Briar Cliff University. The popular soft drink maker produced more than 200,000 cans featuring Briar Cliff’s 75th Anniversary logo “A History of Forward Thinking, A Legacy of Commitment.”

Distributed mainly in grocery stores and vending machines in northwest Iowa, the 75th Anniversary panels were on cans in six-packs, 12-packs and 24-packs. The promotion was made possible thanks to Briar Cliff’s longtime relationship with Pepsi-Cola of Siouxland - formerly Hart Beverage Co. and the Ray V. Mitchell family. Mitchell, the former president of Hart Beverage, who passed away in 1997, was a member of the Briar Cliff Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1993.

“We wanted to continue in Ray’s legacy,” said Gail Reece, general manager of Pepsi-Cola of Siouxland, “and be able to participate in recognizing this 75-year milestone. Briar Cliff University has had a positive influence on our community and we are proud to be associated with them.”

The commemorative cans were redeemable for 10 percent off at the Eldon and Regina Roth Campus Store.
In February, Briar Cliff and Outback Steakhouse in Sioux City teamed up to raise money for the Briar Cliff University Annual Scholarship Fund at “Lunch with the Chargers.”

More than 300 guests attended this inaugural event as two serving times - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. - were available to patrons. Lunch guests received a Bloomin’ Onion®, Chicken On The Barbie, Outback Special® and a Jacket Potato. Service was provided by Briar Cliff athletes, coaches and administrators who volunteered their time for the event.

Hosted by the Briar Cliff University Alumni Association Board of Directors, “Lunch with the Chargers” raised more than $12,000 for the Annual Scholarship Fund.

BCU athletes like senior Krystal Pappas, a member of the women’s basketball team, helped serve and bus tables.

LUNCH WITH THE CHARGERS SERVES UP FUN

Kristen Hansen, a 2000 graduate of Briar Cliff University, didn’t take the easy way out in producing her very first documentary “I Love You, I Hate You Too.” The hour-long film, which was shown at the Stark Student Center in March with Hansen in attendance, closely examines the love-hate relationship between two cultures - the United States and France.

For two weeks in September 2004, Hansen, then a graduate student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, filmed in Paris and other parts of France with a professor and another Nebraska student. The more than 60 hours of footage was eventually condensed into the one-hour documentary. Since premiering in December 2005, the documentary has aired several times on Nebraska Public Television.

“It was an awesome experience,” said Hansen, a native of Hinton, Iowa. “The people were wonderful and they were very respectful of what we were doing.”

Trying to disprove myths about the French people and their culture was a challenge and even though the trip to France was a lot of hard work, the end result was worth it.

“I’m really excited for people to see it,” admitted Hansen, who received her master’s degree from UN-L and is now a producer for “Daybreak,” a morning show on WOW-TV in Omaha. “This is definitely a grand finale to my academic career.”

GRAMMY WINNER VISITS CAMPUS,
DISCUSSES RACIAL DIVERSITY AND HIS ODYSSEY INTO THE KKK

Even though Daryl Davis is a Grammy Award-winning pianist, it wasn’t his music that captivated the audience during his visit to campus for the Briar Cliff lecture-concert series in March.

Davis, an African-American, discussed the personal relationships he established with members of one of America’s most fanatical institutions: the Ku Klux Klan, including Roger Kelly, Imperial Wizard of the Invincible Empire Knights of the KKK.

“I didn’t understand why there was racism,” said Kelly, who spent his early childhood in Europe and Africa before moving to the United States. “But the older I got, the more I saw it. The more I saw it, the more I had to understand it. I needed a focal point, so I chose the Klan.”

Davis is an accomplished R&B and blues musician who has toured with Muddy Waters and Chuck Berry, along with his own band. He has also written a book about his experiences with racism entitled, “Klandestine Relationships.” During his lecture at Briar Cliff, Davis talked about forming a friendship with Kelly and other members of the Klan, who eventually left the organization because of their relationship with Davis.

“From that day forward, I began collecting information,” Davis added. “I found out that people aren’t born with prejudice, but I needed to know where it came from.”

BRIAR CLIFF ALUM PRODUCES ‘I LOVE YOU, I HATE YOU TOO’ DOCUMENTARY

Daryl Davis, a Grammy Award-winning musician and author, took time away from his lecture in the St. Francis Center to play jazz piano.

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“From that day forward, I began collecting information,” Davis added. “I found out that people aren’t born with prejudice, but I needed to know where it came from.”
Briar Cliff University students demonstrated the Franciscan traditions of service, caring and openness to all through meaningful projects both on and off campus during the 2005-2006 academic year.

Students took it upon themselves to make service a part of their extracurricular activities in the local community as well as in parts of the United States where poverty and devastation still lingered following one of the worst natural disasters in history.

In February, eight BCU students spent their spring break in southern Mississippi doing hurricane relief work, including repairing a community center as well as tutoring young students. The conditions, the Briar Cliff students noted, were still far from desirable.

“The economic conditions for Katrina victims are similar now as they were right after the hurricane,” said student Laura Cameron, a junior from Amelia, Neb. “Many people have no homes or jobs.”

Briar Cliff students helped Catholic Charities in Jackson by sorting items donated to the hurricane relief effort. They also assisted in setting up additional office space for case workers and counselors to accommodate the need for more mental health professionals in the region.

In addition to helping out over spring break, several Briar Cliff students were helping their “best buddies” throughout the school year. Last summer, Briar Cliff’s Best Buddies partnership began with 20 students matching up with residents from Mid-Step Services of Sioux City. BCU students and their best buddies had fun going to the movies, bowling or just going out to eat. They even had a card-making party for Valentine’s Day.

In March, for international “Best Buddies Month,” BCU students and their best buddies served dinner and desserts at the Sioux City Gospel Mission, and April’s highlight was a “Best Buddies Prom” at Sioux City North High School.

“It’s been such a great partnership,” said Staci Cogdill, a senior nursing major from Dunlap, Iowa. “To help people and to get them more involved in the community is definitely a rewarding experience.”

NEW TRUSTEES ANNOUNCED

TIM BROWN is a graduate of Iowa State University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in engineering in 1986. He has served as the president of Brown Construction Company for the past seven years and is also an active volunteer within the Siouxland community, including the Catholic Schools of Sioux City, First American Bank of Sioux City and Girls, Inc. He currently serves as president of the Dakota Valley Business Council and is the treasurer for the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce.

MOST REVEREND R. WALKER NICKLESS was recently ordained as bishop of the Diocese of Sioux City. He received a bachelor’s degree from St. Thomas Theological Seminary and a master’s degree from Pontifical Gregorian University. Nickless was ordained as a priest in the Catholic Church in 1973 in Denver, Colo. and has served in numerous leadership positions in the Archdiocese of Denver, including Vicar General from 1993 to 2005. On Nov. 10, 2005, he was appointed the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Sioux City by Pope Benedict XVI.
For Gus Schroeder, community means everything. Just ask him about Wall Lake, Iowa, a place he’s called home with his wife of 58 years, Lillian.

“We enjoy traveling,” Schroeder said with a smile, a Board of Trustees member for two years. “We’ve been to places like North Africa, Europe and Ireland, but Wall Lake has been home to us for so many years. It’s just a great place to be a part of and to raise a family.”

Family is how Schroeder sees the Briar Cliff community. A community that’s growing, he adds, because of such strong support from the top, especially the board of trustees.

“It’s been an education to just be able to meet with those people,” said Schroeder, who at 85 is the eldest board member. “There are some really good people on this board.”

Schroeder joined the board in 2004, a year after officially retiring from the cattle feeding industry.

“It was a good experience being a cattleman,” recalled Schroeder. “I traveled a lot because of that and got to know a lot of really good people.”

Born in Carroll, Iowa, Schroeder didn’t have a reason to leave Iowa until World War II, when he was stationed in England while serving in the Army as a member of the Air Corps. When his father, who operated a cattle farm, got sick, Schroeder returned home a year before the war ended in 1944.

He eventually settled in as a farmer in Wall Lake, a community in Sac County that’s home to around 900 people, and developed one of the largest cattle feeding operations in Iowa. At one time, he owned 11,000 head of cattle and was named to the Iowa Cattlemen’s Association Hall of Fame. In 1996, Schroeder was named Cattleman of the Year.

Even though his expertise in cattle feeding took him beyond the Iowa border and into other midwestern and western states, Schroeder’s affinity to return to Wall Lake was always there, whether it was coming home to his two daughters or serving as the town’s mayor from 1991 to 2002.

“Being there for your family, nothing can beat that feeling,” he said with a smile. “The same goes for a strong community.”

Gus and Lillian also make sure that they support the educational community whether it’s the scholarship program at Kuemper High School in Carroll or with scholarships at Briar Cliff University.

“Personally, I think there’s a lot of growth ahead at Briar Cliff,” he noted. “I think the more scholarships that are made available, the better the opportunities for students and I think you’re going to see that happening.”

FOUR MEMBERS HAVE JOINED THE BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Virginia “Ginny” Peterson currently serves as chairperson of the Bob and Ginny Peterson Foundation and is a director of the Peterson Management Company. Peterson devotes much of her time as a community volunteer to several organizations, including the Boy’s Club of Sioux City, Girls, Inc. and Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Peterson is a founding member of the Jackson Recovery Women and Children’s Center Auxiliary; a founder and a member of the Sioux City Art Center Auxiliary; and is a present member of the United Way of Siouxland’s Women’s Leadership Group.

Mona Winger, OSF earned a bachelor’s degree from Briar Cliff and a master’s degree from DePaul University. She was an educator for over 40 years beginning as a teacher at St. Mary of the Woods School in Chicago, Ill. in 1955. Other positions during her career include principal at St. Mary of the Woods; curriculum instructor at Briar Cliff; and elementary principal at St. Edward School in Waterloo, Iowa. Wingert also has worked for the Archdiocese of Dubuque and for the Diocese of Charlotte, N.C. She returned to Mount St. Francis in Dubuque in 2002.
On a beautiful April afternoon with the sun shining brightly, the Briar Cliff University campus dedicated a statue in the honor of St. Clare, a woman who lived her life in the Franciscan tradition of service, caring and openness to all. Even more fitting was the date, April 8 - the eve of Palm Sunday, for it was on Palm Sunday that Clare made her decision to follow in the presence of St. Francis.

The dedication ceremony began with a program by Joanne Schatzlein, OSF, entitled "Clare of Assisi: Contemporary, Contemplative and Charismatic" in the Clare Room inside the St. Francis Center. Schatzlein talked about how St. Clare abruptly left behind a wealthy lifestyle (her father was Count of Sasso-Rosso in an ancient Roman family) to become the second founding figure in the Franciscan family along with St. Francis of Assisi.

Schatzlein described Clare as an "incredibly tenacious woman who maintained her original conviction" on how she wanted to live her life. She also depicted Clare’s ultimate virtue as “charitable giving” to those who needed it most, especially the poor.

Following Schatzlein’s program, the dedication ceremony moved outside to the piazza of the Stark Student Center, where Rev. Al McCoy officially blessed the five-feet tall, bronze-painted statue that shows Clare holding a loaf of bread in her right hand with a Franciscan rope belt with three knots draped across the middle. The statue includes a plaque with a blessing from St. Clare, “May God be with you, and you always with God.”

Following the dedication ceremony, “Italian-style” pastries were served, including “hot cross buns,” along with cappuccino and gelato punch. The activities for the day concluded with a 4:30 p.m. Palm Sunday Vigil liturgy in the spirit of St. Clare in Our Lady of Grace Chapel.

It was an afternoon of fondness and reflection for more than four dozen women who taught or graduated from Briar Cliff between the years of 1932 and 1966. During an Afternoon Tea in the Assisi Room of the St. Francis Center, several graduates and their former teachers gathered for the final event commemorating Briar Cliff’s 75th Anniversary year on Thursday, May 18.

Briar Cliff University President Beverly Wharton delivered the welcome for the Afternoon Tea where finger sandwiches, cardamom cookies, scones, truffles, coffee, lemonade and three kinds of tea were served. The event also included a showing of Briar Cliff’s six-minute award-winning history video, “A History of Forward Thinking,” and a program by 2006 graduates Christy Huls and Heidi Pickhinke.

“I’ve always loved Briar Cliff,” said Elvira Kelley, OSF, a graduate of Briar Cliff in 1953, who was one of several Sisters of St. Francis to make the trip from Mount St. Francis in Dubuque, Iowa. “It was a good place for me, a good place for a lot of these women here today.”
The Briar Cliff community took time on May 4 to honor members of its faculty, staff, administration and student body at the university’s annual Honors Convocation in Our Lady of Grace Chapel.

The Student Heart of the University Award was presented to Kendra Homan; the Student Award for Service was bestowed on Kenneth Beyer; the Distinguished Senior Continuing Education Award went to Leticia Quintanilla; and the Distinguished Senior Alumni Award was given to Ashley Hittle.

Graduate student Sandra Francis received the Distinguished Master’s of Human Resource Management Award and Virginia Uhlenkamp accepted the Distinguished Master’s of Nursing Graduate Student Award.

Alison Sunderman and Joshua Fuxa were honored as the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the 2006 graduating class.

Jean Beringer, OSF, director of student support services, was awarded the Paul and Frances Duff Pursuit of Excellence Award, which was established in 1984 by Katharina P. Flanagan of Peabody, Mass. to recognize outstanding service to Briar Cliff University by a member of the faculty, staff or administration.

Bill Welu, professor of art, received the Spiritus Franciscanus Award, which annually recognizes the contributions of a member of the Briar Cliff faculty, staff or administration that imitates and reflects the values of St. Francis and St. Clare.

Todd Barry, head coach of the Briar Cliff men’s basketball team, was presented with the Bonaventure Award that honors an employee who strives to advance and achieve the integration of student curricular and co-curricular experiences through the establishment of learning communities, collaborative ventures or other activities that promote the attainment of a holistic education.

Bobbi Swanson, print shop coordinator, was honored with the Distinguished Staff Award; Gretchen Bogenrief, director of research and assessment, received the Distinguished Administrator Award; Heather Craig-Oldsen, assistant professor and social work director, received the Emerging Faculty Scholar Award; and George Frangedakis, associate professor and business department chair, was presented the Distinguished Faculty Scholar Award.

The university’s academic departments also honored students for academic achievement, and students that qualified for the Dean’s List Term III 2004-05 and/or Term I and Term II 2005-06 were also recognized at the ceremony.
“Thank you for joining us as we celebrate the accomplishments of the class of 2006.” And with those remarks from President Beverly A. Wharton, Briar Cliff University’s 75th commencement officially began for 269 graduates on Saturday, May 13 at the Orpheum Theatre in Sioux City.

With an auditorium full of friends and family, 252 members of the class of 2006 graduated from Briar Cliff with bachelor’s degrees, 15 received master’s degrees and two accepted their associate’s degrees from President Wharton on the Orpheum stage.

“This is the first time since Aug. 28, 2002, that we have all been in the same room,” noted Shayne Mayer, a political science major from Melvin, Iowa, in her commencement address to fellow graduates. Mayer was selected to give the traditional student speech while Dasha Weatherman, a biology major from Santa Monica, Calif., was chosen to deliver the continuing education address.

“Through these uniting times, we have come a long way,” Mayer added. “This is a new start for all of us.”

Commencement began with the traditional processional and bearer of the San Damiano Crucifix, which was carried by Grace Ann Witte, OSF, professor and chairperson of the department of sociology. Following the San Damiano Crucifix to the stage were the flag of the United States, carried by Michael Jensen of Council Bluffs, Iowa; the state of Iowa flag carried by Laura Flammang of Lawton, Iowa; and the Briar Cliff University flag, accompanied by Ricardo Galvan of Chicago, Ill.

Following the “National Anthem,” which was sung by Briar Cliff students William Darwin, Justin Ranek, Brooke Redwine and Heather Scribner; and the invocation from Dorothy Heiderscheit, OSF, chairperson of the board of trustees, Wharton delivered the greeting to an audience of more than 2,000 in the Orpheum. Mayer followed with her address that included a “Top 10 List” of cherished memories from her Briar Cliff experience. She concluded her speech by thanking her friends and family as well as the Briar Cliff community, “As students, we are truly grateful for our time here,” she added.

Weatherman’s address recounted the difficulties she faced as a continuing education student, including eccentric study habits.

“My poor son knows more about microbiology than any 4-year-old should,” she explained.

Weatherman, though, provided provocative insight for all
continuing education students at Briar Cliff University.

“We have parked in the pit and climbed the endless steps through a blizzard to get to our classes on time,” she remarked. “There will always be obstacles to overcome, but it makes the reward of graduation that much greater.”

In addition to accepting their diplomas, each graduate received a San Damiano Crucifix as a symbol of their unique educational experience at Briar Cliff - a Catholic and Franciscan university.

Three special honorary awards were also bestowed at the commencement ceremony - the Briar Cliff Medal, the Presidential Distinguished Leadership Award and the Spirit of St. Francis Award. The recipient of the Briar Cliff Medal was the Most Rev. Daniel N. DiNardo, archbishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Texas, and former bishop of the Diocese of Sioux City. Karen and John Gleeson of Sioux City were recipients of the Presidential Distinguished Leadership Award; and Rev. Robert Condon, a member of the psychology faculty from 1968 to 1997, received the inaugural Spirit of St. Francis Award.

The class of 2006 valedictorian was Alison Sunderman of Hinton, Iowa, while Joshua Fuxa of Sioux City was the salutatorian. Sunderman graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and Fuxa graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology.

TOP: (1) The spacious Orpheum Theatre hosted Briar Cliff University’s 75th commencement in May (2) Shayne Mayer delivered the traditional student address during graduation reflecting on her most memorable times as a college student at BCU (3) Graduating senior Michael Tschampl acknowledges the crowd after receiving his diploma (4) Dasha Weatherman gave the continuing education student address at commencement. Weatherman talked about how rewarding it was for her as a continuing education student to receive her diploma.

BOTTOM: (1) Brooke Redwine, William Darwin, Justin Ranek and Heather Scribner sing the “National Anthem” at Briar Cliff’s 75th commencement (2) Karen (left) and John Gleeson accepted the Presidential Distinguished Leadership Award from Briar Cliff University President Wharton while Rev. Robert Condon (right) received the first-ever Spirit of St. Francis Award (3) The Most Rev. Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston, Texas and former Bishop of the Diocese of Sioux City, was the recipient of this year’s Briar Cliff Medal from President Wharton (4) Amy Cloud (left), Michael Turner, and Jessica Darnstaeed celebrate outside the Orpheum Theatre following graduation (5) Valedictorian Alison Sunderman (left) and April Timmer (6) Mother and daughter graduates Elizabeth and Lisa Merten are all smiles after receiving their Master of Arts in Human Resource Management.
Most restoration projects conjure up images of refinishing chrome on a classic automobile, another coat of varnish on antique furniture or painting an old, neglected home - not restoring a hillside. But that was the case on Earth Day on the Briar Cliff campus as senior Matt Clancy and dozens of other students and faculty members took time on a beautiful spring day to remove foreign vegetation from the hillside located just southwest of the McCoy-Arnold Center along College Road.

Students from Brian Hazlett’s botany class turned out for the project assisting Clancy in trying to restore more than 11 acres of the hillside to its natural prairie state. By eliminating non-native landscaping from the hillside, the prairie habitat will be allowed to develop naturally, something Clancy learned during two summers as an intern for the Iowa Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

“Prairie habitat consists with quite a bit of activity going on beneath the soil with flow- ers and grasses often having root systems that go 10 to 15 feet deep,” he explained. “It’s virtually a forest beneath the soil. With the removal of these barriers of light, prairie habitat will naturally develop.”

 Volunteers spent several hours removing smaller brush that dotted the hillside landscape, including Clancy who spent a majority of the morning and afternoon overseeing the project. Once the shrubbery was removed, branches were trimmed into smaller pieces to be utilized as mulch that will then be used for landscaping around campus.

The Earth Day project was done on 11.5 acres of property owned by the university. However, the land is adjacent to 157 acres of land called “The Sioux City Prairie,” which is actually owned by the Iowa Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. And Clancy says that clearing the 11.5 acres of the non-native vegetation will enable the hillside to return to its natural state.

Restoring the hillside is part of Briar Cliff’s 2005-2010 Strategic Plan. The design principles of the new campus master plan, as approved by the board of trustees, encourages select restoration of a prairie habitat on the Briar Cliff University campus.

“Most prairie habitats have become under-managed and are becoming woodlands as a result of a lack of regular fire regimes, which keep wood vegetation in check,” noted Clancy, an environmental science major from Iowa City. “This hillside is important because it would help extend the influence of the Sioux City Prairie and we would, hopefully, see more diversity in the species of butterflies, wildflowers and birds - if the hillside is managed correctly.”

Following his graduation from Briar Cliff in May, Clancy will move on to graduate school and, eventually, a career in restoring the environment, something he has done for the past two summers as a BCU student.

“For the past two summers I worked with the Iowa Chapter of Nature Conservancy as an Anna Beal intern,” he noted. “My job focused on restoring and maintaining Iowa’s lost habitats - fens, kettle holes, but mostly tall grass prairie. It’s something that I put a lot of time and effort into. So if I can continue this type of work and help spread the word, it can only be a good thing for the environment.”

(1) Dozens of BCU students helped with the Earth Day project by cutting down small trees and removing the brush from the nearby hillside. (2) Matt Clancy, an environmental science major, spearheaded the prairie rescue. Clancy spent two summers as an intern with the Iowa Chapter of Nature Conservancy. (3) Dallas Courville, a senior from Murray, Utah, cuts down a small tree during the Earth Day project.
MEN’S BASKETBALL

Behind senior Joe Nelson’s team-leading 12.9 ppg., the BCU men’s basketball team finished 19-12 reaching the second round of the GPAC tournament before losing at Northwestern. Nelson and senior Bryce Meyers both finished their careers with more than 1,000 points. Meyers averaged 10.4 ppg. and led the team with 5.5 rpg.

Sophomores Kurt Webb and Adi Cizmic were both honorable mention all-conference selections. Webb led the team with 80 three-pointers, the second-best total in BC history. Cizmic played in 31 games averaging 10 points. As a team, the Chargers were the third-highest scoring team in the GPAC ranking second in the league in field goal percentage and three-point shooting. Senior Martez Van Buren was named Most Valuable Player after earning second team all-conference honors. He led the team with 152 assists, 66 steals and 17 blocked shots.

For the second straight year, senior Dallas Courville won the Barnabas Award after playing in 21 games. Senior guard Jeremy Moses was named the team’s Mr. Defense, while Courville and sophomore Neil Rohe shared Mr. Hustle honors. Moses was honorable mention all-conference and started every game. He also led the Chargers in free throw percentage (84.3). Rohe played in 31 games with 19 starts leading the team in field goal percentage (62.4), the second-best mark in the conference. Freshman Ian Banks was the Most Promising Newcomer while classmate Brett Ratcliff was named the Most Outstanding JV player.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The Chargers finished the 2005-06 season with a 10-20 record falling to Sioux Falls in the first round of the GPAC Playoffs. The youthful Chargers were led by senior Dana Lehner, the team’s Most Valuable Player and first team all-conference selection. Lehner led the team in scoring (15.2 ppg.), rebounding (8.2 rpg.), blocked shots (33), field goal percentage (61.7) and free throw percentage (77.4). She finished her career with 1,436 points and 823 rebounds.

Junior Angie Heimes was Defensive Player of the Year and won the Hustle Award after playing in 28 games with four starts. Sophomore Mel Shidell earned Most Improved Player after finishing second on the team in scoring and rebounding. The Most Inspirational was senior Mandy Koch of Bow Valley, Neb., who broke her foot eight games into the season. She returned to play on senior night and in the GPAC tournament.

Sophomore point guard Kayla Boyd won the varsity Charger Award while three players received junior varsity Charger Award: Katie McCarthy, Amanda Arens and Suzie Grell. McCarthy also garnered the junior varsity’s Most Improved Player Award. Senior Krystal Pappas led the team with 40 three-pointers while freshman Molly Frank led the team with 75 assists.
BASEBALL

A year after making the school’s first-ever NAIA World Series appearance, the Briar Cliff baseball team finished the year with a record of 14-26, just missing the conference tournament. Four Chargers earned honorable mention all-conference honors: junior first baseman Jeff Butcher, junior third baseman Mike Schwartz, sophomore closer Charlie Benz and freshman shortstop Ryan McQuillan.

Butcher led the team with 25 runs and three triples. He was also honored with the Jim Bertelsen Award as the team’s MVP. Schwartz led the team with 39 hits, 11 doubles, five homeruns and 33 RBI. McQuillan led the team with a .336 batting average and senior ace Max Sagert was named the team’s top pitcher and received the Roder Cup after leading the team in innings (50.33) and strikeouts (39). Freshman Chris Davis received the team’s Chuck Adamson Award as the team member who exhibits a genuine love for the game.

SOFTBALL

The Charger softball team finished the 2006 season with an overall record of 11-30 and a GPAC mark of 7-17. Along the way, the Chargers faced a grueling non-conference schedule which featured 13 games against nationally-ranked teams. The Chargers had three players earn honorable mention all-conference accolades: junior Kayla Anderson, and freshmen Tarah Colt and Kelli Kersten.

Anderson led the 2006 Chargers with a .304 batting average, 13 runs, 35 hits, seven doubles, three homeruns and 17 RBI. Colt led the Charger pitching staff with 92.1 innings-pitched and 50 strikeouts. Kersten hit .286 with 10 runs and 22 hits. As a team, the Chargers batted .214.

TENNIS

The Charger tennis team ended its first collegiate season with a record of 0-13. The Chargers failed to earn the final spot in the GPAC Playoffs with a 9-0 loss to Morningside in a play-in game. The Chargers’ No. 1 singles player throughout the season was freshman Rhonda Kachena. The Chargers had several close dual matches during the season, including a 5-4 loss to Hastings and 6-3 defeats to Midland Lutheran and Doane. The team expects to return everyone except senior Jamie Snyder, who led the Chargers with a 4-9 singles’ record. The doubles team of Snyder and junior Rachel Roiger produced a squad-best mark of 2-3.
TRACK & FIELD

Junior Kristi Chapin had memorable finishes to both her indoor and outdoor seasons. She earned all-America honors and finished fifth with a school record toss of 43-06 in the shot put at the NAIA National Indoor Meet in Johnson City, Tenn. Chapin then finished 14th in the shot put at the NAIA Outdoor Meet in Fresno, Calif. with a toss of 40-11.75.

Junior Heidi Bumann was 11th in the 800m at indoor nationals in a time of 2:20.01 and placed 23rd overall at the NAIA Outdoor Championships with a time of 2:19.27. Bumann has or shares eight indoor and outdoor school records at BCU.

Sophomore Corey Beckman finished 23rd in the 600m at nationals in a time of 1:24.94. At the GPAC meet, he just missed all-conference honors, finishing seventh in the event (1:26.83).

The BCU women also set school marks in the 4x800m (9:52.85), the steeplechase (Amanda Bliss, 12:31.72), the sprint medley (4:15.66, Katie Wehmeyer, Mallory Milburn, Sam Garay and Bumann) and the 400m hurdles (Jacinta Ruhland, 72.67). On the men’s side, junior Kyle Wonders set a school record in the discus (124-10) and sophomore Larry Caouette broke the school record in the javelin (145-05).

WRESTLING

Freshman Jordaryl Logan and junior Joe Rodman were named Most Valuable Wrestlers. Logan capped an impressive freshman campaign with a 2-2 record at the NAIA Wrestling National Championships at Sioux City’s Tyson Events Center. Logan finished with a 30-21 record, including eight pins, and set a new school record for wins. He was also named the team’s Most Improved Wrestler. Rodman, who missed a majority of the season with a broken arm, went 10-8 on the season, including two losses at nationals.

Aside from Logan and Rodman, three additional wrestlers competed at nationals: Jon Carlson (285), Jeff Miller (125) and Art Clark (149). Carlson (11-24), Miller (11-15) and Clark (14-19) were winless at the national meet. Junior Jason Kruse (7-24) collected three team awards: the Hustle Award, the Dan Nelson Leadership Award and the Junior Academic Achievement Award.
OBITUARIES
ALUMNI
Barbara (Cosgrove) Sullivan ’50, February 6, 2006
Bernice (Lynberg) Holtze ’41, February 10, 2006
Sister Rosina Ressler OSF ’57, February 11, 2006
Doris (Eckerman) Delaney ’45, February 16, 2006
Lorraine (Hayden) Schieffer ’51, February 17, 2006
Sister Frances Conry OSF ’42, February 22, 2006
Lorraine (Vincent) Rawson ’72, March 8, 2006
Ellen (Crilly) McDonald ’41, March 13, 2006
Leonard Posusta ’69, March 14, 2006
Sharon Pitkin ’76, March 16, 2006
Barbara (Braunger) Handley ’78, April 8, 2006
Frances Murray ’65, April 17, 2006
MOTHER OF
Laura Rawson ’00, Lorraine Rawson, March 8, 2006
Boyd Pitkin ’88, Sharon Pitkin, March 16, 2006
Dan Severson ’76, Eleanor Severson, April 4, 2006
FATHER OF
June (Plendl) Hamil ’87, Robert Plendl, September 5, 2005
HUSBAND OF
Rita Meyer ’73, John Gates, September 28, 2005
SON OF
Gina (Jasa) Slama ’99, Justin Slama, March 1, 2006
FRIENDS OF BRIAR CLIFF
Sister Ruth Agnes Ahlers, OSF, March 27, 2006
Sr. Ruth came to Briar Cliff in 1967 and established the theology department.
After her retirement she was made an Emeritus Faculty Member. Sister planned and sponsored many theology workshops during the summers and participated in founding the Church Ministries Program for the diocese.

MARRIAGES
Stacy Bohls ’00 and Michael Danielson, March 25, 2006

BIRTHS
Doug ’93 and Mary (Rupiper) ’94 Chase, a son, November 4, 2005
Carmen (Wiggs) Peterson ’02 and Dustin, a son, November 16, 2005
Jacque (Ehmke) Feuerhelm ’00 and Trevor, a daughter, January 2006
Matt ’00 and Christi (Cooper) Schill ’00, a daughter, January 6, 2006
Sarah (Cole) Cosgrove ’94 and Matt, a son, February 2006
Lisa (Rupp) Buckman ’96 and Brad, a son, February 16, 2006
Leah (Frommelt) Schnepf ’89 and Scott Ward, a son, March 20, 2006
Angela (Jensen) Miller ’04 and Darin, a daughter, March 30, 2006
Amy (Potter) Thompson ’01 and Matt, a son, April 3, 2006
Brian ’01 and Stacey (Reis) ’00 Eben, a son, April 10, 2006
Jay ’00 and Michelle (Tacey) ’00 Rhubottom, a son, April 14, 2006

NEWS
1950s
Jane (Keegan) Richter ’56
My husband and I are both retired. We enjoy our 14 grandchildren and traveling. I was an elementary teacher at Rock Valley Community Schools for 32 years before retiring.

1960s
Lela (Lee) Morgan ’60
Lela has been appointed interim vice president for academic affairs at the Community College of Rhode Island.

1980s
Mike Casusceli ’80
Mike has been appointed publisher of The Herald Bulletin in Anderson, Ind.

Tom Friedman ’81
Tom was recently honored as the Citizen of the Year at the Ankeny, Iowa Chamber of Commerce dinner. Congratulations, Tom!

Joe Carey ’87
Joe was selected by his peers as the District Educator of the Year for Ankeny, Iowa Schools and honored at the Ankeny, Iowa Chamber of Commerce dinner. Congratulations, Joe!

Katherine (Dargy) Domayer ’88
I am now working part-time as a teacher’s aide at St. Thomas More School here in Omaha, Neb. Our children, Jacob (9) and Marissa (6), attend that same school where both my husband and I graduated. It is nice to have the same schedule as theirs. I had been working with the second and sixth graders and now help the kindergarteners. Two years ago, I was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease. I’ve had physical therapy, most recently aquatics therapy through Pro-Care III. Creighton University Medical Center has a Young Onset PD Support Group for which I’m co-facilitator so that keeps me busy. Also this year at STM, I’m co-chairman for our yearly fundraising school event called More-Di-Gras. Our theme is “Tell Me A Story.” My husband James continues his career at Ameritrade in credit/risk and is enjoying the work. I’m grateful to have attended BC and believe my strong spiritual relationship with God deepened while attending BC.

1990s

Class Notes received before May 2, 2006
Doug '93 and Mary (Rupiper) '94 Chase
Doug and Mary welcomed their second child, Michael David, on Nov. 4, 2005.

Manuel Diaz '93
I want to share with all my friends how much God has blessed my family and me after I wrote last time. My kids are doing super well in school. My son is now 13 and my daughter is 12. (They got their intelligence from their mom). We are active participants at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Wichita, Kan., fully living the stewardship way of life. Although my degree was in biology, with a minor in business, God has taken me through an exciting and rewarding career in the field of human resources. I am sorry Dr. Bob! In October 2005, I was promoted to area human resources manager. Now, I am not only over the Wichita, Kan. facility, but the Crete, Neb. and Salt Lake City, Utah facilities as well. (A combined total exceeding 2,600 employees). Thank you God for everything that you have given me and thank you Briar Cliff for forming me not only as a strong Catholic, but also as a successful professional. God Bless!

Lisa (Rupp) Buckman '96
We recently had an addition to our family. Kaleb Edward was born Feb. 16 and was welcomed home by our son Mark (3). I completed my MBA and continue to work part-time as an emergency nurse-with a break for child care. My husband’s job in the military moved us to Rapid City, S.D. in June.

Christine (Redding) Lewis '93
I am currently working on a master’s degree in communications at Bellevue University.

Sarah (Cole) Cosgrove '94
My husband, Matt, and I welcomed our third child, Thomas Michael, in February of this year. He joins big sisters Leah (7) and Jillian (5).

Wendy (Hammen) Slaughter '98
Brandon and I have been married for seven years and have two beautiful, healthy girls.

TINA (BAWDEN) STROUD ’97
Hometown: Rockwell City, Iowa
Degree: Bachelor of Social Work
Current Occupation: President of the Alzheimer's Association Big Sioux Chapter
Career Highlights: I am grateful to Briar Cliff as, like many of our friends and other alumni, I met my husband, John Stroud (BC Alum ’98), during my four years at BC. John and I were married in 1999 and moved to Ponca, Neb. where we've lived ever since. A year ago, we traveled to Russia to bring home our new son, Jackson Alexander Stroud. Parenthood is an amazing journey and one in which we feel extremely grateful to the Lord for leading us to our son. One of my most treasured career highlights was when I was named one of Siouxland's 40 under 40 young professionals. Another rewarding experience of my career was telling one of our caregivers, “We're here to help you and your wife through this difficult time. Don't worry about day care.” Their medical bills had begun to add up and he was worried that they could not pay for his wife’s day care. For me, it was truly an emotional moment as I realized the huge impact the community has on our organization, like many nonprofits.
Activities: Leadership Siouxland Graduate (1998), Leadership Siouxland Board of Directors, past president of Leadership Siouxland Board of Directors (2003-2004), Briar Cliff Alumni Association Board Member, Healthy Siouxland Initiative, Older Adult Task Force Member and Wings of a Dove volunteer.
Favorite BC Memory: Some of the highlights of college include memorable Halloween dances, watching soccer games and traveling for RHA. The one thing that I cherish from Briar Cliff is the amazing friendships that were developed.

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How many times have you thought or said, “I wish I could do more” when making your contribution to Briar Cliff University? You can make your wish come true. There are several ways you can accomplish this through your estate. Have you considered the following?

- **BEQUEST** - Gifts through your will can be for a specific amount, a percentage or the residue of your estate.

- **IRA OR RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS** - Your estate can save income taxes and estate taxes by making Briar Cliff the beneficiary of all or part of your IRA or retirement accounts. Donating U.S. savings bonds can also be tax-wise gifts.

- **TRUSTS** - You can include Briar Cliff as a beneficiary of your revocable living trust.

- **LIFE INSURANCE** - You can name Briar Cliff as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy or contribute an old policy that you no longer need.

If you would like more information on making your wish come true, please contact Mike Jorgensen ’73, director of gift planning, at 712-279-5396 or mike.jorgensen@briarcliff.edu.
Payton Elizabeth is 5 and Teagan Lynn is 3 years old. We moved to Cherokee, Iowa, in September 2005 for Brandon’s job. He is the investment manager for Cherokee State Bank. I am having a blast staying home and raising our girls. We are now halfway between family and it’s great to be able to see everyone a lot more!

Debra (Fritz) Moriston ’99
I am the founder and chair of the first non-profit tenant association in Sioux City, Castle On the Hill Apartments Tenants Association (COHATA). We are presently undergoing a name change due to trademark infringement. Our name will be Keepers Of The Castle Committee (KOTCC). The landscaping around the castle is only part of what we do. We also have many educational services that include career exploration and employment search. We also assist in helping with finding needed social services for everyone in the Hunt and Irving school areas, and the homeless. All of our services are free.

2000s
Jay ’00 and Michelle (Tacey) ’00 Rhubottom
Jay and Michelle welcomed a baby boy, Alexander James, on April 14, 2006. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Stacy (Bohls) Danielson ’00
Michael and I were married in Omaha, Neb. on March 25, 2006. We honeymooned in Maui. I continue to work in x-ray/CT at the V.A. and am specializing in cardiac studies at Clarkson College.

Jacque (Ehmke) Feuerhelm ’00
Trevor and I welcomed our first child, a girl, named Faith Rae in January of this year.

Matt ’00 and Christi (Cooper) ’00 Schill
We welcomed our first child, Alexis Lynn, on January 6, 2006. She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches long. She is a wonderful addition to our family!

Stacey (Reis) Eben ’00
Brian Eben ’01 and I were married November of 2002. Brian is associate director of admissions and head men’s golf coach at Briar Cliff. I am a graphic communications specialist at Harker’s Distribution in Le Mars, Iowa. We are currently living in Le Mars with our 1-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, and our son, Andrew. Andrew was born on April 10, 2006 at 6 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Jonathon Brezenski ’02
I am a physical therapist in Columbus, Neb. after moving back in May 2005. I am also the boy’s soccer coach at Columbus Scotus. My wife and I recently started the Columbus Soccer Academy, Inc. - a program focused on increasing the soccer talents of Columbus youth and area youth soccer players. My daughter, Elizabeth, turned 1 on April 9, 2006 and is keeping mom and dad on our toes.

Laura Francis ’02
I am thrilled to be returning back to the Midwest after spending the past four years in Tucson, Ariz. I graduated in May from the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy with a doctor of pharmacy degree. I will begin my professional career as a pharmacist for Osco Drug in the Waterloo/Cedar Falls, Iowa area. I am excited to begin a new chapter in my life and look forward to being closer to my BCU friends!

Carmen (Wiggs) Peterson ’02
I married Dustin Peterson in 2002 and gave birth to our son, Asher John, on Nov. 16, 2005. We live in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Angela (Jensen) Miller ’04
My husband, Darin, and I welcomed our baby girl, Kennadi Lynn, on March 30, 2006. She weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long.

RICK DOMINOWSKI ’92
Hometown: Sioux Center, Iowa
Degree: Bachelor of Arts - business administration
Current Occupation: Owner of Townhouse Pizza and Lounge; owner of “Siouxland Sports Authority” newspaper.
Career Highlights: I worked for Gateway for two years and then I went to work for a manufacturing company, Likom, based in Malaysia. I worked out of their North Sioux City, S.D. location. This company was a computer case and keyboard supplier for Gateway. I worked for Likom for three years until I began a six-year career with Bekins Logistics in Sioux City. I performed several jobs while with Bekins but mainly focused on supply chain management, logistics and distributions in support of Gateway. That led to me helping set up a new location in Salt Lake City, Utah where I lived for more than a year. In 2003, my wife Jaci and I purchased the Townhouse Pizza and Lounge in Sioux City.
Activities: President of the BCU Alumni Board.
Favorite BC Memory: Working in the security department for Doug Rosemeyer. I made many friends that I have stayed in touch with over the years.

ATTENTION ALUMNI

Alumni tell us they enjoy reading about fellow classmates in the Class Notes section of the Briar Cliff Magazine. What’s new in your life? Do you have a career change, birth, marriage, or other piece of news to share?

If so, please email your submission to lisa.preston@briarcliff.edu for inclusion in the next Briar Cliff University publication.

We look forward to hearing from you!
ALUMNI WEEKEND 2006 ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2006
Briar Cliff University Lila Frommelt Memorial Golf Classic
Student Alumni Association Ice-Cream Social for students and alumni
Honker Reunion

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2006
Decades Brunch (Classes of the 1940’s, 1960’s, 1980’s)
5K Run
Alumni Softball Game
Honker Reunion
Tailgate Lunch
Football Game
Men’s Soccer Game
Alumni Volleyball Game
Alumni Awards Dinner and Mother Dominica Society Induction

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2006
Continental Breakfast
Liturgy

More information will be mailed to alumni in August.
In the meantime, check out the Alumni Events link on the Briar Cliff University homepage (www.briarcliff.edu) for more details.

If you have any questions regarding Alumni Weekend 2006, please contact Lisa Preston, director of alumni relations, at lisa.preston@briarcliff.edu or 712-279-1705.
UPCOMING EVENTS

BCU Alumni Association ........................................... July 9, 2006
Kansas City Royals baseball game in Kansas City, Missouri

BCU Alumni Association ........................................... July 28, 2006
Lincoln Saltdogs (vs. Sioux City) baseball game in Lincoln, Nebraska

BCU Alumni Association ........................................... August 4, 2006
Iowa Cubs baseball game in Des Moines, Iowa

Welcome Week Celebration ........................................ August 28, 2006

First Day of Classes ............................................. August 30, 2006

First Home Men’s Soccer Game vs. William Penn ............. September 3, 2006
First Home Women’s Soccer Game vs. William Penn ............ September 3, 2006

First Home Volleyball Game ....................................... September 8, 2006
Briar Cliff University Triangular

Fall Alumni Weekend ............................................. September 8-10, 2006
See inside back cover for more details

First Home Football Game vs. Dakota Wesleyan ................. September 9, 2006

BCU Scholarship Luncheon ........................................ October 12, 2006