

## Saint Benedict Continues His Guidance

By: Elizabeth Van Pilsum, Staff Writer



On Oct. 27, Saint Vincent held a dedication ceremony for the new Saint Benedict statue by artist Chas Fagan, pictured above. (SOURCE: FLICKR)

If you have walked on campus at any point in the past couple of weeks, you probably noticed a new addition to Saint Vincent. As of Oct. 25, there is a larger-than-life statue of a young Saint Benedict perched on the fountain near Headmasters and Placid Halls. To commemorate this statue, the college held a dedication ceremony on Oct. 27.

The ceremony was held outside

next to the fountain and was widely attended by students, faculty, monks, and alumni. Saint Vincent College President Fr. Paul Taylor, O.S.B., opened the ceremony by expressing gratitude to all who made the statue possible, including the anonymous donors who contributed to the statue and the class of 1968, who sponsored the fountain it sits on. Andrew Julo, Director of the Roman Verostko Center for the Arts,

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## SVC's B.E.S.T

By: Jacob Rzempoluch, Sports Editor

Saint Vincent College is home to several programs committed to helping students reach their full potential. One of the most frequently overlooked and misunderstood programs is the Bearcat B.E.S.T. program. B.E.S.T. stands for Building Excellence for Skills Training, a title that is an apt description of the goals of the program.

“One of our goals at B.E.S.T. is to get the students to their most independent self, academically, socially, and vocationally” explained Amy Hildebrand, director of the B.E.S.T program. “Students want to be a meaningful member in society, have friends and a purpose, that is what we are constantly striving for. I think that’s really something all of us are striving for in our lives.” Jared Brown of Hempfield, Pa. says that “the best thing about it is you get to learn how to be independent in your life.”

The B.E.S.T program consists of both college courses and career-oriented training. Students

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# NEWS

## New statue of Saint Benedict is displayed on campus

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then spoke to introduce the audience to the artist.

The bronze statue was crafted by world-renowned artist Chas Fagan, a Yale alumnus who was born in Ligonier, Pa. Fagan's art has been displayed in the U.S. Capitol, the White House, Washington National Cathedral, and Saint Peter's Basilica, and he is known for combining his knowledge of history with his artistic abilities.

"As a Catholic community firmly rooted in the heritage of Benedictine monasticism, Mr. Fagan's excellent work reminds us that we, like Benedict, are called to be visionary, open, and honest, honoring the traditions we've inherited from previous generations while continuing to always look forward," Julio said.

Following Julio's introduction, Fagan gave a speech describing how the statue came to be. Rev. Douglas Nowicki, Archabbot Emeritus, who initiated the project, specifically told Fagan he wanted to deviate from the tradition of portraying St. Benedict as an old man with a long beard and instead show him as young and energetic, in order for the statue to better resonate with the students. Rev. Douglas also wanted the statue to embody the Benedictine motto, "ora et labora," which means "pray and work."

"Regardless of whom I sculpt or paint, I really need to find out who they are, what makes them tick, what they think about, what their mindset is," Fagan said, explaining his creative process. "With St. Benedict, all I had to do was look at the black-and-white words that he penned himself,

and so I opened up the Rule of St. Benedict."

From the Rule, Fagan took three specific quotations to direct his sculpture. The first quote was, "Run while you have the light of light." The second was, "We will never arrive unless we run there by doing good deeds." Finally, Fagan was also inspired by the quote, "The Lord waits for us daily to translate his teachings into action."

On that foundation, Fagan knew he needed to portray Benedict as a man in motion. The statue is striding forward over a rocky terrain covered in thorns, with the thorns referring to the story of Benedict rolling in thorns to overcome temptation to sin. He is holding his Rule of St. Benedict, as well as a shepherd's staff, representing the guidance and protection he provided to his monks and the greater community. His eyes are set on the horizon, looking towards the future, and there is wind circling him that ties into the circular design of the fountain.

The ceremony closed with a prayer and a blessing of the statue by Archabbot Martin de Porres Bartel, O.S.B., followed by a reception in the Dale P. Latimer Library where anyone could talk to Fagan more. Additionally, digital images of Fagan's process sculpting the statue were on display, including original sketches, pictures of the first 24-inch-tall clay model, and photos of the final project.

"Here on this campus, the legacy of Saint Benedict is all around us," Fagan said. "He's now standing in the middle of his community today [...] personally encouraging the next generations for the future, guiding them toward a Christ-inspired life of selflessness, a life of learning, and a life of work, all of which offer the greatest rewards and joy."

# Transitional Program Helps Students Build Independence and Community

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Members of the Bearcat Buddies Club join the Bearcat B.E.S.T. students at the annual Halloween party. (SOURCE: @bearcatbuddies Instagram account)

in the program participate in more than just special education classes; each semester, they can sit in on a course offered to all students at Saint Vincent. This auditing opportunity allows students to experience the same classroom setting as any other student at Saint Vincent would. Bearcat B.E.S.T. students can often be seen in the dining center cleaning tables, but many program participants will find a job elsewhere. Anthony Brown of Norwin works in the Public Relations office while Caitlin Brinton of Penn Trafford works at Laurel Valley Graphics, the printing company that prints *The Review*.

In order to fulfill the social pillar of the B.E.S.T. program goals, events are organized frequently to help build relationships within the program and with the student body on campus. The Bearcat Buddies club plays an important role here. For senior early childhood education major and club president Madie Marisco, these connections have made

her time on campus more meaningful.

“My favorite part of being a member of the Bearcat Buddies Club is going to the fun events that I plan with the other officers and spending time with kind people,” Marisco said.

One of the major events that the club organizes is the Halloween dance. Bearcat Buddies advisor Dr. Dawn Turkovich stated that the dance “is so popular that many B.E.S.T. alumni return for the party each year.”

This year’s Buddies Halloween dance featured activities organized in collaboration with the Psychology Club, the American Sign Language Club, and the Creative Corner club. Over 50 students participated in the event, with many wearing their costumes. Costumes included a cowgirl, Abraham Lincoln, Buzz Lightyear, and Darth Vader. Dr. Turkovich invites all students who are interested to join the Bearcat Buddies club.

“Our events are planned by the undergraduates and B.E.S.T. students together and are open to the entire campus... Our officers and members come from all departments on campus.”

All of the B.E.S.T. students I spoke to appreciate the program of the students and staff, and feel at home in a program that both nurtured them and trained them for life.

# ARTS & CULTURE



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## Día de los Muertos at SVC

By: Erin Brody, Arts & Culture Editor

For the past six years, Saint Vincent College's Modern and Classical Languages Department has participated in the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead in English, by placing an altar — called an ofrenda — in the Verostko Center for the Arts.

Día de los Muertos goes as far back as Aztec civilization and is now used to mourn and remember the dead. The belief was that the border between the spirit world and the living is temporarily dissolved, which is why ofrendas have money, food, drink, and many things placed on it. The dead will come back and use those items for their journey in the spirit world.

Not only do ofrendas have items like food and money, but also pictures of a loved one who passed on. In Mexico, it's common for ofrendas to appear at the grave site of a person, and families will create paths made of flower petals to lead the dead to their house or a path from the front door to the ofrenda.

"It is important to expose our students to different cultural traditions, and this in turn enables them to reflect upon their own practices and traditions," said Doreen Blandino, chairperson of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages. "Over the years, it has been surprising to see how many students have lost friends and parents at such a young age."

In the past, the ofrenda was placed near the languages offices, but to encourage campus-wide participation, the ofrenda was moved to the Verostko Center in 2020 and has continued to be placed there. Students, staff, and faculty were encouraged to place their own photos and items on the ofrenda, and even students from Springdale High School have visited to participate.

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# How the Mexican holiday creates campus-wide unity

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The ofrenda set up in the Verostko Center for the Arts. (SOURCE: BRODY)

Since the Department of Modern and Classical Languages hosts the event every year, the department's Spanish classes help create the ofrenda. Students have the opportunity to decorate and place an object on the ofrenda.

Izzy Benjamin, a sophomore biology major, is a student in one of Dr. Blandino's Spanish classes and was happy to have this opportunity.

"It was really nice to get to add my own person to the ofrenda, knowing they are remembered in such a beautiful way," said Benjamin.

Finding this new way to remember a deceased person is exactly what Dr. Blandino hoped for the campus to gain.

"While exploring the diversity among cultures, we come to appreciate diversity," said Dr. Blandino. "More importantly, we recognize

that universality exists among human cultures worldwide."

This year, the whole campus seemed to have placed an item on the ofrenda. Bearcat B.E.S.T. students visited and learned about the significance of this practice, and some of the monks and Benedictines placed photos of people their communities recently lost.

"I am filled with joy when helping to create the ofrenda because it will be shared with our campus community," said Dr. Blandino. "My students enjoyed it and thought that we should continue the tradition."

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### Culture

*Features about art, entertainment and trends*



Apr 20

#### Visiting Writers Series returns to Saint Vincent

By Delaney Fox, Staff Writer The Visiting Writers Series made its return to Saint Vincent College on Apr. 6 in the Verostko Center for...



Apr 20

#### Class of 2022 art majors display work in Verostko Center

By Erin Brody, Staff Writer The Verostko Center for the Arts recently greeted the SVC community and visitors with a blue sign displaying...

# Student-run theater group introduces production of iconic movie

By: Suki Rowden, Staff Writer



The cast of the upcoming Grease production pose for a photo. (SOURCE: ERIN BRODY)

After 20 successful years on campus, The Company, Saint Vincent College's student-run musical theater club, pushes full steam ahead to unveil a new production of Grease. Josie Rodell, the president of The Company and co-director of Grease, portrays the titular Sandy and describes the character's switch from innocent and pure to a greaser as the most interesting phenomenon for her to experience.

In addition to her leading role, Rodell, a senior history major, also is juggling the responsibilities that come with directing the production. "I am concerning myself with helping the crew build the set, paint the stage and set, and pull costumes. Costuming a show to this scale has been a challenge because we have 40 people in our cast who need to be fitted into costumes that are right for the time period. Also, being completely student run, it is difficult to build a set that will be versatile enough for our cast," she said.

The other co-director, Joseph Valenty, who also plays radio personality Vince Fontaine, helps pull all parts of the production together, including capturing "...the characters and general vibe that is unique to every show."

Anna Doelling, secretary of The Company and actress for Rizzo, experiences the opposite kind of character growth: from greaser to (almost) innocent and pure. "Rizzo is so interesting because she is the villain of the story, but at the end of the day she is a high school teenager with thoughts and feelings," Doelling, a junior biology major, explained.

In addition to roles as actress and secretary, Doelling is also the music director for the production. Grease has a number of iconic songs and bringing them to life can be a daunting task. However, with a cast this dedicated, Doelling is not worried. "We really have fun and play with music and scenes," Doelling said.

The cast has poured endless hours and many late night practices to do the legendary show justice. Come support the student production on Nov. 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. You can catch the final show at the matinee show on Nov. 13 at 2:00 p.m. The production offers free admission, snacks and drinks for all those who wish to attend!

# SPORTS

## Bearcat Swimmers See Success at Home

By: Jacob Rzepoluch, *Sports Editor*

On Oct. 22, the Saint Vincent men's and women's swim teams faced Penn State-Altoona at the Frank and Elizabeth Resnik pool. The matchup served as the season opener for the men's team and was the second contest for the women. Expectations were high, with several Bearcats already setting their eyes on a President's Athletic Conference title. Sara Basala, senior biochemistry major and team captain, said, "Our goal is always to place as high as we can in the conference. Last year we were able to reach second in the PAC, but we are always striving for first."

Across teams, 23 of the 28 races were won by Bearcats. The men won the non-conference meet 150-108, with five swimmers winning individual events. Senior mechanical engineering major and captain Kris Smith won four different races, including a relay in the 200-yard medley with the freshman trio of Colin Spehar, Alex Leskovansky, and Jacob Dzurica. Dzurica won both the 100-yard and 200-yard backstroke races in addition to the relay. Senior biology major Chris Bush won the 200-yard IM, 100-yard breaststroke, and 200-yard breaststroke.

The women's team won in dominant fashion with a 179-77 final score. Basala won the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke races as well

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# Men's Team Wins Season Opener, Women's Team Wins by 100

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Coach Josh Gurekovich (right) has led the Bearcat swimming program since its genesis and has coached many successful athletes in his time at Saint Vincent. (SOURCE: @PAC\_Athletics twitter)

as swimming a leg of the victorious 200-yard medley relay. Early childhood education major Lauren Connors, accounting major Katie Kozy, and management major Erica Steele made up the rest of the senior-dominated relay; Steele also won the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle races and led off the first place 200-yard freestyle relay while Connors won the 200-yard back-

stroke and individual medley.

With a championship over three months away, it is important for the Bearcats to stay focused through the winter months. A winter break trip to Florida can provide both a break and an opportunity to change training.

"It's definitely hard training and taxing while we're down there, but being able to be outside in the sun is really nice," Coach Josh Gurekovich said.

He further elaborated on the way the team trains, explaining, "We believe speed builds speed, so we do a lot of racing in practice — against each other, against the clock — and we try to keep it a light and fun environment in general, so we try to have as much fun as we can while staring at a blue line all day."

Basala agrees with this philosophy as a captain. "A big goal of ours is a positive attitude at practice and meets and good team chemistry... I like to think that we are the best cheering squad in the conference which really helps all our swimmers do well," he said.

Both the men's and women's swim squads were excited to start the season with a win. While a long road remains until the PAC Championship, the Bearcats are working hard every single day to prepare.



# SVC Athletics: Behind the Scenes

By: Sean Callahan, News Editor

Even if all students at Saint Vincent College are not sports fans, they have seen the coaches on the fields and the courts directing sweaty athletes through long practices. However, not everyone sees the people who work behind the scenes to make athletics happen.

Becky Pizer, Athletic Trainer at SVC, has been contracted to the college since August 2000. Prior to this, she worked at a high school in Saltsburg, Pa. She applied for a position at SVC through Laurel Highlands Health Center. She is now contracted to Saint Vincent by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

Pizer played volleyball, track, and basketball in high school. However, she gravitated towards the physical therapy and athletic training aspect of sports, and was unable to play in college while also pursuing an athletic training career. She graduated from Slippery Rock University in 1996 with a BA in Health Science with a specialization in athletic training. She then received her master's in Rehabilitative Science corrective Exercise from California University, and she will finish her MBA in December.

The title of athletic trainer may sound self-explanatory. However, Pizer says that the job demands more than just checking students' physical fitness and injuries. The four athletic trainers of SVC are responsible for the healthcare of nearly 500 to 600 student athletes in many respects.

"We make sure they're healthy physically and mentally. We are responsible for preventing, recognizing, assessing, managing, treating, and rehabilitating athletes and all their paperwork and documentation," Pizer said. "Think of us as triage, EMTs, physical therapists, and secretaries together."

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## Sports

*Bearcat sports and those relating to SVC*



Apr 20

### Men's lacrosse in strong form

By Luke Mich, Sports Editor The Saint Vincent Bearcat men's lacrosse team has started out the season very strong and, over a month into...



Apr 10

### Wrestling returns to Saint Vincent

By Luke Mich, Sports Editor On Mar. 10, Saint Vincent College and its athletic department announced the return of men's wrestling to the...



Apr 5

### Men's tennis begins season with spring break trip

By Luke Mich, Sports Editor During spring break, when most students enjoyed the week off from school by going home or traveling south for...



Mar 29

### New athletic facility on the way

By David Collins, Part-Time Staff Writer Saint Vincent College has announced plans to open a brand-new athletic facility for students...



Mar 24

### Softball opens season strong: Team aiming for championship win

By Luke Mich, Sports Editor Over the past few weeks, Saint Vincent's softball team has been making a strong...

# Student Shares Experience Helping Athletic Teams

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Becky Pizer has been the Athletic Trainer at SVC since 2000. (SOURCE: Saint Vincent College –stvincent.edu)

Pizer claimed that many people don't know about the extent of documentation that the athletic trainers do behind the scenes. Athletic trainers are state licensed by the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine, operating under the direction of a physician and in accordance with the state practice act.

"Every time we contact an athlete whether for an injury or treatment, we have to create a medical note up to documentation standards," Pizer said. "We have to explain how the athlete felt at the time, what procedure we used to treat them, what we observed."

Pizer says that, in her job, she gets to know athletes and coaches alike. Some of them, she gets to know like family. When founder and coach of SVC's women's basketball program, Kristin Zawacki, passed away in 2010, it was a difficult time for Pizer and the team due to the bond they had shared.

When Pizer has difficult days, what keeps her wanting to do the job is seeing athletes improving after injuries and initiating training activities with them. Athletes making big comebacks after serious injuries is a memorable part of her job, and being with a team when they win a championship.

Pizer feels that her own team of athletic trainers contribute equally to their job responsibilities and makes them more manageable.

"I couldn't be do any of this without the other three athletic trainers here. Ben (Varilek), Kaitlyn (Williams), Ashley (Interrante), and I share a lot of the responsibilities and work very well together. All of them make this job fun," Pizer said.

Nate Arendas, senior sports management major, brings a student behind the scenes perspective of athletics. Although he is not on the basketball court making slam dunks or on the baseball field hitting home runs, he has helped both teams operate in other ways.

Arendas worked for men's basketball from 2020 to 2022. This will be his second year working for baseball and his first year working for women's basketball.

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# Inside SVC Athletics

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Currently, Arendas assists with batting practice and charts for the baseball team. For the basketball team, he does laundry, runs the clock and sets up drills for practice. Sometimes he will participate in drills if needed. During games, he helps keep track of player statistics for home games. He also travels with and assists the team for away games. Arendas typically works 6 days a week, including weekends due to gamedays, traveling, and practices.

“I love sports and being the guy behind the scenes who’s still a part of the team. Even if I’m not directly helping the team win I’m still a part of the culture,” Arendas said.

Arendas also suffers from Cystic Fibrosis, a rare genetic disorder that affects mostly the lungs, resulting in long-term issues such as difficulty breathing, and mucus build up due to frequent lung infections. He said that he has been unable to play the sports he enjoys due to this condition. Helping the athletics teams operate has made Arendas feel close to and a part of the sports world still.

Arendas hopes to work for an MLB team. Over the summer, he had an internship with a prospect league out of Johnstown. He acted as clubhouse manager, hosted the umpires when they would come to home games, did laundry and provided water and equipment for the team.

“It was a long summer, but it was so much fun. I wouldn’t have traded it for anything. It made me want to do the job professionally,” Arendas said.

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The Review

# Team Standings

## Men's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
Franciscan	0	0	--
Grove City	0	0	--
Geneva	0	0	--
Westminster	0	0	--
Bethany	0	0	--
W&J	0	0	--
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	0	0	--
Allegheny	0	0	--
Waynesburg	0	0	--
Chatham	0	0	--
Thiel	0	0	--

**Schedule:** Juniata 11/10 7 p.m., Carlow 11/12 7 p.m., @Franciscan 11/16 6 p.m.

## Women's Basketball

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	0	0	--
Franciscan	0	0	--
Chatham	0	0	--
Bethany	0	0	--
Grove City	0	0	--
W&J	0	0	--
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	0	0	--
Waynesburg	0	0	--
Geneva	0	0	--
Allegheny	0	0	--
Thiel	0	0	--

**Schedule:** Marietta 11/11 6 p.m., Franciscan 11/16 6 p.m., Westminster 11/19 2 p.m.

## Women's Volleyball

Team	W	L	Streak
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	17	8	L1
Grove City	18	10	L1
Thiel	19	11	L1
Allegheny	17	12	L4
Bethany	17	12	W3
Chatham	14	12	L1
W&J	12	11	W1
Franciscan	9	14	L3
Geneva	9	17	L1
Westminster	5	24	W2
Waynesburg	3	22	L4

**Schedule:** End of Season

## Women's Swimming

Team	W	L	Streak
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	3	0	W3
Grove City	2	0	W2
Westminster	2	0	W2
Chatham	1	1	L1
Franciscan	2	3	L2
W&J	1	2	L1
Allegheny	1	3	L3
Bethany	0	4	L4

**Schedule:** Grove City 11/11 6 p.m., @Malone Invite (Canton, OH) 11/18 6:30 p.m., W&J 12/3 1 p.m.

## Men's Swimming

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	1	0	W1
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	1	1	L1
Allegheny	2	2	L1
Westminster	1	1	W1
Bethany	1	2	L1
W&J	1	3	L1
Chatham	0	2	L2

**Schedule:** Grove City 11/11 6 p.m., @Malone Invite (Canton, OH) 11/17 6:30 p.m., W&J 12/3 1 p.m.

## Football

Team	W	L	Streak
Carnegie Mellon	9	0	W9
W&J	7	2	W2
Grove City	6	3	L2
Case Western Reserve	6	3	L1
Westminster	6	3	W4
Waynesburg	4	5	L2
<b>Saint Vincent</b>	4	5	W1
Geneva	3	6	W2
Allegheny	3	7	W1
Bethany	1	8	L8
Thiel	1	8	L4

**Schedule:** Bethany 11/12 1 p.m.

## Men's Cross Country

**Schedule:** @Lock Haven (Regionals) 11/12 12 p.m., @Lansing, MI (Nationals) 11/19 12 p.m.

**Results:** 8th at Lock Haven, 13th at Oberlin, 4th at PAC Championships

## Women's Cross Country

**Schedule:** @Lock Haven (Regionals) 11/12 11 a.m., @Lansing, MI (Nationals) 11/19 11 a.m.

**Results:** 14th at Lock Haven, 11th at Oberlin, 3rd at PAC Championships

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The Review office is located  
next to the Wimmer Bridge.  
Office Number:  
724-805-2513

Contributions, Comments,  
Questions, Advertising:  
review@stvincent.edu

Website:  
stvincentreview.com

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The mission of Saint Vincent College's student-run newspaper, The Review, is to accurately and responsibly report campus, national and international news with integrity, fairness and objectivity. As a college newspaper, we assert that we will report on topics that interest our community, such as sports, popular culture, art & entertainment, politics and campus news. We affirm that each issue of The Review will reflect the diversity of the Saint Vincent College campus with respect for cultures, ethnicities, traditions, beliefs and views.

\*as of 11/5/22