

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

# TRINE





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*The university, founded as Tri-State Normal College, opened its doors for the first time on June 17, 1884. From day one, a promise was made to prepare students to succeed, lead, and serve. One hundred twenty-five years later, we're still keeping our word.*



# Explore. Experience. Excel.

An exciting transformation has taken place on this campus. Recent construction has garnered two national design awards. And our expansion of the physical campus will continue with the completion of the Athletic and Recreation Center by fall, the building of the Zollner Stadium Complex, and the restoration of the T. Furth Center for Performing Arts.

While our master plan has wrought stunning changes on our campus, we have taken strides in areas beyond the material. U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review rank us among the best Midwestern baccalaureate colleges, while our football, softball, and wrestling programs have achieved national prominence.

Members of my family take great pride in their association with Trine University. Our daughter, Kelsey, extends our connection to the second generation when she begins courses at Trine in the fall—choosing her parents' alma mater over 10 other universities. Her mother, Jorja, and I met here, and we are excited to witness the momentum and enthusiasm evident everywhere on campus. As alumni, we can attest to these changing times.

What a thrill to be part of such astounding growth, change, and momentum, and what a privilege to serve an institution with such a grand past and great vision for its future. I look forward to that future with great anticipation. Grounding that hope and enthusiasm is a deep appreciation for the devoted alumni and friends who share a belief in Trine's bright future.

But much work remains, and I will continue to rely upon your unwavering support to move our dream forward.

If you have not done so, I encourage you to visit the campus and experience the atmosphere firsthand. Those already a part of it join me in extending a warm welcome.

*Dr. Jerry Allen, Chairman  
Trine University Board of Trustees*



## THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY **TRINE** TRINE UNIVERSITY ON THE TRI-STATE CAMPUS

### **PUBLISHER**

Trine University | 1 University Ave. | Angola, IN 46703

### **DIRECTOR BRAND & INTEGRATED MARKETING**

Jill Boggs

### **EDITOR**

Yvonne Schroeder | editor@trine.edu

### **ART DIRECTOR**

Carla Satchwell

### **PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Dean Orewiler Portrait Art  
Bowen Arrow Photography

### **CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**

Dean Jackson  
Dr. Thomas Tierney

## UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

### **PRESIDENT**

Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.

### **SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Michael R. Bock

### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

David R. Finley, Ph.D.

### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

Scott J. Goplin

### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE**

Jody A. Greer

### **VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI & DEVELOPMENT**

Raymond A. Stuckey II

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A photograph of a young woman with brown hair tied back, wearing a grey t-shirt with a blue 'T' logo, sitting at a desk in a laboratory. A man with a beard and glasses, wearing a yellow and black plaid shirt, stands behind her, looking at a small object she is holding. In the background, a large JEOL JSM-5410 scanning electron microscope is visible, with its monitor showing a blue-tinted image. The scene is lit with soft, warm light, suggesting an indoor setting with windows in the background.

# explore.

A vast new world awaits.

Now more than ever, Trine University prepares students for history-making careers. In finance and economics. In engineering for today's energy challenges. In the fight against global warming. In a greener, more peaceful Earth. In leadership and education.

Look around. The landscape is changing.

Trine stands at the forefront of that change. Our tradition of hands-on education stresses adaptability. From that springs answers for today's complex challenges. New programs. New technology. A new aesthetic. They combine to make Trine a learning environment like no other.

But there's one change we won't make—our commitment to making our students the best they can be. We provide our greatest natural resource—the country's youth—a means to explore the immense inner potential that will lead our world into the future.

We've evolved. We ask no less of our students. Tap your reservoir of talents. It's the dawn of a new era. Explore the new YOU.





Walk into any Trine University classroom, and you'll find some of the most engaging professors to ever challenge students.

Our faculty really wrap their kids' heads around a subject, and the students love it. Take Dr. Tim Tyler, chair of the Reiners Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering. Handing out the results of the first test of the year with a broad smile, he proclaims: "These are just horrendous!"

But the students get the joke. Most know they did well, and those who didn't know Tyler will make sure it doesn't happen again. That's obvious as he reviews the test point by point, identifying rough spots: "Did you have trouble reading the graph on the first one? Does everybody understand how to do the grids? Glad we're finished with retaining walls? What's this all about?" He cares.

It's a theme picked up by Sean Carroll, chair of the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering. Racing across the front of the classroom, he gestures, pens a formula on the board, and quizzes his class on the lecture, all with a wide-eyed energy that says he loves every minute of it. Affirming, affirming, affirming: "Yes? Good? Seem reasonable? You buy it?"

Take a short walk to the Ford building and you'll find students similarly captivated by communication department chair Mike McNamara. Presenting a history of broadcast media, he recalls not only names in one of Trine's larger classes, but the subject of their last assignment—"Thanks, Mike, for doing the presentation on Edward R. Murrow." Again, the energy. "Let's talk TV today!"

Back in Fawick Hall, John Milliken's expertise shines as he engages



criminal justice majors in the basics of criminal law. And the students soak up his enthusiasm. So much so, that Trine's American Criminal Justice Association chapter swept the upper division in criminal law at ACJA District 6 competition in September.

In Best Hall, Craig Laker, chair of the Criminal Justice, Psychology and Social Sciences Department, energetically engages students, even in economics class. Pointing to the effect of high-priced items on consumer spending: "Ouch! I don't have the money! I won't buy it," Laker-turned-consumer illustrates. While his entertaining delivery holds their attention, his expectations are clear: "You will see this on the exam." "How do markets evolve? This is for the test."

These educators represent just a fraction of the energetic, expert faculty members who make Trine University such a special place to live and learn. Maybe that's why The Princeton Review has listed Trine among universities whose students are most engaged in their school and community.







## New majors mean new possibilities

Choices, choices. Even more possibilities to explore potential became available to Trine students in the fall. The Jannen School of Arts & Sciences added a new informatics major, while the Ketner School of Business began a new hospitality and tourism management program. Next fall, Trine will add a new music major.

Informatics program graduates can choose from many different jobs, becoming managers, project designers, researchers, programmers, systems analysts, educators or database administrators. The major also qualifies graduates for placement in prestigious graduate schools. “Informatics is a very exciting opportunity, and we are the only private institution among our peers offering it,”

said Dr. David Finley, Trine Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The hospitality and tourism management major will prepare students for the ever-growing and broad range of opportunities in the travel and tourism industry. Local industry experts lent their expertise in determining courses. A Hospitality and Tourism Advisory Board of local business people continually keeps Trine educators in touch with industry changes. Job opportunities for hospitality and tourism management graduates include employment at hotels or restaurants, transportation or travel agencies, tour companies or tourist attractions, and the areas of leisure, recreation, and sport.



## Not the same old drill

Haack backs Trine marching band

**Trine sophomore Ryan Haack has one organizing principle in his life—music.**

A member of the growing Trine music population for the past two years, he hopes to take the band experience to the next level: the marching field.

Trine’s young and vibrant music program attracted him in the first place. A guitar and trumpet player for 10 years and a piano player for six, he was drum major for his suburban Toledo high school, leading the marching band at football and basketball games, pep rallies, and music festivals.

“Being drum major was the biggest rush,” he said. “I was field commander, director, and set up the drills. It was an amazing leadership experience. One of my drawing points to Trine was that they are starting a marching band. It would be cool to be in the first one. That and the scholarship.”

He alludes to just one minor detail—he’s also bright enough to earn Trine’s Bateman-Kolb Scholarship. He claimed the four-year, all-expense-paid scholarship at Trine’s Scholarship Competition Day as a high school senior.

Trine’s music program blossomed with the hiring of music man Mark Kays two years ago. Charged with teaching a music minor

and building instrumental and voice ensembles, the new director set about the task with astonishing zeal and remarkable results.

“Seeing Pep Band go from 10 to 40 members now has been really cool. I’ve been here at the beginning of everything—the buildings, the bands,” Haack said.

The T. Furth Center for Performing Arts stands among those new buildings. Through a generous donation from Trustee Tomas Furth and his wife, Ema, the renovation of the landmark Angola Christian Church, purchased as a performance hall, has begun. The center will accommodate 650-700 people when the renovation is completed, and the music and drama programs will use the facility for educational purposes and community events.

“Professor Kays’ tour helped us visualize it. It will have digital recording rooms—phenomenal,” Haack said. These classrooms enrich faculty presentations with media such as videos, overhead displays, satellite and video conferencing and Internet connections, among others.

But for now, his exploration centers on the band. As musicians try out for the new drum line, director Kays secures equipment and uniforms through donors. The new turf calls—and the actor/musicians prepare to take the show to the field.



A male golfer in a white long-sleeved shirt, white cap with a logo, and white gloves is captured in the middle of a golf swing. He is holding a golf club with a yellow shaft. The background shows a lush green golf course with a body of water and trees under a clear blue sky.

# experience.

It's the sum total of who we are.

Trine University provides well rounded experience. Our unique atmosphere helps students find their strengths, refine those qualities, and become their best selves.

Our classroom environment directs their unique sets of gifts. And we light their way—through highly qualified, caring professors who won't take "I can't" for an answer. Through the latest technology and ideas. Through structural art and design to let their minds soar. Through an 18-hole championship golf course and an unrivaled golf management program where fun and discipline meet.

After classes, they crave comfort and safety. Trine's new apartments and villas provide a home away from home in a secure, yet active environment. Entire offices see to students' well being, health, and academic success. Our gourmet food service nurtures their bodies, while our 21 NCAA sports build character, strength, and endurance.

But don't forget fun. Over 60 Greek, academic, and philanthropic organizations allow Trine students to develop social responsibility while enjoying an old-fashioned good time.

Experience Trine for the best YOU.



# THE REVOLUTION'S EVOLUTION

WEAX rocks on many levels

"LISTEN OR DON'T. WE'RE COOL EITHER WAY."



experience

LISTEN ONLINE AT [www.88xradio.com](http://www.88xradio.com)

In-your-face? Defiantly individualistic? Maybe. But they don't call it The Revolution for nothing.

The billboard epithets and sound bites announce WEAX 88.3-FM, Trine's radio station, exactly as it is—revolutionary. And nothing short of a revolution could have transformed the programming and philosophy of the small university station founded in 1978.

At age 30, WEAX never looked so good. Relocated from its cramped basement quarters and antiquated equipment in the soon-to-be-razed Stewart Hall, it is completely revamped in the Fish Tank—the gleaming, glass-enclosed Hornbacher Studios in the new University Center.

Driving the new energy is WEAX general manager Josh Hornbacher. He's had a clear view of the station's transformation in his four years with WEAX, and knows what makes it tick, for the students and the community.

Since WEAX is university-funded, he can make program decisions independent of advertising revenue. That means lots of music, by independent, off-the-beaten-track artists, Hornbacher said.

"We have to keep listening to music, and we listen to stacks of it all the time looking for the next cool thing, and we're not slaves to a specific format," he said. "It's Indie pop, alternative—it's hard to describe, and that's the best part. It doesn't have to turn out to be a hit."

The programming attracts Trine communication majors in droves, all looking for on-air experience and excitement. While he enjoys watching the growth of the student "jocks"—"It's fun to see them come in as kids and transform into adults over the four years," he said—it's also a nice resume-builder. Student manager Kerry Radosevich's three years of management, assisting with sports broadcasts, promotions and sponsorships, and music screening looks good to employers, Hornbacher said.

His decision to create community interest paid off, too. "We wanted to appeal to the community, and the audience has grown steadily. We play artists without mainstream attention, and that means they're listening when they ask about a song. They'll call and sing it or e-mail lyrics to find out about it," Hornbacher said. "It may be the only contact with us they've had, and the experience introduces them to us."

**"These are probably the best kids yet. The communication department has grown, professor McNamara is a good recruiter, and I'm the beneficiary."**

Josh Hornbacher, WEAX general manager





# food bytes

Students hungry to share views on gourmet food

**Long before you see Whitney Commons café, you know you're going to like it. That's because your nose — well, it knows.**

Walk anywhere in the vicinity of the University Center at any given meal time, and the intoxicating aroma of food on the spit, griddle, in the smoker or the oven awakens all your senses to the knowledge that Bon Appétit is sizzling up another specialty for Trine University students.

Inside, the staff serves a veritable gumbo of sensory delights. From the freshest, brightest-colored fruits and vegetables to farm-fresh meats, eggs, and dairy purchased from local producers, the made-from-scratch specialties satisfy students superbly. Here are a few comments.

"I love the egg rolls. They're little, rolled-up cabbages of happiness. I also love the choices. I have to do a full circle so I can get maximum intake on what I want."

*Hanna Bloss, senior marketing major*

"The staff is great. Georgia's a sweetheart. We call her 'Georgia Peach.'"

*Hayley Verdieck, freshman elementary education major*

"I get up in the hope there will be a Tater Tot hot dish. I love the way the tots and beef and veggies just flow together into one awesome taste."

*Keith Gassman, senior communication major*

"The mac and cheese is so super cheesy, I've been craving it for two weeks, and I'm not even kidding. And then they had cheesy broccoli the same day — awesome."

*Hope Glor, freshman civil engineering major*

Students are king in Trine University's kitchen. That's because the Trine culinary team takes pains to offer what they like.

"We're at their beck and call, and we'll make whatever kind of food they want," assistant general manager Jeff Corbett said. "Our committee meets once a week to gather student feedback."

Students tap into his creativity, because they're willing to try anything, which allows him to really use his 25 years of experience. "I like to be near food. The smells, the flavors—it just makes you feel good," Corbett said.

His company addresses environmental concerns with "green" programs like Farm to Fork. He purchases fresh produce and meat from local growers to reduce carbon emissions released into the atmosphere when trucks, trains and planes ship foods. "Our low carbon diet keeps everything on minimum transportation. We use Mexico and Canada for fruits and coffee, for example. We're not transporting from Asia," he said. The program helps local and North American producers economically, as well.

The Central U.S. seafood guide, Seafood Watch, provides company standards on the purchase of fish caught or farmed through methods not injurious to other marine life or the environment. The company buys coffee grown without destroying rain forests that absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen into the atmosphere. Jeff denotes his "green" food choices for students with the Well Being icon.

He praised the Trine campus and community. "This is a great facility. The students are wonderful, and so are staff members like Georgia. She knows everyone's name. They're nice and pleasant, not uptight and impatient."







# A View from the Stands

It's a fan-tastic sight!

experience

## Thunder! Thunder! Thunder!

Whether it's AC/DC grinding out “Thunderstruck,” Trine University’s touchdown anthem, or the crowd cheering their undefeated football team to victory, it’s clear Trine energy is the noisy sort. Grab a seat at the top of the Shive Field bleachers on game day. There’s no better view of Trine enthusiasm.

Four years ago, students left for the weekend. Now they pack the stands with their friends and families to see and be part of the show. Here’s why.

On their feet the whole game, the Blue Crew, decked out in bandanas, white fright wigs, and blue body paint, loudly asserts Thunder superiority. Beside them, Trine’s new Pep Band keeps the game lively, with big brass booming out the school song, jazz, and popular tunes. The cheer squad executes flips, throws, and catches while Blue Crew members criss-cross huge blue flags before the crowd. It’s a visual and auditory feast.

Down on the new artificial turf, head coach Matt Land pumps up the team to execute plays like a well-oiled machine. The respect for his leadership is clear when they enthusiastically raise white helmets in support.

At halftime, students catapult WEAX radio T-shirts and blue Blow Pops suckers into the crowd, or participate in crazy contests on the field. Lines form for the Thunder concession special: hot dog, popcorn and pop for \$3.

There’s something else you see, and smell, from the stands—fans with their cars, trucks and vans, firing up grills, setting up canopies, and unpacking picnics for tailgate parties next to the field.

But the best view, dominated by the new University Center directly opposite, takes in the beautiful campus. New apartments and villas, renovated classrooms and buildings, new athletic facilities—the campus is alive with change.

That transformation continues long after the cheers fade and autumn leaves fall on the new field. As 2009 begins, students move into more new apartments. The new Athletic and Recreation Center (ARC) will breathe new life into track and field, tennis, volleyball and baseball in the spring, staking the university’s claim as a host for regional competitions.

And soon another football season will begin, with an even greater vantage point from which to take in the view—the new Zollner Stadium.





# That *was* the life

Sixty years ago, Tri-State College experienced a surge like Trine’s enrollment today, with two exceptions—the students were returning GI’s and their families, and they lived in barracks or trailers in the present-day Commons Park and Hendry Park School area.

Life in the barracks wasn’t all that bad, said Ben Rinehart, DD 1951, BSCE 1953.

“I thought it was outstanding,” he said. “I got \$125 a month to live on, and my brother and I got part-time jobs at Williamson Hardware on the Circle.”

The Parkersburg, W.Va. native came with his wife and twin brother to study at TSC on the GI Bill after completing a tour with the U.S. Army’s 88th Division in Italy. An ad in *Mechanix Illustrated* convinced him and four other GI’s to give the smaller college a try.

He had already tried college at West Virginia University, but his last name began with “R,” which seated him at the top of the lecture hall. Since he couldn’t hear or see the information, he didn’t do so well.

That changed at Tri-State. “I kinda enjoyed 20-25 people in a class, and did fairly well,” he said. There’s an understatement. He retired as a consulting engineer scientist at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory at Idaho Falls, after becoming one of the top experts in the U.S. Department of Energy’s hydro project.

Bob Jannen, ChE 1950, remembers life in the barracks well, recording this reflection in “We Survived the Barracks—The History of the Tri-Stan Housing Project and Hendry Trailer Park as Told by Those Who Lived There:”

“After World War II, the best housing in Angola was probably the barracks. It was also affordable, as I recall about \$20 a month,” he



said. “All of us had similar backgrounds: military service, small children, old cars and no money.

“The only bad memories I have are the heat in the barracks in the summer and the long cold walk to campus in the winter. The cost of gas for a Model A Ford that seldom ran necessitated walking to school and to work at night.

“Growing up during the Depression . . . many of us saw military service as a step up—better food, clothing, and pay. Then came the GI Bill—the first opportunity anyone in our family had to get an education.

“Today’s students would not believe we were grateful and happy to be students living in barracks with bare wooden floors and army furniture, no money, no cars, and usually wearing old army uniforms.

“Tri-State, the barracks, the GI Bill, and the faculty were right for the times. Their impact on my generation was profound.”

**“Today’s students would not believe we were grateful and happy to be students living in barracks with bare wooden floors and army furniture, no money, no cars, and usually wearing old army uniforms.”**

Robert L. Jannen, ChE 1950

# This *is* the life

Everything about Jeneatte Rude’s Trine University life says comfort, balance and safety, wrapped around an education package that sets the benchmark.

“It’s close to home, has an honors program, smaller campus and NCAA Division III softball,” she said of joining Trine. The Edgerton, Ohio resident compliments her psychology major in the Jannen School of Arts & Science with a minor in Trine’s criminal justice program, which has earned American Criminal Justice Association national honors.

The programs, and faculty, fit her well. “Especially in psychology, the people are a little crazy, but we are all a little crazy,” she said. “There’s no problem going to my prof with a question. They’re in student organizations as advisers, so they’re not just profs, but mentors. They’re definitely caring. They recognize me, know me by name, and know what’s going on in my life. I don’t know many colleges where the profs will give you their number if you have a question about a test.”

But residential and student life complete the picture, and Rude soaks those up. A residence assistant in the Moyer honors residence, she begins her day with a view of Zollner Golf Course. “You can take your coffee out on the balcony. It’s like you’re at home, which makes studying easier. You still have people around. Trine goes the extra mile to make a roommate match that works,” she said.



Across campus, everybody throws a wave and calls her by name. Her position on the spring DIII NCAA champion softball team, sorority, and club activities make her a familiar face. “I think we’re pretty fortunate. Every weekend there’s something to do, and it’s free. If you want a full schedule and something to do, you can find it,” she said.

And what about Totally Random Events like free ice cream, T-shirts, hot cocoa and coffee, Popcorn Fridays, free snacks, and other spontaneous on-campus handouts from Student Life staffers? “Totally amazing. It just makes your day.”

Whether it’s a physical workout in the new Hornbacher Fitness Center or a mental one in the technology-rich Sponsel Library, she takes full advantage of her transformed university. “The fitness center’s interesting—it’s a fish bowl sometimes, but it’s nice because you know when your friends are in there,” she said of the glass-enclosed area on the UC mall. “It’s another unique Trine experience.”





# excel.

Our students succeed, personally and professionally.

That's because we require their best—in the classroom, on the field, and on the job.

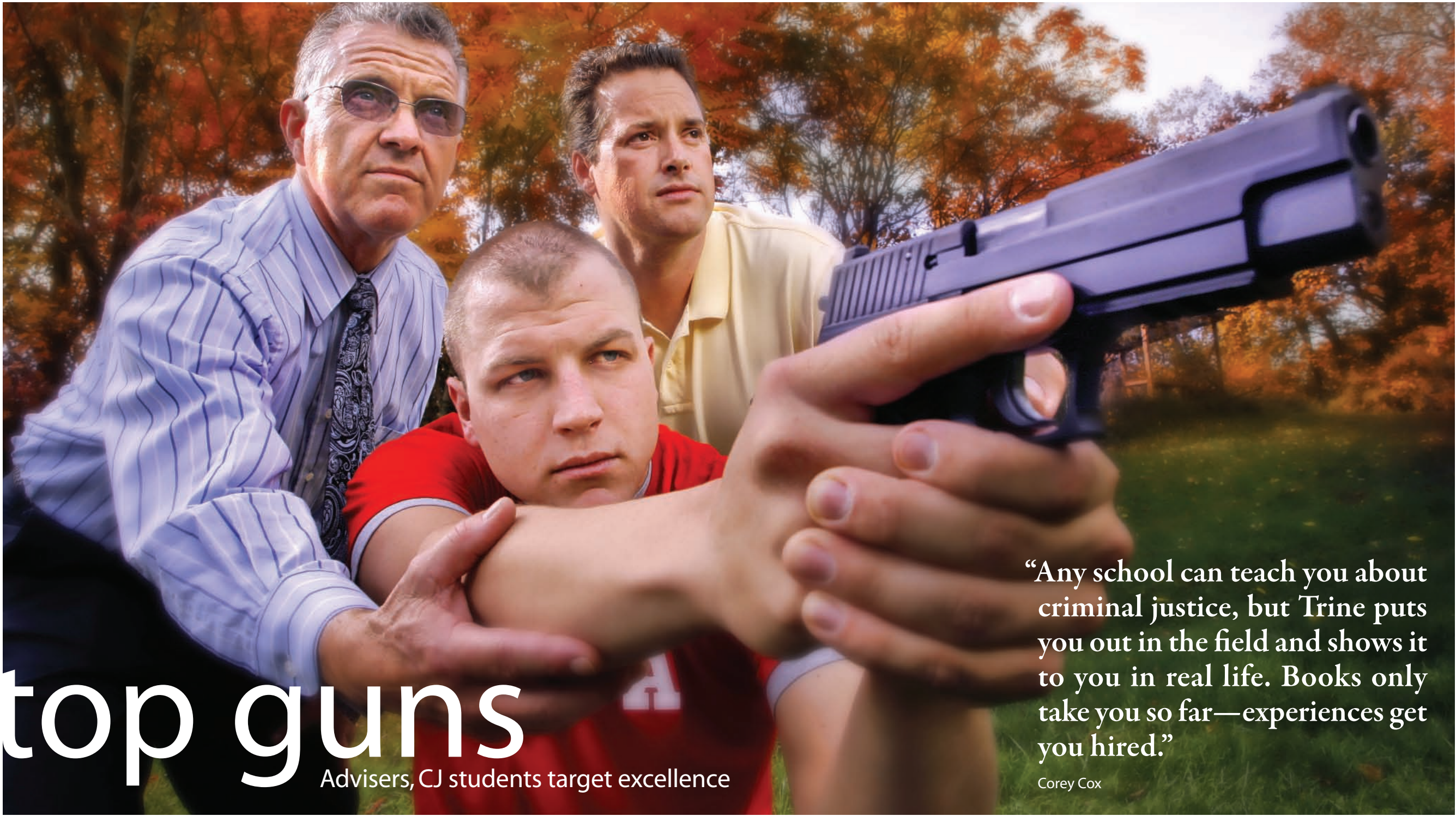
Whether they aim for criminal justice, engineering, management, education, or other careers, they hone the skills to do it here at Trine University. If they want to push their athletic skills to the limit, we'll take them there. And we let them pit their newly-learned professional skills against those in the marketplace, so they know they're equipped with real-world experience.

Success brands our story across time. Our halls and classrooms bear the names of many who, blessed with good fortune through the education we provide, have returned a portion of that bounty in gifts to benefit today's students. This year, we will celebrate 125 years as a venerated institution of higher learning.

That success holds true today. Our placement statistics prove it. Of last year's graduating class, 94 percent of those reporting found work or entered graduate school within six months of graduation.

That's excellence YOU can depend on.





# top guns

Advisers, CJ students target excellence

“Any school can teach you about criminal justice, but Trine puts you out in the field and shows it to you in real life. Books only take you so far—experiences get you hired.”

Corey Cox

**You hear about them every year, always in superlatives.**

Trine’s chapter of the American Criminal Justice Association hauls home so many trophies and awards from ACJA competition, they earned this year’s Sweepstakes Award for the most regional honors. Corey Cox, Trine’s chapter president, notched the university’s first Top Gun award for handgun competition last year. Other members join Cox in winning regional and national tests of physical agility and crime scene investigation and scoring highest in written exams

on subjects like criminal law. The national ACJA chapter unanimously presented co-adviser Craig Laker, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, Psychology & Social Sciences, the Jim Hooker Outstanding Adviser Award at national conference in April 2007. Co-adviser and criminal law professor John Milliken teams up with Laker to offer criminal justice students the best weapons in his legal arsenal. What drives this nationally recognized criminal justice program?

Balance, if you ask Cox, who came to Trine from Rolling Prairie, Ind. near South Bend after considering a number of schools and programs. “You’re not only in the classroom. You get to travel across the country for shooting competitions and analyzing crime scenes. You’re not just learning, but doing,” Cox said. “When I looked at schools, I saw that Indiana University was theory-based. Grand Valley State in Michigan is a ‘cops shop’ that builds police officers. This fell right between—I got the knowledge while getting to do something, too.”

Laker points to the program’s for-credit internships as a professional gateway for CJ students. An internship in the U.S. Marshals Service proved just such a passageway for Cox in his junior year. “My internship with the Marshals Service was the opportunity of a lifetime,” Cox said. “I have done federal inmate processing, transported prisoners to the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transport Service plane, helped the deputies with court security, done research on high priority fugitive cases, and served federal subpoenas. This internship reaffirmed my decision to pursue a career at the federal level, and the United States Marshals Service would be my top choice.” He credits his Trine experience with paving the way to his future. “Trine provided me with these opportunities,” he said. “I would never have been able to get this internship without the help and guidance of professors Laker and Milliken.”







**“Four years ago seems like a completely different lifetime, four years ago seems like a completely different school, and four years ago was an entirely different football team.”**

Sam Hartman, Trine senior football captain

# Land of football

## Coach teaches excellence on and off field

What a giddy year of success. An undefeated team. Conference champs. National contenders.

In the Land of Trine football, the Thunder’s trajectory as a star team began solidly on earth a mere three years ago. That was the year coach Matt Land took over a 0-10 record with 29 players showing up at the first spring practice. He and his staff worked quickly to build a program.

“The coaches went to lunch at a different restaurant every day to engage people in the community. They checked class attendance 21 times a week, got players up at 5 a.m. and ran their butts off to get down to the serious kids. Some changed, and some left,” Land said of that pivotal first year.

“It takes a plan, and this way hurts. But we knew a tradition has to be built on solid principles, values, and ethics, and that takes longer. We’re lucky to have the university backing us,” he said.

Now 150 strong, Land’s program has built character through tough principles applied to two tough games—life and football. His year-round leadership program takes important character traits and puts them into action. Breaking the year up into quarters like a football game, teams are drafted on the basis of character.

“It comes down to will they draft by friendship or by qualities. Peer pressure is the best motivator,” Land said. “We say, ‘Get out in the community and be a good volunteer if you’re not a great student.’ We’ll never have a leadership problem.”

It takes time for his coaches to tabulate character points, and the reward may seem small—a steak dinner—but the results last a lifetime. “It’s not just football. You can’t be a good football player and a jerk in the community,” Land said.

To ask why so many athletes come to Trine to play football in the non-scholarship-paying NCAA Division III is to ask the question backward, the Thunder coach said. “Kids come here for the degree first. They also get to play football. It’s our recruiting credo. Our team GPA average is 2.6. Grades are a good indicator of character and work ethic, which you must have to play for us.”



His senior team captains typify the Trine character. “This senior class was here when we were 0-10, and have gone full circle for their hard work,” Land said.

Courtney Pearson, Sam Hartman and Nathaniel Fitzsimmons spoke from the heart about Trine’s impact on their lives. “It’s been amazing seeing how far this team and school have come since I first arrived,” Pearson said. “Coach Land is one of the greatest men I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. He was my high school coach, and the reason I came back to school after I left in ’04. His football program has made me a better person all around, and I can’t explain how special it is to know that I played a part in helping to get the program off the ground and take it new places.”

Fitzsimmons echoed Pearson’s sentiments. “Nothing compares to being part of the transformation of the Thunder football program. Taking the field on Saturdays and seeing 4,000 people cheering you on, compared to my freshman year, when we were lucky to have 800 people supporting us, stands alone. Coach Land has done wonders for Trine University and the football program. It is something that I am very proud of, and something I will share with my kids when I am older,” he said.

Hartman spoke of enrichment and unbreakable ties. “I cannot thank the coaching staff enough for what they have done for me, the 16 seniors, this campus, and this community. They have helped me in every way fulfill my dreams and allowed us to be part of history. But championship or no championship, I will never forget my Thunder football family. They have made these the best four years of my life, and allowed me to become the best version of myself. We came to this campus as boys, but we will walk away men.”



# Trine students make a better world

## Volunteerism builds character

Trine students continually experience the richness of volunteerism. Through over 60 Greek, social, or academic organizations, they reach out in various ways. Here are just a few.

Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity, design engineering technology students and alumni, and Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Knowledge (SPEAK) came together for an entire Saturday Oct. 11 to assist Project Help, the county food and clothing bank, and the Steuben County Soil and Water Conservation District by planting rain gardens at the new facility. The gardens are a unique, environmentally sound way for property owners to deal with rainwater runoff.

Students planted 150 native and low-maintenance perennials atop tiled base layers of soil and gravel to create a root mat that will absorb, slow and filter rainwater as it travels to municipal storm drains. This spring, the mat should alleviate erosion and the need for on-site water retention areas. Design engineering technology professor Tom Trusty and his wife Kelly, a Steuben County Master Gardener, helped the students transform two weed-filled patches of ground into year-round landscapes that beautify the new facility and provide a smart solution to water runoff.

On Friday, Oct. 10, Beta Epsilon chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon partnered for the 10th year with Turning Point homeless shelter of Angola to collect money downtown while constructing a cardboard shelter in which to spend the entire night to focus on the problem of homelessness in America. The effort has resulted in \$2,000 for Turning Point. Zeta Theta Epsilon sorority and pledges helped collect money.

Alpha Theta Pi sorority collected items Oct. 13-18 for care packages for Indiana National Guard soldiers. Over 50 men and women from northern Indiana received the day-brightening boxes. Phone cards, powdered drink mixes, sun screen, lotion, DVDs, personal hygiene products, hand-held games and playing cards, among many other items, found their way into the packages



assembled by the sorority sisters on Oct. 20 for shipping overseas. Members presented the packages to the Fort Wayne National Guard and the Fort Wayne Family Readiness Group.

Kappa Sigma brothers exercised dogs and cats at the Steuben County Humane Society every Saturday from Oct. through the year's end. They devoted time to the Breeden YMCA of Steuben County and plan a charity 5-K race to start on Trine's Park Avenue shortly before Easter.

# Strategic success

## Trine's placement tells the story

When Charles "Chuck" Tyburk graduated from Tri-State University with a mechanical engineering degree in 1965, he set out to succeed. And he did, founding a leading consulting engineering company in today's power and energy engineering industry.

What sets Tyburk apart from other successful professionals is his faith in his alma mater's excellence. As he formulates his succession plan in two years, he is evaluating possible Tri-State College, Tri-State University, and Trine University engineers to succeed him in company ownership and leadership.

"If not for Tri-State, I wouldn't have the engineering business I have," he said. "I want to retire in a couple years, and I'm looking to see who can step into my shoes. It all began with little old me graduating in 1965. The school's name has changed twice, but I'm still part of it."

None of this surprises Trine University Office of Career Services Director Linda Bateman, who met with Tyburk before Christmas to connect him with middle management candidates from Trine University. Bateman's office is a central information conduit between employers in need of the best and brightest new talent and graduates ready to venture into today's workforce.

One circuit is *Trinecareers.org*, which manages job and career opportunities for students and employers. The site allows registered students to post online résumés for potential employers, while registered employers have access to the résumés and enter their job offerings in a database. "It allows us to systematically track the job leads and offerings," Bateman said.

Her office will also make new connections for students through a \$375,000 Lilly Endowment grant to fund new strategies to engage them in experiential learning assignments leading to Indiana employment.

The network will put employers and Trine faculty in touch with regional education, technical programs, and collaborative



opportunities for students, and acquaint employers with Trine's talented interns, co-op education students and graduates. Students will gain unique experiential learning, job shadowing, and employment opportunities.

The grant will also fund a new Office of Career Services coordinator to plan field trips and create opportunities and matches for interns and co-op students.

The Office of Career Services efforts have paid off in successful placement statistics for Trine graduates. Since their spring 2008 graduation, 94 percent of alumni responding to a survey reported employment or graduate school within three months of graduation. Eighty-seven percent secured jobs in a major-related field. The statistic rises to 100 percent for reporting chemical, computer, electrical, civil, and mechanical engineers.

Of the 26 majors represented by this class, 18 majors show 100 percent employed or enrolled in graduate school within six months of graduation. Twelve of the majors show 100 percent working in major-related fields within six months of graduation. Responders represented 88 percent of Trine University graduates earning a bachelor's degree last spring.



# Trine engineers rule

National tests and competitions prove it

## Why does Trine University brag up its engineering students? Because their performance supports our claims.

Trine University engineering seniors taking the fundamentals of engineering (FE) exam administered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) in April improved their passing percentage and topped the national passing average for engineering students taking the test nationwide. The NCEES test represents the first licensing step on the pathway to professional engineer status.

One hundred percent of Trine chemical and electrical engineering seniors taking the exam passed it. Nationally, 87 percent of chemical engineering seniors and 76 percent of electrical engineering seniors who took the test passed.

While all of the Trine chemical and electrical engineering seniors taking the test passed, the university's civil engineering seniors also fared well, with 80 percent of those taking it passing, topping the national average of 71 by nine percent. Seventy-three percent of Trine's mechanical engineering seniors taking the test also passed.

Trine engineering seniors out-performed their national counterparts in the combined areas of chemical, civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering at 81 percent, versus 76 percent of seniors nationally passing the test.

The national figure pulls pass-and-fail data from schools of chemical, civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering to create a passing rate for all the disciplines.

Their test scores explain why Trine engineering students shine in national competition.

In 2006 and 2007, they placed first in the national American Institute of Chemical Engineers individual design competition, besting engineering school strongholds like University of Alabama-Birmingham, University of Michigan, and University of Texas, among 150 other schools with chemical engineering programs.

In 2007 and 2008, they also earned a secondary award, the National Safety and Chemical Engineering Education (SACChE) Safety in Design Award for safety features built into their project designs.



# ARC-angel

Engineer on the rise serves alma mater first



Civil engineer Elizabeth McDonald could have moved on to her new job without a backward glance. But she had an important project to complete for her alma mater first.

McDonald, a 2006 TSU CE graduate, was the engineer in charge of designing Trine University's new Athletic and Recreation Center (ARC). She accepted a job offer with Ceco Building Systems in North Carolina after a couple years with Nucor Building Systems in Waterloo, Ind., but worked nights and weekends to complete the ARC before moving on. Why? She loves her alma mater.

"There were lots of extra hours, but this was something special," McDonald said. "I knew I was leaving and I wanted the questions answered before I left. When the project actually became a work order from Trine University to Nucor, I was out the door and on my way to the new job."

She solved a design conundrum with the ARC by turning the tapered columns outward, rather than inward, maximizing the interior space to accommodate a 200-meter indoor track. That resulted in cost efficiencies, and created a dramatic exterior feature as well.

The small-school, one-on-one atmosphere endeared Trine to McDonald. "I was very confident in walking in to chat with my professors," she said.

The chats and training paid off when she hit the field. "All that training comes back to you and you realize why you sat there and made those calculations. I jumped right in and picked it up easily."







# T. Furth Center for the Performing Arts

Thanks to vision and generosity, northeast Indiana and environs will soon have a premier performing arts center.

The stately Angola Christian Church with its colossal white Ionic columns, directly across the street from the Tri-State Campus, is now part of Trine University. Already housing the Music Department, it is being designed to be a tasteful and exciting venue for world-class performing arts, and for University and local music, drama, dance, speakers, things celebratory, and a host of ceremonies and pageantry.

With an extended balcony and suites, it will seat 700. It will include music classrooms, practice areas, high-tech recording studios, a music library, a scene shop, and a reception area with buffet. It will serve as a visual laboratory for our civil engineers who choose the architectural minor.

We owe thanks to Drs. Ralph and Sheri Trine and Dr. and Mrs. Tomas Furth for giving strong impetus to this project. Dr. Furth is a Venezuelan alumnus (ME 1954), an honorary degree recipient, and a Board of Trustees member of the University.

The addition of this beautiful almost 100-year-old church will reinforce our sense of a grand past and a long tradition, and the University does have a long association with the church. In fact, from its very beginning, as Beth Orlosky tells us in her history of Tri-State.

Baccalaureate addresses and graduation ceremonies were frequently conducted there. This was true in 1930, the year the great fire took down the campus bell. John McBride, foremost living historian of the University, reports that commencement was at the church from 1946-61, although some of the summer graduations would have been outside on campus. He remembers students marching

down Darling Street and up the steps into the church for a number of commencements, including his own in 1948. J.C. Penney was the graduation speaker in 1949. Walter Cunningham remembers his graduation there in 1955.

The Angola Christian Church was also the venue for other college activities, as Orlosky notes. At Christmastime in 1930, the college put on “Everyman,” directed by the famous Charles Shank. The 1961 inauguration ceremonies for Richard Bateman as President were conducted there.

In short, hundreds of Tri-State alums have fond memories of this building. Given the renovations and the multiple purposes Furth Center will serve, thousands of future alums will as well.

As a freshman in college, I sat in the balcony of a large chapel and heard an old, silver-haired man alone on stage with an unamplified instrument play classical guitar. His name was Andres Segovia. At intermission students ran to get their roommates and friends and filled the place. That evening changed my life.

Now that I am older than Segovia was then, I hope to help make this grand project happen—not only for the joy I know we will all derive from it, but also because I know it will change many young lives for the better.

Let us reconsecrate this building into a temple for our collective human creative spirit, whether Muse- or Heaven-inspired creativity! Let us hear the heavenly sweetness of Mozart, the divine mathematicality of Bach, the triumphal-ness of Beethoven, and all the others who have shared their great creative gifts with humankind.

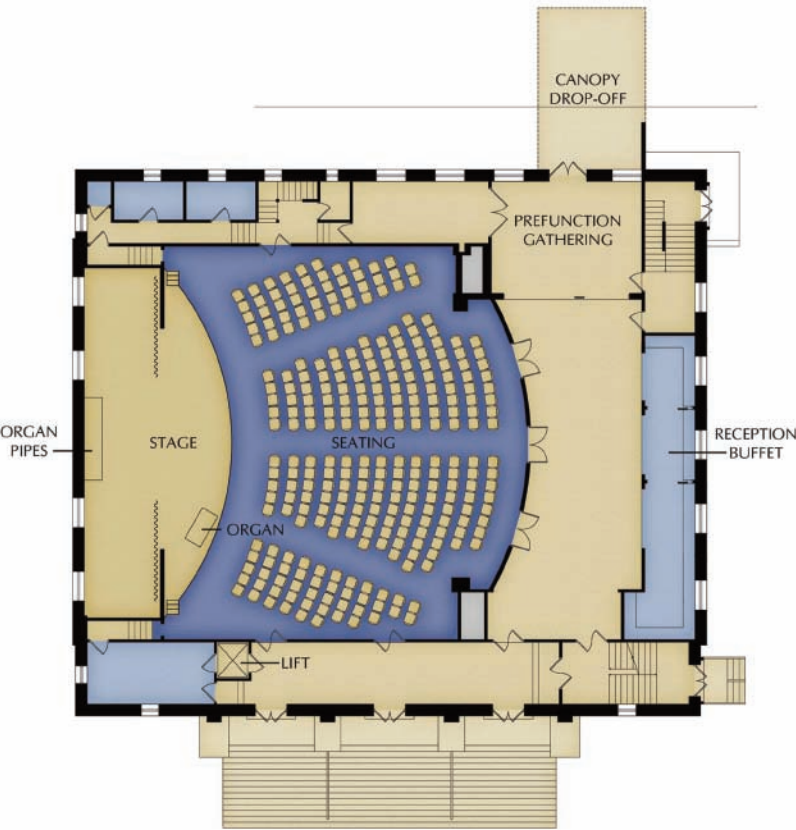
Let there be tragedies that test and ennoble human strength, comedies that make us laugh when we most need to, speakers who make us think, debate that gives us broader vision and helps us gain resolve, art that makes us see and feel!

So I say, let these halls resound—from the high-tech recording studios at the lower level to the “heavens” above (the sky in Shakespeare’s Globe & later theater ceilings painted like sky). Our re-domed peak will take us appropriately back to earlier meanings.

To reach these heights, we need your help—and soon. Our goal for completion is this venerable building’s 100th anniversary in 2010.



Exterior perspective



Main level floor plan

Please consider a gift to help us reach our goal. For further details on opportunities to participate, contact Ray Stuckey at 260.665.4115 or [stuckeyr@trine.edu](mailto:stuckeyr@trine.edu).



# Gifts Change Trine Forever

## Widmann extends unexpected generosity

Tri-State College alumnus John W. Widmann died Oct. 15, 2007, but his legacy will affect Trine University students for years to come.

Mr. Widmann, a 1943 aeronautical engineering graduate, made an estate gift of \$2.85 million to Trine upon his death at age 89. Mr. Widmann had not made his gift intention known to the university. Widmann Hall student apartments have been named in his honor.

He was born in Spring Valley, N.Y. on March 4, 1918 to John C. and Margaret Somberg Widmann. After receiving his TSC AE degree, he worked as a draftsman for Rockland County in New City, N.Y., and was a partner in Widmann Brothers Bakery in Spring Valley. He was an avid fan and collector of Lionel trains.



Widmann Hall

Mr. Widmann made significant contributions to his alma mater in his lifetime. He was a donor to the original Perry T. Ford Library and an Annual Fund contributor for many years, including the past 10 consecutive years. His contributions have spanned much of the life of the institution, from its early days as Tri-State College, through its evolution to Tri-State University in 1975, and to its transformation to Trine University this past year.

## Reiners gift benefits CE department

The generosity of a Tri-State College alumnus and his wife will enhance education for generations of Trine civil engineering students.

The university announced the receipt in October of a \$1.5 million gift from Larry and Judy Reiners of Tulsa, Okla., to the Trine University Department of Civil Engineering. Larry Reiners completed a bachelor of science in civil engineering at TSC in 1965. The department will be known as the Reiners Department of Civil Engineering in recognition of the couple's dedication to the institution.

The gift punctuates a long history of generosity shown the university by the Reiners. They are 20-year annual university supporters and have donated to the Fawick Hall master plan and the New Horizons and *Vision for the Future* capital campaigns. They have advocated for the institution and for higher education for 45 years.



Larry and Judy Reiners



## Calendar of Events

February 22	Spring phonathon begins	
March 5-6	Scholarship Golf Classic in Florida	Estero, Fla.
April 17	Community Breakfast	Witmer Clubhouse
May 1	Engineering Expo	Fawick Hall
May 8	Athletic Recreational Center Dedication	The ARC
May 9	Commencement	Hershey Hall
	Alumni Board of Governors Meeting	Witmer Clubhouse
	Indianapolis 500 Pole Day	East Chalet
June 17	Founder's Day— 125-Year Anniversary	
July 17	Civil Engineering Alumni Golf Outing	Zollner
August 7	Alumni & Friends Golf Outing	Zollner

## Hit the greens for scholarship green

Play Trine's inaugural Scholarship Golf Classic at Miromar Lakes Championship Golf Course in southwest Florida March 6. Your involvement in a primary scholarship fund-raiser will impact students' lives! Sponsorships at various levels are available.

The range opens at 11 a.m., a buffet lunch and registration begin at 11:45 a.m. and the tournament starts at 1 p.m. Dinner at the club's Blue Water Beach Grill follows at 6:30 p.m.

The \$200 entry fee includes a round of golf, cart, lunch, refreshments, and an individual gift. The awards dinner will be \$50 for non-inclusive sponsors. Call 260.665.4316 or e-mail [wertj@trine.edu](mailto:wertj@trine.edu) for information. Register online at [trine.edu/alumni](http://trine.edu/alumni).

## Consecutive Year Giving

The University's heartfelt gratitude goes out to alumni and friends who have shown a commitment to giving year after year. Over 500 alumni and friends have supported this institution for 10 or more consecutive years, and over 100 have 22 or more years of consecutive giving. That's quite a reflection upon the quality, character, and selflessness of our alumni. This year's Annual Fund donors gave nearly \$35,000 more, an increase of over 30 percent over last year. The Annual Fund directly benefits students through scholarships, equipment upgrades, and campus beautification.

Visit [trine.edu/alumni\\_advancement](http://trine.edu/alumni_advancement) for Class Notes and In Memoriam



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## Touchstone Moments

- 1 Alumnus Bill Gettig and his wife, Loene, attended the Touchstone Dinner. Among their many donations are funds for the baseball team and fields, a student scholarship, and the Gettig Carillon, which tolls the time on the quarter-hour in the Sponsel Administration Center.
- 2 Board of Trustees President John Pittman signs a document creating the Class of 1958 Scholarship during the Homecoming Awards Breakfast. Trine President Dr. Earl Brooks II is at left.
- 3 Alumnus C.W. Sponsel and his wife, Juliette, enjoy the Homecoming weekend Touchstone Dinner recognizing the generosity of donors. Among many contributions, the Sponsels donated funds for the restoration of the former Sniff Building, now the C.W. Sponsel Administration Center.
- 4 The Ketner Sports Center formed an elegant backdrop for the Homecoming 2008 Touchstone Dinner.





Weather in the eighties, new buildings to admire, old friends to meet, and a Thunder football win against nationally ranked Franklin College spelled a nearly perfect Homecoming weekend for alumni and friends visiting the revitalized Trine University campus Oct. 24 and 25.

The Friday night Touchstone Dinner honored notable alumni benefactors, including Dr. Robert L. Jannen, a 1950 chemical engineering graduate, and Dr. William Gettig, a 1949 mechanical engineering graduate, with the Pillar of Success Award, the university's highest distinction. Both chairs emeritus of the board of trustees, the men have benefitted the university in innumerable ways.

Trine faculty member Dr. Dolores Tichenor earned the 2008 Woman of Distinction Award, which recognizes the contributions of women in the areas of philanthropy, business, and education.

Tichenor is assistant vice president of study abroad, director of institutional planning and analysis, and professor of mathematics. The Lilly Endowment Inc. and Drs. Ralph and Sheri Trine were recognized as Lifetime Donors for record gifts to the university.

The Homecoming Awards Breakfast Saturday morning recognized alumni elected by the Alumni Board of Governors for outstanding service to community, professional achievement, and supporting university ideals. William Lusk and Al Dausman, who graduated with civil engineering degrees in 1970 and 1977, respectively, received Outstanding Achievement Awards. Distinguished Service Awards went to Trine Trustee Mitchel Rhoads, who earned a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1966, and James Krzyzewski, who earned a degree in mechanical engineering in 1971.

Joseph D. Miller and Ruth Wertz, who completed mechanical engineering degrees in 1992 and 2002, respectively, received Distinguished Service Young Alumnus Awards.

After the breakfast, supporters got the first look at Trine's new Golf Course Village student apartments, attending a dedication and then touring the freshman honors residence on Zollner Golf Course. A look into the future of campus athletic facilities was provided by Trine President Dr. Earl Brooks at a groundbreaking ceremony on the site of the planned Athletic and Recreation Center (ARC). The new center will include a 200-meter indoor track, practice facilities for tennis and baseball, and recreation opportunities for all students.







## Thunderstruck Moments

- In cross country, Tim Murray, a senior mechanical engineering major from Sturgis, Mich., was a first team All-Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) runner and ran in the Division III national cross country meet at Hanover College in southern Indiana in November.
- The soccer team provided a sneak peak of the future with upsets of No. 18 Calvin and No. 15 Hope.
- In volleyball, senior Sallie Richardson of Jackson, Mich., finished her stellar career rewriting the team record book. She graduates as the all-time Thunder leader in nearly every offensive category.
- The Thunder women’s soccer team shut out Bluffton, Taylor University Fort Wayne and Franklin.
- Trine football returned to prominence and garnered national attention. In September, Trine caught the national spotlight when the football team played Defiance College in “The Battle of Mother Nature’s Wrath,” as dubbed by the Mike and Mike Show on ESPN radio and ESPN2. Later that month, Trine notched its first win over a ranked national opponent since moving to NCAA Division III in 2003 by upsetting No. 15 Franklin 20-17. The win vaulted Trine to the No. 19 spot in the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) poll before a playoff loss to Wheaton. Coach Matt Land was honored as a regional coach of the year by the AFCA and was a top candidate for Liberty Mutual’s Division III Coach of the Year. Ten players were named all-MIAA selections, including senior linebacker Courtney Pearson, who was named the MIAA Defensive Most Valuable Player. Trine finished 10-0 and earned a No. 2 seed in the North Region of NCAA Division III football playoffs. Angola Mayor Richard Hickman declared Nov. 22 Trine University Football Day in honor of the NCAA playoff game at Trine that day, presenting President Brooks with a framed proclamation.
- Thunder golfers finished first twice and second three times in conference matches and just missed the second place by five total strokes or less.
- The women’s golf team finished seventh in the MIAA championship, narrowly missing sixth by one stroke.
- Men’s and women’s basketball are in MIAA play and the wrestling program is enjoying its most success ever, climbing as high as No. 22 during the season. Trine knocked off then-No. 16 Olivet in November, claiming the first victory against a ranked team in the program’s history. Trine will host the NCAA Division Midwest Wrestling regional Feb. 21 at Hershey Hall.

It’s an exciting time for Trine athletics, and we invite you to enjoy a sports event on campus. Log onto [www.trine.edu](http://www.trine.edu) and go to the athletics site for sports schedules.

Photo to the left: Angola Mayor Richard Hickman, left, visited campus to issue a proclamation setting Nov. 22 as Trine University Thunder Football Day in honor of Trine’s NCAA tournament bid. With him from left are Thunder football coach Matt Land, athletic director Jeff Posendek, and Trine President Earl D. Brooks II.

# Thunder sports in review

Fall 2008 was a banner year for Thunder athletics, and some of those banners will soon hang in Hershey Hall. Here’s a look at the fall sports seasons and some highlights of the last 365 days, arguably one of the best 12-month spans in the history of the athletic program.

Three teams—softball, football, and track—competed in NCAA post-season play. Three teams—softball, football, and wrestling —earned national rankings. Trine received national attention on ESPN radio and television, in USA Today and throughout the region and beyond.





THE WORLD OF INTERIOR DESIGN HAS TAKEN NOTICE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY.

Trine’s new University Center and Center for Technology and Online Resources is featured in the Educational Interiors Showcase of American School & University’s August 2008 edition. The 80-year-old publication devoted exclusively to education facilities is considered the authority for information about the educational facilities market.

The annual competition honoring educational interior design excellence spotlights projects representing some of the most effective learning environments in America. Trine’s University Center and Center for Technology and Online Resources earned a citation for Outstanding Designs in student centers/service areas.

The University Center also earned a National Builders Award for contractor Jim Ingledue Construction.

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