A century of experience
AQ Olds farewell to several devoted faculty and staff members

By Sam Blekas
The Saint Reporter

After many years of service, several of Aquinas' longest-serving professors and faculty will be retiring from full-time work with the end of this semester. Among the longest-serving members are English Department Chair Dr. Edward Balog, Modern Languages Chair and Professor Dr. Susan Gasster, Aquinas Administrator Michael Keller, and Geography and Environmental Studies Professor Dr. Paul Bieneman.

Eleven years ago, Dr. Edward Balog came to Aquinas, where he announced his retirement and made the decision not to return next fall.

"It's been very professionally fulfilling for me," said Balog. "I've been at the institution for forty years now, and that's a long time, so now seemed like a good time for me. I feel comfortable in leaving at a point where things are going very well, and that's really one of the things that prompted me to decide.

Balog was hired in 2000 as the Interim President, and then made the Interim President, and then President in 2007, all while teaching a variety of history courses. Under Balog's leadership, Aquinas has undergone a number of significant changes, including the opening of the Grace Heintzman Library and the Martin Sports and Fitness Center, new undergraduate and graduate programs, changes to the LEED Certification, partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Kent County and many others.

"I have a lot of books that I need to get to know, and a lot of sets of tennis clothes," said Balog. "People keep asking me what I'm going to do and I keep telling them that I don't want to make any specific plans until I get to the point where I don't have to make any specific plans.

Dean Dr. Susan Gasster arrived at Aquinas in 1991. Since then, she has served as a professor teaching French, Spanish, and Latin American Literature, civilization and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department. She also helped develop courses for the service learning projects to El Salvador, and culture; and also as Chair of the Modern Languages department.

"I have really loved teaching at Aquinas," said Gasster. "Here, I have felt at home and found colleagues who are open-minded and practice the Dominican charisms. I returned to the Church largely as a result of my experiences here and that is helping me to shape my plans for my future.

Michael Keller has provided 41 years of service to Aquinas as an administrator. Keller began his work at Aquinas as an Assistant Professor of French, after which he moved into various administrative positions including Dean for Academic Advising and Retention, Vice President for Planning and Enrollment Management, and since 2005 the Vice President for Planning and Research.

"I have been thinking about retirement for a couple of years now, I wanted to wait a couple of years before making any specific plans until I get to the point where I don't have to make any specific plans."

Wege Plaza: New and improved
Aquinas community plans redesign for 125th anniversary

By Hillary Major
The Saint Reporter

Wege Plaza, the popular space between Wege Student Center and the Academic Building is receiving a new design. It will be a pleasant addition to the campus and a mass at St. Andrew's Church.

The new design hopes to create a pleasant outdoor study area with a sustainable design, and to invite the longstanding trees. The college located on campus, and Prognoz Make chose to redesign Wege Plaza. "They are very good at taking natural places and making them visibly designed," said Balog. The company showed students a photo of what they wanted to see in the design.

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"I have been thinking about retirement for a couple of years now, I wanted to wait a couple of years before making any specific plans until I get to the point where I don't have to make any specific plans."

When Dr. Paul Bieneman came to Aquinas in 1975, he didn't think he'd stay more than a few years. But after 38 years of teaching, Geography and Environmental Studies courses, and becoming increasingly involved in the Aquinas community, Bieneman is retiring from full-time employment at Aquinas College.

"I have enjoyed a career so much that I never left," said Bieneman. "People who don't like what they do never run as fast as they are able. I enjoy what I do; so it has made the decision much more difficult.

Bieneman has taught a variety of courses, mostly focused on physical geography, and has also taught courses on environmental impact, geodesy and remote sensing. Although he is retiring as a full-time employee, Bieneman plans on continuing his association with the college by teaching part-time. However, he is looking forward to spending more time working on his 36-acre farm, where he built his house with his own hands.

"I plan on continuing to raise bees, chickens, peafowl, beef cattle, vegetables and fowl crops. I have ten old farm tractors and the800-and-ions gasoline engines. Most of them need a little bit of fixing," said Bieneman. "My wife and I have six grandchildren and there is always something to do with them."

Many other 125th anniversary events are planned besides the rebuilding of Wege Plaza, including a reeducation ceremony of the campus and a mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Also, a book will be published exploring Aquinas history and future plans.

While I have been thinking about retirement for a couple of years now, I wanted to wait a couple of years before making any specific plans until I get to the point where I don't have to make any specific plans.

Bloomberg feels that student ideas will be incorporated well into the design. "The designer was very open to the ideas of the students and this project has become a priority for the students, every people who use the space most," he said.

"It will be nice to have another place we can go to study," said student Eric Bloomberg. "And it will bring people towards that side of campus.

The budget for this project will be released in the next few weeks after the ending of the underground training between Wege and AB requires updating. It doesn't come into effect until the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. This year's the new Wege Mall will commence on the end of the 125th anniversary. After the 2011-2012 school year.

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Aquinas: Commencement to be held in Sturges
On May 7, Aquinas College graduates will celebrate commencement in the beautiful grandiose setting of Sturges Pavilion at 2pm. Tickets are required for entry. The Baccalaureate Mass will be held that morning at 2pm. The Rev. William Ar. Andrews Cathedral is in welcomes for all of the graduates of the class of 2011.

Grand Rapids: Meijer Garden causes boycotting
The weekend has been awash in news of the Meijer Garden causing a stir. A group of students from Grand Rapids went to pick up trash at the Grand Rapids Pride Chrysanthemum. This event was sponsored by the City and State of Michigan, with hundreds of volunteers, including those from Grand Rapids, volunteering their time. The event was successful, and the gardens are now open for the public to enjoy.

Study Abroad: AQ students meet Seamus Heaney
Aquinas students, studying in Tully Corry, Ireland, received the opportunity of a lifetime: not only to meet the poet, but also to learn about the achievements of world-renowned Irish poet Seamus Heaney. Seamus Heaney is a Nobel Prize winner, and his work has been celebrated around the world. The students were able to attend a lecture and a poetry reading, and were able to ask questions and engage with the poet.

Something to keep you awake
You wouldn’t think it was a legal business, but in fact it is. The business is called “energy drinks.” Movies and video games are some of the most popular products. The energy drinks are sold in the form of a can, a box, or a bottle. The drinks are usually made of caffeine, sugar, and other ingredients. The energy drinks are advertised as a way to increase energy and performance. The energy drinks are also often marketed as a way to reduce headaches and fatigue. The energy drinks are also often marketed as a way to reduce headaches and fatigue. The energy drinks are also often marketed as a way to reduce headaches and fatigue.

Accreditation results in high marks, as well as one low score with questions going unanswered
The college has received high marks from the Accreditation Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACJCJC). The college has also received a low score with questions going unanswered.

Outstanding Women’s Awards
Jane Hobbard Idema Women’s Studies Center honors students, alumni, faculty, and staff, who serve as exceptional women in the AQ community

Finally, Dr. Kathy Kramer from the sociology department will be honored as the Outstanding Faculty. Dr. Kramer was described as a “passionate teacher and scholar who knows her students, and who is always willing to help.” The award is in recognition of her significant contributions to the college and to the community.

The Outstanding Women’s Awards ceremony was held in the AQ Ballroom, with the keynote address given by Dr. Kathy Kramer. The ceremony was attended by students, faculty, and staff, who came together to celebrate the achievements of women in the AQ community.
World News:

Australia in height of rising economy

By Monica Rischiotto

Honorary Degree Recipients Announced

By Sam Rinkus

Governor Snyder presents new education proposal

By Monica Rischiotto

Honorary Degree Recipients Announced

By Tina Kline

Sudan: Split in Sudan

By Stephen Douglas Wright

Australia has gained a 13% increase against the Japanese yen last month.

Mexico City, May 18 (Reuters) - A 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit central Mexico on Tuesday, killing at least 30 people and injuring 300 more.

The earthquake, which struck around noon local time, was centered about 60 kilometers southeast of Mexico City, according to the National Seismological Institute.

At least 30 people were killed and 300 were injured, said the institute.

The institute said 23 people were killed in Mexico City, 3 were killed in the state of Morelos and 4 in the state of Puebla.

The institute also said 26 people were injured in Mexico City, 3 were injured in the state of Morelos and 14 in the state of Puebla.

The earthquake was felt throughout much of central Mexico and was followed by several aftershocks.

It was the second earthquake to hit Mexico in less than a week, with a 7.1 magnitude earthquake on May 17 that killed at least 19 people.

Sudan: Split in Sudan

By Stephen Douglas Wright

The country of Sudan is splitting into two, a new country will be formed in the southern part of the country, called the Republic of South Sudan.

On January 9, 2011, the southern Sudanese voted in a referendum to decide whether to leave the country.

The referendum was held on January 9, 2011, and the results were announced on July 9, 2011.

The referendum was held to decide whether the southern part of the country should become a separate country.

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The Saint has worked diligently for the past 29 years to produce an informative, and sports teams and truly unite us into a community of growth. Though President Balog will be missed dearly of Aquinas' next President with an open mind and open heart. The Cast and Crew of "These Shining Lives", you made our,125th birthday as an institute for higher education to continue to provide an open forum for the ideas, views and concerns of the Aquinas community.

Our goal is to continue to provide an open forum for the ideas, views and concerns of the Aquinas community.

By Adam Hii

Congratulations to... FROM THE CROWD

APPLAUSE FOR... All the faculty members who received Tenure, congrats.

All the staff who don’t get a Summer Vacation: thank you at least one editor cry. Bravo.

Everyone that planned and participated in Homecoming.

Kava’s House’s spring drinks for being so sweet and amazing.

Spring Sports teams for a successful season all around.

Men’s hockey for letting the big dog skate.

The Board of Trustee’s for placing a student on their program committee.

C. Edward Balog, Ph.D.

HECKLES TO...

Anyone who hasn’t gotten a summer job yet, time is running out.

The lack of a St. Joë BBQ this year.

From Our View

AND the end is near. Another year has come and gone and AQ still stands! This year will go down in President Eberle’s history book as one of transition; some jobs changed, new buildings were opened, and new academic programs were started. As a school we will grow in a positive direction, and next year will hopefully be another year of growth. Though President Balog will be missed dearly by students, staff and faculty alike, it is important to welcome Aquinas’ next President with an open mind and open heart.

For those luckily enough to return in the fall, we hope you carry with you the heaps of zeal, optimism and hope for a new year. After all, there is a party going on! To celebrate our,125th birthday as an institute for higher education will be more than just some banners and chaos oriented events; it will be a recognition of how far we have come as a college and a community. We will celebrate where we have been, and more importantly—where we are going.

The 125th will give us all an unique opportunity to be a part of something beyond just our grades or department. Something that will transcend clubs or organizations and sports teams and truly unite us into a community of saints and scholars. See you in August at Aquinas.

The Importance of Education

By Adam Hii

with graduation being right around the corner for many of you personally included I have been inspired to do is look back and evaluate my time at Aquinas and think about what really makes for a successful education and why it can make a significant difference for students...
Here's what's going on in the next two weeks:

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<td>Got something to add?</td>
<td>Send any campus or local event info to <a href="mailto:msk002@aquinas.edu">msk002@aquinas.edu</a>.</td>
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<td>Last issue of The Saint for this semester! Check it out!</td>
<td>P.O.L.S. Highway Cleanup of the M-43 at 9:00 a.m. for riders. The stretch to be cleaned is in front of Calvin College on Beltline. All are welcome to join in! Check out a fantastic Folk Dance Program with live music by the Front Porch Bluegrass Band. Admission is $5 with your student ID. AQ Track meet at Houseman Field. AQ Softball plays Madonna at 1:00 p.m. at Fuller Park.</td>
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<td>POLIS BBQ with Dr. Durham. Graduating Poli Sci and Int. Studies majors will be honored. Events start around 2:00 p.m. Contact Meg Bennett, Roger Durham, or Daniel Meloy for more details.</td>
<td>POLIS Highway Cleanup—meet at the Moose at noon for rides. The stretch to be cleaned is in front of Calvin College on Beltline. All are welcome to join in! Check out a fantastic Folk Dance Program with live music by the Front Porch Bluegrass Band. Admission is $5 with your student ID. AQ Track meet at Houseman Field. AQ Softball plays Madonna at 1:00 p.m. at Fuller Park.</td>
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<td>Today is the last day to check out American master artist Jim Dine's sculptures on display at Frederik Meijer Gardens.</td>
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***Snapshot: This I Believe***

Tell it like it is: Freshman Angelina Bartoni steps up to the mic to read her "This I Believe" essay on April 14 at the Moose. Many Aquinas students were encouraged to write their own statements of personal belief as part of their I & E class, in support of the Common Reading Experience. This event was set up as an opportunity to publicly read their essays.

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Editor in Chief Matt Kuczynski  E-mail msk002@aquinas.edu  Web site www.aqsaint.com
**Bland“ Rapids? No Way!**

There's plenty to do during the summer in Grand Rapids!

By Adam Hii

For those of you sticking around Grand Rapids for the summer, here are some community events to keep you entertained. It's not looking for a nice evening downtown, or something just a few blocks away, there's something for everyone.

**Rena Park**

Now that warmer weather is upon us, Rena Park is doing plenty of ice skating. However, there are still plenty of weekly events for people to partake in. Every Tuesday evening from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, the Rena Park is hosting the Rena Ice Skating. This is a perfect way to spend a few hours with family and friends.

**Kalamazoo Jazz Band**

The Kalamazoo Jazz Band is one of the most popular music groups in the area. They are known for their lively performances and are sure to put on a show you won't forget.

**Grand Rapids Original Blues Festival**

This two day bash of country music is one of the greatest events with a line up featuring Jimmie Vaughan, Tracy Nelson, and the Whole Gang. The festival is upon us, so don't miss out! For more information visit www.mcrb.org.

**Setlist for Summer Music Festivals**

The following are some of the most anticipated music festivals in Grand Rapids: Summer music festivals are in season.

1. **Aftershock Festival**: August 20, 2011
   - Location: Papa John's Cardinal Stadium
   - Lineup: Red Hot Chili Peppers, The Black Keys, Arctic Monkeys
   - Location: Rothbury, MI
   - Lineup: Bonnaroo headliners, EDM artists, and country music stars
3. **Lollapalooza**: August 5, 2011
   - Location: Chicago, IL
   - Lineup: A range of genres, from hip-hop to indie rock
4. **Firefly Music Festival**: August 6-8, 2011
   - Location: Dover, DE
   - Lineup: Major headliners including The Weeknd, Lizzo, and BadBadNotGood
5. **Hardcore Jamboree**: August 12, 2011
   - Location: Various venues
   - Lineup: A mix of hardcore and punk bands

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**Swinging and Singing: Grand Rapids Dances at Rena Park during the Grand Rapids Original Blues Festival**

For the second annual Rena Lake Run, events will include a 5K, 10K, half-marathon, and a post-race party. The first event (the 5K) is at 8:00 am, the post-race party will be in John Collins Park complete with food and a live band. Registration is currently open, and while quantities last, $25 will be charged to register. Two prizes will be offered to the winners, including a $25 gift certificate to CJ's on the lake. The proceeds from this race will be donated to local organizations.

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**What to watch for in summer music festivals**

- **Lollapalooza**: August 5-7, 2011
  - Location: Chicago, IL
  - Lineup: A range of genres, from hip-hop to indie rock
- **Summer Jam**: July 29-31, 2011
  - Location: Rothbury, MI
  - Lineup: A mix of hardcore and punk bands
- **Electric Forest Music Festival**: July 22-24, 2011
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Losing faith, finding Bazan

John wofford | Editor

The year before I came out to my parents as a Jew, a friend David had told me about the world he had grown up in—a religion. The former frontman of indie punk band Pedro the Lion, Bazan was affiliated with what many perceived as a stricter strain of Christianity, and his conversion shocked much of the religious community.

This was particularly true among those who had seen him as rebellious streak of something as risky as sacrificial young Christians trying to live in the tension between their old life and a new one. Bazan has been writing on this question about the validity of the faith he’d been trying to escape for a long time.

If you’ve never made the leap from one like-minded belief to another, with what Bazan understands, you can imagine it would be much too instrumental to the story line. What we know the characters don’t believe anything else—what we do know is that they believe something.

Bazan understands, and what his strange hybrid of folk and electronic music, in the sense of profound loss when what she didn’t, silence, conform, and everything. It doesn’t matter what that meaning is. It’s the meaning that is to be discerned. It is to be known as a certain something, and if there never would have been this world-shifting crisis of the Christian faith, the song wouldn’t have been an angry man and his music simply the diary of a broken man.

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The opening scene plays on itself, and its cleverness is only a tip of the iceberg. Bazan’s characters are what exist? It’s a tough line to draw, especially when the view is on itself. This is a film that is more disorienting it feels to lose confidence in the idea of a God. The acting of Rory Culkin, who plays a young, naive boy, who has no idea what he is doing, even in the midst of a film. Culkin simply exists to serve this narrative.

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Bazan understands, and what his strange hybrid of folk and electronic music, in the sense of profound loss when what she didn’t, silence, conform, and everything. It doesn’t matter what that meaning is. It’s the meaning that is to be discerned. It is to be known as a certain something, and if there never would have been this world-shifting crisis of the Christian faith, the song wouldn’t have been an angry man and his music simply the diary of a broken man.

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**The Saint Reporter**

*By Monica Rischiotto*

**Editorial**

**The SAINT I FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2011**

They deserve the credit when A&E interviews from creative minds from all over the world. Their winning presentations. Their talents. Their hard work. Their long hours. And after every blurb is written, there is a newsprint version that summarizes the blurb. Dear readers, you’ll all be in tears over this month’s column. **What a year it has been!**

Life Bookstore extraordinaire, Zachary Hartsman was awarded third place in the annual poetry contest. Surprises is old news.

Dr. Hartness was awarded second place in the Academy of American Poets Contest with: “What a year it has been!”

Aquinas College students, alumni, and community members were well represented in the pool of selected poets. Linda Nunez Jones, Class of ’75, has published several collections of poetry, and was awarded second place in the Adult category for her poem, “The Games.”

And was acknowledged and praised for her evident talent. She noted the theme of the Writing 1-2-3 event to introduce the student to the poet’s works: “The games are not that important; it is the theme that matters.”

The bookstore’s next event will be on Tuesday, May 2, 7 p.m., featuring ensemble and Chicago jazz singer Goretti and the accompanying springs of technical and physical possibilities.

They came before the fireplace to read aloud their poems and community members were well represented in the pool of selected poets.

Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra filled the Kretschmer Recital hall in waves of applause. ‘We’ll call this John the Bop’ by David Bazan. It’s not too short or too long, it has a sense of rhythm that is impossible to ignore. It isn’t entirely fair to compare to their previous albums, but grew and grew to become powerful and voluminous number ended in a big splash of applause.

Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra filled the Kretschmer Recital hall in waves of applause. The world of bands is an ever-changing landscape, a change of sound can elicit different qualities from previous albums that are impossible to ignore.

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MLB summer preview
top stories to watch around the league

By Wes Raynal
Sports Editor

The past two seasons have been a disappointment to Sox fans as injury plagued players along with inconsistent performance from position players have kept the team from reaching the top of the divisional standings. This season, however, looks to be a different story. The Sox have been one of the most consistent and dominant teams in baseball and have already proven it through the first 12 games.

With a .314 batting average, 16 HRs, and 39 RBI, the Red Sox have started off the season on a high note. Their starting rotation, led by Chris Sale and David Price, has been dominant with an average ERA of 2.18. All is well in Cleveland now, as the team has yet to lose a game this season.

In the AL East, the Blue Jays have started off strong with a record of 11-1. But the Sox are not to be overlooked. They have a young and talented team that has the potential to compete for the division title.

The Sox have a strong offense led by Xander Bogaerts, J.D. Martinez, and Andrew Benintendi. Bogaerts has a .326 batting average with 17 HRs and 39 RBI. Martinez has a .278 batting average with 15 HRs and 41 RBI. Benintendi has a .301 batting average with 12 HRs and 36 RBI.

On the pitching side, the Sox have three aces in Chris Sale, David Price, and Nathan Eovaldi. Sale has a 1.93 ERA with 27 strikeouts in 22 innings pitched. Price has a 1.38 ERA with 35 strikeouts in 24 innings pitched. Eovaldi has a 2.70 ERA with 28 strikeouts in 25 innings pitched.

With a strong offense and pitching, the Sox are poised to make a run at the AL East title. They will look to build on their early season success and continue to be a force to be reckoned with in the American League.
Swept out of town! Red Wings take care of Coyotes in four, move one step closer to 12th cup

By Brian Kalbseck

On April 13, the Red Wings began their quest for the team’s 5th Stanley Cup against their first-round series opponent, Phoenix Coyotes.

In Game 1, the Red Wings overcame a sluggish start and beat the Coyotes 2-1 in their first round series opener. Detroit hit the ground running by scoring two goals in the first five minutes of the first period. Phoenix responded with a goal early in the second, but Detroit answered with another goal before the halfway mark of the second period. The Red Wings took the lead and held onto it for the remainder of the game.

In Game 2, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 6-2 victory where the Red Wings got off to a fast start by scoring two goals in the first three minutes of the game and cruising from there with solid defensive play from Alex Pietrangelo, Dylan Larkin, and Tomas Tatar. The Red Wings made sure of it by scoring the first four goals of the game and holding on to a 1-2 lead until midway through the second period.

In Game 3, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 5-3 victory, but this time the Red Wings were down 3-0 after two periods. Detroit responded with three goals in the third period, two of them by Carter McCann, to force a Game 4.

In Game 4, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 4-3 win which brought the Red Wings within a win of sweeping the Coyotes. The Red Wings were up 2-0 after two periods, but the Coyotes scored two goals in the third to make it a 2-2 game. However, the Red Wings scored two more goals in the third to put the game out of reach for Phoenix.

In Game 5, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 3-2 victory, but this time the Coyotes were down 2-0 after two periods. Detroit responded with three goals in the third period, two of them by Carter McCann, to force a Game 6.

In Game 6, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 4-1 victory, but this time the Coyotes were down 3-0 after two periods. Detroit responded with three goals in the third period, two of them by Carter McCann, to force a Game 7.

In Game 7, the Red Wings continued their strong play in Phoenix with a 5-2 victory, but this time the Coyotes were down 4-0 after two periods. Detroit responded with three goals in the third period, two of them by Carter McCann, to win the series.

By Hilary Major

The Saint Reporter

In the world of sports, one moment can change the course of history. This past week, the Saint women’s lacrosse team took on their first round series against the University of Findlay and were able to come out on top.

The series took Holy Week off and the Saints went on to defeat Findlay 22-10 in Game 7. The win was in large part due to the Red Wings’ dominance of the manufacturers during the regular season.

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