

UNIVERSITY OF  
MOUNT UNION  
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# MOUNT UNION

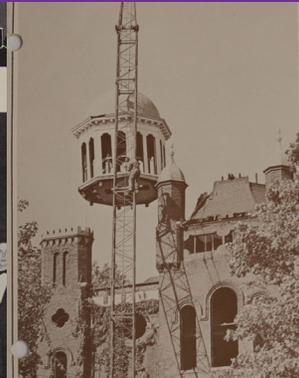
MOUNT UNION MAGAZINE | MOUNTUNION.EDU/MAGAZINE | #MOUNTUNION

FALL/WINTER  
2021

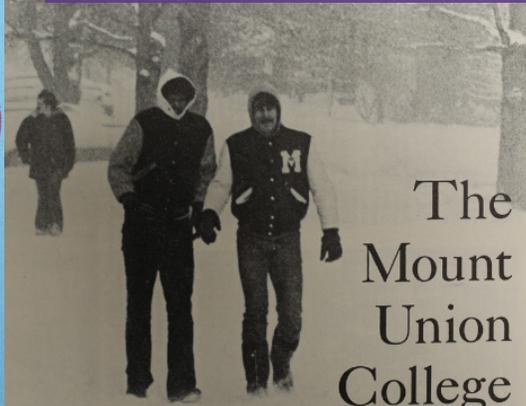
BULLETIN



MARCH, 1959



## Celebrating (and Making) HISTORY



The  
Mount  
Union  
College  
Bulletin

The Blizzard of 1978  
Hits Mount Union College



# MOUNT UNION

MAGAZINE

A Publication of Mount Union College Winter 1994

# MOUNT UNION

Magazine

A Publication for Mount Union College Alumni & Friends

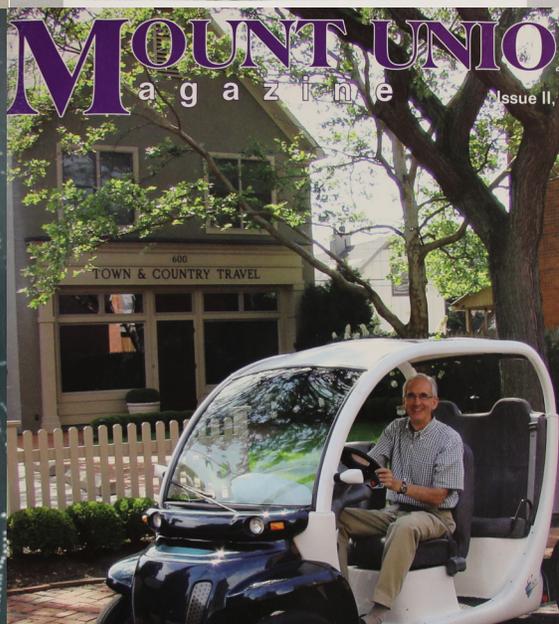
Issue II, 1997

# MOUNT UNION

Magazine Issue II



Alumna Serena Reid  
'86 Treads on





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## Get Social with #MountUnion



**#BeExceptional**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2021 Fall semester has come to a close. This year, efforts have continued as we worked together to open the campus closer to normal. The great majority of classes are in person, and students have finished papers, presentations, and preparation for final exams. The fall sports season has concluded, and winter sports are now underway. Greek Week culminated with a spirited Greek Sing competition, and student volunteers collected food for our neighbors in need. Music concerts, two theatre productions, and several art shows have provided cultural opportunities. Most importantly, students have enjoyed the company of their friends throughout all of it and remain joyous in building lasting relationships.

Through all of this, our Purple Raider community has been supportive of one another as we move through an unusual time. I wish to again thank each of you for your continued support of our students.

The Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives Campaign is closing in on its \$50 million goal that was announced in 2019. The breadth and depth of support from our alumni and friends have been more than outstanding. In a world full of uncertainty, we have gathered our resolve to support students.

A recent feature of the campaign has been the attention to providing scholarships to our students. At the suggestion of Board of Trustees Chair Matt Darrah '84 and his fellow trustees, several of our alumni have initiated endowed scholarships for their high school alma mater students who will attend Mount Union. As always, thank you to all who have supported the Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives Campaign and the University of Mount Union.

On campus, a wide array of faculty, staff, students, trustees, alumni, and community friends are collaborating on our next five-year strategic plan. The plan, once finalized and approved, will guide us toward a brighter and sustainable future.

Further, we are nearing the publication of the updated history of Mount Union. Harry Paidas '74, longtime employee, has taken the lead to bring the 1996–2021 years into print. He has been guided by the memories and thoughts of many, especially former Director of Alumni Affairs Dodie Davis and Professor Emeritus Dr. Bill Coleman. It is titled, "Make the Echoes Roll," named for a line of the Mount Union fight song, "On! Mount to Victory!"

"Make the Echoes Roll" chronicles the years of leadership of Dr. Harold



**"Through all of this, our Purple Raider community has been supportive of one another as we move through an unusual time."**

**- President Tom Botzman**

Kolenbrander, Dr. Jack Ewing, Dr. Richard Giese, and Dr. Richard Merriman and adds a detailed replay of the decades of success for the men's and women's athletic teams. It is truly an honor to follow the strong leadership of these past Mount Union presidents.





## BOTZMAN INSTALLED AS 13<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT OF MOUNT UNION

Dr. Thomas J. Botzman was installed as the 13<sup>th</sup> president of Mount Union during a ceremony held in Peterson Field House – a celebration more than a year in the making.

A presidential inauguration is usually held a few months after a new president is hired, but the COVID-19 pandemic pushed back the event. Thus, Botzman was installed as president 15 months after he took the helm in July of 2020.

During the ceremony, the administration of the Oath of Office and investiture of the Seal of Office were led by Board of Trustees Chair Matt Darrah '84 and former Mount Union

presidents Dr. Harold M. Kolenbrander, Dr. John L. Ewing, Jr., Dr. Richard F. Giese, and Dr. W. Richard Merriman, Jr.

“I thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to move through a most unusual and challenging time for this gently worn, and not all that new, university president.”

- President Tom Botzman

## M CLUB HALL OF FAME INDUCTS 21 NEW MEMBERS AS PART OF CLASSES OF 2020, 2021

The Mount Union M Club Hall of Fame inducted its classes of 2020 and 2021 on October 15-16. The new members were recognized during halftime of the October 16 football game.

Pictured right at the halftime announcement were: (front, l-r) Rick Mulinix '02, Brian Holford '01, JR Richner '94, Jason Perkins '01, Jesse Pearson '01, Don Montgomery '77; (back, l-r) Karen Tait (daughter of the late Joe Tait), Harry Paidas '74, Bruce Hixon '70, Bill Eagle '97, Gary Fisher '66, Ken Smith Jr. '82, Willie Jofferion '79, Dan Buckel '76, and Kathie Lavery.

Not pictured were John Homon, Deanne Knoblauch, Nick Sirianni '03, Jeff Wojtowicz '84, the late Dan Gorman, and the late Mike Hemminger '69.





## MOUNT UNION ONCE AGAIN IN THE SPOTLIGHT WITH NATIONAL RANKINGS

The University was once again recognized by several national organizations for its academic quality, value, and efforts in sustainability and civic engagement. Below are some of the most notable acknowledgments.

### U.S. News and World Report

- #10 among Midwest Regional Colleges
- #17 Best Value among Midwest Regional Colleges
- Top performer in Social Mobility

### Washington Monthly

- #29 in the Nation
- Best Bang for the Buck
- Best Colleges for Student Voting

### College Factual

- Best Master's Degree Schools
- Top 15% Nationally for Quality
- Computer Science #2 in Ohio for Quality
- Allied Health #5 in Ohio for Quality
- National Security and Foreign Intelligence Analysis/  
Criminal Justice #9 in Ohio for Quality

### Niche

- Top 100 Best Colleges for Sport Management in America
- Best College Campuses #9 in Ohio
- Best Colleges for Student Athletes #9 in Ohio

### Arbor Day Foundation

- Tree Campus USA

## NEW MINOR IN DATA SCIENCE AND ANALYTICS ANNOUNCED

Mount Union's Board of Trustees recently approved the addition of a minor in data science and analytics to its academic offerings.

The new program reflects the increased demand for data scientists across a variety of disciplines. According to LinkedIn's 2020 Emerging Jobs Report, "data science is a field that is seeing continued growth on a tremendous scale." The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the overall career growth in data related fields to be between 16-31% through 2028.



## COST OF STUDENT TEXTBOOKS COVERED AS PART OF NEW PROGRAM

The University of Mount Union is proud to partner with Barnes & Noble College (BNC) on the Raider Ready program. This program addresses equitable access and affordability across all courses at the institution and ensures that undergraduate students will have all their materials for the semester available on or before the first day of class.

The program provides all required textbooks, lab manuals, access codes, and digital textbook versions to students. Mount Union will be covering the cost of renting textbooks so that eligible students will receive them for free. The program will be launched for the 2022-2023 academic year, beginning in the 2022 Fall Semester.



With the end of 2021 comes the conclusion of our five-year Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives campaign. As of December 14, 2021 more than **\$49.3 million** has been raised in support of our main funding priorities: scholarship opportunities, facility enhancements, innovation in curriculum, and The Mount Union Fund.

Thank you to those of you that have generously supported the campaign. For those of you still looking to make a difference, visit [giving.mountunion.edu](http://giving.mountunion.edu) to make your gift today. You can also endow your own scholarship using the three steps at the right. Contact Logan Aguiniga, director of planned giving, at [aguinilo@mountunion.edu](mailto:aguinilo@mountunion.edu) to learn more.

## DARRAH '84 CREATES NEW PATHWAYS WITH ALMA MATER SCHOLARSHIP

Mount Union Board of Trustees Chair Matt Darrah '84 has an answer to some of the challenges facing affordability in higher education and is leading the charge to address them, calling on his peers to follow suit.

This year, Matt created the Alma Mater Scholarship to help with both recruitment of new students and the ability of those families to afford an exceptional Mount Union education. The endowed scholarship will benefit incoming first-year Mount Union students hailing from his high school alma mater of Kent Roosevelt.

Born and raised in Kent, Ohio, Darrah's grandfather, William C. Darrah '27, graduated from Mount Union and went on to become the principal of Kent Roosevelt. Matt's father, William R. Darrah, was excited to attend Mount Union, but the eldest Darrah passed away after William R.'s first semester, so he couldn't afford to stay. But that didn't keep Matt away from Mount Union, as his father brought him to Purple Raider football games throughout his life.

"Mount was always the place I wanted to go, but probably wouldn't be able to

afford," said Matt. "When I looked at my options, I decided for the heck of it to apply to Mount Union."

Though Matt never met his grandfather, he has always felt connected to him through their shared Mount Union experience.

"My life would be completely different if not for Mount Union. The well-roundedness of the education, the need to be active and participatory in your academics and extracurriculars, the intimacy on campus — these are things that simply would not have happened as deeply as they did for me at Mount Union," Matt said.

Matt began giving back to Mount Union shortly after graduating. He says giving back is easy and serving on the Board of Trustees is not so easy, but both are very fulfilling.

"I know there are kids at Mount who are in the same spot I was," he said. "Maybe they didn't think they could go to Mount. Maybe they didn't understand what it was about, and now they are being ignited by it — feeling more powerful and dreaming of their potential."



Shortly after endowing his own Alma Mater Scholarship, Matt challenged his fellow board members to create the same opportunity. Since his call to action, many of his peers have risen to the challenge, including board members and spouses John '71 and Connie (Snodde '70) Flynn, Edward Kolesar '84, Mike '87 and Diane Jarrett, Rick '85 and Polly (Chapman '85) Marabito, and President Tom and Vanessa Botzman.

As Matt sees it, "It's an opportunity to help two institutions that are near and dear to one's heart."

# Learn more about the Inspiring Minds, Transforming Lives Campaign at [mountunion.edu/inspire](http://mountunion.edu/inspire)

1

## ESTABLISH YOUR GIFT AMOUNT

The minimum gift for an endowed scholarship is \$25,000. This amount can be paid over time if this is more comfortable for you (example: \$5,000 a year over 5 years).

2

## DESCRIBE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP

Do you want to memorialize a former classmate or family member in the scholarship name? Who do you want to benefit from your scholarship? An art major? A scientist? An first-year student hailing from your high school alma mater? The options are limitless.

3

## TRANSFORM A STUDENT'S LIFE

Once the full amount is received, the fund must sit for one year to grow before it is awarded. Every year afterward, you will receive a financial report on your scholarship including your scholarship recipient(s) name(s). Because the fund is endowed, the principal investment is never touched and will live on in perpetuity.

## FINELLI '25 REALIZES HER MOUNT UNION DREAM



Gabriella Finelli '25 first visited campus with her proud Purple Raider stepfather, Matt Carpenter '95, during her freshman year of high school.

“Mount Union was the first school I ever saw, and it definitely set the standard for me,” she said.

Finelli looked at other schools, but none lived up to the Mount Union standard. It was the perfect distance

from her home in Kent, and she loved the small class sizes.

“I knew from the start that I didn’t want to go to a big school,” she said. “I wanted to have professors that I knew and to see familiar faces all around campus.”

Like many prospective students, Finelli applied for a long list of scholarships to help ease the cost of tuition. She was thrilled to learn she qualified for the Darrah Family Scholarship and was even more excited when she learned she received the aid.

“I had never heard of a scholarship like this one. It feels so special to be able to represent Kent Roosevelt at Mount Union,” she said. “I’m taking on much of the financial burden of college, but my parents are also helping. I was happy to be able to lessen that burden for myself and for them.”

Finelli recently completed her first semester as a biology major and member of Alpha Delta Pi.

“I’m so happy I decided to join sorority life,” she said. “I love my classes, but

I also love all the things I’ve learned outside of the classroom.”

Finelli has always known she wants to work in the medical field. She attended Mount Union’s Health Professions Visit Day during which she learned about the physician’s assistant (PA) studies, nursing, and physical therapy programs.

“When I heard about the PA program, I knew it was the perfect fit for me,” she said. “Originally, I wanted to attend PA school elsewhere because it seemed like a good time to explore somewhere new. But since I’ve been at Mount, I’ve been so impressed by our PA program. I hope to be a part of it.”

Without scholarship aid, Finelli’s Mount Union experience would not be possible.

“I’m so appreciative to the Darrah family for their generosity and support,” she said. “There are many resources to take advantage of at Mount Union. I feel so grateful to be at a place where there are so many opportunities to grow and learn.”

FIRST LOOK

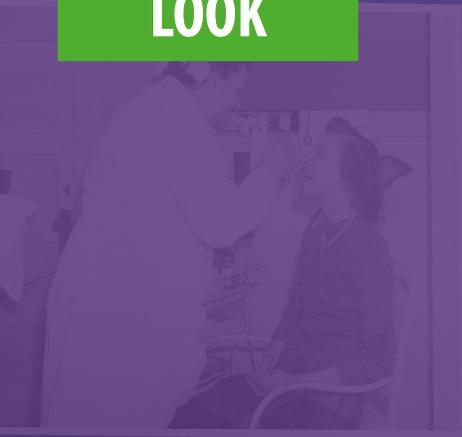
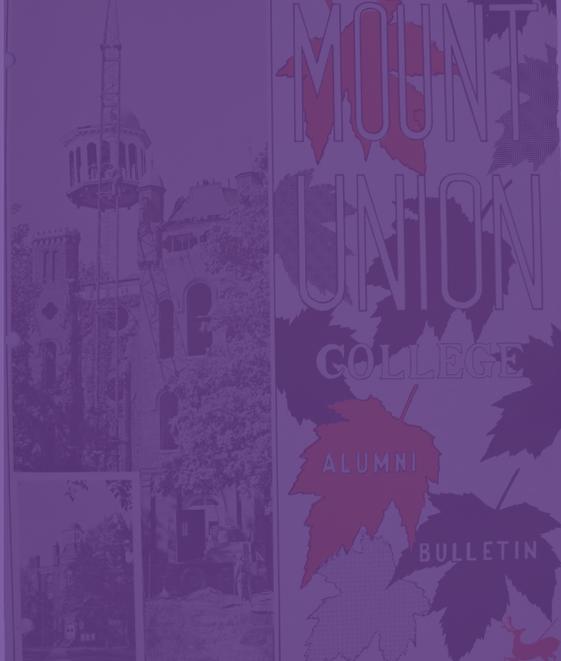
COLLEGE BULLETIN

THE MOUNT UNION COLLEGE BULLETIN

MARCH, 1959

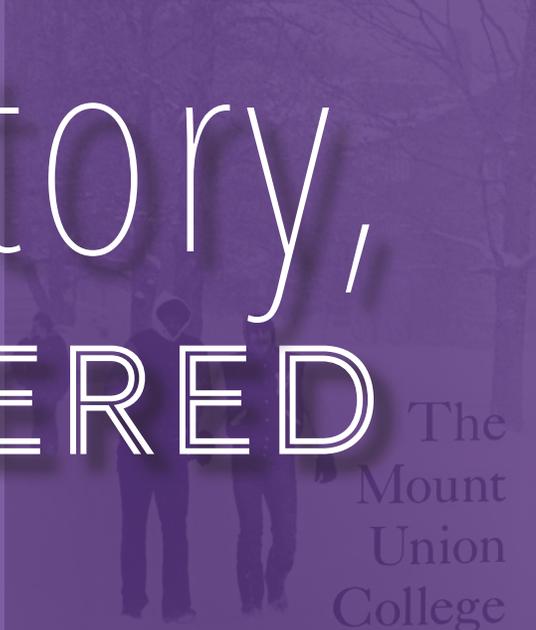


The Mount Union College Choir Opens The 1959 Season

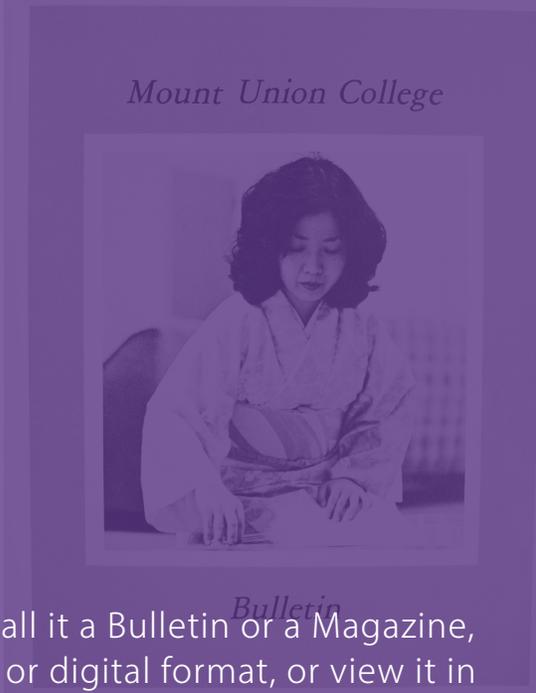


ALUMNI ISSUE

# History, COVERED

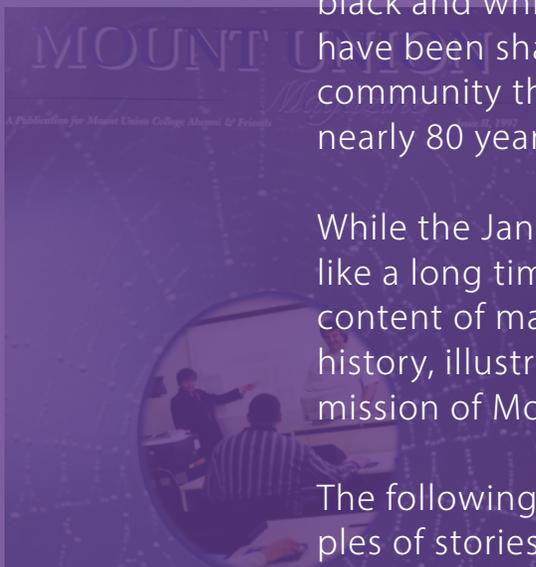


The Blizzard of 1978 Hits Mount Union College

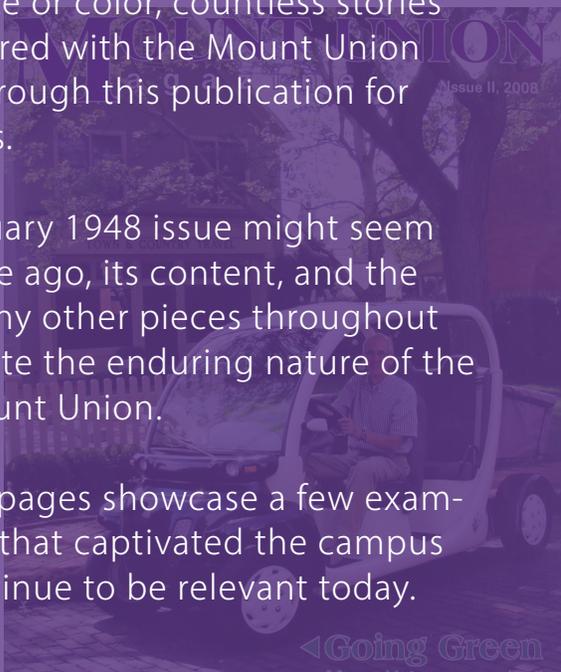


Mount Union College Bulletin

Whether you call it a Bulletin or a Magazine, read it in print or digital format, or view it in black and white or color, countless stories have been shared with the Mount Union community through this publication for nearly 80 years.



Alumna Serena Reid '86 Treads on Dangerous Grounds A Record Season for



Going Green Mount Union vows to lead





THE MOUNT UNION COLLEGE BULLETIN  
MARCH, 1959



The Mount Union College Choir  
Opens The 1959 Season

### March 1959

Music has a rich history at Mount Union, and the March 1959 issue introduced readers to the department that began in 1868. Led by Cecil "Pop" Stewart for more than 25 years, the cover-featured Concert Choir has been a staple on campus for much of Mount Union's history.

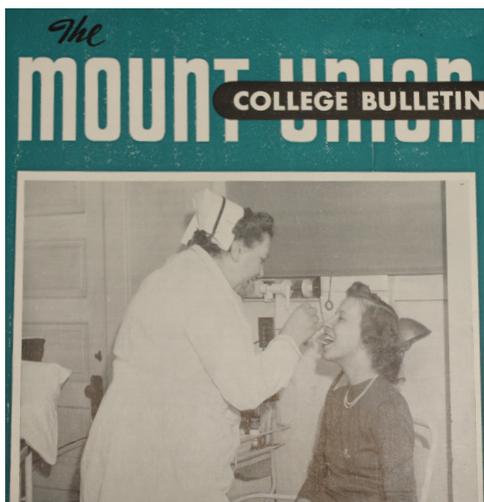
Stewart is also responsible for the idea of the choir tour, which began in 1966 as a 48-day international tour that found Purple Raider vocalists traveling through Asia, Europe, Alaska, and various locations in between. Thanks to the generosity of the Rachel Boyce Lang Foundation, the Rachel Boyce Lang International Choir Tour was founded in 2006, and the next trip will take place in May 2023 to France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, pending travel protocols.

The instrumental ensembles also continue to thrive on campus. While only offering few performing opportunities in 1959, instrumentalists have more than 20 different groups with which they can perform based on their instrument of choice. From small group ensembles to orchestras, students have several ways they can express their musicality.

### January 1948

Former President Dr. Charles B. Ketcham discussed the importance of having health services available to students and how these services were new, but few had known much about them. Today, the Health Center is located inside Alliance Community Hospital's professional office building and offers an array of services that provide student medical care. What's more, the University also has robust counseling services that offers sessions, consultations, and workshops to assist in improving the mental health of the campus community.

Though not existing yet in 1948, the allied health programs at Mount Union offer ways for students to get hands-on experience in the community. In the spring, students from the physician assistant studies and nursing programs assisted in COVID-19 surveillance testing on campus, and administered vaccinations to elderly populations in the Alliance area.



"Being a part of the athletic COVID testing was an eye-opening experience. Having the opportunity to learn about what goes into the testing process and being able to be a part of it was truly rewarding."

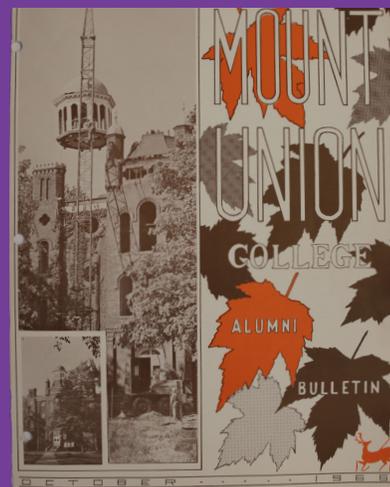
- **Iyat Alkhalaf M'22**  
PA Student

### October 1966

Mount Union's Physical Plant is often exploring ways to provide students with cutting-edge facilities while maintaining the incredible campus — one of those ways being the Chapman Hall renovations of 1966. In the more than five decades since the "bell was quieted," campus has continued to balance necessary modernization with symbols of Mount Union's historical presence.

One of the most recent additions that is on schedule to be completed in January 2022 is Oak Hall, which will support programs in business and engineering. This more than 6,000 square-foot addition will feature a brand-new business classroom suite, a state-of-the-art engineering design studio-fabrication lab, and a space for collaboration.

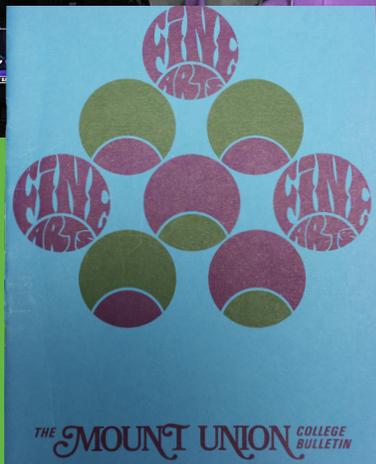
Launching around the same time, The Melvin J. Snode Golf Center will feature virtual driving ranges and other leading technology for members of the golf teams and campus community to improve their games.





### January 1973

While the music program had its own time to shine 14 years prior, the entire fine arts offering at Mount Union was painted in broad strokes in January 1973 as an independent art studies program was established on campus.



Today the art program has grown to feature concentrations in studio art, graphic design, and art education. In addition, the Department of Visual Arts and Media's integrated media major, along with its co-curricular offering, Raider Student Media allows students hands-on opportunities to create multimedia pieces for publication in the campus newspaper, radio station, and online video channel.

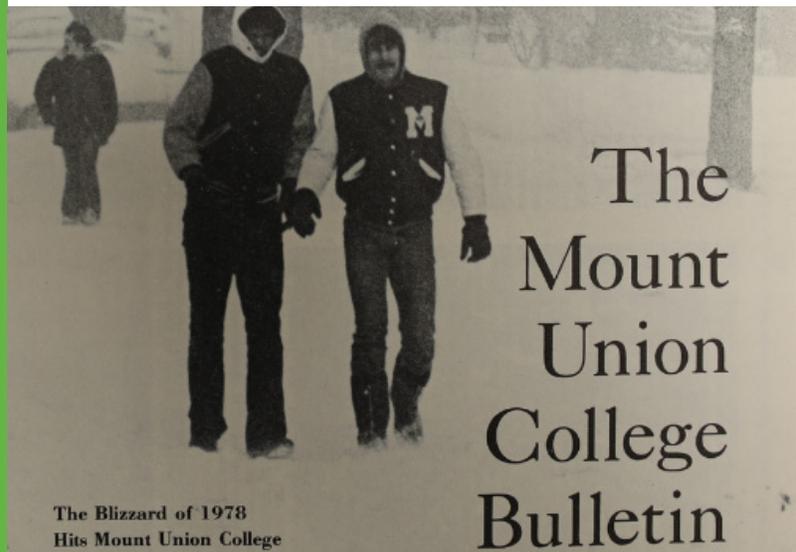
"The new Department of Visual Arts and Media allows us to build on our foundational courses to create interesting partnerships between the art and media majors," said Dr. Adelina Cooper, chair of the Department of Visual Arts and Media. "We're always thinking about ways we can use graphic design, motion graphics, and media production to augment the type of content our students produce."

### February 1978

It was noted as "the worst blizzard in the 131-year history of Mount Union" by the Bulletin staff. It caused \$100 million worth of damage across Ohio. The first floor of the Alpha Tau Omega house even caught fire after attempting to use the fireplace after being without heat or electricity for 31 hours. All told, "The Storm of the Century" in 1978 contributed to the snowiest January on record, with 37.5 inches of snow recorded at the Akron-Canton Airport for just that month alone.

"I remember it very well; we continued to trek through! The only ones I remember not having class were the student teachers who had three weeks off – they were loving life! Back then, the goal was to just stay warm and help each other, and I do not remember much complaining."

- Missy (Schumacher '79) Ruggles



Mount Union College



Bulletin

### March 1982

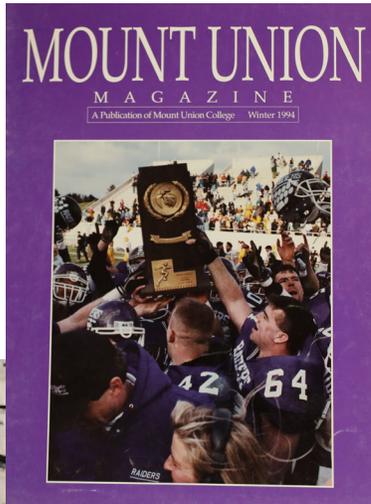
Nearly 40 years ago, Mount Union observed "Japan Today," a week-long event held in conjunction with International Festival Week. The campus community was treated to various activities, art presentations, and lectures, including a visit from Dr. Ezra Vogel, the director of the Harvard East Asian Studies Center.

Today, Mount Union's commitment to international studies continues to grow. The University offers majors in French, German, Japanese, and Spanish, and 60 international students call Mount Union their home this year. Students can also travel abroad as part of their curriculum, and the Center for Global Education provides students the opportunity to study in 30 countries across six different continents.

## Winter 1994

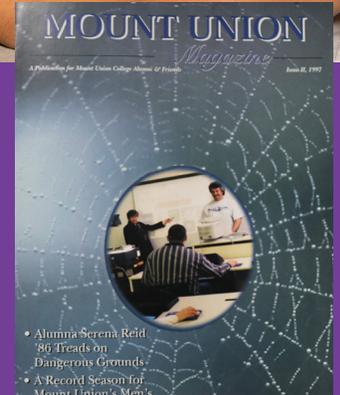
The timing could not have been more perfect for a dynasty to begin. On the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the institution's first collegiate football game, Mount Union's perfect 1993 season was capped off with its first national championship in football. Winning the national title an incredible 12 more times following that victory, ESPN named Mount Union the 16<sup>th</sup> best college football program of all time in 2019.

While the football team has gained significant notoriety for its success, Mount Union's entire athletic program has grown and thrived as time has passed – including national champions in men's track and field and men's cross country, as well as individual national champions in wrestling. Featuring 72 regular season Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) championships and 175 OAC Tournament championships across 20 different teams, the foundation for future Purple Raiders is strong.

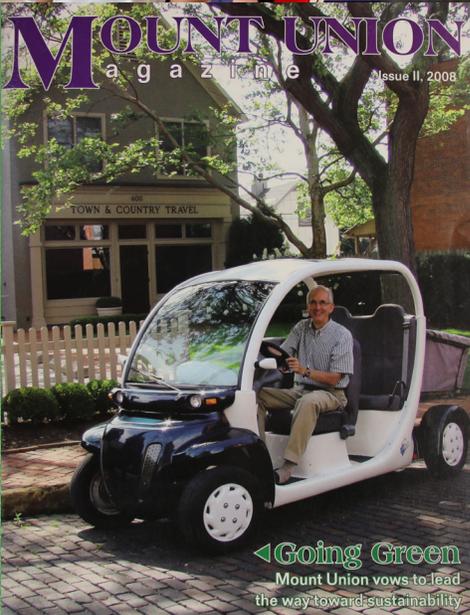


## Issue II, 1997

At an inflection point in the growth of technology, Mount Union became early adopters of "the Web" thanks in large part to Dr. Jim Klayder, professor emeritus of computer science. The cover story from Issue II of 1997 states, "Mount Union went officially 'on-line' in October of 1994 under the address [www.muc.edu](http://www.muc.edu)." It is safe to say we have come a long way in 27 short years.



Prior to the pandemic, though most certainly amplified by it, Mount Union had continued its efforts to be at the forefront of using technology in teaching. Through hybrid learning models, fully-online degrees, and an interactive online virtual tour available to anyone in the world, Mount Union has ensured these efforts grow and develop with the advanced utilization of technology.



## Issue II, 2008

In this 2008 magazine feature, Mount Union renewed its commitment to sustainability, highlighting the many ways in which the Mount Union community leads by example in sustainability efforts. From paperless system upgrades and recycling efforts, to efficient energy initiatives and the establishment of a sustainability task force, these initiatives laid the groundwork for a renewed pledge toward sustainability, which continues to this day.

More recent activities/projects include tripling involvement in the student Sustainability Assistant (Green Raider) program, establishing a Green Revolving Fund, developing a Campus Sustainability Tour, installing electric car charging stations on campus (in collaboration with the City of Alliance), and launching a minor in sustainability. These initiatives and countless others highlight Mount Union's continuing work to create a financially sound institution that is both socially and environmentally responsible.

◀ Going Green  
Mount Union vows to lead  
the way towards sustainability

## Gabby Cataloni '22

*Hermitage, Pennsylvania  
B.S., Computer Engineering  
University of Mount Union*



**Gabby Cataloni '22** wasn't quite sure what she was looking for in her college experience, but she knew she wanted a place where she could explore her interests and talents. After applying to more than 20 institutions, Cataloni ultimately chose Mount Union because of its diverse selection of programs and offerings.

"There were so many majors, opportunities, and paths to choose from that I knew I would be able to find what I wanted to do here," she said.

When she arrived on campus in the fall of 2018, she planned to experiment with different courses before deciding on a major. However, she didn't feel that spark of excitement for her educational path until her mom recommended an engineering course.

"In our first course, we went through all the different engineering paths, but I really felt my passion ignite when we got to computer engineering" she said. "Ever since then, I've decided this is what I'm going to do."

Cataloni has since completed a summer internship at Tennessee Technological

University and authored multiple undergraduate research publications. Outside of being a top computer engineering student, she serves as a Preview guide and Raider guide in Mount Union's Office of First Year Initiatives. In these roles, Cataloni works as an orientation leader and peer mentor for first-year students as they are welcomed to Mount Union.

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**"Like everyone says, Mount Union is an 'and' school – you can be this and that, which is exactly what I've done with my four years here."**

**- Gabby Cataloni**

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"I think it's super awesome to be able to help other students and guide them through their college career, because, when I was in their position and someone was there to help me, it meant the world," she said.

Cataloni is also Student Senate President and a member of Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity on campus. She enjoys

giving back to her community in these roles and being a part of Mount Union's positive change. She appreciates that Mount Union allows her to be a multi-faceted leader and knows it will set her apart.

"There's always something new that Mount Union has to offer," she said. "I think that's an extremely important part of a college experience because you get to have all these different ways to get involved. Like everyone says, Mount Union is an 'and' school – you can be this and that, which is exactly what I've done with my four years here."

Cataloni is especially appreciative of the donor support that has allowed her to discover her passion while sustaining her educational experience.

"I am a scholarship recipient, and being able to take some of that financial burden off the shoulders of myself and my family is so important," she said. "I could almost cry just knowing someone has been able to help me fund my education and believes in me and my career goals. If it weren't for donor generosity, I don't know if I would've been able to continue going to college."

## OPPORTUNITY.

That's what a Mount Union education means to **Armon Cook '22**. Originally from Akron, Ohio, Armon is a proud graduate of Firestone High School. His Mount Union story began with his love for the arts and choir. As he prepares for graduation, the endless opportunities provided through his Mount Union education have equipped him with the confidence to write his next chapter.

Growing up, Armon always had a passion for political science and the arts, but never knew where it would lead him in life.

"It was not until Dr. Grant Cook came to my high school that I understood, at Mount Union, I could pursue both while on a music scholarship," he stated. "I remember telling my family that day, 'I'm going to Mount Union' and they were like, 'Let's make it happen!'"

After months of preparation and performing at the music scholarship auditions, he received the music scholarship.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity Dr. Cook provided me to audition for the scholarship, and as a result, Mount Union became my home," he said.

Not only is Armon a political science major and member of the Concert Choir, but he also serves as a Preview guide, assistant resident life manager, and the vice president of the Black Student Union. In recognition of his transformational work, he also had the opportunity to serve as a student voice for the Anti-Racism Task Force during the 2020-2021 Academic Year, and was awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award this past spring.

"I'm involved in a lot," he expressed. "I love the opportunity to create an inclusive campus culture and build a community despite differences."

Alongside the memories created during his involvement on campus, Armon shared that his favorite Mount Union experience was taking part in the Rachel Boyce Lang Choir Tour in Scotland during the summer of 2019.

"To represent Mount Union while singing in castles that have been around for 1,000+ years was a life-changing experience," he said.

Donor support holds a special place in Armon's heart, as it has played a big role in his Mount Union story.

"Donor generosity put me in a position where my education became financially realistic," he stated. "I am thankful for the inspiring support and scholarships I've received while at Mount Union as it has allowed me the opportunity to fully focus on my academics and enjoy my college experience. The time I've spent



**Armon Cook '22**

*Akron, Ohio*

*B.A., Political Science*

*University of Mount Union*

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**"I love the opportunity to create an inclusive campus culture and build a community despite differences."**

**- Armon Cook**

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here is an investment in my future because of the opportunities I've received from the Mount Union community."

Upon graduation, Armon will be interning with the Washington Center in Washington, DC with a focus on policy in law. He knows that, with his Mount Union experiences, he will be prepared for the next chapter.

"Mount Union has transitioned me from a high school kid to an adult ready to take on the world – it's my time."

## Bob Floor '22

Alliance, Ohio

B.A., Sport Business

University of Mount Union



# Finishing STRONG

# When Bob Floor '22 stepped to the starting line of his first collegiate cross country race, he kept telling himself, **“Just don’t be last.”**

That might not seem like the most motivating of mantras, but at 51-years-old, going toe-to-toe with those athletes is simply part of Floor’s incredible story.

Born and raised in Alliance, Floor graduated from Alliance High School in 1988 without playing any organized sports. In 2010, around the time of his 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, he found himself needing surgery after discovering that his left kidney “blew up five times the size” of his right kidney. After some time to recover, Floor searched for something to stay active.

It was then, at age 41, that he found his passion for running. In the years that followed, Floor entered nine marathons and was running a local 5K or 10K road race every weekend. He even won some of those races, including the Run-A-MUC in 2015.

In January 2019, while still racing and entering his third decade working for the local Giant Eagle, Floor’s wife, Shelley, was hired by Mount Union in the Office of the University Registrar. Through the University’s employee benefits program, spouses can earn degrees from Mount Union at no cost to them. To Floor, who earned an associate degree in business management from the University of Akron in 1993, this was an opportunity.

“If I ever want to advance my career or relocate for a new position, a bachelor’s degree is often required now,” Floor said. “Plus, when I learned that Division III athletics had no age requirement, a light went off in my brain, recognizing a new challenge.”

With Mount Union’s accessible transfer pathways, Floor transferred his Akron credits over, enrolled in the spring of 2020, and joined the cross country team. With many athletic seasons canceled last year,

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**“I was absolutely nervous about new technology...but the faculty, and some of my classmates with whom I worked on group projects, were fantastic in helping me get up to speed.”**

**- Bob Floor**



Floor earned his first chance to compete with the team this October, but that is not what is most important to him.

“I know that I can’t run as fast as 20-year-old collegiate runners on the team,” Floor said. “I’m older than some of their parents, after all. But my goal is to run with them and do the workouts, knowing it can make me a faster runner.”

While athletics played a role in Floor’s return to education, his degree is still the primary focus. Yet, for most adult learners in the new educational environment, his journey has not been without a few hiccups.

“I was absolutely nervous about new technology,” Floor said. “Being nearly 30 years removed from a classroom, things like Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Zoom were new to me. But the faculty, and some of my classmates with whom I worked on group projects, were fantastic in helping me get up to speed.”

Floor has been like any other student engaging in digital learning, direct study, and traditional classroom learning over the past few years to earn his degree. Yet, his unique experiences have brought new ideas to the table.

“Professors seem to like having me in class because of the different perspectives I have to offer,” Floor said.

Though balancing a full-time job at Giant Eagle, maintaining an athletic schedule, and carrying a 4.0 grade-point average is no easy feat, Floor is on track to graduate in May with a degree in sport business, while qualifying for the majority of the cross country team’s races.

So, what happened in Floor’s first race as a college athlete? Well, he did not win, but he managed to have significant distance between himself and the last finisher. While achieving this personal goal, he also experienced something unexpected.

“It was awesome to hear the team cheering ‘Let’s go, Bob!’ at the finish line. These guys bring out something in me, pushing me to compete and keep going, and that’s a great feeling.”

# GRIDIRON LEADERS

For **James Daniels '11** and **Daryl Ely '09**, football is about more than X's and O's. Their passion for the pigskin is what brought each of them to Alliance from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Winter Springs, Florida, respectively. Now, more than a decade removed from their playing days, these college football coaches recently earned the prestigious opportunity to participate in the Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship.

For more than 30 years, the fellowship – named for the late Bill Walsh, a Pro Football Hall of Fame coach – gives coaches from all levels the chance to participate in NFL training camps and workout programs. Designed as a tool to increase the number of minority coaches in the NFL, all 32 teams participate in the program every year.

## Working with the Best

Daniels, a sport business graduate who earned a Master of Education in curriculum and instruction from Loyola University in Maryland, was a member of the football team during his time at Mount Union. He is currently in his third season as defensive backs coach at East Stroudsburg University (ESU) in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, and when he found out about the fellowship, he did not want to let the opportunity pass him by.

“Other than the application process, I sent handwritten letters to all 32 NFL head coaches,” Daniels said. “Plus, [Denver Broncos Head Coach] Vic Fangio is an ESU grad, and one of his quality control coaches had family coaching at ESU. When they saw that letterhead, they started digging into my résumé, and I got the opportunity.”



“I want to be sure I’m helping the people who need it, because many of those guys who are 18-23 years old don’t have the types of mentors or resources that I was provided.”

- James Daniels

Daniels’ first year in the fellowship was in 2020, and although he was able to make it out to Denver, the experience was slightly hindered due to the pandemic. One year later, Daniels returned to the mile-high city and soaked in as much of training camp as he could.

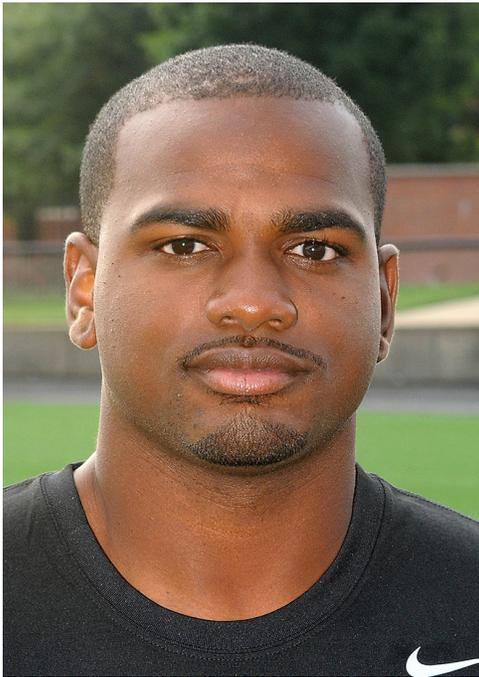
“I got the opportunity to work in-person with these great athletes and coaches and pick their brains on certain things while also correcting mistakes when I saw them – they actually let me coach out there,” Daniels said. “It was a unique experience to get to do that at the NFL level and learn from the best of the best.”

Daniels credits much of his professional journey to his experiences at Mount Union. From learning what makes a program successful, to leading and creating a structure for players both on and off the field, Daniels attributes some of his own regiments to Larry Kehres '74 and his coaching staffs.

While grateful for the NFL experience, Daniels sees himself staying at the collegiate level with the goal of being a defensive coordinator at a Division I program. It’s not as though he is limiting his dreams, but rather thinking of ways to continue to make a meaningful impact.

“The NFL was never really in my plans,” Daniels said. “I want to be sure I’m help-

# James Daniels '11 and Daryl Ely '09 selected for prestigious Bill Walsh NFL Diversity Coaching Fellowship



“I was engaged in the camp for two weeks and I feel like I learned more in that time than I could in two years’ time. It really was like getting a master’s degree in coaching ...”

- Daryl Ely

on the experience of participating in the Bill Walsh Diversity Coaching Fellowship

ing the people who need it, because many of those guys who are 18-23 years-old don’t have the types of mentors or resources that I was provided. I want to be someone who can help people grow and hopefully be part of a better community.”

## The Purple Raider Connection

There was a time when Ely had never heard of Mount Union; that time is long gone. Now in his 16<sup>th</sup> season at Mount Union, four as a player and 12 as a defensive coach, Ely was able to utilize

the Mount Union network to earn his fellowship opportunity with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Much like how Daniels was brought on by the Broncos, Ely made his way to the city of brotherly love this past summer to work with new Eagles Head Coach, and Mount Union alumnus, Nick Sirianni '03. Like Sirianni’s experience prior to the NFL, Ely feels that working with and learning from both Larry and Vince '98 Kehres prepared him for the fellowship and the future.

“I think the Mount Union connection was huge and played a part in my ability to get the fellowship,” Ely said. “We were working on opposite sides of the football at camp, but Sirianni was my position coach my first year as a player, so it was great to catch up and talk Mount Union.”

Given the ability to collaborate with the coaches and players, Ely was sure to take in as much as he could to bring back to his Purple Raider athletes.

“I was engaged in the camp for two weeks and I feel like I learned more

in that time than I could in two years’ time,” Ely said. “It really was like getting a master’s degree in coaching from great individuals who were very open and answered all my questions.”

Like Daniels, Ely intends to lead lockdown college defenses for the rest of his career. Though he went into his fellowship experience with preconceived notions about coaching in the NFL, Ely came out of it with a changed mind and a different perspective that he hopes will lead to his continued growth as a coach and a leader.

Ely has fond memories of his time as an undergraduate at Mount Union, including being part of the 2006 and 2008 National Championship teams. Though the banners fly forever, what left the biggest impression on Ely during his time were the relationships he built and the home he created.

“Two of my best friends went to Mount, and the memories we have are great,” Ely said. “The relationships built here really do last a lifetime.” ■



# CLASS NOTES

Class Notes to be included in the Spring/Summer 2022 Issue of *Mount Union Magazine* must be received before April 30, 2022.

Material for Class Notes is obtained online or through news passed along from alumni to the offices of Alumni Engagement, Advancement, and The Mount Union Fund. Notices sent by the Post Office are not printed in Class Notes. You may also submit your class note via email at [alumni@mountunion.edu](mailto:alumni@mountunion.edu) or the form found at [mountunion.edu/alumni](http://mountunion.edu/alumni).

## 1950s

**Richard Horton '51** celebrated 70 years of marriage to his wife, Marilyn, on June 29, 2021.

## 1970s

**Charles Hogye '76** recently semi-retired after working at an IT support company.

**Dr. Martha (Wyatt '76) Springstead** recently retired after teaching vocal music in the public schools of Ohio and Virginia for 40 years. She is now teaching voice, piano, and choir at Tidewater Community College, Old Dominion University, and Virginia Wesleyan University.

## 1980s

**Cathey (Stricker '80) Graves** was elected to the School Board for the Manhattan Beach Unified School District.



## 1990s

**Amy McDevitt '96** and **Brian Chivers '95** were married on July 25, 2020.

**Diana (Miller '90) Hennel** was recently honored by the Dallas Business Journal as

one of Dallas' Top Women in Technology. She is currently serving as senior vice president, chief technology officer for Catalyst Corporate Federal Credit Union in Plano, TX.

**Anna (Panteleyeva '95) Hedden** was selected as a brand ambassador for Yonex USA. She was previously recognized by Patrick McEnroe, former head of United States Tennis Association (USTA) player development and ESPN/CBS commentator as "one of the top developmental coaches of the highest-level juniors in the country" and "an integral part of Team USA." She is a United States Professional Tennis Association Coach of the Year and a two-time Champion Coach of the USTA National tennis team championships.



**Danielle (Penturf '94) Lamphier** was recently promoted to enterprise vice president employer solutions at Atrium Health, overseeing direct-to-employer health and wellness solutions for the health system across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. She lives in Winston-Salem, NC with her husband, Michael. They are the parents of Nick, 21, Connor, 17, and Griffin, 15.

**Amanda (Shepherd '96) Shaffer** was named principal at an elementary school in the Clark-Shawnee Local School District in Springfield, Ohio.

**Jennifer (Langham '94) Troy** of Lake In The Hills, Illinois, was named principal of Gilberts Elementary School in Community Unit School District 300.

## 2000s

**Andrea (Bruno '09)** and **Brian Warning** announce the birth of a daughter, Savannah Starlyn, on December 18, 2020.



**Mackenzie Shay '08** and **Sean Trevino '07** were married on June 18, 2021, in Cleveland, Ohio.



## 2010s

**Jennifer Book '15** and **Dillin Bradley '15** were married on August 7, 2021. Members of the wedding party included **Julie Book '15** and **Hailey Kufner '17**, the bride's Delta Sigma Tau sisters; and **Cory Ross '15**, **Jeff Parker '13**, **Colin Butcher '13**, **Zach Kisner '16**, and **Brian Lipovits '16**, the groom's Sigma Nu brothers.



**Samantha (Furr '16)** and **Ty Campbell** announce the birth of a son, Cole, on September 13, 2021.

**Kristen (Hord '15)** and **Patrick Costanzo** announce the birth of a daughter, Landry Francis, on August 18, 2021.



**Jessica (Sopkovich '16)** and **Andrew '17 Decker** announce the birth of a daughter, Josie Lynn, on August 11, 2021.



**Samantha (Huffman '18)** and **Andrew '18 Fisher** announce the birth of a daughter, Ellorie Piper, on July 27, 2021.



**Olivia (Holt '14)** and **Rosa '13 La-Mattina** announce the birth of a son, **Santino August**, on July 13, 2021.



**Lindsey (Gibson '15)** and **Joe '14 Parker** announce the birth of a son, **Myles**, on May 11, 2021.



**Jillian (Panczyk '10)** and **Chris Polley** announce the birth of their daughter, **Caitlin Elizabeth**, on June 9, 2021.



**Alexis Swartz '16, M'20** and **Collin Peters '16** were married on July 24, 2021, in Canton, Ohio. Members of the bridal party included the grandfather of the bride, **Larry**



**Swartz '62, Evan Chrisman '13, Toren Moore '16, Nick Ameo '16, Dan Coffey '15, Megan (Werner '16) Valentine, and Jordan Warrick '16.** The couple currently resides in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

**Kristin (Reeder '11, M'17)** and **John Ryan** announce the birth of a son, **Trevor James**, on April 30, 2021. Trevor's grandparents are **Jill (Sawyer '85)** and **Larry '83 Reeder**.



**Alexandra Baklarz '16** and **Jaret Spayd '16** were married on June 27, 2021.

**Lisa (Brasdovich '14)** and **Chase '15 Swisher** announce the birth of a son, **Micah**, on May 15, 2021.



**Ashley (Pruitt '14)** and **Adam Ward** announce the birth of a daughter, **Andie Iverne**, on February 8, 2021.



**Josh '14** and **Stephanie Winn**, announce the birth of a daughter, **Rylee Jean**, on August 23, 2020. She joins siblings **Preston, 4**, and **Weston, 1**.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MESSAGE



As I sit down to write this message, I find myself gazing out my front window. I can clearly see that summer has passed to fall and know that fall

will inevitably pass to winter. The leaves are changing colors, the temperatures are falling (with frost on the ground), and soon our amount of daylight each day will get shorter. While these changes remind us that another year will soon end, it also offers us an opportunity to reflect on the year past.

As Mount Union celebrates its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we have much to be thankful for and reflect on. Since the inception of Mount Union, its mission has been to prepare students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work, and responsible citizenship. This can only be achieved through the leadership, guidance, mentoring, and support from administrators, faculty, and staff, and a vibrant community of students, alumni, parents, and friends.

In October, we had the opportunity to celebrate everything that is Mount Union! Alumni Weekend and Homecoming was filled with numerous events, including the Alumni Brunch, sporting events, reunions, and Run-A-MUC, as well as the installation of Dr. Botzman as Mount Union's 13<sup>th</sup> president. It was nice to see so many of you back on campus!

As always, on behalf of the Alumni Association and Mount Union, I thank you for your continued commitment, loyalty, and support!

With Purple Raider Pride,

- **Chad Johnson '07**  
**Alumni Association President**

## SCHOOLER LECTURE 2022

Featuring political strategists **Donna Brazile** and **Ana Navarro**

Thursday, April 21  
7 p.m.,  
Timken Gymnasium



# ALUMNI WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENT



## 2021 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Office of Alumni Engagement is proud to announce the 2021 Alumni Award recipients who were recognized at the annual Alumni Brunch: (l-r) Vince Van '14, Young Alumni Award; Dr. Jim Thoma, McKinley Fellow Award; Morgan Shivers '14, Young Alumni Award; and Phil Kiko '73, Dodie Davis Alumni Service Award.

## REUNIONS



BLACK STUDENT UNION



BUSINESS



ENGLISH



EDUCATION



ENGINEERING



NURSING



RAIDER STUDENT MEDIA



SOCIAL SCIENCES



WRESTLING

# D HOMECOMING 2021



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR! OCTOBER 7-9, 2022



# MEET THE MOUNT UNION FUND TEAM!

## New Year. Same Purpose.

**Caitie Shimp '17**, M.Ed. is a Northeast Ohio native who earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from Mount Union and a Master of Education degree in higher education and student personnel from Kent State University. Caitie joined the advancement team at Mount Union in 2018 as the assistant director of the Mount Union Fund. In September 2021, she assumed a new role and currently serves as the director of the Mount Union Fund. She enjoys connecting with alumni and friends and is passionate about making a Mount Union education accessible for all students.

**Logan Cooper '20** is from Cleveland, Ohio and studied sociology and education at Mount Union. Currently, he is completing a Master of Science degree in higher education administration at Duquesne University. Logan joined the Mount Union Fund team immediately upon graduation as the Wayne Manzilla Diversity Intern. In September of 2021, he assumed his current role of assistant director of the Mount Union Fund. Logan is extremely excited to oversee the Raider Relations Call Center and connect with proud Purple Raiders across the globe.



## Ring, Ring...Our students are reaching out to you!

If you have received a phone call from one of our student callers, then you have experienced our Raider Relations Call Center hard at work. These students are tasked with representing the University and growing support for The Mount Union Fund. Our callers would love the opportunity to hear about your own Mount Union experience, share campus news, and invite you to give back to your University.

### It's an Annual Effort: Here's What to Expect When Our Students Call

If you haven't heard from a student yet, be prepared for a call in the new year. They are not only calling to ask for support but also to share updates and to thank our generous donors for the great opportunities and experiences they are enjoying at Mount Union.



**100%** MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS!

# RAIDER *collective*

From freshman roommates and fraternity brothers to young alumni, **Cody Rohaley '18 and Brandon Lucas '18** are dedicated to making a collective difference at Mount Union by giving monthly to their alma mater.

The Mount Union experiences for both Rohaley and Lucas began because of donor support, but their journeys to campus were a bit different. Rohaley fell in love with Mount Union when his fifth-grade class took a field trip to campus.

“I remember playing with my classmates in the quad thinking, ‘this is the best place ever,’” Rohaley said.

Years later, when he was admitted, Rohaley needed additional funds to make his Mount Union dream a reality.

“I received a call from my admission representative sharing that I qualified for an additional grant and thought, ‘Wow, this really is the best place ever!’” he said.

Lucas was set on attending another institution until his mom encouraged him to look at Mount Union. He fell in love the moment he stepped foot on campus, but it all came down to affordability.

“Little did I know that it was more affordable for me to attend Mount Union,” Lucas shared. “It was great to see a multitude of scholarships available that reflected the work I put into my academics.”

Rohaley and Lucas connected early on in their Mount Union journey and became not only freshman roommates, but brothers of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity. Rohaley was a preview and orientation guide, a member of the American Marketing Association, and a student tour guide.

Lucas was a part of the Raider Student Media, Dynamo, Public Relations Student Society of America, and Inter-



fraternity Council, and served as a senior class officer. Both shared that being involved in a variety of organizations helped them develop time-management skills, find their own purpose and drive, and foster love for the communities they serve.

Since graduating in 2018, Rohaley moved to Washington, DC and began working with Bully Pulpit Interactive, while Lucas moved to Lakewood, Ohio where he works for Hyland as a sales support representative. Although their paths split after graduation, they stayed in touch and now live together once again as they both work remotely.

“Every three years Cody and I must live with each other – from freshman year in 2014, to senior year in 2017, and now in 2021.” Lucas shared with a laugh. “It’s in our contract somewhere, but it is always a good time.”

Giving back monthly allows Rohaley and Lucas the opportunity to keep the Raider tradition alive – the same one that made Mount Union possible for them.

“It’s easier for me to give monthly,” Rohaley said. “Month after month and year after year, it adds up and is a reliable source of funds for Mount Union.”

“I know how far a dollar can go,” Lucas said. “To be able to give back and see students succeed while leaving their own footprint to improve the University in their own unique way is pretty cool. You don’t want to forget that Raider tradition because if you do, then there will be no Mount Union.”

For Rohaley and Lucas, giving back is what it means to be a proud Purple Raider. Collectively, their support makes a significant impact on the lives of current and future Mount Union students, and the tradition lives on.

# Deaths

## 1950s

**Barbara (Atkin '51) Ablondi** of Warren, Ohio passed away on October 2, 2021.

**Lorna Andre '53** of Hillsborough, New Jersey passed away on August 21, 2021.

**Genevieve (Clark '54) Caton** of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania passed away on June 8, 2021.

**Patrick Clelland '58** of Longs, South Carolina passed away on July 11, 2021.

**Gail (Pearson '57) Connor**, spouse of the late **Jack Connor '56**, passed away on September 10, 2021. She is the mother of **Kevin Connor '87** and **Jill (Connor '89) Kalata**.

**Bruce Ensminger '53** of Akron, Ohio passed away on June 13, 2021.

**Emily (Lutz '58) Hennen** of Stow, Ohio passed away on July 10, 2021.

**Carolyn (Krabill '53) Huntsberger** of Chardon, Ohio passed away on September 16, 2021.

**Lewis Johnson '53** of Himrod, New York passed away on May 2, 2021.

**Jack Miller '50** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on August 14, 2021.

**Robert Rodgers '59** of Williamsburg, Virginia passed away on August 5, 2021.

**Ronald Russell '55** of Minerva, Ohio passed away on October 22, 2021.

**Phyllis (Morr '51) Talbott** of Sebring, Ohio passed away on September 8, 2021.

**Janet (Whalen '57) Weil** of Asheville, North Carolina passed away on October 18, 2021.

**Edwin Weimer '52** of Hendersonville, North Carolina passed away on October 16, 2021.

**Mary Lou (Hukill '56) Wells** of Uniontown, Ohio passed away on June 19, 2021.

**John Wreford '53** of Menomonie, Wisconsin passed away on August 24, 2021.

## 1960s

**Lawrence Ahlman '64** of Wake Forest, North Carolina passed away on June 16, 2021.

**Robert Blackwood II '61** of Merced, California passed away on August 7, 2021.

**Chester "Chet" Bojanowski '68** of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina passed away on September 26, 2021.

**Lois (Ritenbaugh '64) Bush** of Birmingham, Alabama passed away on August 25, 2021.

**David Denny '67** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on October 19, 2021.

**John Gotshall '63** of Marlboro, Ohio passed away on July 25, 2021.

**Martha (Bower '66) Kennedy** of Youngstown, Ohio passed away on October 7, 2021.

**Kenneth Luce '62** of Mansfield, Ohio passed away on August 18, 2021.

**Lawrence Marazza '65** of Novelty, Ohio passed away on September 23, 2021.

**Katrina (Grimm '63) Moore** of Frankfort, Indiana passed away on July 31, 2021.

**William "Bill" Resek '68** of Newcomerstown, Ohio passed away on July 25, 2021.

**Babette (Kline '67) Schad** of Willoughby, Ohio passed away on August 24, 2021.

**Helen (Weingard '66) Shipley** of Dewitt, Michigan passed away on July 19, 2021.

**Robert "Blaine" White '64** of Whitehall, Pennsylvania passed away on July 10, 2021.

## 1970s

**David "Dave" Bobak '76** of Solon, Ohio passed away on September 11, 2021.

**John Dannemiller '75** of Massillon, Ohio passed away on October 5, 2021.

**Jaqueline (Chandler '76) Evans** of Akron, Ohio passed away on July 7, 2021.

**Thomas Joseph '71** of New Kensington, Pennsylvania passed away on May 31, 2021.

**Michael Simington '71** of Youngstown, Ohio passed away on August 25, 2021.

**Genevieve (Harlan '72) Sivula-Phillips** of Willoughby, Ohio passed away on August 23, 2021.

## 1980s

**David Cameron '81** of Dayton, Ohio passed away on October 8, 2021.

**Kathleen Ringley '81** of Massillon, Ohio passed away on July 28, 2021.

## 1990s

**Allen Daugherty '93** of Canton, Ohio passed away on June 13, 2021.

**Juliet (Blackford '96) Drotleff** of Chardon, Ohio passed away on July 26, 2021.

**James "Jimmy" Gresko '96** of Girard, Ohio passed away on September 18, 2021.

## 2000s

**Justin Selock '02** of Zanesville, Ohio passed away on July 28, 2021.

## 2010s

**Kera (Lemasters '12) Leskovec** of Ravenna, Ohio passed away on November 2, 2021.

**Kevin Leskovec '13** of Ravenna, Ohio passed away on August 20, 2021.

## Friends

Roberta “Bobbye” (Arison) Barth of Richardson, Texas passed away on May 22, 2021.

David Clark of Gainesville, Florida passed away on July 26, 2021.

Marianne Dodson of Canton, Ohio passed away on May 27, 2021.

John Firestone of Canton, Ohio passed away on May 29, 2021.

Judith (Irish) Johnson of North Canton, Ohio passed away on October 16, 2021.

Karen (Balough) Kersmarki of Alliance, Ohio passed away on October 11, 2021.

Mary Klein of Fairfield, Ohio passed away on June 26, 2021.

Bernard Peroz of Louisville, Ohio passed away on June 6, 2021.

Gary Rininger of Alliance, Ohio passed away on June 6, 2021.

Terry Slingerland of Alliance, Ohio passed away on August 6, 2021.

Chely (Burnip) Street of Alliance, Ohio passed away on June 20, 2021.

Dennis Thompson of Alliance, Ohio passed away on July 22, 2018.

Carl Waltenbaugh of Oak Park, Illinois passed away on August 28, 2021.

Stephen M. Zamagias of Alliance, Ohio passed away on February 12, 2021. He attended Mount Union in the 1950s. Stephen proudly watched all five of his children (plus two of their spouses) graduate from Mount: **Julie (Zamagias '77) Clapper; Stephenie (Zamagias '79) Skolosh; Michele (Zamagias '81) Valentine; Stephen G. Zamagias '84;** and **Alicia (Zamagias '91) Davis;** as well as son-in-law **Jeffrey Davis '92** and daughter-in-law **Anna (Pachan '96) Zamagias.**

## Donna (Elliott '51) Ermlich

**Donna (Elliott '51) Ermlich** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on September 12, 2021. She was an avid supporter of the University of Mount Union and received the Alumni Service Award in 1996. She generously supported the Mount Union Fund and Shakespeare at the Castle each year, established two endowed scholarships: The Evan M. Jones and Donna Jean Elliott Jones Scholarship and The Ermlich Memorial Scholarship Fund, named the Evan M. and Donna Jean Elliot Jones balcony in the Geise Center of Performing Arts, and alongside her late husband Ted Ermlich '40 made a substantial gift to build the new Sigma Nu house. Donna was a member of the Heritage Society, the 1846 Society, the Forever Mount Society, and the Diamond Circle.



## Dr. Craig George '53

**Dr. Craig George '53** of Canandaigua, New York passed away on August 4, 2021. He was a trustee of the institution for more than 50 years and was married to Shirley (Overholt '53) George for more than 67 years. He was a member of the Heritage Society and received the Alumni Service Award in 1984. He served as a chair for both the Progress for Tradition and Foundation for Tomorrow Campaigns.



## Harold Hall '49

**Harold Hall '49** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 5, 2021. He worked in the Office of Admission from 1983-1991 as director of admission and director of international programs. He recruited students internationally, helped admitted students with their immigration process to enter the U.S., and he and his surviving wife Alyce Ann '47, looked after and opened their home to each student throughout the duration of their studies at Mount Union. In 2018, former students, colleagues, friends, and family established the Harold and Alyce Ann Hall International Scholarship in honor of the Halls' extraordinary contributions to Mount Union's international program.



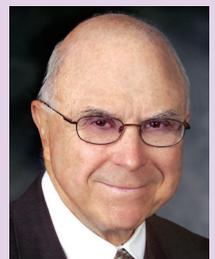
## Lois Calloway (Everett '46) Myers

**Lois Calloway (Everett '46) Myers** of Beloit, Ohio, wife of former Board of Trustees member Richard Myers '44, passed away August 27, 2021. Richard and Lois generously named the Myers Lounge in the physician assistant studies program in Gallaher Hall. The Myers Sanctuary of the Dewald Chapel is named in honor of Lois and Richard, who were married for 70 years prior to his death in 2015. Lois was a member of the Forever Mount and Heritage Societies and was a beloved member of the Mount Union community.



## John “Jack” Peters

**John “Jack” Peters** of Alliance, Ohio passed away November 28, 2021. He was an adjunct professor of business in the 1970s and served as a trustee from 1987 until his passing. Jack and his surviving wife, Madge, were members of the Diamond Circle and endowed the Madge Patterson Peters Scholarship benefiting Alliance High School students attending Mount Union. In 1995, he was the recipient of the Mount Union's McKinley Fellow Award. Most recently, Jack and Madge endowed the Visiting Artist Series to bring theater professionals to campus to mentor current students and generously supported the Student Emergency Fund which continues to aid Mount Union students with immediate needs resulting from the pandemic.



## Mount Union Employees

### Dr. Joseph Beck

**Dr. Joseph Beck** of Saint Louis, Missouri passed away on August 2, 2021. He taught choral and vocal music at Mount Union.

### Dr. Donald Buckey

**Dr. Donald Buckey** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on December 2, 2021. He was a professor of philosophy and religious studies for 25 years until his retirement in 1998.

### Eleanor Earley

**Eleanor Earley** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on October 19, 2021. She worked in housekeeping for 32 years until her retirement in 2006.

### Virginia Gaines

**Virginia Gaines** of North Benton, Ohio passed away on May 29, 2021. She was a housekeeper and receptionist until her retirement in 2014.

### Mary Kimble

**Mary Kimble** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on June 12, 2021. She worked in the Food Service Division.

### Clyde Ross

**Clyde Ross** of Weirton, West Virginia passed away on August 16, 2021. He coached football for 19 years.

### John Strefeler

**John Strefeler** of North Canton, Ohio passed away on September 26, 2021. He was a professor of accounting from 1997-2013.

### Eliza Williamson

**Eliza Williamson** of Alliance, Ohio passed away on June 6, 2021. She worked at Mount Union for 20 years until retiring in 1994.

MOUNT  UNION

Women

Mount Union Women, a 501(c)3 non-profit, has been supporting women's education at Mount Union since 1933. Each year, the organization awards scholarships to outstanding students who are highly involved on campus and excelling in their academic studies. Scholarship funds are raised through donations, concession stand sales and a variety of fundraising efforts.



Current officers are Deana Allen '00, president; Kathy (Davis '75) Hopkins, vice president; Mary (Albright Fisher '98) Swartz, treasurer; and MaryBeth (Reighart '88) Manns, secretary. Anyone interested in getting involved can send a message to [mountunionwomen@gmail.com](mailto:mountunionwomen@gmail.com) for information. You can stay connected via the Mount Union Women Facebook page and the new Instagram account as well.

Donations to the scholarship fund are always welcome and appreciated and can be made online at [mountunionwomen.org](http://mountunionwomen.org).



M Club is the varsity letter-winner's association at Mount Union. A student-athlete lettering in a varsity sport (men's or women's) at Mount Union is automatically a member of M Club upon graduation.

For those who qualify, we encourage you to get involved with M Club by attending meetings, athletic competitions, and events such as the Hall of Fame induction ceremony and social gatherings. Support can also include a monetary gift.

The following individuals comprise the leadership team of M Club: Paul Cotton '83, president; John "Buddy" Gasparik '85, vice president; and Bob Atkinson '73, secretary.

# MOUNT UNION MEANS *FAMILY*

When Sam Douglass first noticed Judy King in their freshman year at Mount and called to ask her for a date to the Homecoming Dance, she said “Do you even know who I am?” He said “Yes, we’re in the same English class.” He later said she had no idea they were in the class together.

“I didn’t know how to dance, but I danced anyway, all over her new shoes,” said Sam. “When I called her back for a second date, she wasn’t interested.”

“It wasn’t a successful first date, but he grew on me,” Judy explained.

Now 65 years of marriage, four children, eight grandchildren, and three great grandchildren later, Sam says he’s still getting to know Judy!

Three of Sam and Judy’s four children graduated from Mount Union: Kevin ’83, Shawn ’87, and Shannon ’92, but the King and Douglass family legacy began much earlier. Judy’s grandfather, George L. King, Sr., graduated in 1890, and a long trail of descendants have followed, including Judy’s brothers, David D. King ’49, and Roderick L King, ’52.

“In our family Mount Union was where you went to school!” Judy said. “My parents, [George L. King, Jr. 1922 and Margaret (Wagner 1923) King] lived and breathed Mount.”

Sam also followed his sisters, Mary Delle (Douglass ’49) Hale and Jane (Douglass ’51) Staley to Mount Union.

Following her graduation, Judy worked in the Office of Admission for a year before marrying Sam and moving to Pittsburgh. As an alumna, she later served as Alumni Council President and then was elected to the Board of Trustees, following in the footsteps of her late father who had served as chair of the board for eighteen years.



**SAM '55 AND JUDY (KING '55) DOUGLASS**

“That was before they had term limits!” Judy said. She considers serving on the board a great experience in keeping up with her alma mater and all the changes in higher education through the years.

Sam and Judy have supported Mount Union with their service and financial generosity for many years. They are loyal supporters of the Mount Union Fund, advocates for the Class of 1955 Endowed Scholarship, and generously named room 181 in the Giese Center for Performing Arts the Shawn Douglass ’87 Dressing Room in honor of their son who studied theatre at Mount and is an actor/director today.

Most recently, Sam and Judy have endowed the Sam ’55 and Judy (King ’55) Douglass Scholarship.

“I was fortunate that I did not need scholarship money to attend Mount, but Sam and his sisters all received financial aid,” Judy said. “There is such a dire need for scholarships today with the ever-increasing cost of a college education.”

The addition of Sam and Judy’s endowed scholarship ensures that their families’ legacies will live on in perpetuity and benefit Purple Raiders for generations to come.

There are so many ways you, too, can make a lasting difference at Mount Union. For more information, contact The Office of University Advancement at (800) 992-6682, ext. 2286 or [advancement@mountunion.edu](mailto:advancement@mountunion.edu).



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