
THE HILLTOPPER

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SPRING 2014



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Dear Marshall Community,

Trust thyself: Every heart vibrates to that iron string.

The world may be more complex than ever, yet I still have room on my bookshelf for the Romantics and the Transcendentalists. To many, their adages and advice may seem outdated or clichéd, yet I feel renewed when I step out of the moment and read Emerson, Whitman or Keats. With so

much focus on the present, it may just be the perfect time to revisit the simple advice of our predecessors. Sometimes, doing so can affirm a life decision or inspire a latent aspiration.

When I first heard about Anna Ringsred '03, I did what most of us do in this day and age; I “Googled” her name. Immediately, I was redirected to the transcript of an interview she gave shortly after qualifying for the Olympic Games in Sochi. The interview focused on her decision to trust herself and suspend her training for a year in order to redirect her energy and, consequently, renew her passion for speed skating. In a world that insists that we train our athletes incessantly, Anna chose her own path and what a difference it made.

In the same essay that gives us the famous Emerson quotation, he later suggests, “The voyage of the best ship is a zigzag line of a hundred tacks.” Today, many parents might see his stance as extreme. We tend to fixate on finding the right path: believing that only the right grade in the right AP course will lead to the right college and beyond. Fortunately, for three of our alumnae, there simply is not enough self-reliance in that plan. I hope you enjoy reading about Anna and Lindsay and Laura, Hilltoppers who let the ship tack and give us every reason to be proud that they did.

Here on the hilltop, we continue to evolve our program to ensure that it is mission-centric. Rather than directing students down a particular path, we help them develop habits. We teach them that sometimes asking the right question is more important than finding the right answer. We teach them how to tack, so that one day their sails may be full.

Kevin Breen
 Head of School

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THE HILLTOPPER

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1.

From weather balloons to robots to 3D printers, Marshall School's STEM programs have successfully ventured to new frontiers. And Mr. Diener and his famous volcano are still erupting a love of earth science in students and painting a few ceiling tiles along the way.

2.

Top-notch music fills the hallways of Marshall School. High-quality performances during the holiday season and the spring's Pops Concerts, as well as the choir heading off to Carnegie Hall in NYC, were a few of the highest notes.

3.

Global citizenship has been on display all school year. Hilltoppers have traveled to China, Cuba and India and the school as hosted teachers from South Korea and students from Gimnasio Fontana, a performing arts school in Bogota, Columbia.

4.

1:1 ... to Winter Frolic? The launch of Marshall's 1:1 Techonology Program has been so successful that Meggan Goldberg (pictured) and the rest of the students even adopted a tech approach in a live vote for King and Queen of Winter Frolic this past February.

5.

The winter months featured plenty of Topper Tunnels. This traditional celebration sends individuals and teams off to state competitions. From the High Tech Hilltoppers robotics team to Math League, and from dancers and swimmers to alpine skiers, like Cara Hanson (pictured), the Hilltoppers enjoyed many successful state-bound seasons.

6.

Both Jeremy Stephan (pictured) and David Kamper advanced to the state competition for Poetry Out Loud. Kamper and Stephan finished first and second, respectively, at the regional competition. Sunny Wang was the school champion at Marshall.

7.

Kicking off the inaugural season of the varsity boys swim team, David Kamper (pictured) advanced to the state tournament as the only competitor from Duluth.

8.

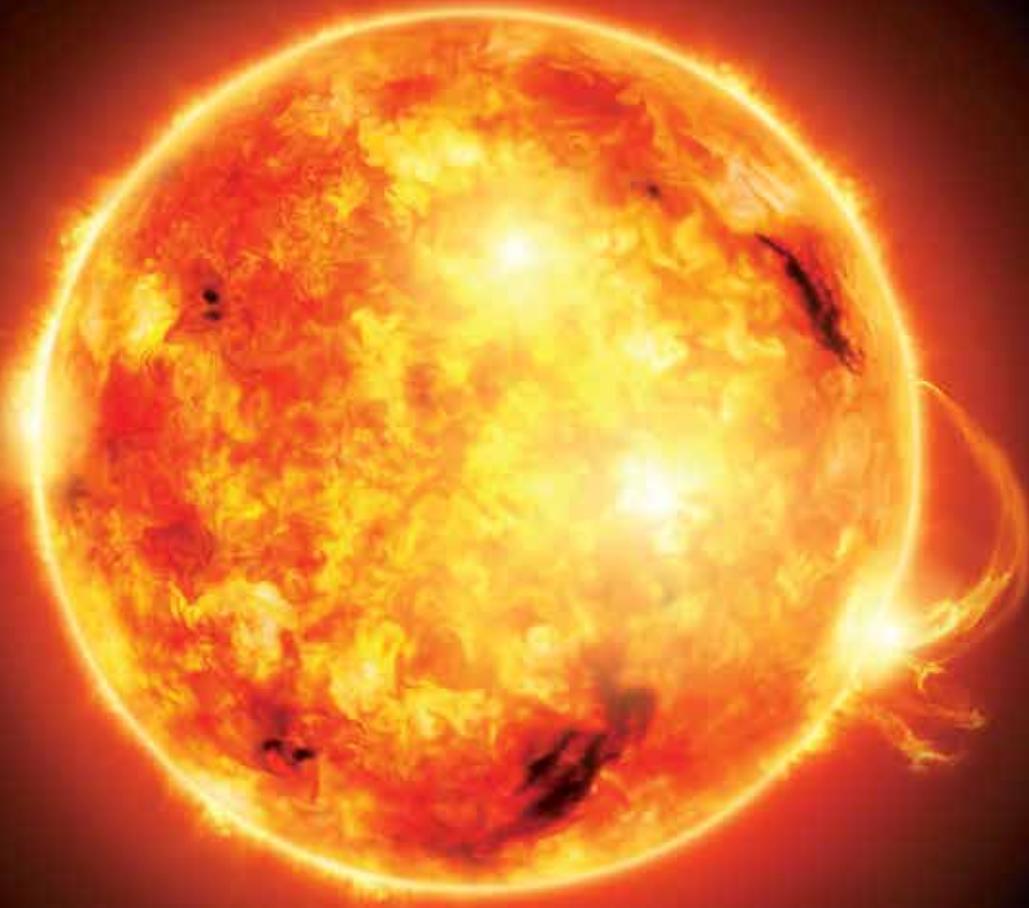
Guys and Dolls was center stage for Marshall School this year. Students put on outstanding performances of the Tony-Award winning musical in the Fregeau Auditorium in November.

9.

The sixth graders performed theatre of their own, putting on *Oliver Twist* in Marshall's chapel. Kesandu Igwe (pictured) and his classmates had audience members saying, "Please, Hilltoppers, I want some more."

10.

The Marshall School Dance Divas continued their dominance, placing second in the Jazz Division at the state tournament. It was Marshall's 12th-consecutive appearance in the finals; they were edged out in a tie-breaker for this year's title.

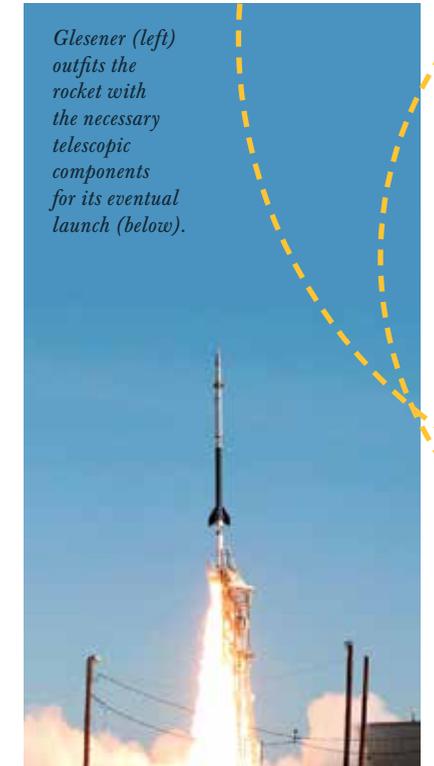


TO THE SUN & BACK

By Joe Wicklund



Glesener (left) outfits the rocket with the necessary telescopic components for its eventual launch (below).



Did you ever hear the one about the ballerina who became a solar astrophysicist?

No, not a joke... instead, an incredible story of determination, bravery and creativity. And the star of the story is Dr. Lindsay Glesener, who graduated from Marshall School in 1998.

Glesener's bravery was on display as soon as she left the halls of Marshall, when she passed on prestigious college offers to follow a dream of becoming a professional ballerina.

The decision to pass on college and focus on ballet was far from the norm, but Glesener's parents fully supported her decision. This dance delay before Glesener became an international award-winning solar astrophysicist turned out to be several years and include, eventually, several colleges. But it is her determination and commitment that carried her all the way from dancer to doctor.

"I started taking ballet classes at age 5 or 6, and at that time it was skipping in a circle and kid-

interpretive dances, and I had the little kid idea of being a ballerina when I grew up," Glesener said.

A key decision point for young dancers comes around age 12, when you make the commitment to pursue it in a way that takes precedence over all other activities.

"I decided to pull the trigger and do it five nights per week instead of doing other things," Glesener said. "There is not enough time to be a ballerina and play soccer or do other things, but it is kind of nice to have something you truly love to just throw yourself into at that age."

Glesener joined the Minnesota Ballet as a professional ballerina almost immediately after graduation from Marshall. The life was an enjoyable balance for Glesener of creativity, focus and camaraderie. A desire to experience a greater part of the world, which was exacerbated by the

travel and tours she experienced with the ballet, led Glesener to uproot from her home town and set aside her pointe shoes.

This is the point where Glesener's dance into solar astrophysics started moving in a way she would not want her rockets to travel... very non-linear.

She moved to St. Paul, took a few classes at Hamline University and met her future husband, Andy Sybilrud. Then Glesener stopped taking classes, she and Andy decided to move to the West Coast and they picked San Francisco... kind of.

"We wanted to see what else was out there, so we picked Los Angeles," Glesener said. "But our friends told us we wouldn't like LA, so we randomly chose another city in California. That was our very logical, mathematical thinking."



Glesener (front row, third from right) and the team with the rocket

If this personal Manifest Destiny seems a bit wild, know that Glesener is a bit of a math whiz. The risks might be a bit more calculated than they seem. Then again, even if they are not, they continue to work out for the doctor because of her determination.

“There are a lot of impulsive decisions,” Glesener said. “But I don’t do anything halfway.”

This focus was born in the ballet and serves her now when she is launching rockets.

“In the ballet, everyone is very focused, dedicated and working hard, so going from that type of environment to college was a challenge,” Glesener said. “Shortly after we moved to San Francisco, I decided to go back to college because it was always in the back of my mind.”

Glesener moved from a community college to San Francisco State University. She ended up in physics because of a connection to a class at Marshall School.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to study when I started back at school, so I took a whole bunch of different classes,” Glesener said. “I needed to take a science class, so I signed up for physics because I liked it in high school. The physics class I took at Marshall was very difficult, but very good. It gave me a great basis all those years later when I took it in college.”

After graduating from San Francisco State in 2006, Glesener and Andy loved the area so much they were committed to San Francisco. That left Glesener with two tough options for graduate school: Stanford or the University of California-Berkeley. It was Berkeley that called, and that is where Glesener’s future really started to have a rocket’s trajectory.

“I had decided that I wanted to do research, so that meant grad school,” Glesener said. “Here I was, the ballerina who didn’t want to go to school right away and had trouble

staying in college once I got there, now I was signing myself on for more school.”

She started at Berkeley in the fall of 2006, and took her time finding the right department and academic focus. Once she met Dr. Robert Lin, the choice of solar astrophysics was as clear as, well, the sun.

“I DON’T DO ANYTHING HALFWAY.”

“He was so incredibly enthusiastic and inspiring that you walked away thinking that solar astrophysics

is the most interesting thing in the world,” Glesener said.

Lin passed away in November of 2012, unable to see Glesener not only finish her doctorate, but also launch herself to an international physics award for her work.

The world of solar astrophysics is, appropriately, very technical. But Glesener is able to break it down to its simplest form quite understandably.

“It is a blend of two things: studying solar flares by analyzing data from spacecraft that already exist,” she said, “and building the next hardware that we will launch in to space to measure solar flares.”

So when she isn’t analyzing never-before-seen-on-Earth images of the sun, Glesener is building experimental telescopes that are launched by rockets for brief test flights in space.

“There is never a day where I look at the clock and can’t wait to leave work,” Glesener said. “I get to see things that, in many cases, no one has ever looked at before. And when it’s time to launch the rocket, seeing the launch from the missile range is a truly unforgettable experience.”

It’s for her work building telescopes and rockets that garnered Glesener her international notoriety. She was awarded the Patricia Tomkins Thesis Prize by the Royal Astronomical Society. The award, which Glesener accepted in London this past February, is for the best doctoral thesis in instrumentation science for astronomy and geophysics.

Glesener’s project was even more impressive than the award. The Hilltopper was part of a team that developed a telescope capable of measuring x-rays in space with a much more direct form of imaging than those which currently exist on spacecraft today. From development to launch to data analysis, there was a fair combination of determination and drama to see the project through. There was also a bit of luck.

The drama and determination came first, with an important component of Glesener’s telescope getting destroyed just two weeks out from their initial launch in March of 2012. A cooling device designed to keep the telescope at -20 degrees Celsius (-4 degrees Fahrenheit) malfunctioned. But rather than a heated explosion, the device froze the X-ray camera to an inoperable

state at nearly -200 degrees Celsius. And it happened when Glesener was monitoring the cooling device.

While there is a cruel irony in a doctoral student from Duluth having her telescope frozen to death, Glesener was undeterred. While the accident may have delayed her graduation, it may have lined up the stars for her actual launch. Or, more fittingly, the sun aligned.

“Solar flares happen every day, but our rocket flights are only five to seven minutes in space, so you can’t count on getting a flare,” Glesener said. “So we also were measuring to see if there are x-rays from the sun when there are not solar flares happening.”

While Glesener’s team didn’t see the non-solar flare x-rays, they were able to hit the small window of actually catching a solar flare during the few minutes their rocket was in space—a calculated probability of about five percent.

Glesener, who graduated with her doctorate in December 2012, was immediately hired as a post-doctoral researcher at the Space Sciences Laboratories at UC-Berkeley to finish the launch project which caught the solar flare. Her next launch is slated for December of 2014.

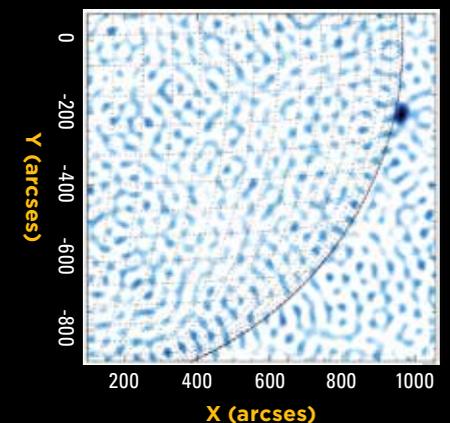
“This was a great project to do my doctorate on because it was a small project with a small team, and I really got to do a lot of everything,” Glesener said. “I wasn’t a small cog in a large machine; I got to have my hands in every part of the rocket.”

So, if you are ever asked if you’ve heard the one about the ballerina who became an astrophysicist, just say “yes.” And make sure they tell the part of the story about Dr. Lindsay Glesener being a Hilltopper. And make sure to tell them to follow the story as it continues to launch, because for Glesener, the sky isn’t the limit. It’s the sun. 

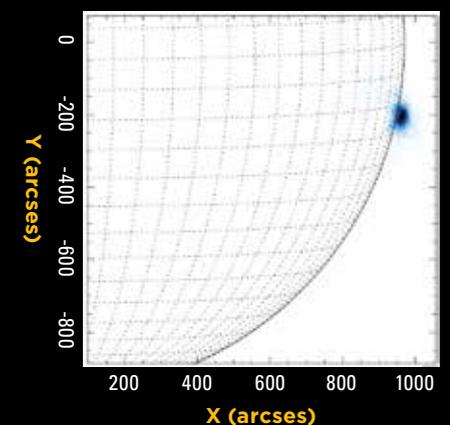
THE CLARITY OF LINDSAY’S TELESCOPE

These images were captured by two telescopes at the same moment. In the RHESSI picture, there is a great deal of disturbance or “noise.” In the FOXSI image, captured by Glesener’s telescope, much of the noise is removed, creating a much clearer image.

RHESSI



FOXSI



STORIES OF SNOW & ICE

By Melissa Hodge

Dealing with winter snowfalls coming in at more than 100 inches and biting winds that freeze a person to the core, Duluthians are, by necessity, a hearty bunch. This environment tends to create adventures that are anything but boring. This winter may have been crazier than most, as it proved to be a record-breaking season. Who else can say that they have lived through the coldest winter since 1865? Or survived 65 sub-zero days between December and February?

Many in the Hilltopper community know this winter struggle all too well. They shovel religiously, let their cars idle for 10 minutes without a second thought, and watch the evening weather reports like they were born studying meteorology.

But those who have left the city for warmer climates and new experiences don't have to feel left out of the adventure. Snow, cold, and ice caves are all at the fingertips of anyone who would like insight into the Duluth winter thanks to blogging efforts by alumni, students, and faculty. Our Hilltopper stories are being told with greater skill, and at a greater clip, than ever before. Many in the Marshall community have become bloggers, and are excelling at the storytelling. Molly Smith '02, experienced notoriety as her blog was featured as part of a CNN iReport entitled "Confessions from Imperfect Parents." Smith, who graduated from Wartburg College in 2006, submitted an adaptation of one of her blog posts, and it was featured prominently on the CNN website. Her submission was entitled "More than Motherhood" and talks

about her belief in having an identity beyond being a mother. This is just one selection in the greater whole of her online work, which lives on her blog, *Confessions of a First-Time Mom*, and operates under the tagline; "navigating motherhood—one mistake at a time."

Despite the weighty and potentially controversial subject matter which comprises "More than Motherhood," other blog entries from Smith read more lighthearted. The writing combines the humor of raising a baby, which is quite a bit of material in and of itself, with the exploits of a woman trying to balance the flood of motherhood "how-tos" with her own personal experience and opinions. If you are a fellow first-time mother, or just someone looking for a pick-me-up at the hands of a Hilltopper hilariously navigating the realm of parenthood, this blog is a great read.

Marshall School student blogs have been creatively woven into the curriculum, and those posted this past winter are both honest and sometimes lacking the humor and lightheartedness of Smith's blogs. But then again, this winter may have been without a sense of humor as well. There are other student blogs which show the power of optimism in the face of growing snow banks. Not just optimism that winter would end soon, but optimism about accepting winter in all its freezing glory.

Mary Baumgartner '14, didn't think of shoveling after a fresh snowfall, but kept her mind on the beauty and freedom of the outdoors when she wrote in her blog a magical description of the forest, comparing it to emerging from the wardrobe into Narnia.

"When I actually made it out to the trails, there was one spot in the woods where the trees arched overhead and a little bit out front. I had to crouch to get through... I would look up to the sky, to my left towards the lake,



Thousands of visitors, including Eric DeWitte '13, snapped photos at the Lake Superior ice caves this winter. Others did not brave the elements, such as Dr. Susan Nygaard, and instead dealt with the ice in their home (right).



and to my right where the woods grew thicker," wrote Baumgartner. "The snow was falling and deer tracks ran off in various directions. It was a moment where I felt safe, like the world was far away and couldn't touch me or that place."

Even the more practical activities like driving are met with increased joy that most likely comes from a mix of a "glass-half-full" attitude and the excitement of being a new driver. A frozen commute isn't the envy of most adults working in Duluth, but blogging student Gunnar Roadfeldt '14, sees the bright side.

"Being in my mid-sized sedan doesn't make for very efficient travel during times of heavy snowfall, but it's really not that difficult to drive in snow. In fact, I kind of enjoy it," wrote Roadfeldt. "It's not a big deal that I have to drive slow, watch out for slippery sections of road, and avoid steep hills. It makes it more interesting."

Many of the student blog posts, including these, are centered on individual experience, interpretation, and opinion. Also prominently featured are stories filled with

adventure and fun. This year marked the first season in five years that the Apostle Islands ice caves have been fully formed, and if anyone didn't get the chance to visit themselves, Marshall bloggers are ready to assist, both in description and photos.

"The combination of early winter and the unseasonably cold temperature made for thick ice and fantastic caves," said Eric DeWitte.

He was able to tour the caves and post some great pictures of the ice formations. But as trendy as visits to the ice caves were this past winter, others found more creative and safer ways to deal with their own personal ice caves... without stepping foot on Lake Superior.

Marshall English teacher Dr. Susan Nygaard created a blog post which provided a humorous comparison between the Apostle Islands and defrosting her freezer. The Upper School teacher mixed up the adventurous commentary with pieces of advice for defrosting safely.

"Keep your wits about you! But also make sure that you take a few minutes to reflect on the privilege

of having seen such a rare sight!" wrote Nygaard. "If you're taking photos of your visit, be aware that taking photos one-handed is a challenge, so make sure your feet are planted firmly on the ground as you point and shoot."

These blogs are just some of the ways Marshall hopes to share its successes, discoveries, and adventures in an active tradition of storytelling. Marshall School is maintaining lively connections between the past, the present, and the future through social media, the Marshall website, and many other means of communication.

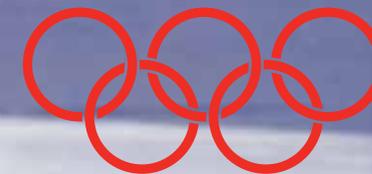
Contact Marshall over Facebook, Twitter, or reach out via e-mail to share your stories with the school. And stay in touch by following what is happening in our hallways and classrooms by subscribing to any one of our school-led blogs. The *Parent Pass Blog*, the *Admissions Blog* and *Chico's Blog* all offer unique and valuable insight into the Hilltopper experience. And of course, from Molly Smith to our many other blogging Toppers, don't forget to follow your fellow alums. 



Anna Ringsred, '03

I have always strived for excellence and that was certainly born at Marshall.'

OUR OLYMPIAN



By Joe Wicklund



There are students who spend their days at Marshall School dreaming of becoming superheroes. The idea of jumping into phone booths to change into a cape and costume, then flying off to make the world a better place is exciting. The superhero dream is more prominent in the younger Hilltoppers, but not exclusively. There are Upper School students who still want the Clark Kent/Superman life.

Keeping this dream alive is the fact that we have more than a few real-life superheroes who have graduated from Marshall. Anna Ringsred '03, is a perfect example, as she balances the world of Olympic speed skating alongside being an engineer.

“They are definitely two different worlds,” Ringsred said. “I will be at the oval training, where everyone in that world is an athlete. Then I literally go change clothes and go to work in a different world where no one knows I have been training and we are in important meetings about valve design.”

Ringsred’s business card reads: Application Engineer. She has worked at Spartan Controls, a Canadian engineering company in Calgary, since 2011, joining the team after finishing her degree in engineering at the University of Calgary the same year.

“I could have just as easily gone into English or languages as I did science and engineering because I’ve always enjoyed different subjects and topics,” Ringsred said. “But my dad told me engineering was going to be really difficult, and I don’t know if it is part of my personality, but I’ve always liked a challenge.”





took the time to make sure we understood everything every step of the way,” Ringsred said. “We had a lot of homework, but in the end we had such a solid foundation that going forward at university, it all made sense.”

Ringsred began balancing school and speed skating while at Marshall, a juggling act that included extraordinarily early drives to the Twin Cities each weekend for training purposes. But that didn’t slow her down from being ultra-involved in school.

So to up the ante on the challenge, Ringsred not only went into engineering, but balanced her academic pursuits with her continued training in speed skating. Balancing two demanding worlds, sometimes through correspondence courses, would be a superhero-sized task for some, but Ringsred had been building those skills since her years at Marshall.

“It really started at Marshall, and it was a huge help when I got to university,” Ringsred said. “I had to be really good at teaching myself and being organized, so when I came back to class I could ask the best questions of my professors.”

The self-directed superhero, Ringsred is lightning quick to attribute her success to her supportive parents, Eric and Debbie, and many coaches and teachers along the way. Among the contributors to Ringsred’s success, former Marshall faculty member Lynn (Fryberger) MacLean stands out. She helped engineer both Ringsred’s system for balancing success and her actual career in engineering.

“The only reason I ended up doing so well in math was because she

“I have always strived for excellence and that was certainly born at Marshall,” Ringsred said. “I wanted to be excellent at whatever I decided to put my mind to, whether that was in every subject in school, sports, music or Greens Club.”

Ringsred’s pride in her work to, as she said, “revolutionize” the Greens Club, Marshall’s environmentally-focused group, as well as her experiences across the spectrum at Marshall, clearly come from a wonderfully genuine place. But they also come from the work put in by those same Hilltopper teachers.

“The teachers and coaches I’ve had just believed in me so much that I couldn’t let them down,” Ringsred said. “At first I strove for excellence for their sake, because it meant so much to them, but then I started to love it and became just as motivated from within. And that goes for school and skating.”

Speed-skating Anna may be donning a superhero cape before presenting a business card, but either the cape or the card would read: Olympian.

Ringsred was able to achieve her speed skating goal with a second-place finish in the 3,000 meters at the U.S. Olympic trials in December. But even that accomplishment was so much more than a 4-minute, 13-second performance. In fact, even making it to Sochi took a dramatic separation away from speed skating to get to the Olympics.

The trick, according to Ringsred, is focus. That’s how you excel at a race as physically demanding as the 3,000 meters. It is as much a mental test as it is a nearly 1.9-mile race. And as a full-time student and a full-time speed skater getting ready for an Olympic qualifier, Ringsred’s mental stamina had to endure both on and off the ice.

“When I am at practice, I put everything else away and am totally focused right there, which is what you need to be successful at this level in skating,” Ringsred said. “But when practice is over, it is discouraged to keep thinking about it. So that is where school would come in to play, because I could turn off training and turn on school.”

After graduating from Marshall, speed skating took Ringsred from the World Cup circuit to the world championships, but the Olympic dream was the top goal. Fully trained and focused, Ringsred fell short in her 2010 quest for the U.S. Olympic team. It was then that Ringsred flipped her focus away from skating, finished her engineering degree, and landed the job at Spartan Controls.

But it turns out she wasn’t trading in her cape quite yet. In fact, a better way to look at it was that she was now donning two.

“I like to be very efficient and focused,” Ringsred said. “I think if you put all of your focus on one thing, rather than multi-tasking, quality rises and you can get more done in the long run.”

The next, new thing for Ringsred was the rebalancing of life with skating, this time with a full-blown career mixed into the equation instead of school. But Ringsred’s resourcefulness, grit, determination and support system was an even better fit the most recent time around, as the Hilltopper skated to her spot in Sochi with her December second-place finish. A dream, at one point deferred, was realized by Ringsred in the span of time it may have taken you to read this article. Four minutes, 13 seconds.

Participating in the Olympics is the stuff of superheroes, where seconds, and sometimes fractions of seconds, separate medalists from those not able to stand on the podium. Ringsred finished out of the medal race, but still had an incredible performance in Sochi.

“I gave it everything even though I was not as fast as I would have liked,” Ringsred said. “There are a few things I would change about my race, but I am satisfied that I did give it absolutely everything I had and when I came across the finish line I was utterly spent.”

One would imagine the average person feeling that way after juggling two lives, but Ringsred says there is one key constant, which harkens back to her time at Marshall.

“They are definitely two different worlds, but the character that I take to both is the same,” Ringsred said. “Determination, persistence, focus, a strong work ethic—whether I am skating, working or whatever I decide to pursue, I stay the same even though the worlds are very different.”

Ringsred’s superhero cape it seems, is always on. 🦸



Five Things

with Marshall’s new Director of Advancement, Bryce Nixon

01. Marshall already feels like home.
02. To a newcomer, it’s almost overwhelming how many wonderful things Marshall has going for it—and going on—during any given day. Our kids, our faculty, our programs—this place deserves all the support we can give it. I feel honored to get to help make that happen
03. At Marshall, participation in the annual fund is vital. Like most independent schools and colleges, the price of full tuition at Marshall covers only about 80% of the cost of educating each student. The other 20% comes primarily from fundraising. Which means it comes from you—alumni and parents and friends.
04. Every gift of every size to the Hilltopper Fund, Marshall’s annual fund, counts. Our fiscal year ends June 30. If you haven’t made your gift yet this year, I invite you to visit www.marshallschool.org and click on “Giving” to make your gift today. Or call us anytime at 218-727-7266.
05. There are also opportunities to make endowed and planned gifts to Marshall, and we are happy to discuss those options as well. Particularly with planned giving, I hope the Marshall community will consider the advancement office a resource. There are a number of ways to creatively use assets such as real estate or stock, as well as estate and financial planning vehicles you may not have considered, to make larger gifts that benefit both Marshall and your family.

Bryce can be contacted at 218-727-7266 or bryce.nixon@marshallschool.org if you would like more information about any of these options.





“COOPETITION”

Elevating Entrepreneurialism in Duluth

Laura Salyard-Fryberger Mullen '97 recalls making and selling personalized pens in seventh grade. She wove colorful floss around ballpoint pens and personalized them with the names of her classmates. At an early age, Laura distinguished herself as an entrepreneur and businesswoman.

Thankfully for Duluth, she has upped her game from crafty pens to craft beer, joining with her husband and two business partners to create Bent Paddle Brewing Co.—a hip and vibrant company located on Duluth’s west side. She finds herself contributing to a growing community of dynamic entrepreneurs in the Twin Ports producing great food and microbrewed and distilled beverages. These young and creative business people support one another. For example, Bent Paddle partners with local businesses such as Duluth Coffee Company for the coffee in its Cold Press Black, Frost River, Loll Designs/Epicurean brews, and others. Within a brief ten months, their fan base has extended across the Twin Ports and the state, not only for their delicious beverages, but also for their entrepreneurial ingenuity.

Brewers are rock stars in their own world, with people asking for autographs on growlers and t-shirts. If you have tasted the Bent Hop, Bent Paddle’s IPA, you may understand why. Laura entered the brewing business after a successful career as an event planner, because of the dynamic craft brewing scene in the Twin Cities and because of the brilliance of her craftmaster husband and business partners. She saw an opportunity to do something special with Bent Paddle. She loves creating experiences which are social and creative and celebratory. Bent Paddle is all these things and more.

Under the creative genius of Laura and her partners, Bent Paddle manufactures a delicious product—winning unprecedented awards for breweries within their first three months. They refurbished a historic building on the west side of Duluth, have contributed generously to local charities, and have helped shape the business community with their creativity and collaboration. Laura describes the brewer camaraderie in town as amazing. “We engage in a sort of coopetition. We support each other even when at times we are in competition.” The success of one bolsters the growth of all.

Laura is grateful for the growth in Duluth’s business community during the last ten years. Today’s business development in Duluth is very different than the atmosphere of the eighties when a billboard on the edge of town read, “Last One Out, Turn Out the Lights.” “This was a time when it was hard to work and live here as a young person, because there were no jobs,” says Mullen. With the leadership of Mayor Don Ness, Duluth is experiencing a shift, and Laura and her team are excited to welcome more young and creative entrepreneurs to the Northland.

Laura’s story of bold ingenuity inspires Hilltoppers to transform dreams into action. Through hard work, teamwork and creativity, she has created an outstanding business committed to the growth of our community.

YOU’RE INVITED

BENT PADDLE BIRTHDAY BLOCK PARTY
MAY 17

MARSHALL ALUMNI HAPPY HOUR
JUNE 17

DULUTH

1912 W MICHIGAN STREET

LAURA

BENT PADDLE BREWING CO

ALUMNI

The Alumni Office strives to communicate the triumphs and the challenges within the Hilltopper community. Alumni gather at games, receptions and reunions. We are a family. And you, our alumni, are an integral part of the community. Once a Hilltopper, always a Hilltopper. Stay connected, share your stories and receive the latest news.

-  **FACEBOOK**
Duluth Cathedral/Marshall Hilltopper Alumni
-  **YOUTUBE CHANNEL**
youtube.com/duluthmarshallschool
-  **TWITTER**
@DuluthMarshall
-  **CHICO'S BLOG**
hilltopperalumni.wordpress.com
-  **ALUMNI WEBSITE**
marshallschool.org/alumni

Tag, You're It

Update your contact information today to stay connected.

-  hilltopper@marshallschool.org
-  218-727-7266
-  Marshall School, 1215 Rice Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55811



The Topper Tunnel, A Hilltopper Tradition

Early in his tenure as the Athletic Director, Dave Homstad '72 was restless to find a way to honor athletic teams advancing to the state tournament. "Athletics and the fine arts add a lot to the culture of a place—a sense of belonging to something that is more than coming to a building, sitting in a classroom, going home and doing homework. I wanted to come together as a school community to celebrate our team accomplishments," recalls Homstad. And so, the Topper Tunnel was born, and a long lasting Hilltopper tradition started.

What is a Topper Tunnel?

The mechanics of a Topper Tunnel are as follows: the entire student body creates a tunnel by lining both sides of the hall from Fregeau Auditorium, down Walsh Hall to the gym. The two lines of students face each other, raise their hands and touch palms to palms, creating a tunnel. The state-bound competitors jog down the tunnel receiving the accolades and good cheer of their classmates.

Over the years, the Topper Tunnel has evolved. In the early days, the Topper Tunnel was only for athletic teams. It now includes individual athletes, as well as state-bound artists and academic competitors. This year, our Topper Tunnels have included athletes, mathletes, poets, robotics engineers and more.

Go Toppers!

Dedicated to Curing Diabetes—Tom Cartier '68

Life is a journey, and each chapter offers struggle and euphoria, setbacks and triumphs. Tom Cartier '68 knows this first hand and personally bears witness to what he describes as divine intervention and the role each life event plays in the unfolding of a great plan.

Tom scans a photo of his 1967 State Hockey Championship team and recalls the elation of the victories. In his next breath, he recognizes while those high school moments were special, his life has led to even greater joy and purpose, each chapter preparing him for the next.

Little did he know as a high school athlete and actor—he played Baby John in *West Side Story*, an experience which he claims changed his life—he would one day lead a team of doctors, researchers, farmers and fundraisers in finding the cure for diabetes. Why diabetes? It was personal.

In 1990, Tom faced his son, a ten-year-old boy newly diagnosed with diabetes, and promised him there would be a cure. He said it with resolve and determination. Just months before, Tom had survived a near death experience. At the time, Tom recalls wondering why he was spared from death. Standing in the doctor's office and facing his son, he realized he was alive to save his son and millions like him.

Soon thereafter, Tom began researching diabetes. One day, his

assistant retrieved from the garbage can an invitation to support the Diabetes Research Institute, a new initiative at the University of Minnesota. "I thought you might be interested in this," she said as she pulled the card out of the trash. This small act led Tom to make a phone call which changed his life. Tom and his wife Patty became founding members of the Diabetes Research Institute, which has raised millions of dollars for diabetes research.

Through the Institute, Tom met a German researcher and leader in human islet cell transplantation, Dr. Bernhard Hering. Dr. Hering



discovered a revolutionary solution to the shortage of human islet cells for transplants—the production and transplantation of swine cells. Dr. Hering needed a partner and leader for the initiative. He asked Tom to lead the team of doctors,

researchers and fundraisers. Humbled, yet determined, Tom accepted the role.

Tom, once a player striving for a state championship, now was a guiding a diverse team toward a common goal. Once a businessman, now he was the coordinator of a multi-tiered initiative and foundation. Once a counselor of clients, now he was a servant leader providing inspiration and direction.

The team was dedicated to increasing the availability of healthy islet cells for transplantation by

ABOUT ISLET CELLS

In a healthy pancreas, millions of islet cells are responsible for unlocking glucose uptake in the cells; a diabetic pancreas is without islet cells and thereby unable to initiate glucose update. The transplant enables islet cells to populate the pancreas and perform their job.

expanding the pool of harvestable cells to include pig islet cells. A seemingly routine business relationship with Hutterian pig farmers enabled the Institute to begin the process of breeding pigs. In 2004, a special non-profit organization, Spring Point Project, was born, dedicated to the production of medical-grade pigs for the harvesting of islet cells.

In 2010, however, a "perfect storm" of setbacks threatened the project: key backers pulled funding and the research trials fell short of their mark. The end seemed near. Tom and his team despaired. During this time, Tom returned to his social work training and mentored key players. He listened; he coached. Finally, he realized the answer was not in continuing what they were doing, but in changing course. After raising over \$20 million for diabetes research as a non-profit, Tom realized the next step required the formation of a for-profit corporation.

Tom will lend his leadership to the formation of a corporation and then retire. He refuses to make a profit from the disease. Instead, Tom dreams of the day when we will celebrate the cure for diabetes. 



ALL ALUMNI RECEPTION

Friday, July 18
5:00 - 8:00 pm
Marshall School

All alumni from all graduating years are invited to this event! Visit with classmates, other Hilltopper alumni and teachers. Complimentary refreshments and appetizers provided.

GOLDEN TOPPER LUNCHEON

Saturday, July 19
11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Marshall School

Alumni who graduated in or before 1964 are invited to this special luncheon. Visit with other Hilltoppers who have graduated 50 years ago or more.

Questions? Contact the Alumni Office at 218-727-7266.

2014 HILLTOPPER REUNION



Trust Remains

Communities are defined less by what they say than what they do. One can tell a lot about a community by how people treat one another. Hilltoppers have lived by a unique set of social rules for decades by including, accepting and appreciating one another. Trust pervades the community.

For many Hilltoppers, the image of lockers standing wide open with supplies spilling out of them and onto the floor depicts community. Back in the day, no one worried about boom boxes being stolen or personal items being vandalized. We were a community built on mutual trust and that meant the locker doors stood wide open.

A few years ago, the lockers closed. Some alumni lamented the closing of the lockers. Unfortunately, the fire marshall deemed the open lockers a fire hazard and the school complied

with the ruling by shutting the lockers. While the lockers are closed now, the spirit of trust symbolized by the open doors remains.

Recently the student body pledged their honor to one another by reciting the following honor pledge:

"I vow to uphold and protect the integrity of Marshall School by being a respectful and honest student who refrains from lying, cheating, and stealing, not only academically but in the Marshall School community as a whole."

As students recited these words, the image of open lockers came to mind. While the pledge is meaningful, more powerful are the tangible actions that communicate trust. While the lockers are closed in compliance with the fire marshall, the spirit of community and trust remains. Hilltoppers continue to live with honor.

Hilltopper-Owned Businesses

Whether it is breakfast, lunch, happy hour or dinner, Hilltoppers are serving up great food and drink all over town! Do you need an electrician? How about a financial planner? Selling your house or insuring your car? Choose a Hilltopper! Hilltoppers are serving the community by providing fantastic goods and services through great businesses in the Twin Ports and all over the country.

We have young Hilltoppers starting businesses, such as Max Becker '04, who is launching Wheelhouse, a cycling-event food vendor providing nutritious and delicious food at race venues in the Twin Cities (see Kickstarter to learn more). We also have longstanding family-owned businesses which are cornerstones of our community, such as Sammy's Pizza, a Perrella family institution.

You knew each other when you roamed these halls and can vouch for the creativity, integrity and work ethic of the Hilltopper. Is it a surprise Jane Kirkwood '70 is a brilliant graphic designer? Or, Ian Grant '87, is a gifted designer and builder of furniture fashioned from reclaimed wood from around the globe?

Often alumni will request a list of Hilltopper-owned businesses. Submit your business and a summary of your service and we will add it to the alumni webpage. Please send submissions to alumni@marshallschool.org to be included.



It's great to hear from you!

Join the Fun & Send Us a Selfie!

You can star at this year's Marshall Magic Auction with a quick click, a paragraph and a fun attitude. One of the ways we are capitalizing on the 'Starry Night' theme is by featuring our Hilltopper alumni in our first-ever "Selfie Campaign."

Snap a quick picture with your phone and give us a fun, informal, unique update on what you are doing these days. Send your submissions to communications@marshallschool.org and join in our Selfie Campaign, just like Becca Dugdale from the class of 2010 did:

This past January I studied post-apartheid reconciliation in South Africa. We traveled around the country meeting many survivors of massacres, learning about reconciliation work still being done, and experiencing the poverty first hand. While in Cape Town, we climbed Lions Head Mountain where we had a 360 degree view of the ocean and the city.

Becca Dugdale '10

Upcoming Events

HAMBURGERS WITH HOMER!

Thursday, April 24
4:30 - 8:00 pm
Bulldog Northeast
401 E. Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis
Come after class or after work to reminisce and have a hamburger with Homer—yes, Dave Homstad '72.

ANNUAL MARSHALL AUCTION—STARRY NIGHT

Saturday, May 3rd
5:30 pm
Marshall School
www.marshallschool.org/auction

PASSAGE AND LUNCHEON

Friday, May 16
10:30 - 11:30 am
Chapel

PERENNIAL DONATIONS

May 19-30
Accepting donations of perennials, plants and flowers for the Alumni Memorial Garden.

HILLTOPPER ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Wednesday, May 21
Reception at 4:30, *Chapel*
Athletic Banquet at 5:30, *Gym*

BACCALAUREATE

Saturday, June 7
4:00 pm
Fregeau Auditorium

CABOOSE

Saturday, June 7
5:00 pm
Chapel

COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, June 8
3:00 pm
Fregeau Auditorium

MARSHALL GOLF OUTING

Monday, June 16 1 p.m.
Ridgeview Country Club, Duluth

For more information about any of the events listed below, e-mail alumni@marshallschool.org or call Alumni Relations at (218) 727-7266.

DULUTH HAPPY HOUR

June 17
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Bent Paddle Brewing Co.
1912 W Michigan St, Duluth

ALL CLASS REUNION 2014

Friday, July 18
5:00 - 8:00 pm
Marshall School
Laugh, tell stories and reminisce with friends.

REUNION 2014 PARTY

Friday, July 18
8:00 - Midnight
Off Campus
Continue the party! Look for invitations from classmates via mail, e-mail or Facebook.

GOLDEN TOPPER LUNCHEON

Saturday, July 19
11:30 - 1:00 pm
Marshall School
Golden Topper Luncheon is for alumni who graduated in or before 1964.

TOPPER TOUR OF ART EXHIBITION

Saturday, July 19
2:00 pm
Sister Mary Charles: Engagement and Transcendence
Tweed Art Museum, UMD

ELIZABETH BUSCHE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

September 13
Sponsored by Charlene's Light
Duluth

CLASS OF 1950 64TH CLASS REUNION!

Friday, July 18, 5-8 pm
Blackwoods on London Rd.

RSVP Joan Segel 218-727-7925



Happy Birthday to our Most Senior Alumnus—**Phyllis Champagne Fremont '28**—who recently celebrated her 104th birthday.



Sister Mary Charles McGough '43

The Tweed Museum of Art is pleased to announce a new exhibition featuring the work of Sister Mary Charles McGough '43. The exhibition is a collaboration between the Tweed Museum and St. Scholastica Monastery, and it is the first treatment of this prolific and regionally beloved artist.

You are invited to the following events, including a special tour for Hilltoppers during Reunion Weekend.

Opening Reception

June 3, 6-8 pm
Tweed Museum

Gallery Talks

June 29, 2 pm & July 19, 2 pm
Tweed Museum

Prayer and Reception

September 21, 2 pm
St. Scholastica Monastery Chapel

UMD University for Seniors Lecture Series

May 12, 11:30 - 12:30 am
UMD Kirby Plaza 309

UMD University for Seniors four week course

April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 9:30 - 11:30 am
UMD Kirby Plaza 309

Learn more by contacting
Christine Strom at 218-726-7823
or cstrom@d.umn.edu

News & Notes

Kevin Thorson '12 graduated Air Force Basic Military Training January 17, 2014. Kevin will be entering his sophomore year at St. Cloud State University in the fall continuing his studies in Criminal Justice.

Nick Miller '12 graduated Air Force Basic Military Training March 28, 2014.

Joe Fifield '11 lives, studies and travels in India for six months (January - June). Joe is blogging great stories filled with adventure and insight.

Cassie Jones '11 studies in London for the semester. Cassie is blogging fun stories of her experiences abroad.

Kelsey Klug '09 works as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Northfield, MN after graduating from Carleton College.

Geordie Diener '08 interns with the Twins minor league affiliate (Gulf Coast League Twins) in Fort Myers, doing behind the scenes work relating to the players/coaches/training staff.

Anna Ringsred '03 competes in the 2014 Sochi Olympics as a long distance speedskater.

In Memoriam

Jon Mahoney '36
Renette D. Lachecki Amato '39
Katherine Nowak Young '43
Roland "Rolly" Grandmaison '45
Elaine Luhm Kuettel '45
James Pierce '45
Virginia Newman Brophy '46
William Daugherty '46
Richard Lachowski '48
Chester "Chet" Luczak '48
Robert "Bob" Kirchoff '50
Bernie Ajdukiewicz '51
John McCullough '51
William "Bill" Pomroy '54

Molly Richards Smith '02 writes a blog entitled "Confessions of a First-time Mom" and has been featured by CNN.

Kasey Yoder '02, in his first year as head coach, led the Orono Spartans Boys Hockey Team to the State tournament.

Christa Knudsen '92 directs Marshall School's International Program. She is emerging as a leader in the industry with teachers from all over the world seeking out Marshall School because of her work.

Brian Krmpotich '85 lives in Geneva and commutes to work in London, England.

Craig VanKessel '69 is a lifetime member of the Western Amputee Golf Association and the National Amputee Golf Association for his service on behalf of amputee golf. Craig has served as a goodwill ambassador to Australia in 2010 and 2014. He is currently preparing to travel to Australia, Japan and Canada for tournaments.

Barbara Jeanne Modeen Anderson '56
James Julius "Toby" Bang '57
Karol Kuhlman Huening '57
Kathleen Holmes Appell '59
John Charles Wiley '61
Sandra Tanghe Lefaive '66
Larry Oestreich '66
Lawrence Gressman '69
George Piasecki '69
Diane Rollins Murphy '70
Thomas Mrak '71
William McBride '72
Sharon Feiro Malnati '76



The 2014 Marshall Auction Committee: Matt Thibodeau '89, Auction Coordinator, Sarah Perry-Spears '92, Stephanie Ball '81, Kristina D'Allaird '86 and Michelle Buria '89

The annual Marshall Magic Dinner Auction will once again occupy the gymnasium May 3rd. The Starry Night theme will pay tribute to the stars who allow Marshall to continue its excellence in education. It is one such group of Marshall stars behind this year's auction committee.

These four alumni, who are leading this year's Marshall Magic Auction efforts, are eloquent on their motivation for getting involved. Stephanie Ball '81, Michelle Buria '89, Kristina (Fryberger) D'Allaird '86, and Matt Thibodeau '89 are grateful for their own Hilltopper experiences, and understand that giving and getting involved is something any Hilltopper grads can do.

"For me, Marshall was always the embodiment of exactly what people hoped school would be," says Kristina. "I consider it the responsibility and privilege of alumni to ensure that other children can have the same great experience."

Michelle adds, "Attending Marshall was incredibly influential in my life. Hearing my 12th grade daughter reflect on her own Marshall experience has shown me that a Hilltopper education has always been wonderful, and has only been enhanced over time with the efforts of educators, volunteers, and donors."

Stephanie notes that volunteerism has always been a crucial part of a Hilltopper education. "Marshall has prospered because of individuals who have supported the school's commitment to excellence in education through giving and getting involved."

Matt reminds the group, "We are having so much fun supporting such a great school."

Proceeds from the annual Marshall Magic Auction provide significant support to the school's general operating budget.

Your support

Matters

Marshall School

1215 Rice Lake Rd.
Duluth, MN 55811
218-727-7266

marshallschool.org

