



VOLUME 45, ISSUE 2

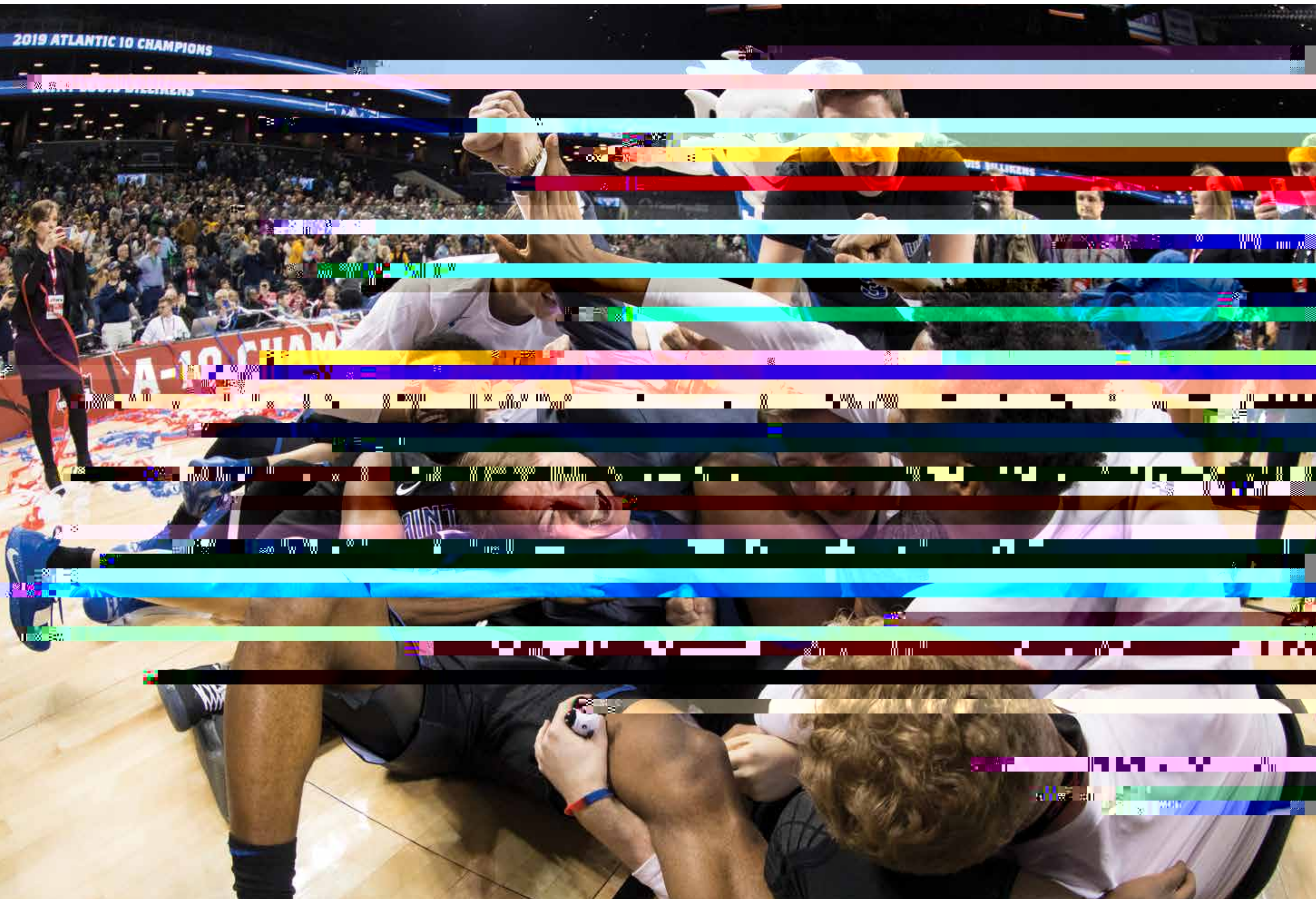
Laura Geiser (A&S '90, Grad '92)

Amy Garland (A&S '97)

Matt Krob

Jessica Ciccone  
Marie Dilg (Grad SW '94)  
Sarah Hilgendorf

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**Billikens Win  
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### SLU Celebrates Its 2019 Graduates

As he stood at the commencement podium, Matthew Prest (Parks '19), Saint Louis University's student speaker, told the crowd to be mindful of a proverb from his native New Zealand: "What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people."

For Prest and the University's 2,546 newest alumni, the call to change the world for the better defined their SLU experience and the paths they will take following their May 18 commencement at Chaifetz Arena.

"The legacy of SLU and of yourselves is in your hands," Prest said. "What being a Billiken means is up to you, but I challenge you to make it matter."

University President Dr. Fred P. Pestello echoed Prest's emphasis on the uniqueness of a Jesuit education and on Billikens as change-makers, as did the ceremony's keynote speaker, Randall L. Stephenson, chairman and CEO of AT&T.

Stephenson received an honorary doctor of commerce degree during the ceremony. Others given honorary degrees were Robert Cardillo, former director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency; Marie Kenyon (Law '86), a lawyer and director of the Peace and Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of St. Louis; and Donald Ross, vice chairman of Enterprise Holdings Inc.

### Cancer Center Receives \$4.5 Million Gift

The School of Medicine received a \$4.5 million gift from the estate of Dr. LeRoy Fink (Med '56) to support the Saint Louis University Cancer Center. Fink's gift is one of the largest in the history of the medical school.

A lifelong supporter of the University, Fink named the School of Medicine as a beneficiary of his estate, providing funds that will be used to support the Cancer Center specifically with research and clinical care, as well as the Cancer Center's active focus on clinical trials and its outpatient bone marrow transplant program. A native of Edwardsville, Illinois, Fink died in January 2018 at age 87.

He was an active alumnus, assisting in planning numerous class reunions as a volunteer and providing many gifts to support student scholarships and programs in the School of Medicine.



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THE OTHER 10 PROJECTS ARE:

**Dr. Christopher Arnatt**, *Assistant Professor of Chemistry*

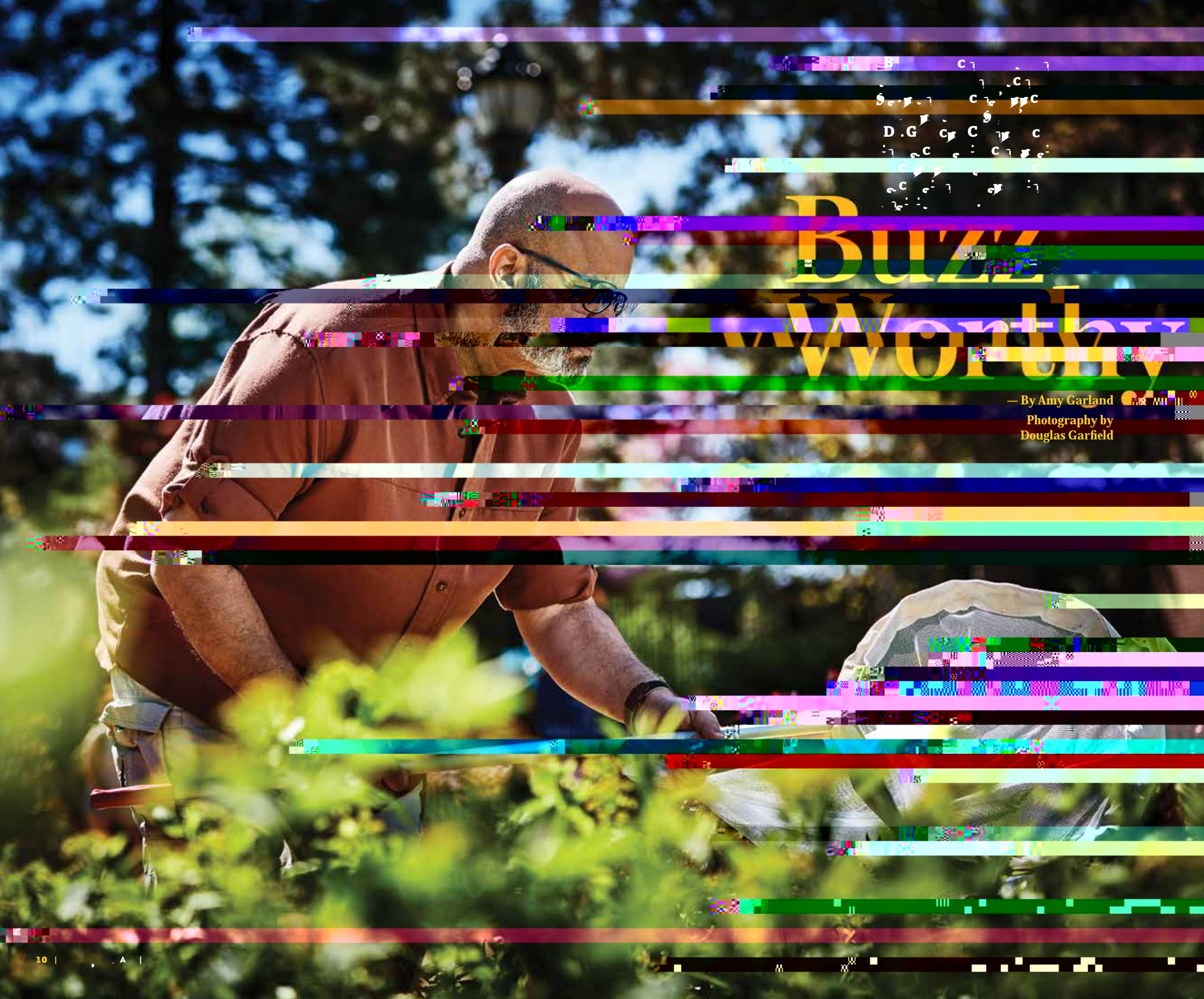
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The Saint Louis University Research Institute awarded its first

RESERVOIR SAFETY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Dr. Amanda Cox, *Associate Professor of Civil Engineering*

Reservoir safety and sustainability are crucial issues that are being exacerbated by aging American infrastructure, population growth and increased extreme precipitation. Current methods for analyzing reservoir capacities predate computers. Cox will use advanced geospatial techniques to develop a new method to compute capacities. This will enable engineers to accurately estimate volume and sedimentation.

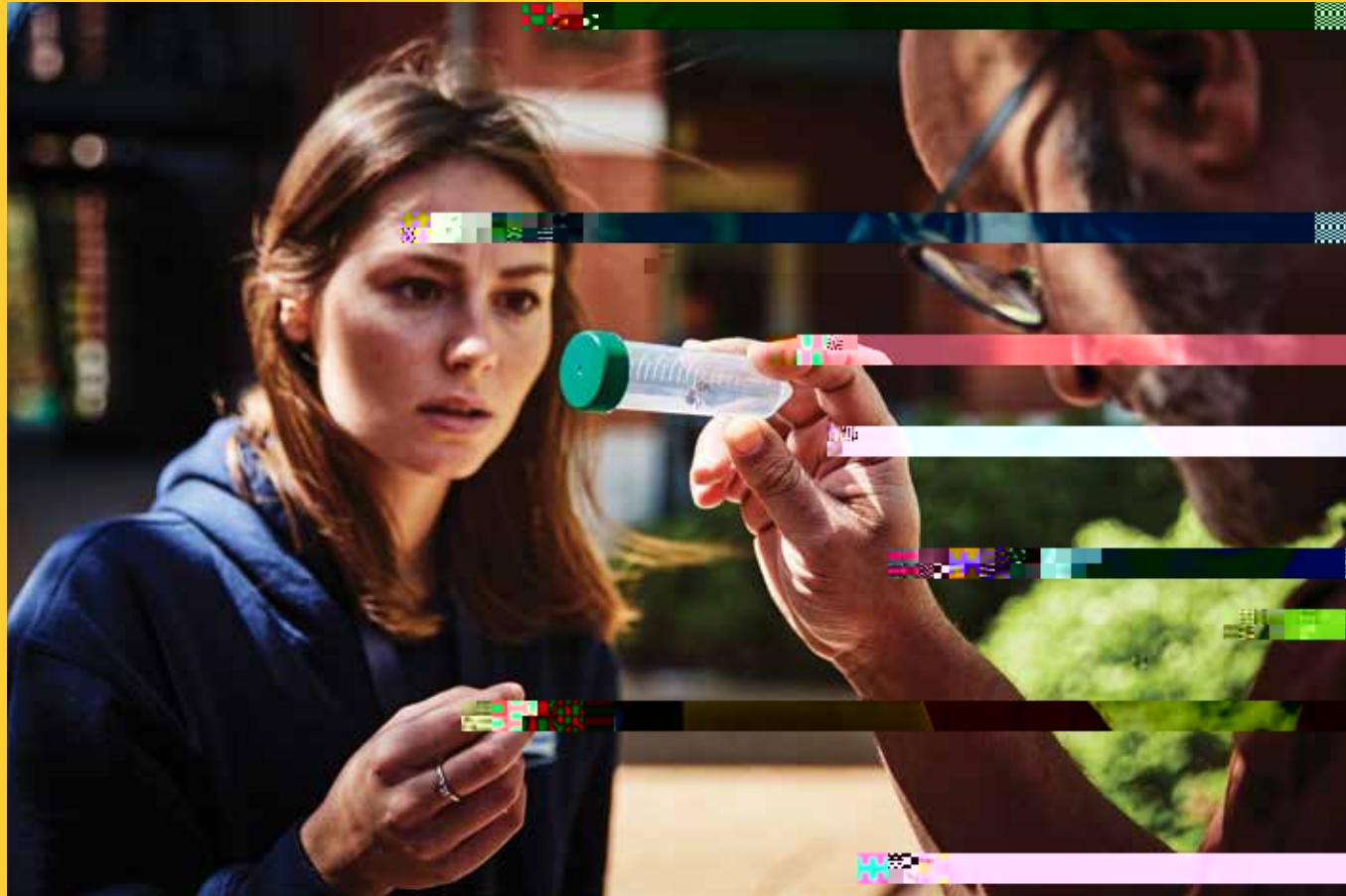


# Buzzworthy

— By Amy Garland  
Photography by  
Douglas Garfield

**In the collection room in the basement of the newly renovated Macelwane Hall, Dr. Gerardo Camilo has access to drawers upon drawers of bee specimens, about 18,000 in all. But that doesn't stop him from searching for more.**

The first time he went to collect at Saint Louis University's communitiu(om8g (e)2.2 0.006mo)11.3 ( (0)-i (n(om



Camilo has always been big into bugs.

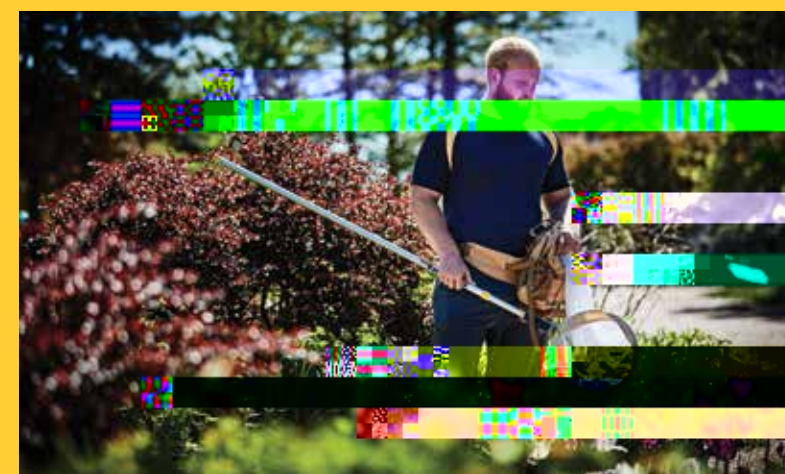
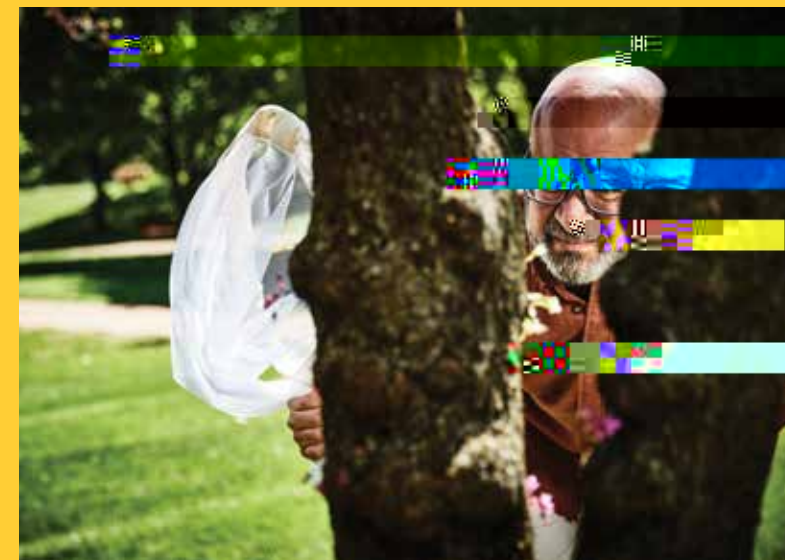
"As a little kid growing up in Puerto Rico, I chased every bug, every little critter, lizards, frogs," he said. "My mom hoped I'd outgrow the bug phase. I never did."

From the start, he found a way to turn his love into his livelihood.

"An American lady lived down the street from us. One day she came screaming out of her house: There was a lizard inside! Now, it's a tropical environment — we have lizards everywhere. I went in with a friend and caught the lizard. She gave us \$5. Mind you, this is 1973 or '74. We proceeded to collect lizards everywhere and toss them in her yard," he said, grinning.

He went to college thinking he'd study marine sciences and happened to take an entomology course only because it fit into his schedule.

"After a couple of weeks..."







nature around our homes should look, and we've codified those sensitivities into neighborhood associations. How high can you keep your lawn? How many trees can you put in your yard, and what kind? The collective set of decisions leads to standardization across the spatial regime," he said. "We call it homogeneity."

On a larger scale, Americans also have homogenized the way we farm.

"The way we grow food has changed more in the last 50 years than in the previous 5,000," Camilo said. "Agricultural policy in the United States favors huge amounts of monoculture so you can then homogenize your product. We have learned to homogenize our crops by homogenizing the environment and homogenizing the genetics of the crops."

Unfortunately, although homogeneity might produce a lovely landscape or consistent crops, it does not encourage bees or other pollinators. To thrive, most bees need a broad diet — easy access to different kinds of pollen.

It makes sense, then, that Camilo found so many different kinds of bees in St. Louis' community gardens — they produce a diverse bounty.

"Especially on the north side, there is a broad range of cultural representation. St. Louis' International Institute runs several of the gardens, where you have refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa, Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia and Latin America all planting. People tend to grow stuff they like and know how to cook," Camilo said. "That leads to a diversity of flower resources, which leads to a diversity of bees."

Knowing that native bees are thriving in the city's community gardens and food roofs gave Camilo traction. The next step is mapping pollinators in the area on a greater scale.



long before “Obamacare” became a buzzword, when nurses were plentiful and vaccines were notable for their creation and not up for debate, four colleagues from Saint Louis University School of Law met for drinks at a bar near campus. It was 1981, 15 years after the Social Security Act Amendments created Medicare and Medicaid, the latter of which was just being implemented across all 50 states. Law professors Jesse Goldner, Sandra Johnson, Nic Terry and Mike Wolff did not set out to stake a claim in an entirely new legal field — but in fact, that was just what they did.

With a few scribbles on a now legendary cocktail napkin, the professors created the Saint Louis University School of Law Center for Health Law Studies and set out to define the field of health law.

Now in its fourth decade, the Center for Health Law Studies has been ranked a top program nationally since *U.S. News & World Report* started ranking the specialty, taking the top spot for 15 of the last 16 years and outranking programs at Harvard Law, Boston University and Yale.

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More and more  
SLU students  
are expressing  
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**T** One afternoon in February, six of SLU's student dance groups took to the stage in Xavier Theatre to show off their skills and celebrate all things dance at SLU.

These six groups exemplify today's Saint Louis University dance community: diverse, enthusiastic and growing. In recent years, the number of dance teams on campus has climbed, and today, nearly a dozen groups bring an impressive range of dance styles and world rhythms to SLU.

The dancers themselves have a lot to say, both on stage through their choreography and musical selections, and off stage, as they talked about why they dance, some of the biggest misconceptions about the dance styles they're so passionate about, and what they love about SLU's dance community writ large.





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**Marion Reis** A&S  
*The University News.*

**Sister Mary Christine Morkovsky** A

A&S '61, '66, '90  
*Pilgrims in Providence: A History of the Texas Congregation of Divine Providence in Mexico.*  
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**Dr. Edward Chow**

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**Kathleen (Brady) Andria** A

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**Theodore Biondo**

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Hayley Collins A

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Scott Hunsaker A

Mark Pratzel A

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**BOB BURNES AWARD**  
Honors teams that have brought recognition to SLU

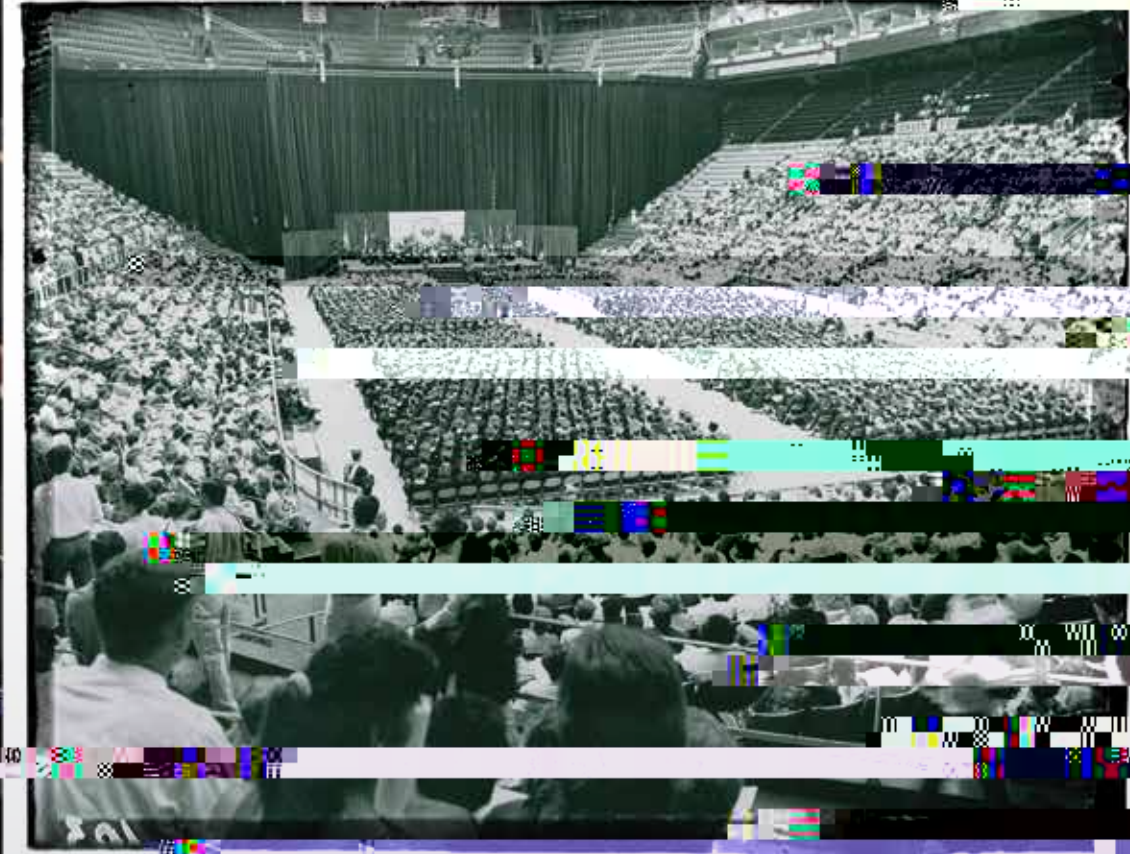
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