



**CenturyCollege**

## *News Release*

November 26, 2008

[Nancy Livingston](#)

Public Relations

651-779-3222

Fax 651-779-3470

[Century College](#)

3300 Century Avenue North

White Bear Lake, MN 55110

## **Century College Alums Start Business in Stillwater**

A friendship that started on a basketball court at Century College (the former Lakewood Community College) in the early 1990s has resulted in a business partnership and the opening of a new restaurant in Stillwater.

Century alums Jeremy Scheffert, 39, who grew up in St. Paul and then Oakdale, and Rob Cherry, 38, who grew up in White Bear Lake, opened St. Croix Seafood and Grill on July 23, 2008, on the second floor of a historic brick building at 317 Main St. in downtown Stillwater. In addition to all-you-can-eat crab legs and other great food, the partners also serve up live rock music on Friday and Saturday nights. Featured bands include J.B. Leighton, Kurt Jorgenson, Tim Mahoney and Uncle Chunk. A huge dance floor and adjacent video games add to the fun.

“We’ve also got the best view in Stillwater,” said Scheffert, gesturing out the large rear windows that frame the gorgeous St. Croix River panorama.

Both say their entrepreneurial spirit started when they were in college. Cherry earned his associate in arts degree at Century and then went on to St. Thomas University. Scheffert started in criminal justice at Century and then took business courses at Metropolitan State University. Both stopped short of earning

their four-year degrees and pursued business opportunities. Cherry founded a party supply distribution company in the Twin Cities and then bought the Cherry Pit restaurant in St. Paul, which his wife, Nicole, manages. Scheffert managed a Rain Forest Café in Chicago, worked in printing and sales and then managed the St. Croix Boom Co. in Stillwater. When that restaurant went up for sale last summer, he contacted his old friend and the two quickly decided to make the purchase and re-open the business as the St. Croix Seafood and Grill.

“Business is good,” said Scheffert. “People think our busiest season is in the summer, but we are even busier in the fall, September to October, when people come for the fall color. Tourists just flock here.”

Both men have fond memories of Century. “We met on the basketball court, and didn’t really like each other at first,” said Cherry. “I think I gave him an elbow to the head once that resulted in some stitches. But it was the start of a great friendship. We played every intramural sport there was. It was really, really fun.”

“We had great teachers, too,” said Scheffert. “I really liked it better than the four-year school. The classes were smaller, and we got lots of personal attention. There was not one class I didn’t enjoy.”



Photo: Century alums Rob Cherry and Jeremy Scheffert, owners of St. Croix Seafood and Grill