

Winter 2004

Samford University

Seasons



Coming Home

page 4

School of Business Newsletter pages 17-24

winter 04

features

- 4** **What a Homecoming!**
Homecoming is about reunions, and there were plenty of them at Samford this fall. Members of at least 27 groups got together to talk about old times and catch up on the latest news during Homecoming Oct. 28–31. Check out extensive coverage of the big weekend on pages 4–11.
- 17** **School of Business Newsletter**
Birmingham News Editor Tom Scarritt talks about the value of a Samford M.B.A. and what it means to bring news to the community in the School of Business Newsletter, carried as an insert in this *Seasons*. Other business news and features also appear in the eight-page section.
- 25** **His Kind of Music**
Graduate Nick Hilscher '00 decided the Big Band sound of the '40s was his kind of music. For the past four years, he's toured the U.S. and Japan crooning the old songs with the Glenn Miller Orchestra.
- 38** **Understanding Muslim Culture**
Tunisian professor Salwa Cherif visited Samford this fall under a new Fulbright Scholar Program designed to build understanding between the U.S. and Muslim countries. In this article, she contrasts the early status of Muslim women, in which "there was much gender equality," with their modern condition of "gender segregation," and talks about the reasons.

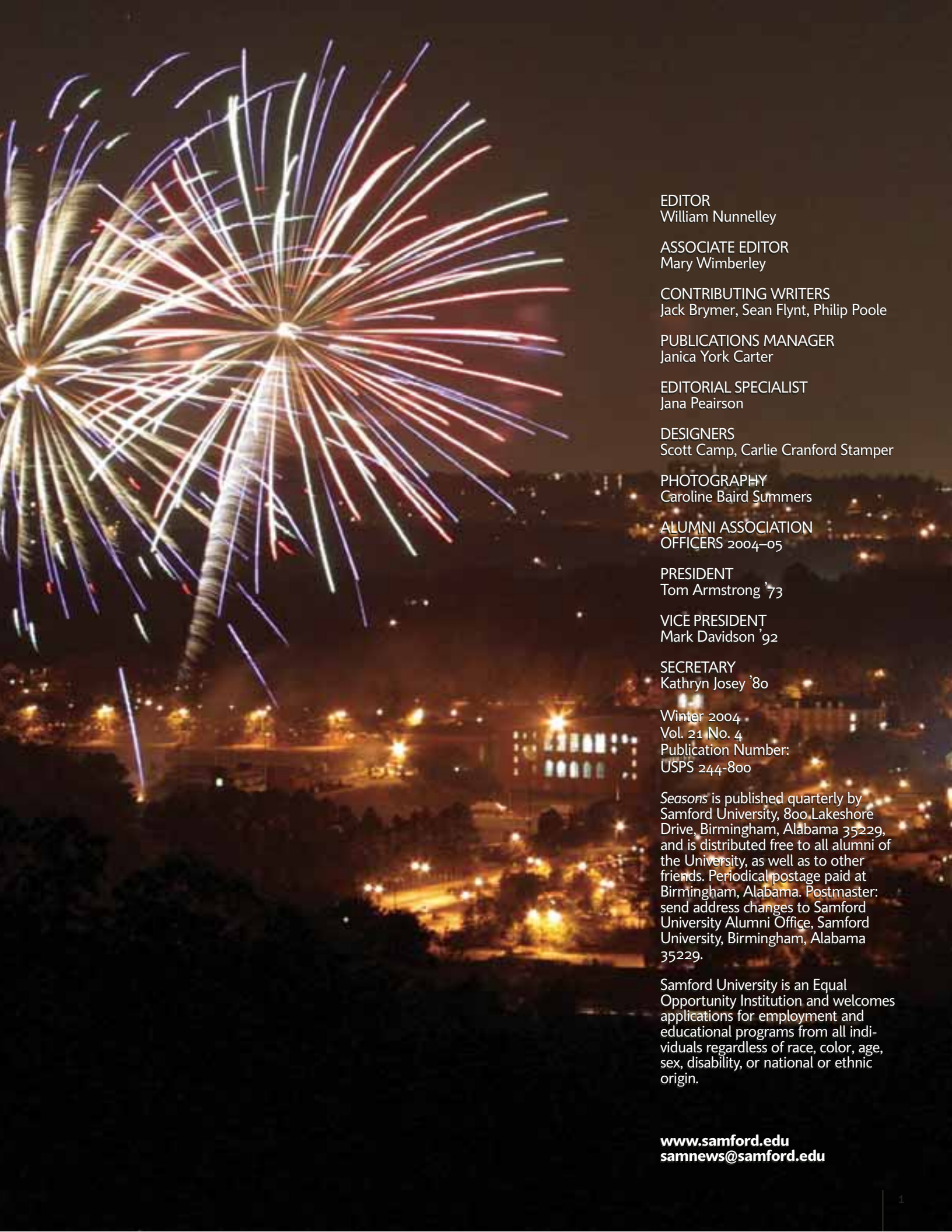


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Front Cover: Five-year-old Conner Rohling enjoys homecoming. His parents are Samford Strength and Conditioning Coach Tommy '91 and Christine '92 Rohling.





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Reflecting on Hardships Overcome

The shortage of flu vaccine this year reminded me of a precarious moment in Samford's history. In the fall of 1886, Baptists made the decision to move the institution from established buildings and campus in the Black Belt town of Marion, Ala., to the booming East Lake section of Birmingham. This new city had courted little Howard College with the ardor of a suitor, sweet-talking the charm and promise of the city slicker to the college's rural backers. A hometown newspaper rhapsodized Birmingham as "the center of new thought in the South," having the capacity to take Howard College, "located in a remote village in the prairie section of the state," to "at once assume the dimensions and dignity of a great university if removed to this city." (*Birmingham Sunday Chronicle*, July 25, 1887)

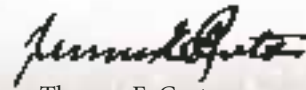
One historian wrote of those who made the pitch for the move, "They invested the future of Howard College with the prophetic hues derived from the rosy speculation so rife in the Magic City." Money and land were promised for the school at a time when backers worried about competition: the state would be giving away free education at Auburn and Tuscaloosa, and the Methodists were about to endow their college at Greensboro.

Imagine, then, that the second-guessers had a field day when classes opened for the first time at East Lake, October 1887, in a sea of mud, with downed trees lying about, and only two scraggly buildings. "Remnants of the library were scattered and torn over the floor of an outhouse." The campus had no board fence to fend off roaming pigs and cattle. The euphoria that prompted the move had gone with the wind, but neither the wind nor any other source had brought the promised money, land and buildings. Two prominent educators had turned down the presidency, leaving trustees to name a president who "created no enthusiasm and aroused no confidence."

Despair was already in the air when, unanticipated and certainly unwelcome, yellow fever came to portions of Alabama, mostly from the west, and gripped Decatur and other cities before arriving at Birmingham. In the summer of 1888, so many communities were under quarantine that it was almost impossible for the president to make fund-raising visits. People were sick. Business was depressed. The 17-year-old Birmingham economy was seeking to recover from its wild real estate boom. The city was quarantined. Even the mail was not getting through. Those pre-move promises of a healthful collegiate environment on the edge of a great city must have rung strangely hollow.

When the president tried to get to the campus in the fall of 1888, he was arrested for "running the blockade." Students arriving by train or by hack were let off on the outskirts of town to network their way through yards and lanes, on foot or by hailed rides, to get to the campus. Spirits must have been already low at this "college of high repute," when the president received a letter advising the obvious: "no college can succeed under such circumstances."

If it is true that "nothing is so sweet as hardship overcome," we can today savor our progress. Having foregone my flu shot this year, even reflecting upon troubles which appear from time-to-time, I am grateful that, since 1888, no Howard/Samford president has had to deal with quarantines, or multiple cases of yellow fever.



Thomas E. Corts
President



SAMFORD report

Trustees Approve Land Purchase for German Center

Samford University's board of trustees this fall approved the purchase of land for future construction and development of an international study center in Germany. Samford will buy a tract of land in Elstall, on the outskirts of Berlin, for the center.

The vision is to develop a site similar to Samford's successful 20-year-old center in London, England, said Samford President Thomas E. Corts. Plans are being made to construct a facility that will accommodate students and faculty for semester-abroad programs. No timetable was announced.

"The property is well-situated in what was formerly East Germany with regular trains to downtown Berlin," said Samford Vice President for Business Affairs Joseph W. Mathews, Jr. He noted that the property was near the historic Olympic Stadium, site of the 1936 summer games at which Alabamian Jesse Owens "astounded the world" with his track-and-field performances.

Mathews reported that Samford

finances continue to be solid. The University completed the 2004 fiscal year May 31 with \$400,876,055 in total assets. Samford reported total expenses of \$92,486,511 for the year. Gross income from tuition and fees was \$62,731,758. Gifts, endowment investment income, and sales and services combined with tuition to produce \$97,970,081 in total revenue.

The largest donor to Samford in 2003-04 was the Alabama Baptist State Convention, whose churches provided \$4.9 million to the University's operating budget.

Samford endowment was valued at \$232,434,107 as of May 31. The endowment gained 15.74 percent for the fiscal year. Endowment performance exceeded the benchmark, the Consumer Price Index plus six percent, by 6.51 percent.

Samford invested more than \$6.3 million in campus facility projects during 2003-04, according to Vice President for Facilities Don Mott. ■

Samford Ranked one of the South's Best by *U.S. News*

Samford University again ranks as one of the top institutions in the South in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings of America's Best Colleges.

Samford is fifth in the South in the Best Universities-Master's category, which includes schools offering a full range of undergraduate and master's programs and some doctoral programs. Samford offers 23 degree programs, including 15 at the master's and doctoral levels.

U.S. News & World Report rankings are based on a school's academic reputation, freshman retention rates, faculty resources, class size, student selectivity,

financial resources and alumni giving.

Samford has been ranked in the top seven schools in its category for 15 consecutive years.

U.S. News ranks the schools in four categories—Best National-Doctoral, Best Universities-Master's, Best Liberal Arts Colleges-Bachelor's and Best Comprehensive Colleges-Bachelor's. The Best Universities-Master's category is the largest (572 schools) and is divided into four geographic regions.

Samford enrolls 4,416 students from 44 states and foreign students from 31 countries. It has been Alabama's largest private university or college for more than 50 years. ■

Cumberland Ranked High, Too (see page 41)



Sandifer-Stech No Longer Writes out His Lectures

Dan Sandifer-Stech believes he's come a long way as a teacher, and his students agree.

"When I started teaching, I was so nervous I would write out my lectures," he said. "I definitely don't do that anymore."

Dr. Sandifer-Stech, this year's Buchanan Teaching Award winner, said students helped make him a better teacher by pushing him "to think through my expectations for assignments and do a better job of communicating those expectations."

His problem-based learning training taught him the importance of helping students organize their work teams before launching into the assignment or task, he added.

Sandifer-Stech said teaching a service-learning course with a small group of students "reminded me of the rich learning that takes place when hands-on learning is combined with written and verbal reflection."

A Samford faculty member since 1997, he chairs the family studies department in the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies. He received the Buchanan award, with its \$1,000 cash prize, at opening convocation Aug. 31. Finalists for the award were nominated by members of the Class of 2004.

Sandifer-Stech believes he is a better teacher when he is engaged in his own growth and expansion.

"When I am chasing a new (to me) path of information, I am more alive in the classroom," he said. "When I am working on a task that at first seemed overwhelming or beyond my ability, I am better at encouraging students to push through their barriers."

Provost J. Bradley Creed, in presenting the Buchanan award, said Sandifer-Stech "invests generously in students, both inside and outside the classroom." ■

Coming Home

by Mary Wimberley



Seven-year-old Connor Middleton happily tossed his miniature football along the grassy slope on the Samford University quadrangle.

His favorite thing on homecoming Saturday at Samford? “Just looking around at everything at the school,” he said as he joined his parents, Michael and Adair Fletcher Middleton, both Class of 1994, and his brothers, Luke, four, and Drew, one, for lunch on Ben Brown Plaza.

“It is the first trip to Samford for the boys,” said his mom. “We were looking forward to showing the boys where we met.” The Middletons, who live in Orlando, Fla., were on campus for their 10-year class reunion.

It was a perfect autumn day with color in the leaves, a pleasant breeze and lots of excitement as thousands visited the campus for class reunions, cookouts, tailgate parties, concerts and other special activities.

The Class of 1994 luncheon was one of 27 reunion gatherings for classes and affinity groups that were part of the official schedule for Samford’s 2004 Homecoming. Other groups met informally throughout the weekend.

The largest gathering of the weekend other than Saturday’s football game and Brad Paisley concert was the sold-out homecoming banquet on Friday, which honored the 2004 Alumni of the Year (see separate story). The homecoming banquet is a renewal of the alumni candlelight dinner that was celebrated for decades until the mid-1990s. Guests enjoyed dinner on the Wright Center Concert Hall stage (at left), followed by entertainment and fireworks on campus.

More than a thousand students and alumni gathered near the Wright Center for a bonfire and



pep rally featuring the football team and cheerleaders. The evening culminated with a fireworks display to music provided by the Samford Marching Band.

The Golden Bulldog reunion brunch on Saturday morning provided a setting for alumni from Classes of 1954 and earlier.

Grace Hicks Marquez ’42 of Birmingham received the David Lockmiller Award as the person representing the earliest class. “I graduated in 1942, but I claim the Class of 1943 because I started with that class in 1939,” said Marquez, who taught Spanish at Samford for many years. She was an Alumna of the Year in 1989.

Among those reminiscing over pages of vintage *Entre Nous* yearbooks were Bill Sumner ’54 and his wife, Donna, who traveled from their home in Moraga, Calif., near San Francisco, for homecoming events. “We don’t get back very often, so this is special,” said Sumner, who enjoyed his 50-year class reunion banquet later in the day.

Alumni had no lack of affinity groups to hook up with during the day.

Journalism and Mass Communication graduates who celebrated “20 years of excellence” in the Art Gallery



Harold, left, and Elouise Williams are recognized as the first recipients of the designation, *Alumni Honoris Causa*, by Bennie Bumpers ’63, outgoing president of the Alumni Association.

learned of several scholarship opportunities. Carolyn Yeager Robinson '60, former assistant editor of *The Crimson*, announced details of an endowed scholarship that has been established in memory of her late brother-in-law, Tim Robinson '65, who died last year. Robinson covered Watergate for *The Washington Post*.

"We hope to make it an endowed scholarship that will be awarded based on ability and need," she said.

Department chair Dr. David Shipley announced a newly created scholarship named for journalism professor Dr. Jon Clemmensen and his late wife, Marianne, who died in October. The scholarship will help JMC students attend professional conferences.

The JMC reunion brunch was only the first stop on a busy homecoming schedule for Donovan '74, M.S.E. '77, and Becky Fadely Harris. A Birmingham art director who is adviser for the *Entre Nous* yearbook, Donovan recited their agenda. "After this, we're going to a Phi Mu brunch with her sorority sisters, then to a Sigma Nu event with my fraternity brothers and a tailgate lunch with my Class of 1974 reunion group, then the football game, and another Phi Mu party off campus afterward," said Harris.

Hypatia members celebrated the organization's 80th anniversary with a sold-out brunch featuring a presentation by actress Laurita Mullins Miller '71 of Birmingham, who dramatized the life of the Greek goddess Hypatia. Hypatia is a senior women's honor society at Samford.

Guest speaker Carol Fishburne Nunnelley '65 told of her work as director of National Credibility Roundtables and NewsTrain, projects of the Associated Press Managing Editors. "The national trust in newspapers has been falling," acknowledged Nunnelley, a former managing editor of *The Birmingham News*. "The public and journalists aren't in touch with each other." The roundtables, she believes, provide a venue for the public and journalists to learn from each other, which is in turn having an affect on the "culture of newsrooms" nationwide.

Hundreds mingled at the annual reunion luncheon in the University's dining hall. Groups gathered by decades throughout the cafeteria to reminisce about their days on the East Lake and Homewood campuses.

"This is the first homecoming I've ever been back to," said Donald McRae '44 of Orlando, Fla. "I saw a part of my family—the Howard College family—that I hadn't seen in 60 years. It is exciting to see a bunch of my former classmates."

Seibert Stadium was the afternoon place to be as scores of children enjoyed the Bulldog FunZone activities, and more than 200 participated in stadium tailgate reunions for the Classes of 1969, 1974 and 1979, band alumni, and women's basketball alumnae.

More than 6,500 fans watched the Bulldog football team claim a 20-17 Ohio Valley Conference victory over Tennessee Tech University.

Katie Hall, a senior communication studies major from Tyler, Texas, was crowned homecoming queen at halftime. Her honor escort was senior Sam Hawes, an English major from Plymouth, Ind.

After-game reunions continued for London Study Centre and former Davis Library workers, as well as a homecoming dinner sponsored by the Student Government Association.

Some alumni who were visiting the library for the first time since its major renovation in the '90s happily took tours offered by current staff members.

Homecoming scenes, page 6 (from left): Heath, left, and Amalie Hyneman enjoy the School of Business reunion with Dean Marlene Reed, center; Jennifer and Gene Howard recall London Days; Quarterback Ray Nelson gains ground against Tennessee Tech.



Rodney Davidson '79 of Birmingham, a music performance major who has received national accolades for his artwork for the Grammy Awards, enjoyed visiting former library coworkers. "It's great to see people I worked with as a student," said Davidson, who worked in reference, government documents and at the main desk.

Joyce Marshall Lamb-Bevelle '74 of Forestdale, Ala., was back for her first homecoming. She noted that her years as a work-study employee in the library turned into a career-changing experience. "I loved every minute of it. I was a math major and taught math, but went back for a degree in library science," she said. She recently retired after 27 years as a media specialist.

Alumna of the Year Wanda Seay Lee '69 was guest speaker at the Sunday morning worship service that signaled the conclusion of Homecoming 2004. Lee urged the more than 300 students and alumni in attendance to discover their passion in life, which would help them identify their purpose in life. "When a person has a passion for God, you will see it in the way they live out their lives and in the way they reach out to others," said Lee, a former missionary who is executive director of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

"What is your passion? Is it loving God with all your heart, soul and mind, and loving others as yourself? If you can answer that, you will be on your way to answering the question of what is your purpose in life," she said. ■

Additional reporting by Lauren Welty of *The Crimson* and Philip Poole

For more homecoming photos, go to www.samford.edu/photoalbum/hc2004.

Homecoming scenes, page 7 (clockwise from top): Fireworks and bonfire light the sky; Samford trumpeter sounds a note; Grayson Schuck enjoys the day; students applaud Brad Paisley (next photo); Homecoming Queen Katie Hall and escort Sam Hawes smile at halftime.





Music of various strains flows through Homecoming

Above: The Samford Chorale, directed by Tim Banks, presents Evensong during homecoming.

Below: Golda Koski, left, greets Barbara Pearson Lane '60.

Musical sounds ranging from formal to down-home echoed across the Samford campus during Homecoming 2004.

The first official Homecoming Weekend event was an organ recital in A. Gerow Hodges Chapel honoring emeritus professor of music Dr. H. Edward Tibbs, who retired last year. Five former students, representing each of the decades he taught at Samford, performed.

"His legacy is a rich one," said School of Performing Arts Dean Dr. Milburn Price, reflecting on Tibbs' 43-year career at Samford. "He is a scholar, a master teacher of organ, a splendid performer and organ designer."

Performers were Dianne Norton '68, Sarah Heaslett '76, Phillip E. Burgess '86, Charles Kennedy '92 and Michael Wayne Smith '00.

Early arrivals for Friday's homecoming dinner were treated to a Choral Evensong presented by the Samford University Chorale, conducted by Dr. Timothy Banks '74. Alumni and guests packed A. Gerow Hodges Chapel for the service, which was in part to honor the 20th anniversary of Samford's London Study Program at Daniel House.

Friday evening's parking lot bash featured live music by the Birmingham blues and rock band, The Repeaters, which includes Samford graduate Brad Wolfe '96. The Samford Band

marched in to set an appropriate tone for the pep rally and bonfire.

Throughout the weekend, Samford carillonneur Stephen Knight provided campus background music on the Rushton Carillon in the Harwell G. Davis Library bell tower.

Saturday morning events featured an A Cappella Choir reunion and concert.

Bob Rosser '67 of Birmingham was among former singers from various decades enjoying the



camaraderie. “I was in the first choir group to tour Europe in 1965,” recalled Rosser, who was looking forward to visiting with Golda Koski, widow of his choir director, Dr. George Koski.

Hundreds packed Hodges Chapel for the concert, during which Mrs. Koski explained why she always called her husband by his last name. “The students may have thought I was being rude when I called him ‘Koski,’ but the reason was that when I first met him I could not pronounce his first name,” said Mrs. Koski. Her late husband took the name “George” as an adult because his given name, of Finnish origin, was difficult to spell and say.

Mrs. Koski, who now lives in Texas and Georgia, fondly recalls the years in Birmingham when her husband was on the Samford music faculty. “I would patrol the practice rooms to make sure the students were practicing,” she recalls.

“Fabulous! Just fabulous!” That’s how Mrs. Koski described the performance by the current A Cappella Choir.

Following the concert, former choir members Jon and Tanya Lepper Parks were bubbling over at their Class of 1999 five-year reunion luncheon. “It was awesome,” Jon said of the concert. “I enjoyed the new and old pieces that they sang.”

The reunion concert included the first piece the choir ever performed under Dr. Koski’s direction, “Lost in the Night,” which the A

Cappella Choir sang in a December 1949 concert.

Band alumni enjoyed their own reunion and tailgate party in Seibert Stadium.

Crawford Conway ’64 traveled from his Cleveland, Tenn., home to visit with other bandsmen. The former Samford percussionist was at his first Homecoming in many years. He hopes to correct that in the future. The day before Homecoming, he explained, he had retired after 35 years of teaching. In his 40th year in the ministry, he is associate minister at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

Saturday evening, country music star Brad Paisley offered a different flavor of music. A spirited mix of students, alumni and area country music enthusiasts—with a considerable sprinkling of 10-gallon-hats—poured into Wright Center for the Academy of Country Music’s best new male vocalist of 2000.

“Are you mostly students?” Paisley asked the crowd, which thundered an affirmative response. “Then why aren’t you all studying instead of in here listening to me?” he rejoined. Nobody left the hall.

Sunday morning worship service featured the Samford Student Ministries Choir. As is becoming a traditional closing for many Samford events, the service concluded with the singing of the Alma Mater.

“With pride we pledge our hearts and minds, to the Samford Red and Blue.” ■



Left: A Cappella Choir members stroll to their reunion concert.

Below: Dr. H. Edward Tibbs, center, is honored by former students Phillip Burgess ’86, Sarah Heaslett ’76, Dianne Norton ’68, Charles Kennedy ’92 and Michael Wayne Smith ’00.



Action Report: Alumni Association Efforts Paying Big Dividends

The Samford Alumni Association celebrated a successful year at the association's annual meeting during Homecoming weekend. A standing-room-only crowd heard reports on association activities and elected new officers for the coming year.

New Samford Clubs in Mobile and Nashville have hosted several events in recent months, and Atlanta-area alumni hosted two major events in conjunction with Samford's football game against Georgia Tech, reported Samford Alumni Relations Officer Billy Ivey '96. Other local clubs and alumni special-interest groups will be organized soon, Ivey told attendees.

The goal of the association and local Samford Clubs is to involve as many alumni as possible in ongoing relationships with the University, Ivey said.

New association officers for 2004–05 were elected during a business session. President is Tom Armstrong '73, a financial planner with Merrill Lynch in Birmingham (see page 29). Vice president is Mark Davidson '92, a financial planner from Mobile, Ala., and secretary is Kathryn Guarisco Josey '80, an administrator at Montgomery Academy in Montgomery, Ala.

Winners in the Challenge of the Classes fund-raising competition were announced. The challenge recognizes classes for their participation in annual giving to Samford, according to J. M. Hogewood, senior

development officer and director of annual giving. Hogewood reported that during the previous year, about 2,500 Samford alumni contributed more than \$2.88 million to the University.

Class of 1942 (Gene Kelser, class agent) won for highest percentage of givers. The class achieved a 48 percent giving rate.

Class of 1961 (Virginia Head Gross, class agent) was named top dollar producer. The class raised \$260,261 for the Samford Fund.

Class of 2003 (Sara Ellison and LaMarkis Branson, class agents) achieved the highest number of donors. The class counted 112 givers in their first year of participation since graduating from Samford.

Other meeting highlights included recognition of outgoing association copresidents Sonja and Bennie Bumpers '63 of Birmingham.

Armstrong commended the Bumpers for their two years of leadership during transitions in University alumni leadership and program expansion.

Newest class agents are Ann Wade Parrish and Adrian Horstead, Class of 2004.

The association's next annual meeting is Oct. 29, 2005, as part of homecoming weekend.

Hogewood reported that during the previous year, about 2,500 Samford alumni contributed more than \$2.88 million to the University. ■

Stepping into Alumni Association leadership roles are, from left, Tom Armstrong '73, president; Kathryn Josey '80, secretary; and Mark Davidson '92, vice president.

Bennie '63 and Sonya Bumpers '63 wrap up two years as Alumni Association copresidents.



Challenge of the Classes winners are, from left, the Class of 1961, represented by Virginia Head Gross; Class of 1942, represented by Gene Kelser; and Class of 2003, represented by Sara Ellison.



Looking Back at Two Decades of Samford in London

The 20th anniversary of the London Study Centre gave sufficient cause for celebration throughout the Homecoming 2004 weekend. The Art Gallery featured a “Samford Salutes London” exhibit of photographs taken during London trips.

Ann Marie Harris Harvey '90 of Birmingham and Laurie Williamson Moore '89 of Leeds, Ala., shared the grand prize. Each received a week's accommodations for two at Daniel House.

Harvey shot her black-and-white photo entitled “Canterbury Canal,” while visiting Canterbury during her spring 1989 semester at the study centre. “The scene just spoke to me,” she recalled. “I had no idea it would turn out so well.”

Harris said she shot 52 rolls of black-and-white film while enrolled in a photojournalism independent study course. She and her husband, Todd '90, J.D. '94, already have lined up her mother to baby-sit their two young daughters so they can enjoy the trip soon.

Moore won for her 1987 color shot of a slightly fog-shrouded canal in Brugges, Belgium, that might have been shot last week or 100 years ago. It was entitled “A Step Back in Time.”

Alumni, students and faculty who have studied and served at Daniel House

gathered after the Saturday afternoon football game for fellowship.

Samford President Thomas E. Corts shared details of the acquisition of the London property that has served as a base of operations for hundreds of Samford students.

At his suggestion in 1984, the board of trustees agreed for the school to use funds received from a foundation for the purchase of property abroad. During a trip to London to explore suitable property, he and board members Ben Brown and Ben Harrison looked at 23 properties offered by a realtor. None was acceptable.

“It was discouraging. It appeared that we could not find what we wanted,” he recalled. “But there was one last to look at. It was a clean, neat, but well-worn bed-and-breakfast. The owners were ready to retire and were ready to sell. It was as though it was in the Lord's Providence that we were to own 12 Ashburn Gardens.”

The purchase was arranged in the short time they had left before flying home, recounted Corts, who kept a journal of the proceedings. His last lines about the trip read, “It appears we did very well. Time will tell.”

To the many who have learned and grown from their London experiences, time has seemed to tell very well.

Retired theatre department chair Harold Hunt, who served as the first professor in residence, recalled that the 12 students who were there in 1984 dubbed themselves the “pioneer family” or the “First Family” of the London Study Centre.



Three pioneers, Jennifer Corts Fuller '86, Stacia Sinclair Gaines '87 and Chuck Smith '85, shared memories, as did a more recent visitor, Chris Edmunds, a currently enrolled student. “Daniel House was probably the main draw for me to come to Samford,” noted Edmunds.

“The main thing is that it is a base of operations; a place to go from,” said Smith. “We learned a lot outside the study centre and a lot inside.”

Smith, who credits his stay at the centre with centering his interest in British history, earned a Ph.D. in the subject at Auburn University in 2000.

Fuller noted that Samford students learned a lot just by being there. “We gained a sense of independence from learning to navigate a bus route, or balancing our own money,” she remembers, adding that the method of writing letters home on blue air-mail paper was a far cry from the instant e-mail messaging current residents use to communicate home.

Gaines also recalled receiving letters that would have been passed around the cafeteria on campus for handwritten notes before being mailed to London.

“I appreciated being able to explore and appreciate art, culture and music while in London,” said Gaines. “I also learned that I could get along with other kinds of people, and that great leaders are servants.”

“Thank you, Dr. Corts, for your vision. It was worth it.” ■

Harold Hunt, far left, recalls early days in London. Photography exhibition grand prize winners were “Canterbury Canal,” above, by Ann Marie Harris Harvey '90, and “A Step Back in Time,” left, by Laurie Williamson Moore '89.



“I was fortunate to get a good education at Howard College, and then had the opportunity to go in the Navy and do interesting things.”

Marvin Mann completed his Howard College schoolwork in two years and eight months, with three majors, but had to wait on his diploma. “It was during the Korean War,” the 1954 graduate recalled.

“I had been drafted by the Army during my senior year but was able to get a deferment until I could finish,” said Mann, who joined the Navy and shipped out just days after completing his course work. “They mailed me my diploma.”

Mann, a 2004 Samford Alumnus of the Year, has been on a fast track ever since. As chairman emeritus of Lexmark International, Inc., he has slowed down a bit but still serves on five boards in addition to Lexmark.

“Lexmark management is good. We have good people there, outstanding leadership,” he said, explaining his comfort at not having daily, hands-on involvement with the company he founded in 1991 and served as chairman for until 1999. He was chief executive officer from 1991 until 1998.

The exemplary leadership qualities that he has passed on to his successors did not come by accident.

“I was fortunate to get a good education at Howard College, and then had the opportunity to go in the Navy and do interesting things,” he said.

After the Navy, he earned a master’s in marketing and economics at the University of Alabama, and joined IBM in the early years of the computer business.

During his 32 years at the company, he held a variety of jobs, with responsibilities in management, sales, manufacturing and finance, with different types of business within the company. When he became general manager, his assignments were as a “turnaround guy,” or troubleshooter.

“I was given businesses that needed help and had to figure out a strategy to get them on the right path,” he said.

Mann was president of the company’s Information Products Business, Service Sector Division and Satellite Business Systems subsidiary before taking early retirement and leading a team to buy out Lexmark.

“We re-engineered everything that could be changed in a company and got the employees

Alumni of the

Wanda S. Lee



“One thing about Ida V. Moffett [School of Nursing] was that you worked at every hospital in the city,” she said, pointing to the wide range of specialties and types of care she was exposed to in the process.

Wanda S. Lee has found her Samford nursing education helpful in unexpected ways in her job as executive director/treasurer of the Woman’s Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

“When I took this job, one of my former nursing professors reminded me that she had told me years ago that I would always use the decision-making and leadership skills that they were teaching us,” recalled the 1969 graduate, 2004 Alumna of the Year.

“She was right when she said I would fall back on the skills I learned, not the mechanics,” said Lee, who assumed the top WMU post in 2000.

School of nursing faculty go beyond teaching the technical aspects of nursing, she said. “They stress how to be a team leader and engage the strengths of each person.”



Marvin Mann

motivated,” he said. “By the end of the second year, we had made tremendous progress. Once we got the employees fully engaged, things went amazingly fast.”

That leadership transformed Lexmark into a high-growth company, reaching nearly \$4.8 billion in revenue worldwide in 2003. It is a leading developer, manufacturer and supplier of printing solutions to customers in offices and homes in more than 150 countries.

He credits the company vision with much of the company’s success. “Employees were given the responsibility to develop the vision, a set of principles and values of the company,” he said.

“A key line in the vision statement refers to ‘customers for life.’ That means we are dedicated to treating customers in such a way that they will choose to stay with us,” said Mann, who was awarded an honorary doctor of commerce degree from Samford in 1993. He is also a graduate of the Northwestern University International Executive Institute in Birkenstock, Switzerland.

As a Samford undergraduate, he majored in accounting, economics and secretarial science. The latter, which included classes in typing and shorthand, was not a usual course of study for men of that time.

“My mother had asked one of my teachers at Tarrant High School to introduce me around Samford,” said Mann, who was the first in his immediate family to attend college. The teacher was a friend of the secretarial science instructor at Samford, and that connection led him to those courses, he explained.

While a student, he worked two jobs: one for his dad, a truck driver, and another in the accounting department at the University of Alabama medical center.

He and his wife, Frances, whom he met at Tarrant High School, live in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., and Cary, N.C. They have two grown children, Tara and Jeff, and two grandchildren. ■

Year

Lee has found those skills particularly helpful as she leads the 115 employees in the national WMU office and the million-plus volunteer members who make up WMU. Under her leadership, the hierarchy of WMU became a flat organization based on teams.

Lee, who served as president of WMU during 1996 to 2000, is the first woman in WMU history to hold both positions. The Russellville, Ala., native has been active at all levels of WMU—church, association, state and national. Through the years, she started Acteen groups for girls in three different churches.

Before moving into leadership roles in WMU, she worked as a registered nurse in hospitals in Georgia, Louisiana, Alabama and the Windward Islands, where she and her husband, Larry, a 1968 Samford graduate, were missionaries during 1979–81.

She has served in volunteer medical missions in Bosnia, St. Vincent and Rio Branco, Brazil, and with the Mississippi River Ministry.

In addition to the introduction of

the new team structure for management and operations, she is credited with the return of customer service to in-house operations at the WMU building.

Other highlights during her first four years at the WMU helm include a successful national convention that attracted 6,500 Acteens in 2003 and the introduction of a new Acteen curriculum; the celebration of Girls in Action’s 90th birthday, and new watchword and motto; the launches of MissionsFEST and Sisters Who Care mission programs; and an expanded Web site project.

Her denominational experience includes service on the executive committee and general council of the Baptist World Alliance.

She met her husband, a Southern Baptist minister, when he was a new Samford graduate and she was a senior. “We were introduced by the people of the First Baptist Church Gardendale. He was from Gardendale and was organist at the church,” she explained. “Samford was an important part of his life and became an important part of ours together.”

Both their children are Samford graduates. Their daughter, Allison Lee Dearing, J.D. ’00, is a Birmingham attorney, and their son, Matthew, Class of 2000, is a student at Emory University.

Like many nursing students of her time, Lee spent little time on the main campus. She lived at the Highland Avenue dorm with other nursing students, and later at Princeton hospital. Her training exposed her to a broad scope of medical care.

“One thing about Ida V. Moffett [School of Nursing] was that you worked at every hospital in the city,” she said, pointing to the wide range of specialties and types of care she was exposed to in the process.

Her competencies as a nurse and administrator were acknowledged by Campbellsville University in 2001 when the Kentucky Baptist school awarded her an honorary doctorate in public administration in recognition of her leadership skills and nursing background. ■

Saying Thank You



Above, senior Sam Hawes talks about his Samford experience with Diana and Randy Pittman at this year's Philanthropy Dinner; Right, President Barry Bledsoe and his wife, Judy, represent the Baptist Foundation of Alabama at the dinner.

“Samford is not only a school of great education, but the thing that makes it different is its Christian emphasis. It is our intent to keep it that way.” Trustee James Stivender, Gadsden

Sherman, Lovelace, Wilkerson, Montague and Davis are among the most revered names in Samford’s history. The University survives today as a vibrant, thriving institution because of the efforts of these and others from generations past and present.

Samuel Sterling Sherman was the first president, a New England educator who dedicated himself in 1841 to a school in rural Alabama that had no funds, no students and only a single, small wooden building that would eventually become the nationally recognized Samford University of today.

J. B. Lovelace and W. W. Wilkerson were longtime trustees who saved the college in 1884 by purchasing school property at a foreclosure auction in Marion, Ala., and returning it to the college board of trustees. This action paved the way for the move several years later to Birmingham, where the school ultimately flourished.

A. P. Montague was a strong early president (1902–12) who helped the school achieve stability and academic standing in the Birmingham community.

President Harwell G. Davis led Howard College out of the Depression and dreamed the dream of a new campus in Shades Valley, where Samford grew to its present-day position of strength and respect.

Samford memorializes the contributions of these leaders by naming its top giving societies in their honor. Once a year, the University spotlights the current members of these giving societies—today’s largest contributors—in an elegant evening event.

It’s simply a way of saying thank you to faithful supporters whose gifts continue to help underwrite strong programs of Christian higher education at Samford.

Samford recognized its most loyal supporters at the annual Philanthropy Dinner Sept. 9 at HealthSouth Conference Center in Birmingham. Special recognition went to new members of the four top lifetime giving societies.

The Baptist Foundation of Alabama was recognized as the most significant donor. Foundation President Barry Bledsoe of Montgomery accepted the gift of appreciation, which acknowledges membership in the Samuel Sterling Sherman Society. The society, named for

Samford’s first president, recognizes lifetime contributions of more than \$1 million.

“The Sherman Society honors those who share President Sherman’s intense dedication to the vision of what Samford can become,” said board of trustee chairman William Stevens of Birmingham.

“Samford enjoys a very strong relationship with the Baptist Foundation of Alabama,” said Stevens. “The foundation staff has represented Samford well with donors who have worked through the foundation to provide financial support for Samford. It would be impossible to fully measure the importance of this relationship, but the University is very grateful that we can enjoy a good working relationship.”

Lovelace-Wilkerson Society members recognized were Carol and Ben Harrison of Greenville, Ala. The Harrisons have supported several Samford programs and projects, including the Ben Harrison Theatre in the Wright Center.

Montague Society members included Alabama Power Company, Alabama Power Foundation and Vulcan Materials Foundation, all of Birmingham. Birmingham attorney Lanny Vines was represented by Judge John Carroll, dean of Samford’s Cumberland School of Law.

Harwell G. Davis Society members cited were Julie and Hobart Grooms of Birmingham; the Ben Harrison Foundation of Greenville, Ala.; James P. Price of Pinson, Ala.; Pat and George Scofield of Birmingham; the Tweedy, Jackson, Beech and Fikes law firm of Birmingham; Joyce and Ruric Wheeler of Birmingham; and the Unus Foundation of Birmingham.

The honorees received crystal keepsakes depicting various campus buildings. The handsome gifts were hand-delivered to each table by Samford student ambassadors.

Donors George and Pat Scofield, left, and Kay and Walt Barnes enjoy the Philanthropy Dinner.



Samford “provides the extras” that help, “whether it’s small classes or professors who open their homes to students at Christmas.” Matthew Harrison, junior

During a predinner reception, Samford president and first lady, Thomas and Marla Corts, greeted members of the lifetime giving societies. Samford music major Kathryn Hoppe of Huntsville provided harp music.

Samford board of trustee member John Floyd welcomed dinner guests, who enjoyed remarks by several speakers, a lively video featuring students and faculty, and background music by Samford faculty string quartet members Jeffrey Flaniken, Angela Flaniken, Bonnie Furuto and Patty Pilon.

Speakers addressed the past, present and future. Alumnus and longtime trustee James Stivender of Gadsden, Ala., shared personal reflections.

“It has been a great honor to be associated with Samford for a lifetime. So, I think I know a little bit about my subject,” said Stivender, who was born in East Lake near the college campus, was educated at Howard College and is now in his 46th year as a Samford trustee.

He has been closely associated with three Samford presidents: Harwell G. Davis, Leslie S. Wright and Thomas E. Corts. “Samford is not

only a school of great education, but the thing that makes it different is its Christian emphasis. It is our intent to keep it that way,” stressed Stivender.

Junior political science major Matthew Harrison of Huntsville, Ala., believes it’s the little things that separate the good from the great. Samford, he said, “provides the extras” that help, “whether it’s small classes or professors who open their homes to students at Christmas.”

Faculty, administration, community and students all pull together, he said. “Samford changes tons of people’s lives.” Harrison is a Samford ambassador and Student Government Association vice president.

Dana Basinger spoke as a faculty member and parent. She is a core curriculum instructor and director of freshman life, and the mother of

two daughters who attend Samford.

Like other Samford professors, she said, “I want my students to read well, research well and communicate well, in oral and written form. Be assured that your contribution to faculty and students is yielding a very, very important return.”

President Corts told the compelling story of a 19th-century ship that sank in the Atlantic Ocean. Hundreds of people drowned, including four members of one family. The victims included a man who drowned because he was weighted down with gold he had packed in his clothes. Yet, another passenger survived, sustained by the buoyancy he gained by not trying to take possessions with him.

“An institution should be about teaching people what matters most,” said Corts. “We want to help students learn how to sustain their buoyancy.”

The Samford Bulldog Marching Band provided a highlight of the evening, surprising guests by entering the banquet room playing the school fight song. Faculty members Jon Remley, Brad Sargent and Grant Dalton led the band.

“In the days and weeks ahead, you will hear much about the proposed instrumental music building and recital hall that is the University’s current major fund-raising project,” trustee Floyd told the audience after introducing the band as representative of the instrumental music division of the School of Performing Arts.

“These are the first students who will benefit from that endeavor,” said Floyd.

Before the band concluded the evening’s festivities, Floyd told the audience of a longtime but little-known tradition of the Samford marching bands. For two decades, the band has ended its football game-day performances by playing the gospel hymn, “It is Well with my Soul.” After playing, the band members lay down their instruments, stand at attention and sing the “Samford Alma Mater” followed by the “Doxology.” (See Fall 2004 issue of *Seasons*.)

The band helped conclude the evening of thankfulness by following its game-day tradition, with dinner guests joining in the singing of the Samford Alma Mater.

As a reminder of the evening, guests received a framed miniature watercolor of the campus’ best-known landmark, the Harwell G. Davis Library bell tower. ■



Samford First Lady Marla Corts, left, chats with Eugene and Ellamae Elder.

Nick Hilscher Croons the Old Songs as Glenn Miller Band 'Boy Singer'

by William Nunnolley



During the Big Band era of the 1930s and '40s, every band had a female and male vocalist, or in the vernacular of the time, a "girl singer" and a "boy singer." They entertained with ballads and snappy swing tunes between the orchestra's instrumental offerings. Frank Sinatra and other crooners began their careers as Big Band singers.

Samford graduate Nick Hilscher '00 wasn't born until 1977, but he's reliving the life of a Big Band "boy singer," crooning the old songs nightly with the famed Glenn Miller Orchestra. He joined the band in 1998 after three years at Samford and has been a fixture ever since, except for the 1999–2000 school year, when he came back to finish his music degree in piano.

Hilscher decided the Big Band sound was his kind of music after seeing an old movie, *The Glenn Miller Story*. He liked it so much that he patterned his own singing after it and found a place for his talent 50 years after Big Band music peaked.

Miller's original band recorded such standards as "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," "String of Pearls," "Pennsylvania 6-5000" and other familiar Big Band melodies during the '30s and '40s. One of America's most popular bandleaders, Miller volunteered to lead an Army band in England during World War II. He was killed when his light plane disappeared on a flight across the English Channel in 1944.

But Miller's music lives on. The Glenn Miller Orchestra survived under other leaders and continued to play concerts across the U.S. over the years. It currently plays about 300 shows a year under the direction of leader Larry O'Brien.

"That World War II-era music is really a passion of mine," Hilscher said. "I never really liked modern pop music."

He grew up singing in church and school choirs in Marietta, Ga. In high school, he earned membership in the Georgia All-State Chorus before entering Samford to study music in 1995. He polished his crooning style with a Marietta group, the Les Still Big Band, during holidays and summer vacation.

After three years in college, Hilscher recorded a demo tape. A cousin who knew Larry O'Brien helped get the tape into the bandleader's hands. The band was playing a date in Macon, Ga., and invited Hilscher down to audition. Afterward, O'Brien called him into his office.

"You're shoes are shined and you wear a nice suit and sing well," O'Brien said. "You're first on my list."

Hilscher thanked the leader and left, hoping he might get a call some time. Outside, Julia Rich, the band's female vocalist who doubles as road manager, asked him what O'Brien had said. Hilscher told her and she motioned him into her office.

"Do you want the job?" she asked. Hilscher said yes. "It's yours," said Rich.

That began a five-year stint that Hilscher described as enjoyable but a bit of a grind. The band tours 48 weeks a year in the U. S. and Japan. It spends a lot of time on the bus.

"I read and listen to music and preaching tapes," he said.

Like most entertainers, Hilscher lives for his moments on stage.

"I love what I do, singing for others," he said. "I enjoy the old crooner type of singing. It's really an art form."

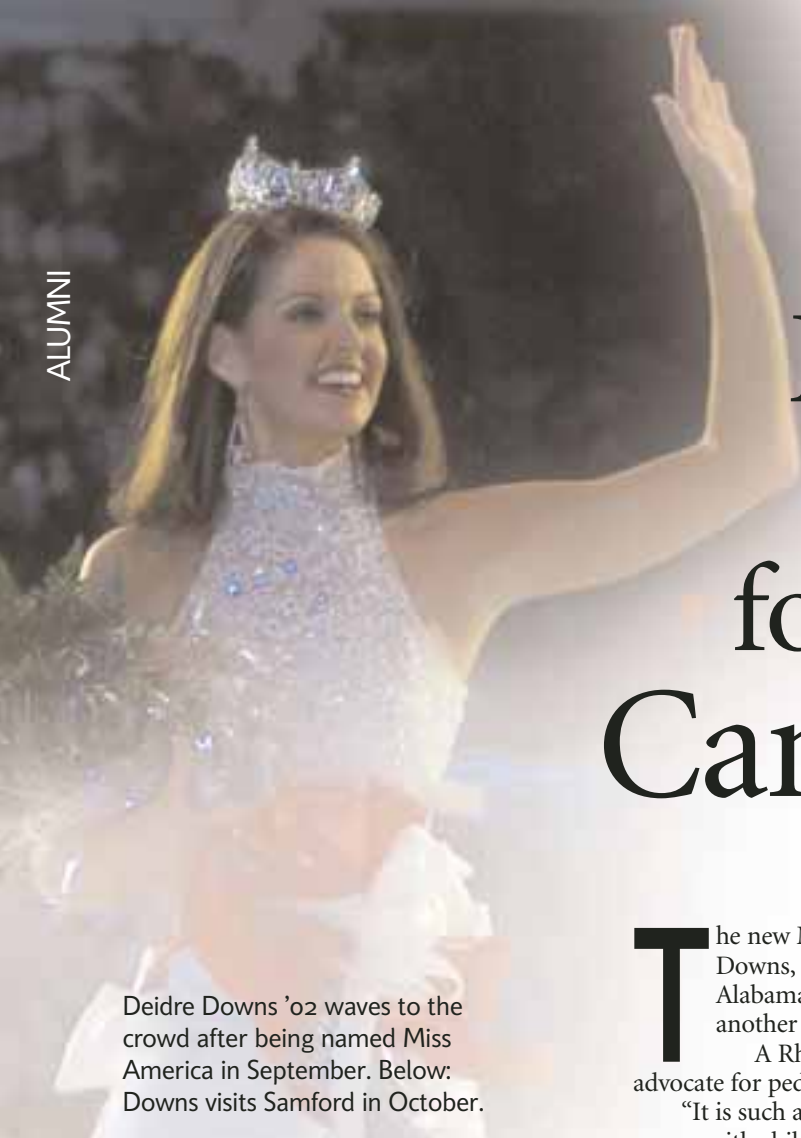
Hilscher sings dozens of Big Band songs, but his favorite may be "April in Paris," which he performs on his CD, *Nick Hilscher Sings with the Glenn Miller Orchestra*. He also does three Glenn Miller arrangements on the CD: "At Last," "I Hear a Rhapsody" and "It's Always You."

"It's been enjoyable, and I've met a lot of neat people," said Hilscher. But he knows the job won't go on forever.

He's engaged to Sarah Roberts, who he met Samford, and they're planning a March wedding. He's not sure the nomadic life of a band singer will work after marriage, so he's looking at a possible teaching career.

For now, he's content behind the microphone, singing the old songs just the way they were sung when they were new. ■

To order a copy of the CD, *Nick Hilscher Sings with the Glenn Miller Orchestra*, go to www.glenmillerorchestra.com, click on "Big Band Store" and go to "Other Albums."



Deidre Downs '02 waves to the crowd after being named Miss America in September. Below: Downs visits Samford in October.



Samford's Miss America: an Advocate for Pediatric Cancer Victims

The new Miss America, 2002 Samford *magna cum laude* graduate Deidre Downs, put off her medical career a year when she was crowned Miss Alabama last June. But she hopes to contribute to the medical field in another way during her year in the spotlight.

A Rhodes scholar finalist, Downs is using her year as Miss America as an advocate for pediatric cancer victims.

"It is such an overlooked disease," she said. "People don't like to associate cancer with children. This issue needs someone to be an advocate. Children with cancer need a voice, and I want to be that voice as Miss America."

Downs, who plans to become a pediatrician, was accepted by the University of Alabama School of Medicine and would have entered this fall. Success in the Miss Alabama and Miss America pageants postponed that timetable but earned her a \$50,000 scholarship to apply toward medical school in the future.

She earned a bachelor's in history, *magna cum laude*, from Samford, with minors in biology and chemistry. A Samford ambassador, she was a member of Phi Eta Sigma freshman honor society and Phi Alpha Theta history honor society.

A third-generation Samford graduate, she is the daughter of David Downs and Susan Sanford Downs, and the granddaughter of the late Eula and Orville Downs.

At the Miss America Pageant, she also won the Quality of Life Award and accompanying \$6,000 scholarship for her work creating Alabama's Making Miracles Program, designed to raise awareness and funds in the fight against cancer in children. ■

"Children with cancer need a voice, and I want to be that voice as Miss America."

—Deidre Downs



Honoring a Lifetime of Service

by Jana Peairson

She was the first female registered pharmacist in Blount County, a significant achievement, but in her words, she was simply “the pharmacist.” Marie NeSmith Fowler ’48 set her aspirations where most women of her time couldn’t reach. She didn’t dwell on the challenges she faced or wait around for others to make her professional dream a reality. Instead, she sat attentively in a Howard College classroom as one of eight female pharmacy students, graduated and consulted with a patient as the first female registered pharmacist in Blount County. Later, she took time away from her career to focus on caring for her children. Always, she served through her church and community.

For these reasons, Fowler is being honored by her husband, Howard, through the establishment of the Marie NeSmith Fowler Lectureship Fund, the first lectureship funded for the Christian Women’s Leadership Center [CWLC] at her alma mater, Samford University. The fund will support a program of visiting speakers who bring to Samford unique expertise in areas related to Christianity, women and leadership studies.

Growing up, Fowler worked in her local drug store, starting behind the soda fountain. The pharmacist at the store later asked her to work with him, typing labels for prescriptions. She thoroughly enjoyed the work and knew, “This is what I want to do.”

She entered pharmacy school at then-Howard College in 1945. With many men in military service at the time, the school needed students and offered her a \$1,000 scholarship that covered her tuition, board and books all three years. Her four brothers were in the service,

and she chose Howard in part because it would allow her to be near her parents during that difficult time.

When Fowler arrived on campus, “the V-12 boys were in the big dorm [Renfroe Hall],” she said, so she first lived in Smith Hall. At one point, she had three roommates with only one closet. In such close quarters, she said, “You knew everybody on campus.”

Of her Howard College experience, Fowler recalls involvement with Phi Mu sorority, and contact with influential people and life-changing classes. “I loved every minute of it,” she said.

Graduating after three years, Fowler went almost immediately into pharmacy practice. Looking back, she’s surprised she didn’t encounter many who looked askance at a woman practicing in a traditionally male field. “After I was there awhile and people realized I was the pharmacist, there was no problem.”

She married Howard Fowler in 1951 and stayed home with two children for a time before returning to practice. The couple bought a store in Marie’s hometown of Blountsville, Ala., in 1954 and bought another in 1958 in Hartselle, Ala., where they live now.

A member at First Baptist Church of Hartselle, Fowler has held the chair’s position at some point for every committee at the church. However, her strongest impact was in quiet, unassuming ways. She was known for the desserts and notes of encouragement she took to people in need throughout the community. Her longtime pastor and friend, Ron Wilson, also recalls her serving as a mentor for many young and middle-aged women.

“Throughout her life, Marie NeSmith Fowler has lived every value and holds every character trait of a Christian leader. These values and character qualities have been reflected in her roles as a wife and mother, in her leadership and service in her church, and in her profession as a pharmacist,” said Wilson.

In true reflection of Fowler’s character, the lectureship will consist of speakers chosen not for their popularity or flashiness, but for their ability to challenge, inspire and expand the thinking of Samford students and the public.

“Throughout her life, Marie NeSmith Fowler has lived every value and holds every character trait of a Christian leader.”

—Ron Wilson

Dr. Carol Ann Vaughn, director of the CWLC, sees the lectureship as part of the center’s mission to provide learning opportunities and resources by enhancing the Christian Women’s Leadership Studies curriculum and offering public access to substantive material and thought-provoking speakers. “Many of our constituents would not otherwise have an opportunity to meet or hear individuals who will be Fowler lecturers, and that is one of the lectureship’s most significant contributions to the work of the CWLC,” said Vaughn.

For Fowler, the lectureship is an extension of the legacy she began in her own family: her daughter, son-in-law and two granddaughters attended Samford. She hopes that the lectureship will benefit a lot of young women, and said, “I just wish I’d had something like this when I was in school.” ■

CLASSnotes

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ALUMNI

- '44 **Darlene F. Patton** is retired in Oneonta, Ala. The memory of her late husband, **Ira B. Patton '44**, was honored recently when the Oneonta High School Class of 1963 established a college scholarship in his name. A physician, he was the first president of the Oneonta Board of Education.
- '50 **Winston E. "Wink" Chapman** was elected to the Center Point, Ala., city council.
- '56 **Ron and Josephine Heriford Hampton '57** retired from teaching in St. Louis, Mo. They live in a retirement park in Donna, Texas, located in the Rio Grande Valley area.
- '57 **Joanne Brindley Harwell** is music director at Tallulah Falls School and choir director at St. James Episcopal Church in Clayton, Ga. Her husband, **A. Brantley Harwell '56**, retired from the pastorate in 2001. They live in the mountains in Otto, N.C., where they enjoy visits from their seven grandchildren.
- William M. Todd** of Skipperville, Ala., retired in February after 50 years of ministry, most recently serving Spring Hill Baptist Church in Clio, Ala., for 12 years. He still preaches and leads Bible studies.
- '61 **Mary "Tommie" Ellington Ellison** retired as supervisor of gifted services K-12, Newport News, Va., public schools after 41 years in education. She and her husband, **James Charles**, live in Yorktown, Va.

- '63 **CeCelia Smith Armstrong** retired as a teacher with the Montgomery County, Ala., Board of Education. Her husband, **Larry Armstrong '61**, recently completed 21 years as associate pastor of Eastern Hills Baptist Church, Montgomery.
- Marcia V. Simpson Ball** of Ridgeland, Miss., recently retired from Jackson, Miss., public schools. She is state president of the Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Science Educators.
- '70 **Paul Andrews** was named a diplomate in forensic psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. He is a psychologist in Tyler, Texas.
- '74 **Barry S. Cochran** is president of Cullman Regional Medical Center. He is the 2004 recipient of the Alabama Hospital Association's highest honor, the Gold Medal of Excellence.
- '75 **Miles A. McGrane III, J.D.**, president of McGrane and Nosich, P.A., law firm in Miami, Fla., is a board member and immediate past president of the 75,000-member Florida Bar Foundation. He is chair of the Foundation's Interest on Trust Accounts program and an adjunct professor at University of Miami School of Law.
- '76 **Tom and Pamela Overton Stoker** live in Fort Worth, Texas. She is assistant director of the Graduate Career Service Center, Neeley School of Business, Texas Christian

University. He is principal consultant, Stoker Resources Group, which offers marketing, strategic planning and production to performing arts groups and congregations. They have two children and two grandchildren.

- '77 **Ann Thornton Field** recently was promoted to chair of the 170-attorney national insurance litigation department at Cozen O'Connor. She joins a select group of women attorneys responsible for managing large national law firms or practices. Field, who has served as a member of Cozen O'Connor's executive and management committees since 2000, was appointed as the firm's aviation practice group chair in 1996. She also led the firm's women's initiative, served as a member of its strategic planning committee and sat on its hiring committee in previous years. She has defended aviation insurers, manufacturers, operators and airports as well as aircraft owners in such high visibility cases as PanAm Flight 103, the U.S. Navy experimental V-22 Osprey Tilt Rotor Aircraft, the ValuJet accident and TWA 800.
- '78 **Wachita Payne Haywood** is associate director, Chicago office of Inspector General's Regional Healthcare Office, Veterans Affairs Administration. She lives in Hines, Ill.
- '80 **Caynor Smith** of Wise, Va., is national sales representative for R&S Sales, based in Glasgow, Ky. He and his wife, **Mary Dora**, have two children, **Charles Caynor** and **Dora Lee**.

- '84 **Kenneth R. Greene** earned a Ph.D. in social work from the University of Georgia in May. He is director of student services for Barrow County Schools, Winder, Ga. His wife, **Susan Cornwell Greene '84**, teaches at Holsenbeck Elementary School in Winder. They live in Statham, Ga., with their daughter, **Megan**.

Rick Sample is a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionary to inter-nationals in the San Francisco Bay area in California.

- '85 **Michael W. and Lori Horton Ashbaugh '81, M.A. '86**, live in Cullman, Ala. He is regional territory manager with Hydac International industrial filtration manufacturer. She teaches sixth-grade English and writing skills at Fairview Middle School. They have two teenage daughters, **Loren** and **Cally**.

Tony Hale and the Bluths Are Back for Second Season, Emmy in Hand

Will Tony Hale's show make it? Friends and fans of the '92 Samford graduate had to ask themselves that question last fall, given the short life experienced by of many new television sitcoms.

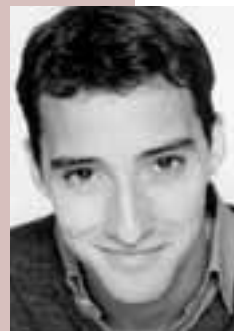
Of course, the answer is a resounding yes, now that *Arrested Development* has captured three Emmy Awards. The show that premiered on the Fox Network in November of 2003 won for Outstanding Comedy Series, Outstanding Director for a Comedy series and Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series.

That was Hale standing next to series creator Ron Howard on-stage at the Los Angeles Shrine Auditorium as the Emmy for Outstanding Comedy Series was

presented Sept. 19. Hale plays Buster Bluth, the innocent, professionally adrift younger son of a profoundly dysfunctional family whose CEO patriarch is serving a prison term for white-collar crime.

Hale, from Macon, Ga., has appeared in a number of commercials and made guest appearances in *The Sopranos* and other television series.

Arrested Development started its second year on Fox Nov. 7. It's on Sunday nights. ■



Armstrong takes Alumni Reins

Tom Armstrong regularly runs along the exercise trail that parallels Lakeshore Drive in front of the Samford campus. The workouts have prepared him for recent marathons in Chicago, Ill., and Edinburgh, Scotland, and for next February's Mercedes Marathon in Birmingham.

The stamina also will serve the Merrill Lynch investment associate well as he begins a one-year term as Samford Alumni Association president.

The 1973 graduate looks forward to challenges as well as opportunities in growing the Alumni Association, which is open to all Samford graduates.

"One of the areas I am most excited about is the development of Samford clubs in cities where we have large numbers of alumni," said Armstrong, citing newly established clubs in Birmingham and Mobile, Ala., Atlanta, Ga., and Nashville, Tenn.

"The clubs are becoming a great way to build and strengthen relationships between Samford and alumni," he said.

The Nashville club helped host a freshman reception for entering students and their parents in August. The Birmingham group is encouraging tailgate parties near Seibert Stadium before home football games.

Armstrong, who assumed the presidency during Homecoming weekend after two years as Alumni Association vice president, is open to ideas for future gatherings.

"We all have loved Homecoming and Step Sing, but those activities are just two weekends a year," he said. "The association wants to have interesting opportunities for involvement throughout the year for alumni and their families."

Armstrong's family includes his wife, Suzan Kelley Armstrong '74, whom he met at Samford, and a son, Tyler, who lives and works in New York City. Suzan teaches kindergarten at Highlands School, where she did her student teaching while at Samford.

His Vietnam-era college years (1969 to 1973) were, he recalled, a time of social upheaval, and political and economic turmoil. While Samford students were largely removed from issues that were faced on many campuses, he remembers an undercurrent of uncertainty and restlessness.

"Especially on December 1, 1969, when the first draft lottery was held," he

noted. "Hundreds were gathered downstairs from the cafeteria to see on television what our lottery number would be."

Friendships and relationships that were forged during those times have endured year in and year out, said Armstrong, who traces some of his philanthropic and community spirit to his Samford roots.

"The importance of community, and supporting our community resources and giving back to others in need was reinforced as part of my Greek experience at Samford as a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity," he said.

Armstrong earned a master's degree in education from the University of Virginia in 1976 and a master of business administration degree from the University of Alabama in 1989.



Tom Armstrong '73

He has held leadership posts in various professional and community organizations, including the Alabama Planned Giving Council, Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, the Alabama Head Injury Foundation, and advisory boards at University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of Alabama. He also is a member of Brookwood Baptist Church and the Birmingham Track Club. ■

Cathey Deal Bazel was the pharmacist on a recent medical mission trip to Guatemala. The medical team saw 1,721 patients and distributed beans, rice, corn and Bibles written in Spanish. She is director of pharmacy services, Metro Public Health Department, Nashville, Tenn.

'86 **Timothy Scott Bethea**, instructor and coach, Montgomery Academy, Montgomery, Ala., was named *The Montgomery Advertiser's* Metro Coach of the Year. In 2004, his golf team won the 3A Alabama High School Athletic Association championship for the second consecutive year.

'89 **Beth Nason Quick** of Franklin, Tenn., is an associate professor of teaching and learning in the College of Education, Tennessee State University. She and her husband, Jason, have three children, Mackenzie, Madison and Camden.

'91 **Jamie Lamb Eads** and **Chad Eads '92** live in Jackson, Miss. She is an assistant vice president in the strategic planning department of Trustmark Bank. He is offensive coordinator for the Clinton High School football team. They have two children, William and Sydney.

Jennifer Johnson Hogan is assistant principal at Vestavia Hills High School. She and her husband, Tim, have two children, Kaitlin and Jenna.

John D. McAfee, J.D., was elected circuit court judge of Tennessee's Eighth Judicial District in August. He and his wife, Leigh Anne, live in Tazewell, Tenn., with their children, Thomas, seven, and Loren Grace, one.

'92 **Jay C. Hogewood** is senior pastor, University Baptist church, Baton Rouge, La. He and his wife, **Kelley Massengale Hogewood '92**, have two children, Beck, eight, and Mariah, five.

Myra Miller is vice president of The Winston Group, a polling firm in Washington, D.C. She was quoted in a story regarding major news networks post-Sept. 11, 2001, in the Sept. 20, 2004, issue of *U.S. News & World Report*.

Nancy Ann Redmon Rush earned a master's in health administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She and her husband, Jason, live in Oxford, Miss.

Rick West is principal of Scales Elementary School in Brentwood, Tenn. He and his wife, Heather, live in Thompson's Station, Tenn., with their daughters, Ashley and Nicole.

Laura Ellen Witt married Philip Graham in May. They live in Birmingham. She is a chiropractor at Witt Chiropractic.

'93 **Stacey Noone Brown** traveled to BernKastel-Kues, Germany, in June to address the USAEUR senior leadership on aspects of Army family history as it relates to current Army family issues. She is an Army family historian in Pembroke, Ga.

Roderick Alan Parker works in Tallahassee, Fla., with the Tallahassee Voter Participation Program and Florida Consumer Action Network Foundation, a nonprofit organization that

focuses on political leadership training, voter awareness and voter information.

Charles D. Sands IV, chair of Samford's Department of Exercise Science and Sports Medicine, earned a Ph.D. in public health behavior from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in August. He and his wife, **Jennifer Johnson Sands '92**, have four children: Amber Leigh, seven; Megan, six; Abby, four; and Charlie, one. Jennifer is a teacher at Covenant Day School.

'94 **Drake Denton** and his wife, Tiffany, live in Birmingham with their four children: William Carter, five; Caleb Arthur, three; Emma Grace, one; and Sophie Isabell, born in August.

Denise Leigh Lamar Gillispie of Jacksonville, Ala., is a registered nurse at New Beacon Hospice.

Carl P. and Kim Fell Lewis own a drug store, Nation's Medicines, in Owensboro, Ky. They have three children, Claire, six, Clayton, two, and Christopher Patrick, born in February.

Mark K. Mahanes is sales manager for IBM zSeries Software. He and his wife, Carrie, live in Hiram, Ga., with their son, Christian, one, and daughter, Lily, born in August.

Neil Nipper is a second-year resident at the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita Family Medicine Residency Program at Via Christi Regional Medical Center, Wichita, Kan.

Debra Silverstein is director of human resources, TransHealth, Brentwood, Tenn.

Steven L. Worley, J.D. '97, was named a partner in the Jacksonville, Fla., office of Hinshaw & Culbertson. He and his wife, **Jenifer Strickland Worley '94, J.D. '97**, have a son, Graham, born in July.

'95 **Johna Scott Ledlow** is owner of Eads Optical in Birmingham.

Gary Redelle Parnaby, Jr., married Gina Caponi in Reid Chapel in October 2003. He is a stockbroker for E*TRADE Securities. They live in Roswell, Ga.

Jon Vernon is defensive line coach and teacher at Woodland High School, Cartersville, Ga. He and his wife, Michelle, live in Dallas, Ga.

'96 **Susan Garrett Lotz and John Paul Lotz, M.T.S. '98**, live in London, England, where he teaches at London School of Theology. He recently earned a Ph.D. in theology at Cambridge University. They have two daughters, Hannah, two, and Phoebe Grace, born in May.

Shane "Chief" Martin married **Holly Varnell '01** in July. He is a teacher at Hoover High School. She is pursuing a master's in education at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. They live in Pelham, Ala.

Jason Murphree is pastor of Crosshaven Church, a new church plant in Cullman, Ala. He and his wife, **Sharon Smith Murphree, Pharm.D. '98**, have twins, Jackson and Emma, age two. Sharon is a registered pharmacist at Specialty Pharmacy.

Robert and Jenna Arrington Pautienus '97 live in Nashville, Tenn., with their two daughters, Alicia Mae, born in November 2001, and Cari Michelle, born in October 2003. Robert is a partner in the Nashville law firm of Ingraham & Pautienus.

'97 **Matthew, M.Div. '01**, and **Lindsey Anderson Adair '98** live in Watkinsville, Ga. He is pastor for preaching and vision at Christ Church Presbyterian.

Stephanie Camp Davis of Holly Springs, N.C., earned a juris doctor degree from North Carolina Central School of Law, Durham, N.C. in May. She is an attorney in Sanford, N.C.

Dan and Carol Beth Beasley Durbin live in Dothan, Ala. A health-care representative for Pfizer, Inc., he has been deployed since December as commander of Company C, 115th Signal Battalion in Mosul, Iraq. She works with the college group at Harvest Church. They have a son, Matt, two.

Cherie Johnson, a Birmingham chiropractor, was selected 2004 Alabama Young Chiropractor of the Year by the Alabama State Chiropractic Association. She teaches anatomy and physiology at Jefferson State Community College and is pursuing certification in chiropractic acupuncture.

Tom Neville, M.Div., is minister of world missions, First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

Heather Phillips Schmidt and her husband, Eric, moved to Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta, Ga., after three years in Okinawa, Japan. They have a daughter, Lydia Joslin, born in March in Okinawa.

'98 **Stacy Patterson Bueno** and her husband, Edgar, live in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. They have a son, Zachary Clay, born in November 2003.

Law School Grad Julie Love Templeton Wins 2005 Mrs. America Title

The life of a trial attorney can be busy, but the life of Tuscaloosa, Ala., trial attorney Julie Love Templeton recently got a lot busier.

The 1999 graduate of Samford's Cumberland School of Law was named Mrs. America at the annual pageant spotlighting married women in Palm Springs, Calif.

"My clients and judges have been very understanding," said Templeton, who uses her maiden name professionally. "Somehow, we have stayed on top of everything. I have a great paralegal, and I carry a laptop everywhere."

By mid-October, she already had traveled to India and several states, and was anticipating a busy U.S. tour in November.

As the 2005 Mrs. America, she will make personal appearances throughout the country and represent the United

States in the Mrs. World pageant in India in February. She has received cash and prizes totaling more than \$70,000.

Married to Shawn Templeton, an engineer, she comes from a family of Cumberland attorneys. Her mother, Betty Love, J.D. '65, and a brother, Huel M. Love, Jr., J.D. '82, practice in her hometown of Talladega, Ala. A sister, Leigh Love, J.D. '88, is an attorney in Birmingham.

Templeton earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama. ■



Brandy C. Easlick, J.D., is an attorney in Valley, Ala. She and her husband, Daryl, have two daughters, Courtney Claire, almost two, and Kaitlyne Elizabeth, born in June, while Daryl was deployed with his National Guard unit to Iraq.

Jamie Lynn Garrett earned a master of business administration degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in December, and is pursuing master's degrees in biblical studies and Christian education at Asbury Seminary, Wilmore, Ky. She is married to Scott Garrett.

Hunter Stanley and Anna Greene '00 married in Reid Chapel in October. He works for Alfa Insurance in Clanton, Ala. She is a marriage and family therapist with ifoundhope Counseling Center in Birmingham, and at Judson College in Marion, Ala.

Eric, J.D., and **Carrie Tomlinson Stevenson** live in Pensacola, Fla. He is an

attorney with David Lee Sellers, P.A. She is Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program Agent for the University of Florida/Escambia County Extension Service. They have a son, Joseph Cole, born in June.

'99 **Amanda Joy Backus** works for South America Mission, Lake Worth, Fla., sending missionaries to South America to build leaders and churches.

Scott Clark married Kristina Kletter in June. They live in Ocala, Fla., where he is minister of students at First Baptist Church.

Katie Compton Charton Gallagher and her husband, Logan, live in Atlanta, Ga. She teaches English to speakers of other languages at Beaver Ridge Elementary School.

Trisha Schramm Holmes and her husband, William, live in Madisonville, La. She is an operating room nurse.

Susie Gibala Mckerley and her husband, **Scott, M.S.E. '03**, live in Alabaster, Ala. She is children's director at Mountain Brook Community Church. He is a teacher at Pleasant Grove Elementary School.

Ryan Thomas Potter married Sara Kuehne in July. They live in Noblesville, Ind. He coaches track and cross-country, and teaches at Hamilton Southeastern Schools.

'00 **Marcus Louis Britton** earned a medical degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in May and began a residency in internal medicine in July. He lives in Brandon, Miss.

Ted Alling and **Barry Large** formed their own company, Access America Transport, in Chattanooga, Tenn., in 2002. With the help of **Allan Davis '00**, the company, which specializes in moving flatbed freight, expanded to Birmingham in fall 2003. The company recently purchased an additional 10 acres to expand its operation in North Birmingham and opened a new office in Charlotte, N.C.

Ryan Alden Church is an Alabama State Trooper in Cullman, Ala.

Woodrow Neal Hartzog, J.D. '02, and **Jenny Douglass Hartzog '99** live in Homewood. She is advertising production manager for *Health* magazine, a publication of Southern Progress Corporation. He earned a master of laws from George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., and is an attorney at Burr & Forman law firm. He is also an adjunct professor at Samford.

Craig David Lawrence, M.Acc., of Hueytown is chief financial officer at Bessemer State Technical College.

Amy Strickland married Patrick Kirkland in June. They live in New York City, where she is school programs administrator for the Metropolitan Opera Guild.

Communications Grad Foreman Writes Book on Photographing Kids

Want to learn how to take better pictures of your kids (or grandkids)? Samford graduate Jay Forman '94 of Atlanta, Ga., has written a book that could be helpful.

"I don't teach people how to use their cameras," says Forman. "I teach people how to use their eyes."

Entitled *Capture Your Kids in Pictures*, the book was published by Watson-Guptill Publications of New York City. It's available at major bookstores.

"It is written with the understanding that most parents do not care about the technical science of photography, but they do care deeply about the photograph," said Forman.

Forman worked as a photographer for a local marketing and design firm

while majoring in public relations in Samford's Department of Journalism and Mass Communications. He also teaches online photography courses. ■



Shane and Christie Norris Williams live in Marietta, Ga. He works with Kaplan IT. She is a recovery room nurse at Cobb Hospital.

'01 **Lindsay Castleberry** recently married Geoff Rutland. They live in Birmingham, where she is a regional sales executive for White Plume Technologies health-care software company.

Ashley Davis married Justin Little in March. They live in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where she is administrative assistant at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Lucas Dorion is associate pastor at Riverchase Baptist Church, Birmingham.

Jason and Lena Godwin Gross live in Colorado Springs, Colo. A lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, he is test manager for the 17th Test Squadron, Schriever Air Force Base. She is a correspondence assistant for *Focus on the Family*.

Staci Leigh Wisniewski Little is a registered nurse at Sand Lake Hospital, Orlando, Fla. She and her husband, Ted, have a son, Jack Thomas, born in December.

Jennifer Musser married Robert Patrick in July. She earned a master's in education at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and teaches biology, anatomy and physiology at Oak Mountain High School.

Bryan and Ashley Golden Reccord live in Arlington, Va. He works for the U.S. Navy, and she works for the Council for National Policy.

Brad Reisinger teaches high school English at Orangewood Christian School in Orlando, Fla. He is working on a master's in rhetoric and composition at the University of Central Florida.

Claire Elizabeth Skinner married Andrew Barton Baker in September. She is a senior financial analyst at a real estate investment company. They live in Dallas, Texas.

David Wildes is pursuing a master's in divinity at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

'02 **Pam Webster Gray** and her husband, Chad, live in Pelham, Ala., where they work with youth at Christian Life Church. She is a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at Shelby Baptist Medical Center. They have a daughter, Taylor Hope, born in April.

Cassandra Miller Hardwick, M.S.N., of Eden Prairie, Minn. was elected director at large for the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care.

Travis and Alison Huckle Hendley live in Chicago, Ill. He is pursuing a master's in biblical studies at Moody Bible Institute. She is a vocational evaluator who helps adults with disabilities to find employment.

Michael and Natalie Seanor Lea live in Bullock, N.C., where he is pastor at Bullock Baptist Church. He is also a student at Duke Divinity School. Natalie completed a master's in education at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the summer and teaches first grade.

Tom Scott III and Merri Logan '04 married this summer. They live in Birmingham.

William Gray Noe works at Southeast Venture LLC/ONCOR commercial real estate company, Nashville, Tenn. He also works with Magdalene residential housing and recovery program for Nashville women with a criminal history of prostitution and drug abuse.

R. Martin Watts, M.C.M. '04, is minister of music at First Baptist Church, Griffin, Ga.

'03 **Julia Benedict and James Bradford Lewallen** married in June. They live in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he is pursuing a master's degree in public health as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar.

James D. N. Douglas is a corporal with the U.S. Marine Corps 4/14 unit, Bessemer, Ala. He is stationed at Camp Taqqadam, Iraq, where he heads a four-member fire team that serves as a "quick reaction force" should strikes occur at the camp.

Katheryn Clay and Mark McCreary married in June. They live in Chicago, Ill., where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in philosophy at Loyola University. She is an emergency room nurse at Swedish Covenant Hospital.

Faith Luker and Rob Ingram married in July. They live in Hoover, Ala. She is a kindergarten teacher, and he is an account executive for Citadel Broadcasting.

Ashley McDaniel, M.B.A., is director of accounting for Southern Living At Home, a direct-selling division of Southern Progress Corporation.

Christina Peterman is a first-year master of divinity student at Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C. She spent last year teaching English in China with English Language Institute China.

Mike Verlander and Lauren Cole '04 married in July in Reid Chapel. They live in Birmingham.

Matthew Williamson works in the Geographic Information Systems department at Alabama Power Company, Birmingham.

'04 **Adrian Dantelle Horstead** works in sales with DAXKO, LLC, Birmingham. He and his wife, Stephane, live in Pelham, Ala.

Courtney Leach and Michael Chadwick Mize married in July. They live in Birmingham.

Shellie R. Tillman is a registered nurse at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn. ■

Step Sing 2005

"Life as We Know It"

Feb. 17-19

Tickets on sale in late January at
www.samfordtickets.com

births

Scott '95 and Nicole Finkelstein Blair '95 of London, England, a son, Samuel Gregory, born Sept. 8, 2004.

Kelly and **Brian Scott Borders '97** of Powder Springs, Ga., a daughter, Kate Finch, born March 30, 2004.

Edgar and **Stacy Patterson Bueno '98** of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., a son, Zachary Clay, born Nov. 20, 2003.

Jack and **Lesa Heise Clark '91** of Homewood, a son, Riley Alexander, born Feb. 6, 2004.

Brent and **Kerry Gissing Cobb '99** of Birmingham, a daughter, Molly Elisabeth, born June 11, 2004.

Tiffany and **Drake Denton '94** of Birmingham, a daughter, Sophie Isabell, born Aug. 17, 2004.

Ben and **Holly Armstrong Drake '98** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., a son, Hunter Killingsworth, born Aug. 26, 2004.

Daryl and **Brandy C. Easlick, J.D. '98**, of Valley, Ala., a daughter, Kaitlyne Elizabeth, born June 3, 2004.

Tate Jackson '98 and Brooke Tucker Elder '99 of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Abigail Crosslin, born June 9, 2004.

Jeremy and **Amy Beth Petras Franklin '01** of Alabaster, Ala., a daughter, Alayna Rose, born May 7, 2004.

Sam '98 and Gayle Simpson Garrison '98 of Jacksonville, Fla., a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, born Sept. 1, 2004.

Chad and **Pam Webster Gray '02** of Pelham, Ala., a daughter, Taylor Hope, born April 20, 2004.

Mark and **Kris Crosby Griffin '91** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., a daughter, Madeline Margaret, born June 17, 2004.

John '96 and Christie Blanton Helton '94 of Jacksonville, Fla., a son, John Teague, born March 14, 2004.

Robb '92 and Megan Capehart Hensarling '96 of Homewood, a son, William Harrison, born July 29, 2004.

Rick and **Andrea Hollingsworth, M.B.A., M.Acc. '02**, a son, Jackson Branam, born Dec. 22, 2003.

Carl P. and Kim Fell Lewis '94 of Owensboro, Ky., a son, Christopher Patrick, born Feb. 12, 2004.

Stephen and **Karen White Lillard '97** of Lawrenceville, Ga., a son, Benjamin Robert, born Jan. 29, 2004.

Ted and **Staci Leigh Wisniowski Little '01** of Orlando, Fla., a son, Jack Thomas, born Dec. 25, 2003.

John Paul, M.T.S. '98, and Susan Garrett Lotz '96 of London, England, a daughter, Phoebe Grace, born May 14, 2004.

Carrie and **Mark K. Mahanes '94** of Hiram, Ga., a daughter, Lily Claire, born Aug. 14, 2004.

Jim and **Catherine M. McGrath '97** of Tallahassee, Fla., a daughter, Audrey Caitlin, born Feb. 10, 2004.

Michael and **Melissa Waldron McMahan '93** of Decatur, Ala., a daughter, Amelia Grace, born Aug. 16, 2004.

Carl E. "Bud" '00 and Mary T. Willett Miller '99 of Birmingham, a son, Carl Edwin "Win" Miller V, born June 26, 2004.

Jason '95 and Kelly Snow Preston '96 of Lebanon, Ohio, a son, Nathan Davis, born Sept. 21, 2004.

Jonathan and **Benga Yarbrough Quick '92** of Cato, N.Y., a son, Sawyer Hamilton, born April 7, 2004.

Jason and **Beth Nason Quick '89** of Franklin, Tenn., a son, George Camden, born May 5, 2004.

Chris '98 and Erin Cheek Robbins '98 of Birmingham, a daughter, Anna Lane, born Aug. 4, 2004.

Lita and **Richard H. Sample '84** of Fremont, Calif., a son, Elliott Joshua, born Aug. 10, 2004.

Eric '01 and Amanda Williams Sanford '00 of Demopolis, Ala., a son, Alexander William, born June 30, 2003.

Ted and **Laura A. Riley Satcher '93** of Northport, Ala., a son, Jack, born April 9, 2004.

Andy and **Amanda Julian Savage '98** of Memphis, Tenn., a son, Andrew Robert, born Feb. 10, 2004.

Eric and **Heather Phillips Schmidt '97** of Valdosta, Ga., a daughter, Lydia Joslin, born March 10, 2004.

Crista Joy and **F. Stuart Shelby '97** of Alexandria, Va., a daughter, Lucy Joy, born June 18, 2004.

Shannon and **Benjamin Sorrell '91** of Columbus, Ga., a daughter, Mallory Brooke, born May 28, 2004.

Eric, J.D. '98, and Carrie Tomlinson Stevenson '98 of Pensacola, Fla., a son, Joseph Cole, born June 26, 2004.

Gabe and **Kimberly Allums Tucker '04** of Hanceville, Ala., a daughter, Amillia Lee, born June 12, 2004.

Tyler and **Margaret Kay Tucker '92** of Jacksonville, Fla., a daughter, Maggie Kay, born May 13, 2004.

Stephen and **Susan Parker Blackstock Turman '00** of Kinston, Ala., a daughter, Pippin Parker, born July 11, 2004.

Steven L. '94, J.D. '97, and Jenifer Strickland Worley '94, J.D. '97, of Jacksonville, Fla., a son, Benjamin Graham, born July 23, 2004.

Jeff and **Rita Arlene Matthews Wyatt '90** of Pinson, Ala., a son, Matthew Jeffrey, born Aug. 10, 2004. ■

in memoriam

Billy H. Adams '45, age 79, of Birmingham died Aug. 2, 2004. A retired Baptist minister, he was a member of the executive committee of Alabama and Georgia Baptist state conventions. He was director of the Education Extension of the Georgia Baptist Convention and the Samford Extension Division. As a student, he was president of the Samford student body and was listed in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Robert Allen Blaine, J.D. '03, of Oak Ridge, Tenn., died July 27, 2004, of leukemia. He was a former Oak Ridge police officer.

Flora B. Borden '41 of Gardendale, Ala., died Aug. 4, 2004. She was a retired teacher.

Ronald Joe Brewer '61 of Satellite Beach, Fla., died May 4, 2004. A retired guidance counselor, he was married to Sara Hayes Brewer '62. He was president of the Brevard County Mental Health Association and the Florida Counselors Association. At Samford, he was student government association vice president and a member of Sigma Nu, Kappa Phi Kappa, Kappa Kappa Psi, the Band, Masquers and Circle K.

Sara Howell DeWitt Byrne '43, age 82, of Birmingham died July 8, 2004. She had a lengthy career as a cytologist with the National Institutes of Health's Cancer Institute. She was a member of the Washington Club and a hostess for the Hospitality Inform Service.

Analda Buntin Carleton '29, age 96, of Tucson, Ariz., died July 22, 2004. She worked in public health for most of her nursing career.

Clarence U. Cochran, Jr., J.D. '57, age 74, of Dyersburg, Tenn., died Sept. 9, 2004. He was a semiretired attorney and Dyersburg city prosecutor. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean conflict.

Jess Richardson Cowart '55, age 81, of Huntsville, Ala., died Aug. 15, 2004. Retired senior vice president for Regions Bank, he had been active in the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, and many civic and professional organizations. He was president of the Better Business Bureau, and Sales and Marketing Executives. He served in the Army Air Force during World War II.

Donald K. Edwards '45 of Huntington, Ind., died May 23, 2004. He was a retired pastor.

Katherine W. Halliday '39, age 87, of Holland, Texas, died July 12, 2004. She was a teacher, a leader in the Training Union Department of the Alabama Baptist Convention, and director of Baptist Students at Florida State College for Women (now Florida State University). She was a volunteer missionary and taught English

at a university in Japan in 1984. While at Samford, she received the Hypatia Cup.

Larry Kim Hardman, M.S.Ed. '81, Ed.S. '85, age 53, of Goodwater, Ala., died Sept. 2, 2004. He taught math at Goodwater Academy and Weogufka High School, and was superintendent of education for Coosa County. He most recently worked for the Alabama State Department of Education.

B. B. Isley, Sr., '49, age 94, of Hartselle, Ala., died Sept. 9, 2004. He was a Baptist minister from 1945 to 1974 and was an interim pastor for more than 30 churches in north Alabama from 1974 to 2000.

Herbert Jeff '50, age 80, of Birmingham died Sept. 13, 2004. He was owner of Herbert Jeff & Associates and longtime consultant for the transportation industry. He was a veteran of World War II and a member of the 517th Paratrooper's unit.

Leon R. Jones '49, age 85, of Birmingham died July 15, 2004. A World War II veteran who served in the European Theatre, he was retired from Elmwood Cemetery. At Samford, he was a member of Trident honor society.

Sue Morton Jones '61, age 64, of Baton Rouge, La., died March 6, 2003. She was a high school teacher and homemaker. At Samford, she was editor of *Entre Nous* and was selected for inclusion in *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

William Robert Killingsworth, Sr., '37, age 88, of Birmingham died Aug. 19, 2004. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 37 years and had a second career in real estate. He also was involved in his wife's kindergarten in East Lake. He played the trumpet in the Samford band and with popular dance bands. He served in the U.S. Navy.

B. R. Lavender '48 of Bessemer, Ala., died July 22, 2004. He was a retired florist.

Thomas E. Lolley '62, age 67, of Old Fort, N.C., died July 22, 2004. He was a pastor of churches in Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia. As western area missionary of the North Carolina Baptist convention during 1981–2000, he served 1,244 churches in 32 counties.

James Vincent Low, J.D. '72, age 57, of Gadsden, Ala., died Aug. 6, 2004. He was a retired attorney.

John Robert Manning, J.D. '69, age 59, of Marietta, Ga., died May 6, 2004. He was a retired attorney.

Tim Massey, J.D. '77, of Trussville, Ala., died June 25, 2004. He was in private law practice in Trussville and was Fultondale city attorney.

Curtis Orr McClinton '59, age 67, of Roebuck, Ala., died July 13, 2004. He was retired from Jefferson County Department of Health and worked with WBHM radio station.

Loudell Ellis Robinson '59, age 69, of Montevallo, Ala., died Aug. 6, 2004. She was professor emerita of accounting at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a former chair of the accounting department. In 1976, she received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Samford School of Business. She was active in accounting and professional associations, and was a member of Phi Mu sorority.

Louise Franklin Stewart '35, age 90, of Fairhope, Ala., died July 30, 2004. She taught piano for more than 50 years and was a member of the Birmingham Music Teachers Association.

John F. "Buddy" Webb, M.S.E. '80, of Trussville, Ala., died Aug. 16, 2004. He was a retired Birmingham teacher. A U.S. Army veteran and a member of the Woodworkers Guild, he donated wooden toys annually to the Children's Hospital and made chairs for the Bell Center.

Marylee Blackmon Windsor '28, age 97, of Bradenton, Fla., died Aug. 23, 2004. She was a retired teacher and librarian who taught many years at Cottonwood High School in Alabama.

Norman Green Winston, Sr., J.D. '67, age 66, of Orange Beach, Ala., died July 16, 2004. He was an attorney for 37 years and was also municipal judge for Gardendale, Ala.

Alana Joy Woolley '74, age 51, of Richmond, Va., died July 2, 2004. She was a longtime employee of the Baptist International Mission Board, Richmond, Va., and a former employee of Regions Bank in Tuscaloosa, Ala. She was a member of Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry. ■

Defensive Effort Led by Royall Keys Second Straight OVC Success

Samford's soccer team won its second consecutive Ohio Valley Conference regular season championship this fall, and one reason was a downright stingy senior named Crystal Royall. She played goalkeeper, and getting a soccer ball past her was a real rarity.

Royall became the first to be named OVC Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year. She allowed only 11 goals in 18 matches, and her defense helped Samford attain a 10-7-1 record. She posted a conference-leading 10 shutouts. Royall is Samford's career leader in shutouts with 23.5.

"Crystal had a great year for us, and there is no doubt she was one of the most valuable players on our team," said Coach Todd Yelton. "She did a fantastic job in goal, but our defense also improved as the season went along. We allowed fewer scoring opportunities during the late season, but Crystal still made some great saves."

Samford lost its first four matches to Southern Mississippi, Tulane, Auburn and Northwestern, but proceeded to win nine and tie one of its last 12 matches. The Bulldogs went 7-1 in conference play, earning the right to host the OVC postseason tournament a second straight year. Samford beat Jacksonville State, 3-0, in the semifinal game but lost the tournament championship to Eastern Illinois, 3-2.

The Bulldogs won the regular season title with a 1-0 victory over Morehead State Oct. 24 at Samford. Freshman forward Katie Conway kicked the winning goal, her second game-winner this season. Earlier, she scored the winner in a 1-0 victory at Austin Peay.

"Katie scored two huge goals for us this season," said Yelton. "They were both game-winners, and she's gotten better and better as the year has gone on."

Freshman midfielder Heather Birdsell led season scoring with 10 points, including two game-winning goals.

Samford posted its third-straight winning season this fall. The Bulldogs were 13-7-1 and 12-4-5 in 2002 and 2003, giving Yelton's teams an overall mark of 35-18-7. ■



Samford's Crystal Royall was OVC Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year. Inset: Freshman Katie Conway (19) kicked two game-winners this year.



Far Left: 2004 OVC cross-country Female Athlete of the Year Lauren Blankenship



Left: 2004 OVC cross-country Freshman of the Year Britney Almaguer

Bulldog Women Run Away from Field to Win OVC Cross-Country Championships

Samford runner Lauren Blankenship led the field of 73 in the Ohio Valley Conference cross-country championships Oct. 30, and her closest challengers were four other runners from Samford.

Blankenship earned OVC cross-country Female Athlete of the Year, completing the 5K course in 18:24.30. Samford's Britney Almaguer, who was named OVC Freshman of the Year, finished second with a time of 18:40.05, followed by Brittney Mensen (18:49.87), Michelle Brewer (19:05.33) and Jessica Brewer (19:09.16).



Samford's Glenn McWaters was named OVC Coach of the Year for cross-country.

Bulldog Coach Glenn McWaters was named OVC Co-Coach of the Year along with Rick Erdmann of Eastern Kentucky, whose team won the men's championships.

"Awesome!" was the way McWaters described Samford's performance, although he said it three times. "Today was an awesome day for the Bulldogs. We made history for the Samford cross-country record books."

The championships were held on a muddy track at UT-Martin in Martin, Tenn. The performance qualified the women for the NCAA regional championships.

"The race was slower than I expected due to muddy conditions, but the women's team performed great, and the men's team performed better than I expected."

The men finished fourth in a 10-team field. Bryan Baddorf led Bulldog competitors, finishing fifth with a time of 27:02.69 in the 8K race. Samford's Drew Anderwald was 10th among the 78 men's entries at 27:37.73. ■

For more on sports, go to



Experience and Balance Characterize Men's Team

Once again, Samford's basketball success will be determined by its ability to hit the three-point goal. Coach Jimmy Tillet's Princeton offense emphasizes long shots and layups; a 15-footer is almost a rarity for the Bulldogs.

But the winningest coach in Samford history (114-89 in seven seasons) talked more about "good chemistry," "toughness" and "resilience" during the preseason. He thinks his 2004-05 team has these qualities.

Forward J. Robert Merritt (11.1 points a game) is the leading returning scorer. He and guard Jerry Smith are starters among eight players back from last year's 12-16 team. Other veterans include seniors Jon Mills and Josh Hare.

Samford's tough preconference schedule contributed to its losing record. Even so, the Bulldogs made the Ohio Valley Conference tournament in their first season of membership.

Balanced scoring has characterized the Bulldogs in recent years and probably will again. Contributions from a trio of redshirt freshmen—Joe Ross Merritt, Ryan Woolsey and 6-10 Travis Peterson—could make a big difference. ■



J. Robert Merritt



Jerry Smith



Jon Mills



Josh Hare

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov. 8	WEST ALABAMA (Exhibition)	7 p.m.
Nov. 19	vs. Cal State-Fullerton [†]	5 p.m.
Nov. 20	vs. Central Connecticut/Colgate [†]	TBA ^{††}
Nov. 24	at South Alabama	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 27	LOUISIANA-MONROE	2 p.m.
Nov. 30	IUPUI	7 p.m.
Dec. 3	at Louisiana-Monroe	7 p.m.
Dec. 9	TENNESSEE WESLEYAN	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	TENNESSEE TEMPLE	2 p.m.
Dec. 21	at Bradley	7:05 p.m.
Dec. 28	at IUPUI	7 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Notre Dame	6 p.m.
Jan. 4	at Jacksonville State*	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 8	TENNESSEE STATE*	2 p.m.
Jan. 13	MURRAY STATE*	7 p.m.

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan. 15	UT-MARTIN*	2 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Morehead State*	6:45 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Eastern Kentucky*	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	at Eastern Illinois* TV	8 p.m.
Jan. 29	at Southeast Missouri State*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 3	TENNESSEE TECH*	7 p.m.
Feb. 5	AUSTIN PEAY*	2 p.m.
Feb. 10	EASTERN KENTUCKY*	7 p.m.
Feb. 12	MOREHEAD STATE*	6 p.m.
Feb. 17	at Austin Peay*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Tennessee Tech*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	JACKSONVILLE STATE*	7 p.m.
Feb. 24	at Tennessee State*	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 1	OVC Tournament	TBA
Mar. 4-5	OVC Tournament**	TBA

Home games are in **BOLD CAPS**. All times are Central; dates and times are subject to change.

[†]Mohegan Sun Classic

^{††}Samford will play in either the 5 p.m. or 7 p.m. game.

*Ohio Valley Conference game

**Semifinal rounds will be held at the Gaylord Entertainment Center.

Women's Team Going in the Right Direction

Coach Mike Morris has the Samford women's team moving in the right direction. Last year's youthful 10-17 squad added three wins to the previous season's total. With four starters back, the trend could continue in 2004-05.

"I expect us to take another step forward in our program this season," said Morris, whose team has more experience and improved leadership this year.

Sophomore Alex Munday made an immediate impression last season, leading Samford in scoring (14.2 points a game) and rebounding (5.6) to earn Freshman of the Year honors in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Junior Chelsea Insell averaged 11.1 points and 5.2 rebounds, and set a Bulldog record with 62 three-point goals. Juniors Cora Beth Smith (3.3 assists a game) and LaBrena Friend provided solid play at guard.

Freshman MacKenzie Spruiell has the shooting ability to contribute in a hurry at Samford. Other players to watch include senior Sarah Clement, sophomore Veronica Pike and freshman Taryn Towns. ■



Alex Munday



LaBrena Friend



Chelsea Insell



Cora Beth Smith

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Nov. 15	MONTEVALLO (Exhibition)	7 p.m.
Nov. 19	JACKSONVILLE (Fla.)	7 p.m.
Nov. 27	vs. Lipscomb**	6 p.m.
Nov. 28	vs. Wofford**	2 p.m.
Dec. 2	BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN	7 p.m.
Dec. 6	at Alcorn State	7 p.m.
Dec. 9	NICHOLLS STATE	5 p.m.
Dec. 12	at Alabama State	5 p.m.
Dec. 18	at Troy	2 p.m.
Dec. 21	at Georgia Tech	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at UT-San Antonio Tournament	7 p.m.
Dec. 31	at UT-San Antonio Tournament	2 p.m.
Jan. 4	at Jacksonville State*	5 p.m.
Jan. 8	TENNESSEE STATE*	4 p.m.
Jan. 13	MURRAY STATE*	5 p.m.

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan. 15	UT-MARTIN*	4 p.m.
Jan. 20	at Morehead State*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Eastern Kentucky*	5:30 p.m.
Jan. 27	at Eastern Illinois*	5:15 p.m.
Jan. 29	at Southeast Missouri State*	5 p.m.
Feb. 3	TENNESSEE TECH*	5 p.m.
Feb. 5	AUSTIN PEAY*	4 p.m.
Feb. 10	EASTERN KENTUCKY*	5 p.m.
Feb. 12	MOREHEAD STATE*	4 p.m.
Feb. 17	at Austin Peay*	5:15 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Tennessee Tech*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	JACKSONVILLE STATE*	5 p.m.
Feb. 24	at Tennessee State*	5:30 p.m.
Mar. 1	OVC Tournament [†]	TBA
Mar. 4-5	OVC Tournament ^{††}	TBA

Home games are in **BOLD CAPS**. All times are Central; dates and times are subject to change.

*Ohio Valley Conference game **Sheraton Roundball Classic at Birmingham-Southern

[†]First round will be held at campus sites to be announced. ^{††}Semifinals/finals will be held at Nashville, Tenn.

Dean Ash Leaves Samford to Become Deputy Superintendent of Education for Alabama

Dr. Ruth C. Ash, who led Samford's education school to national prominence during an 11-year tenure as dean, left the University in October to become deputy superintendent of education for Alabama. In her new role, she oversees all aspects of instruction for the state's education department.

Ash joined Samford as dean of the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies in 1992. Her tenure was marked by continuing growth and progress capped by the education school's selection in 2000 to receive the first National Award for Effective Teacher Preparation.

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley presented the award in Washington, describing Samford's education school as "a national model of excellence for effective teacher preparation."

Samford President Thomas E. Corts noted that the selection of Samford as

one of the four best teacher certification programs in the nation "has to stand as a crowning accomplishment" of Dr. Ash's career.

"If those same gifts and abilities can renovate K-12 education in Alabama, I suppose we ought to share her," he added.

Ash said she was grateful for the chance to contribute to the programs at Samford and looks forward to working with Samford people in the future.

"I want to express my appreciation to the faculty of the education school and the faculty and administration of Samford," she said. "Working with these people made my job a delight. At the same time, I am honored and deeply moved by this opportunity to serve Alabama's children and educators, and I am excited about working to help every child and every school to succeed." ■

Dr. Jean Ann Box Named Acting Dean of Education School

Dr. Jean Ann Box, associate dean of the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies since 1996, was named acting dean of the education school, effective Oct. 15.

Box will assume the primary leadership and administrative responsibilities of the education school until a new dean is selected, said Samford Provost J. Bradley Creed. The dean's position is open because of Dr. Ruth C. Ash's resignation to become deputy superintendent of schools for Alabama.

"Dr. Box has served with distinction on Samford's faculty since 1989," said Dr. Creed. "We are fortunate to have a person of her experience and skills to serve in this capacity, and I am looking forward to working with her in providing guidance and support to the school of education during this time of transition."

Box also serves as chair of Samford's award-winning Department of Teacher Education, which includes the Children's Learning Center, a state-of-the-art facility that provides services for children ages six weeks through four years.

She received her B.S. degree from Auburn University, where she majored in early childhood education, and her M.S., Ed.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. ■

President Jim Edwards Reminds Fellow Parents They Can Influence College Choice of Students

Samford President Thomas E. Corts compared college to a voyage, and new Parents Association President Jim Edwards of Montgomery, Ala., said he was glad his daughters chose to make the trip at Samford.

"College is a voyage for students," Dr. Corts told the more than 800 family members attending the Parents Association meeting during Family Weekend Oct. 3-5. "It is a critical time of life, and we want to be as helpful as we can be."

Edwards, an attorney, said his older daughter, Carrie, had narrowed her college choices to a large state university and Samford. "We were pulling for Samford and have been very glad she made that choice," he said.



Jim Edwards

Edwards and his wife, Beth, were just as pleased when younger daughter, Mallory, chose Samford.

Corts updated Parents Weekend visitors on the high cost of education nationally and on Samford's plans to increase its student body size (to make it more balanced in terms of gender and diversity), to add buildings (to accommodate more students) and to make Samford better known (to attract students).

Edwards urged parents to support Samford in various ways.

"Participate in college night programs in your town so that you can be a liaison and ambassador for Samford," he said. "You can influence students who are choosing colleges." ■

Samford Offers England Trip for 2005 Baptist World Congress

Samford will host a trip to the United Kingdom for the Baptist World Congress 2005 Centenary Celebration in Birmingham, England. The July 27-August 7 trip also will provide excursions to Leicester, Kettering, Bedford, Cambridge and London.

The Samford group will attend the plenary session and 100th birthday celebration on the final day of the congress, July 31. After overnight stops in Kettering and Cambridge, the group will visit London for several days.

For more information, contact Alumni Relations Officer Billy Ivey at wrivey@samford.edu or (205) 726-2483. ■

Visiting Scholar Helps Reclaim History for Muslim Women

by Sean Flynt

This fall, Samford hosted visiting scholar Dr. Salwa Cherif, a professor of American and English literature at the University of Tunis in Tunisia. Cherif is the first female Tunisian scholar to visit the United States through the Fulbright Scholar Program's Direct Access to the Muslim World initiative, which is designed to build bridges of understanding between the U.S. and Muslim countries. Samford was the first university in Alabama to receive a visiting scholar through this unique program and made the most of Cherif's visit, inviting her to speak about Muslim culture in several campus venues in addition to her presentations to other Birmingham area schools, churches and civic groups.

At a public lecture in Reid Chapel in October, Cherif discussed women in the Muslim world, a subject of much Western curiosity in recent years.

According to Cherif, "in the earliest version of Islam, there was no gender segregation such as we see now in the modern, conservative, fundamentalist societies."

On the contrary, she said, in the seventh century, even women in the immediate family of Mohammed, Islam's founding prophet, "were highly active in the public life of the society." She said modern Muslim feminists revere those women because they were highly cultured, were political leaders and even led their people into battle. "There was much gender equality," Cherif said.

Sharia

Cherif contrasted the relatively equitable, early world of Islam with the popular modern image of the religion as hostile toward women. She said this dramatic change is rooted in the internal conflicts that divided the Muslim world after the death of Mohammed. Violence was common in that age, legitimacy of rule was in question, and Islam broke into factions espousing varying degrees of conservatism.

In that troubled time, Sharia laws—ostensibly linked to the sacred texts of Islam—codified gender roles and the status of women.

"Among all the Sharia laws that now exist, the ones which have been maintained over the past 14 centuries are the ones which concern the women," Cherif said. The tradition is so long that some Muslims now consider the Sharia laws

themselves to be sacred. In fact, Cherif said, even the traditional stories of the life of Mohammed have been reinterpreted to uphold the Sharia laws and their harsh treatment of women.

Ultimately, Cherif said, the treatment of women in the modern Muslim world reflects the traditional Muslim conception of female sexuality.

"Unlike the Western world, where female sexuality is believed to be passive," she said, "in the Muslim world, from the beginning, from the time of the revelation of Islam, female sexuality has always been believed to be active, which means there is no difference in sexual behavior between the man and the woman." That view was beneficial to women in the more equitable culture of early Islam, Cherif said. However, it worked against women later, as their power increasingly was viewed as negative and even destructive.

Cherif said the widespread practice of polygamy also has helped displace Muslim women from their honored early social position. Although Muslims debate whether the Koran permits or forbids polygamy, she said, polygamy's social effect is clear. Because polygamy makes wives inferior to husbands and is based on the husband's preference for the younger wife over the older, "it has always been meant to be a humiliating experience for the woman." Moreover, Cherif said, the humiliating messages of polygamy have been impressed upon the psychology of Muslim men and women.

A Political Weapon

Cherif said conservative Islam now sees two enemies—the infidel outside the Muslim world and the Muslim woman inside it. She said it is fear of female influence that inspires conservative Muslim men to seek the removal of women from society, either bodily or visually, by requiring women to wear a veil and concealing clothes.

"To veil a woman means to remove her from the public space, and therefore, to protect the public space and the man from her perverse, destructive nature," Cherif said. She also noted that some Muslim women and men have suggested, tongue-in-cheek, that if women are so destructive and perverse, it might be more appropriate to require Muslim men to wear veils.

Cherif pointed out that the modern use of the veil is derived from a misreading of a verse of the Koran. The

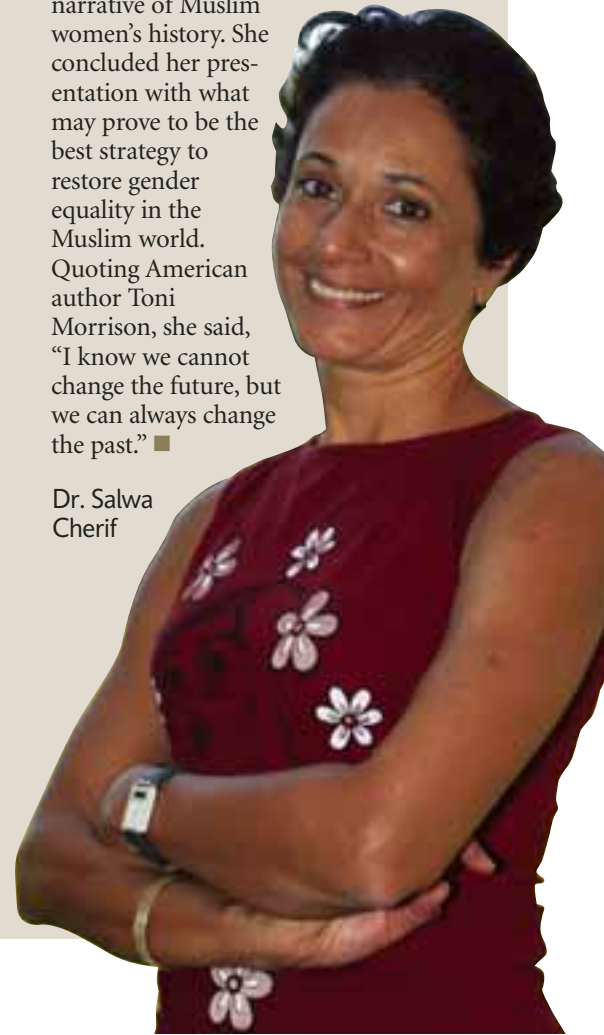
word used in that verse is "hijeb," which actually refers to a curtain that separates not man from woman but a man's public life from his private life. Cherif noted that although the head veil did exist in early Muslim culture, it also was worn in Greek and Christian cultures and, as in those cultures, was a mark of social distinction. In fact, she said, originally only the wives of Mohammed wore veils. The same process that codified gender segregation and promoted a view of women as destructive created the present form and function of the veil, which Cherif said "has absolutely no founding in the Koran itself."

"The veil itself is a political weapon," Cherif said, pointing out the distinction between Islam (the religion) and Islamism (a modern political movement that uses religion as the means to a conservative political end.) The Islamists, she said, "have media, laws, bombs and the veil" with which to manipulate Muslim culture.

Cherif said many Muslim women are not aware of the manipulation that has undermined their status over the centuries. Cherif and others who are aware are working to reclaim the true narrative of Muslim women's history. She concluded her presentation with what may prove to be the best strategy to restore gender equality in the Muslim world.

Quoting American author Toni Morrison, she said, "I know we cannot change the future, but we can always change the past." ■

Dr. Salwa Cherif



Celebrating Gospel Music with the Blackwoods

by Jack Brymer

With a mandolin as accompaniment, James and Roy Blackwood traveled the dirt roads of rural Mississippi with their sons, James and R.W., in a 1929 Chevrolet to sing gospel music in churches. The year was 1934.

From local churches to a 250-watt station in Kosciusko, Miss., the music of the Blackwood Brothers quartet reached the state capitol in Jackson, which brought invitations to sing for a governor and state legislature, and a much broader venue.

In 1940, they moved to Shenandoah, Iowa, and the powerful 50,000-watt radio station KMA, where they had one of the most popular daily radio programs in the Midwest, a listening audience of more than a million in 27 states and two Canadian provinces.

The *Memphis Press-Scimitar* reported on Dec. 11, 1953, that gospel quartet singing was drawing the largest crowds in Southern cities, and the Blackwood Brothers were in such demand that the “songbirds” had purchased a twin-engine Beechcraft airplane to help them stay on schedule.

They flew to New York City in early June 1954 to appear on the popular Arthur Godfrey Talent Scout television program. The group won and was invited to stay for a week to sing on Godfrey’s daily TV show, catapulting the Blackwood Brothers and gospel quartet singing into national prominence.

Flying high in both travel and popularity, the Blackwood Brothers were booked to sing at the closing session of the sixth annual Peach Festival in Clanton, Ala., June 30, 1954. The dirt runway at the airport was short and had no lights. Knowing they would be leaving after dark, quartet members R. W. Blackwood, the pilot, and Bill Lyles decided to practice a takeoff. John Ogburn, the 18-year-old son of the Peach Festival’s president who was home on furlough from the Air Force, decided to go with them.

Blackwood aborted the first landing attempt and came around for a second approach. Again, the plane lifted back to the sky but stalled and fell to the earth, bursting into flames. The three occupants were killed.

Fifty years later, on Aug. 22, 2004, Samford University paid tribute to gospel quartet music in general and the Blackwood Brothers in particular with a memorial tribute in the Wright Center Concert Hall.

The event featured the Blackwood Brothers Reunion Quartet of Memphis, Tenn., which includes Bill Shaw, the only living member of the 1953 quartet. That group’s pianist, Jack Marshall of Tuscaloosa, Ala., is still living but is not active in the quartet.

The Reunion Quartet is comprised of Shaw; James “Jimmy” Blackwood, Jr., son of founding member James; Mark Blackwood, grandson of founding member Roy; and longtime member John Hall. Pianist Brad White accompanies the group.

The quartet was met with a standing ovation. Many of those attending were from Clanton, including Mayor Billy Joe Driver, who presented a Proclamation of Appreciation to Samford President Thomas E. Corts for sponsoring the memorial service. Driver, who was present the day of the crash, said “Thank you, Dr. Corts and Samford University, for not letting these memories die.”

In an emotional moment, James Blackwood, Jr., whose late father was the patriarch of the group for almost 70 years, thanked Samford for helping the group relive important memories.

“I’m thankful to God that 50 years later, we can be here with the same message, same God,” he said. “The songs have changed but not the message.”

For Samford alumnus Lynn Easterling ’68, a native of Clanton, the tribute brought back memories.

“In June of 1954, I recall sitting with my family and watching The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts Show on an old black-and-white TV set,” he said.

“It was a special show that night, because the Blackwood Brothers Quartet was in the competition. Two weeks later, they were to be in concert at our local airport hangar. I was 10 years old. My dad was washing the car, and my brother and I were in the yard when we heard the crash and saw the horrible, billowing smoke. Dad knew immediately what had happened and simply said, ‘There will be no concert tonight.’”

His father, the late Marion W. Easterling, was a well-known gospel music songwriter and penned many of the hit songs that the Blackwood Brothers and others sang. “I was brought up on this type of music and still have a love for it,” he said. ■



The Blackwood Brothers Reunion Quartet performs at Samford. Above: The original Blackwood Brothers Gospel Quartet in 1954.

with appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these additional tribute gifts received August 1, 2004, through September 30, 2004. For further information, contact the Samford University Gift Office at (205) 726-2807.

MEMORIALS

Abe Berkowitz Endowed Scholarship in Law
in memory of Ms. Nellie Hederi and Mr. Jay Loeb
Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Berkowitz,
Savannah, Ga.

Avalee Willoughby Annual Scholarship Fund
in memory of Rev. and Mrs. James H. Butler
Mrs. Mary A. Glazner, Birmingham, Ala.
Ms. Minna R. West, Byron, Ga.

Cumberland School of Law Improvement Fund
in memory of Mr. Jake Bishop
Mr. William T. Coplin, Jr., Demopolis, Ala.
in memory of Mr. William H. Satterfield, Jr.
Mr. William Featheringill and Dr. Carolyn B. Featheringill, Birmingham, Ala.

Cyndi Wells Memorial Art Award Fund
in memory of Cyndi Wells
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Maddox,
San Antonio, Texas

David M. Coleman—Study Abroad Scholarship
in memory of David M. Coleman
Mr. John T. Coleman, Birmingham, Ala.

Davis Library
in memory of Robert Brasher
Mr. Neal H. Brasher, Shelby, Ala.

Merck Physical Education Scholarship
in memory of Daniel E. Merck
Mrs. Barbara H. Merck, Birmingham, Ala.

Pharmacy School Scholarship
in memory of Dr. Ira B. Patton
Mrs. Darlene F. Patton, Oneonta, Ala.

Ray Frank Robbins Lectureship Fund
in memory of Ray Frank Robbins
Mrs. Carolyn E. Reynolds, Bradenton, Fla.

Religion and Philosophy Scholarship
in memory of W. Mabry Lunceford
Mr. and Mrs. C. Richard Queen,
Montgomery, Ala.

Samford Fund
in memory of Mrs. June K. Coulter '57
Dr. and Mrs. Brantley Harwell, Otto, N.C.
in memory of Rev. B. B. Isley
Mrs. Barbara Praytor, Moulton, Ala.

School of Business Fund
in memory of Dr. Mary Ann Hocutt
Dr. Clara Gerhardt, Birmingham, Ala.

William E. Hull Lecture
in memory of Howard L. and Martha H. Holley
Dr. Warren H. Holley, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

William R. and Fay Ireland Governor's School
in memory of Mr. Scott Brown Ireland, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Good, McLean, Va.
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Jahnke,
Grand Forks, N.D.
Mr. and Mrs. David Kjelstrup,
Underwood, N.D.
Porter, Porter & Hassinger, P.C.,
Birmingham, Ala.
Mr. William H. Satterfield and Dr. Carolyn
G. Satterfield, Birmingham, Ala.
Mr. and Mrs. James Ziglar

Woodward Scholarship Fund
in memory of Dr. Frank Woodward and Mrs. Mabel Woodward
South Roebuck Baptist Church,
Birmingham, Ala.

HONORS

Arthur A. Weeks Endowed Scholarship
in honor of Dr. Arthur A. Weeks
Mr. Thomas M. Woodruff, Tampa, Fla.

Cox Scholarship Fund
in honor of Martha Ann Cox
Ms. Lela Anne Brewer, Birmingham, Ala.
Dr. H. Marguerite Kelley, Guin, Ala.
Ms. Susan L. Mease, Doylestown, Pa.
Ms. Sandra L. O'Brien, Birmingham, Ala.
Mr. J. P. Philpot, Birmingham, Ala.
The Philip Poole Family, Birmingham, Ala.
Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. Thomas, Gardendale, Ala.
Ms. Susan J. Watterson, Talladega, Ala.

Frank W. Donaldson Scholarship in Law
in honor of Professor Emeritus Frank W. Donaldson
Mr. David A. Donaldson and Mrs. Debbie
Donaldson, Birmingham, Ala.
Dr. Steven F. Donaldson and Mrs. Carol D.
Donaldson, Birmingham, Ala.

General Scholarship Fund
in honor of Mrs. Mary P. Nethery's 97th Birthday
Ms. Grace C. Chalker, Sonoma, Calif.
in honor of Dr. Donald E. Wilson
General Society Colonial Wars—Alabama,
Birmingham, Ala.

Hypatia Fund
in honor of Dr. Ellen McLaughlin
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Greenwood, Corvallis, Ore.

James O. Haley Scholarship in Trial Advocacy
in honor of Judge James O. Haley
Mr. Lanny S. Vines, Birmingham, Ala.

Miller/Shepherd Piano Scholarship Fund
in honor of Betty H. Miller and Betty Sue Shepherd
Mr. and Mrs. C. Richard Queen,
Montgomery, Ala.

Peterson Scholarship in Trial Advocacy
in honor of Professor Herbert W. Peterson
Mr. Lanny S. Vines, Birmingham, Ala.

Robyn Bari Cohen Children's Book Fund
in honor of Marilyn Davis and Mrs. Becky Hess
Mrs. Carolyn P. Cohen, Birmingham, Ala.

Samford Auxiliary Scholarship
in honor of Mrs. Patricia T. Scofield
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Williams,
Birmingham, Ala.

Samford Band Support Fund
in honor of Dr. Remley, Dr. Sargent, Mr. Dalton and the Samford University Band
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Poole, Birmingham, Ala. ■

GiftLegacy Site Offers Finance, Estate Info

GiftLegacy, a comprehensive Web site offering a wide range of personal finance and estate planning information, is available now free from Samford University.

The Web site, www.sugift.org, offers up-to-date information on personal finance, tax deductions, the stock market, wills and trusts, income-producing gifts, and other areas.

The site will answer these and other questions:

- How can I increase income with gift annuities or charitable trusts?
- What are the latest stock market quotes?
- Am I receiving full income tax savings from my gifts?
- Do I need a will or a trust?

The site is designed to offer the latest estate planning information so that you may create a personal plan that is right for you. That way, you can avoid having unnecessary amounts of your estate going to federal and state governments in taxes.

Visit the Web site today and browse through the free tools available to you. ■

View a sample e-newsletter on the Web page and sign up without cost or obligation. For information on estate planning and/or to plan a gift to Samford University, go to www.samford.edu/giftplan.

Joe and Dena Malugen, Cumberland Alumni, Give Samford \$1.5 Million to Endow Chair of Law

Businessman Joe Malugen and his wife, Dena, of Dothan, Ala., gave Samford University \$1.5 million to endow a chair of law in the University's Cumberland School of Law, where both graduated.

Cumberland Dean John Carroll was invested Sept. 23 as the first holder of the Ethel P. Malugen Chair of Law, which the gift established. The chair is named for Malugen's 83-year-old mother, who was present at the ceremony.

"The deep commitment of the Malugen family to the law and to high standards in their favorite law school is certainly evident in the establishment of this endowed chair," said Samford President Thomas E. Corts, who presided at the investiture.

"We are grateful to them, and we are very proud of the chair's first designee," Dr. Corts continued. "As an alumnus of Cumberland, a legal scholar who has worked in public service law, academia, and as a federal magistrate judge, Dean John Carroll has demonstrated his worthiness to be the first holder of the Ethel P. Malugen Chair of Law. This is a great day for the Cumberland School of Law and for Samford University."

Carroll, a 1974 Cumberland graduate, became dean at the law school in June 2001 after 14 years as U.S. magistrate judge of the U.S. District Court,

Middle District of Alabama, in Montgomery. He served previously as legal director and attorney for the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery during 1975–84 and in private practice during 1984–85.

Carroll lectures in computer-based data discovery, complex litigation, civil procedure and federal courts. He holds a bachelor's degree from Tufts University and master of laws from Harvard Law School.

Malugen, a 1977 Cumberland graduate, was a practicing tax and corporate attorney in Alabama and Missouri from 1978 to 1985, when he cofounded Movie Gallery. He has been chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the company since then.

Dena Malugen, a 1995 Cumberland graduate, has practiced law since the year of her graduation. She also heads her family's real estate development and design projects in Rosemary Beach, Fla. ■



Dena, left, and Joe Malugen visit Cumberland for the investiture of Dean John Carroll as holder of the Ethel P. Malugen Chair of Law, named for Joe's mother, right.

Samford Law School Ranked High by Princeton Review, LSSE Surveys

Samford's Cumberland School of Law ranks high in two respected national rankings released this fall.

The law school ranks fourth in the quality of professors and 10th in best quality of life in *The Princeton Review* 2004 rankings of the Best 117 Law Schools. The ranking was based on surveys of 7,000 students at the 117 law schools and institutional data from the schools.

"What makes *The Princeton Review* ranking important is that it is based on the opinions of the people who know a law school best—its students," said Cumberland Dean John L. Carroll. "This recognition is a tribute to our outstanding faculty, staff and students."

In another national poll of students, seniors at Cumberland rated their educational experience significantly better than peer school students rated their law schools in the Law School Survey of Student Engagement [LSSE].

The LSSE is an assessment based on student surveys of law schools done by the Center for Postsecondary Research at Indiana University. All U.S. law schools can take part, and the American Association of Law Schools encourages participation.

Cumberland peers include law schools with enrollments of 500 to 900 students and those at private, religious-affiliated universities.

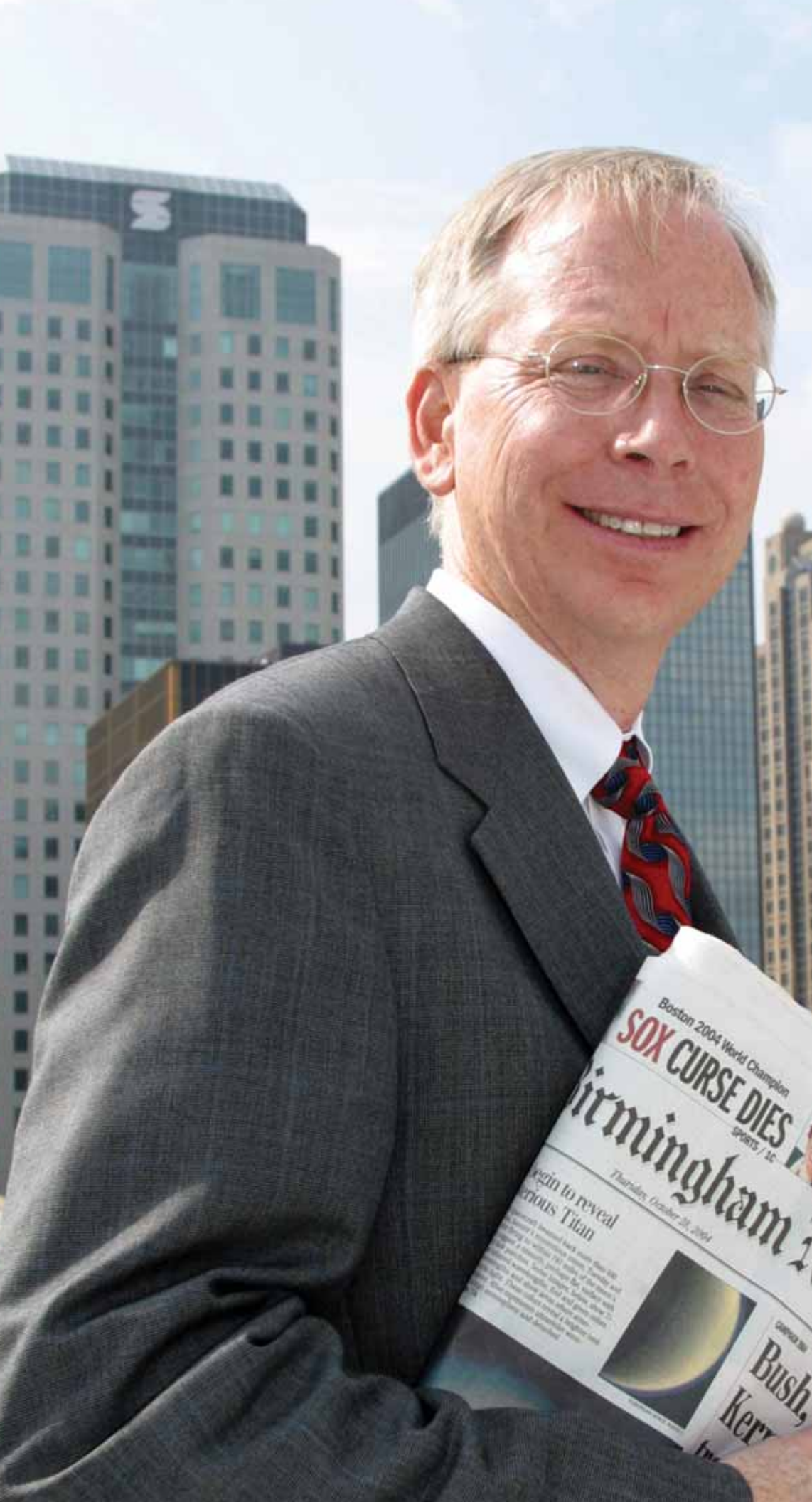
In overall educational experience,

59.2 percent of Cumberland's third-year students rated their school as "Excellent." By comparison, only 26.2 percent of students at other schools in the same size category and 35.3 percent of those at the same type law school rated their schools as "Excellent."

The LSSE surveyed students in the following areas: academic and intellectual experience, mental activities, writing, enriching educational experiences, student satisfaction, time usage, law school environment, quality of relationships and education, and personal growth. ■



**See you
next year at
Homecoming!**
Oct. 28–30, 2005



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Thursday, October 28, 2004
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Titan

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SAMFORD UNIVERSITY

BUSINESS

A Publication of the School of Business

Birmingham News Editor Finds Unique Values at Samford

COVER STORY



Tom Scarritt '95 edits The Birmingham News, Alabama's largest daily newspaper.

Few Samford business alumni have an audience to rival that of Tom Scarritt '95. As editor of *The Birmingham News*, Alabama's largest daily newspaper, the Samford M.B.A. influences hundreds of thousands of people every day.

Scarritt graduated in the first class of Samford's Executive M.B.A. Program and found the experience to be unique.

"I am very grateful that *The News* chose to send me through that program," he said. "The values underlying Samford's business education were

unusual, I think. We talked about right and wrong before the scandals of the past several years made that a common topic in business classes."

Business scandals became a common topic in newspaper headlines, too, and *The Birmingham News* was perfectly positioned to report on the crisis at the Birmingham-based HealthSouth Corporation. That ongoing story is of national significance, but Scarritt seems to delight in new stories of all sizes.

"Our responsibility is to find out all we can about what is happening in the

city and state, and to tell people about it," Scarritt said. "When we learn something new about the community, and can tell readers that news, it is always a thrill.

"We also use our editorial page to encourage the attitudes and activities we think will make the community a better place to live," Scarritt said. Through a coincidence of values, Samford University and *The Birmingham News* both have been champions of constitutional reform, tax reform and poverty relief in Alabama's Black Belt. The paper

has used both its news and editorial pages to advance public awareness of these issues.

The Birmingham News was widely praised for its multipart 2003 series on the Black Belt, for example, and was recognized by The Birmingham Area Consortium of Higher Education for its role in educating the public about the complex problems of the region. Scarritt pointed to public reaction to that series as one way to measure the newspaper's success.

"The involvement of so many community groups in trying to make a difference in the Black Belt after our reporting there was very gratifying," he said. "Those volunteers will not solve all

the problems of the Black Belt, but I believe they will have a positive influence."

Churches and other religious groups were among those who mobilized in response to the Black Belt series, underscoring the importance of religion as a force in almost all aspects of state culture. "This is definitely a secular job, but faith does inform and support the values I bring to the job," Scarritt said. In fact, *The Birmingham News* is widely respected for its ability to address religious issues in a creative, constructive and objective manner. In 1998, the Religion Newswriters Association recognized the newspaper's religion section as one of the 10 best in the nation.

Almost a decade after earning his M.B.A. degree, Tom Scarritt continues to be involved in Samford's School of Business—most recently as the featured speaker at a graduate hooding ceremony. He also serves alongside Professor John Venable on the board of directors of Workshops, Inc., a charitable organization directed by his Samford M.B.A. classmate Jim Crim.

As for those students now working toward Samford business degrees and who might seek their fortunes elsewhere, Scarritt's advice is straightforward and informed by daily service. "Alabama needs you," he said. "If you want to make a difference in the world, there is plenty of opportunity to do that right here." **SB**

Professional Polish: Business Students Learn That Etiquette Matters

Some professionals panic when their social sophistication—or lack thereof—suddenly takes center stage alongside their business knowledge and skill. Which fork should they use for the salad at a business luncheon? Should they introduce their boss to the client or vice-versa? Should they greet their Japanese colleague with a bow or a handshake or both?

Etiquette seminars in Samford's School of Business are taking the guesswork out of such situations and giving both graduate and undergraduate students a distinctive professional edge. Program organizer Barbara Cartledge, who also serves as instructor and director of Undergraduate Studies, said students who participate in the series of three seminars will earn an etiquette certificate to use in conjunction with their résumé.

The School of Business hired Tish Spaulding, president and owner of Birmingham-based Spaulding Protocol, to lead the seminars. Spaulding is a U.S. and international etiquette consultant with formal training and certification from the Protocol School of Washington and Camille Lavington & Associates of New York. She has coached executives throughout the United States on correct contemporary business protocol and social skills.

Spaulding's etiquette seminars at Samford cover a range of topics, including:



Protocol specialist Tish Spaulding helps Samford business students shine in social situations.

- Distinguishing Yourself from the Competition
- Presenting Yourself with Confidence and Authority
- Meeting and Greeting
- Professional Polish
- Skills for International Conduct
- Dining Etiquette

The first seminar in the series took place last March. In mid-November, students attended a classroom lecture on dining etiquette before enjoying a hands-on (or hands-off, as the case may be) tour through a formal, four-course dinner. The final seminar in the current series will take place in spring 2005.

Business major Matt Wilson, a member of the school's Undergraduate Student Advisory Council, said he was eager to participate in the seminars because he recognizes their practicality.

"The world is about perceptions," he said. "Basically, the seminars discuss what to say, when to say it, how to act, understanding the reasoning behind all this, and realizing how communication and interaction reveal a great deal about you as an individual and even reflect on groups that you are a part of." Moreover, Wilson said, "Samford's goal is to prepare students for anything that comes their way in the real world." Sometimes, it's a salad fork. **SB**

A Strong Family: Single Mom Shines at Samford

Carlissa Strong found Samford University at the end of a college search process that included lots of prayer, especially after she saw Samford's tuition rates. "God," she asked, "are you sure this is where I am supposed to go?" The Virginia Beach native and single mother of four enrolled at Samford as much out of faith as out of any concrete plan for affording college. But, she said, "God made a way for me to go to Samford."

It was tough going, no doubt, but as she worked and proved herself, scholarships began to ease the way. A scholarship brought international study within her reach. A scholarship from Student Ministries helped her afford the January Term course she needed to graduate on time. A prestigious Colonial Properties Academic Excellence Scholarship provided a free apartment for one year. The support added up to reward the faith and hard work of an aptly named student.

Belonging

Strong, a business major, was often uncomfortably aware that she was not the typical Samford student. She credits one Samford business professor in particular, John Venable, for reminding her that she *was* part of the Samford community. "He made me feel like I belonged when many times I felt like I didn't," she said.

It was still difficult being a full-time student, often with a daughter and three sons in tow. "But," she said, "the difficulty was eased with the help of students on campus." They played with her children and cared for them while she was in class, and even took them to the Samford football and basketball games she never was able to attend herself. "The football players make great babysitters," she said.

Strong said her children had such a positive experience at Samford that they want to return as students. "My daughter, Ashlee, will be a candidate in four years," she said. "I feel like I have to start saving now, but I have made her aware of the scholarship opportunities that are available for her to work toward. She makes good grades and is up to the challenge."

Ashlee's mother was up to the challenge, too, distinguishing herself



Business faculty helped Carlissa Strong feel welcome at Samford.

both in and outside the classroom. In addition to her studies, she founded a Samford chapter of Students in Free Enterprise [SIFE], which helps students develop leadership, teamwork and communication skills through learning, practicing and teaching the principles of free enterprise. Under her leadership, Samford's 2001–02 SIFE Team won Honorable Mention for its Responsible Use of Credit project, and was named Rookie of the Year in regional competition. The following year's projects, including the creation of a volunteer Web site and growing relationships with Cornerstone Schools of Alabama and the YMCA, earned the team First Runner-Up honors in that year's competition.

Strong also made time to participate in Diversity University, an independent, eight-week program that brought together students from Birmingham area colleges for frank discussions about race and ethnicity, sexuality, culture, and religion. She says she felt a unique responsibility to participate. "I fit into many diverse categories, but I wanted to voice my thoughts as a single mother," she said. "Many people stereotype us and fail to realize our capabilities." Diversity University's challenging schedule of weeknight sessions proved to be too much for some participants, but the

Strong family was honored for perfect attendance.

Dreams

Facing a tough job market when she graduated last spring, Strong spent seven months providing financial information to underserved communities as a Volunteer in Service to America in the national Americorps program. She now works for a bank in Birmingham but hopes to continue teaching others about the principals of finance. "Many people in America don't have basic financial skills," she said with the authority of one who knows how hard many families work to realize their dreams. "When you're left to raise four children, you struggle, you get behind, you make choices—some tougher than others—you sacrifice."

Carlissa Strong continues to pursue her own dreams—to be debt-free, to raise her children well and to continue serving others. She also hopes to earn a master's degree in urban economics. If that leads to a Ph.D., she said, she might even end up among the faculty of Samford University's School of Business. "I know I can make a difference there, because a difference was made in my life." **SB**

Ukraine Partnership Flourishing

In spring 2004, Samford business professors Betsy Holloway, Archie Lockamy, Bill Service and Interim Dean Marlene Reed traveled to Ukraine through a new partnership between Samford's School of Business and the Kiev Business School. At the end of the school year—in fact, the day of graduation—professors Larry Harper and Jim Reburn departed for a second weeklong seminar in Kiev. A third Samford faculty group composed of Reed, Cynthia Lohrke and John Venable traveled to Kiev in mid-October. The professors typically spend one intense week in Kiev teaching Ukrainian business students, most of whom are working professionals with at least a few years of business experience.

Reed, who for many years has shared her expertise in the countries of the former Soviet Union, said business education is in great demand in those countries because it was outlawed during 50 years of Communist rule. According to Reed, the dean of the Kiev Business School proposed the partnership with Samford because he admired Samford's Christian foundation—an attraction and partnership that would have been almost unthinkable only two decades ago.

Larry Harper, who also has participated in the USAID-sponsored City Partnership Program that paired the City of Birmingham with Krasnodon, Ukraine, said he was pleased to return to the country and help satisfy Ukrainians'

“enormous appetite, aptitude and appreciation for learning about free-market operations.”

“I concentrated on showing why the free enterprise system is successful and what has to be done to ensure that it operates effectively,” Harper said. “I also made an effort to address how a planned economy could transition to a more competitive economy while taking into account the many stakeholder needs that required attention.”

While his students' response was positive, they exhibited a deep mistrust of any official economic statistics. “They challenged U.S. unemployment and other statistics, suggesting that the numbers must have been doctored for propaganda purposes,” Harper said.

Reburn recalled teaching in Kiev as “a great experience.” However, he did have to make some challenging cultural adjustments. He was unsure how to interpret the expressionless faces of his Ukrainian managerial accounting students, for example, “The visual cues that we receive and depend on for feedback from U.S. students were not present among my Ukrainian students. I didn't know if they were bored with my lecture, were not grasping the concepts, or were concentrating on the translation from the interpreter,” he said.

The director of the Ukrainian M.B.A. program assured Reburn that the students' stony expressions simply reflected a cultural difference in the way

Ukrainian students conduct themselves in class, and Reburn did find them more relaxed in less formal settings.

“Outside the lectures, such as before or after class, or during breaks, I found the students to be very engaging and inquisitive,” he said. He also found them to be eager to try out their new knowledge. “In fact,” said Reburn, “they often returned to work after class and attempted to apply the concepts that we had just discussed that day in class.”

Language also presented a challenge. Lockamy said having to work with an interpreter took some getting used to. “However,” he said, “after getting adjusted to using the technology [headsets and microphones] and determining the proper speaking rate, the teaching experience became more natural.

Assistant Professor of Marketing Betsy B. Holloway lectured on a wide variety of general marketing issues and was as impressed as her colleagues by Ukraine and its hopeful young business people.

“This is a fascinating time in their history, as they are rapidly evolving into a developed economy,” she said. “The Ukrainian students were very bright and eager to learn. It appeared that most of their business knowledge was from hands-on experience, as their formal business training has been severely limited until now.”

However beneficial Samford's new partnership with the Kiev Business School may be for Ukrainians, it also is expected to benefit Samford faculty by providing ample research opportunities and by deepening their understanding of the challenges countries face as they transition to market economies.

“While we in the U.S. are in a more fortunate position, there is much that we can learn from Ukrainians,” Harper said. “In Ukraine, I learn more about how people with very few resources can achieve great results if the right motivation is allowed to flourish.” **SB**

Professors Marlene Reed (left) and Archie Lockamy (center front) traveled to Ukraine to teach business students about free-market operations.



The Chance of a Lifetime

You're holding the hand of your business colleague sitting across the aisle because there's no longer any doubt that your plane is going to crash. The commuter jet goes down in a residential neighborhood, splitting open and tossing you 30 yards, seat and all. You're badly injured, but alive, while everyone else on the plane is killed. As a Christian, you wonder why God saved you but not the other passengers, most of whom were good people with loving families and bright futures. Did God play any role at all in the accident, or is there room for chance in the universe?

Such questions, normally the bread and butter of theologians, have captivated Samford business professor Tom Woolley for many years, especially since reading about such an accident shortly before he joined Samford's faculty in 1993. Around the same time, he immersed himself in the writings of English statistical science professor David Bartholomew, which include such provocative titles as *The God of Chance*, *Is It Rational to be a Christian?* and *Probability, Statistics and Theology*.

"Bartholomew's contention is that a rational person's belief must rest upon uncertainties," Woolley explained. "It is probability theory that provides the methodology for measuring uncertainty and therefore provides the Christian with the best opportunity for fashioning a rational basis for belief."

Woolley, who once considered attending seminary, saw in Bartholomew's ideas a way to combine his faith and profession. "As a statistician and an evangelical Christian, I found Bartholomew's suggestions provocative and evocative; his words rekindled feelings that had been dormant within me for decades." Woolley continued to ponder the intersection of faith and statistics, gaining a reputation as an exceptional teacher along the way.

In 2000, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching honored Woolley as its Alabama Professor of the Year. The following year, Woolley led 23 undergraduate students in exploration of theology and chance at Daniel House, Samford's campus in London. There, the group had the



Tom Woolley explores the intersection of faith and chance.

unique opportunity to meet and learn from Bartholomew and Rev. Drs. Arthur Peacocke and John Polkinghorne. That experience, Woolley's participation in the *British Science and Religion Forum* and the encouragement of his British colleagues led him ever deeper into his statistical/theological inquiry. The British connection soon proved to be vitally important.

The Rookie

In 2003, Woolley was among only 35 scholars throughout the world chosen to participate in the prestigious John Templeton Oxford Seminars on Science and Christianity at Oxford University in England. Woolley spent this summer at the second of the seminars, which enable faculty to engage in scholarly research in science and religion, and to enjoy dialogue with each other about their scholarship.

Although he completed over 10,000 pages of preparatory reading before the first seminar, Woolley said his lack of philosophical and theological foundations has presented a significant challenge. "Of the 30 or so scholars participating in the program, roughly half are theologians or philosophers,"

Woolley said. "The other half are scientists of one stripe or another. The reality, however, is that a number of the scientists chosen for the program already have published in the field of science and religion, and as a result, have a reasonable grasp of the philosophical/theological language."

Woolley, a self-described rookie, said he has struggled to learn that language, but added that he and his colleagues in the program have come to respect each other and understand their respective limitations. "I now have a cohort of scholars, consultants and friends in a wide variety of fields who are actively interfacing with science and Christianity; I can ask them questions and dialogue with them without worry that they will view my questions as dangerously naïve," he said. Such dialogue has been the highlight of the seminar experience, he said. "The other participants have been unbelievably helpful and supportive of my research, providing me with a great deal of invaluable feedback."

Chance and the Evangelical Mind

For his seminar research project, "Chance and the Evangelical Mind," Woolley is studying the writings of

Oxford theologian Leonard Hodgson, who in the 1950s proposed that, “for the rational purpose of ensuring fair play we create conditions in which decisions shall be left to chance; for the furtherance of His purpose in creation God gives to His universe a mode of reality which admits of the existence and occurrence of such irrationalities as contingency, freedom and evil.” In his project proposal, Woolley noted that Hodgson’s theology has special appeal to him

because “it retains its orthodox elements while incorporating chance as a positive tool that can be used by God to achieve his purpose.”

Of course, not all survivors of air crashes, illnesses and life’s other trials find an agreeable or logical way to credit God for creation without blaming God for its course. The presence of evil and suffering in the world leads some to believe that God is either powerless, indifferent or simply doesn’t exist. To

them, Woolley suggests a fourth possibility—that God *is*, and is omniscient, omnipotent and sympathetic to suffering, but, to make humans truly free, also allows the degree of contingency that accounts for sin and suffering. “However, God, in his infinite love for us, has also given us a plan of salvation, redemption,” Woolley said. “Does this point to a way to prevent or eliminate suffering and pain in God’s creation? Absolutely not. However, it is the ground of our hope.” **SB**

Ethics Speaker Challenges Separation of Faith, Business

Chris Seay, founder of the University Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, and pastor of Ecclesia, the progressive Christian community he founded in Houston, is fussy about public restrooms, and not without good reason. The goal, he feels, is to get in and get out without touching any handles, knobs or assorted other bacteria-laden fixtures.

Speaking to Samford students in October as the School of Business’s 2004 Gerow Hodges Speaker, Seay pointed out that many Christians take a similar approach to their spiritual life. “How will I get in and out of this place without actually having to get my hands dirty, without actually having to touch something?”

As spiritually squeamish as many Christians are, Seay explained, “what Christ did was touch what no one else would touch, go to places no one else would go. That’s what was so compelling and beautiful, and that’s how redemption permeated the darkest places.” Contrary to that spirit, Seay said, many Christians have created a separate, hypocritical and, ultimately, alienating culture. As a result, he said, “people are saying ‘I don’t buy it, I don’t want to go there.’” He noted that the ethical failures of prominent, self-described Christians further isolate Christianity from the culture in which it could do so much good.

Citing examples from his book, *The Tao of Enron: Spiritual Lessons from a Fortune 500 Fallout*, Seay offered a unique perspective on how business ethics fit into the problem of self-defeating, isolationist Christian culture.

Seay interviewed with many people whose lives were upturned by the



Chris Seay

ethical lapses of Enron executives. He described meeting with an Enron employee who had multiple sclerosis and had lost her job, her home and her health insurance as the result of the company’s bankruptcy. Only two hours later Seay interviewed former Enron CEO Kenneth Lay, the son of a Baptist minister, and whose own son was studying to enter the ministry. “I had to tell him, ‘I can’t fathom how you can own 17 homes and this woman can’t pay her doctor’s bills,’” Seay said. “This doesn’t fit with the ethic of Christ.”

“How did we get to this place?” Seay and co-author Chris Bryan wondered. They decided such profound ethical failures occur because Christians adopt that “restroom” mentality, getting their spiritual life out of the way quickly and cleanly one day each week and bringing nothing of that experience into their daily business lives. “But the reality of the Gospel,” Seay said, “is that it permeates everything every place you live,

what you do for a vocation, the way you treat your family, the way you treat the environment, all these things.”

Seay said a recent survey revealed widespread dislike of evangelical Christians. The reason for that stunning finding, he said, is that although the message of Christ “is a message of grace, love, redemption, reconciliation between God and man, man and man, man and the Earth,” the people who responded to the survey apparently look at Christians and see only actions at odds with the core values of their professed faith. In much the same way Americans scorned Ken Lay, Seay said, “people were turning to us in this survey, I believe, and saying ‘unless you’re going to live what you say you believe—which is about love and grace and reconciliation—we want to have nothing to do with you.’”

“What we’ve got to learn to do in business, life, art and culture is live amongst the people,” Seay said. And, he added, “you must do business in such a way that instead of becoming the most hated person in America, you become the most beloved because you do what you say you’re going to do, you do it with hard work and with good ethics and compassion and love for the people who surround you.”

Seay left the Samford students with a troubling prediction, but also affirmed their ability to rise to the ethical challenges they will face. “You will be called to a place in life, in business and family, much like (Enron whistleblower) Sherron Watkins was, where you must either speak truth and live truth or deny the essence of the Gospel,” he said. “Sometimes you may have to leave. But more often, I believe, you learn to be a Christian in that place.” **SB**

Letter from the Dean



Events

In October 2003, the School of Business hosted its endowed Gerow Hodges Lecture Series in Leslie Wright Fine Arts Center with a packed hall gathered to hear “Rudy” Ruettiger—the former Notre Dame football player made famous in the movie by the same name. He inspired the audience with his life story and his message of hope and self-confidence.

In the spring, the business school hosted Enron whistleblower Sherron Watkins for the School of Business Ethics Convocation in Reid Chapel. Watkins also spoke to several business school classes about her decision to tell Enron CEO Ken Lay about the accounting irregularities at the company.

Students

- Three students—Allison King, Will Peek and Matthew Manning—held internships in Washington, D.C., this year. These are only three of the many School of Business students who have internships in this country or internationally every year.
- School of Business students received 33 scholarships this year for a total of \$41,910. The school also presented 50 student awards or recognitions for outstanding scholarship.
- The Samford University collegiate chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma—the honor society for the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—was recognized as a Premier Chapter for its superior level of membership acceptance and promotional activities during the 2003–04 academic year.

Faculty

- Dr. Tom Woolley, professor of statistics, was awarded a scholarship and invited to participate in the prestigious Templeton Oxford Seminars in England during the summers of 2003 and 2004.
- Professor John Venable was included in the Alabama select group *Who’s Who in Banking and Finance 2004*. Venable, a finance professor and director of the Community Banking School at Samford, was honored at a breakfast in June hosted by the *Birmingham Business Journal*.
- Barbara Cartledge, a Samford M.B.A. graduate and former manager in human resources at BellSouth, was appointed director of Undergraduate Programs in January 2004.
- Larry Harper, former chief financial officer of Eskom (the South African utility) and director of Samford’s School of Business Global Utility Institute, was appointed director of Graduate Programs at the conclusion of the spring semester.
- School of Business faculty produced more than 40 articles and cases in journals and professional organizations’ proceedings during the academic year.
- Dr. Betsy Holloway received an award from the school for Outstanding Scholarship.
- Dr. Steve Jones received an award for Excellence in Teaching.
- Dr. Doug Smith received the school’s Distinguished Service award.
- The school added three new faculty members this fall. Dr. Bill Belski will teach accounting; Dr. Jeremy Thornton has an appointment in economics; and Professor Chad Carson is on the management faculty.

Marlene M. Reed

Thanks!

The School of Business thanks the following sponsors of the Welcome Back and Class Forum events this fall:

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