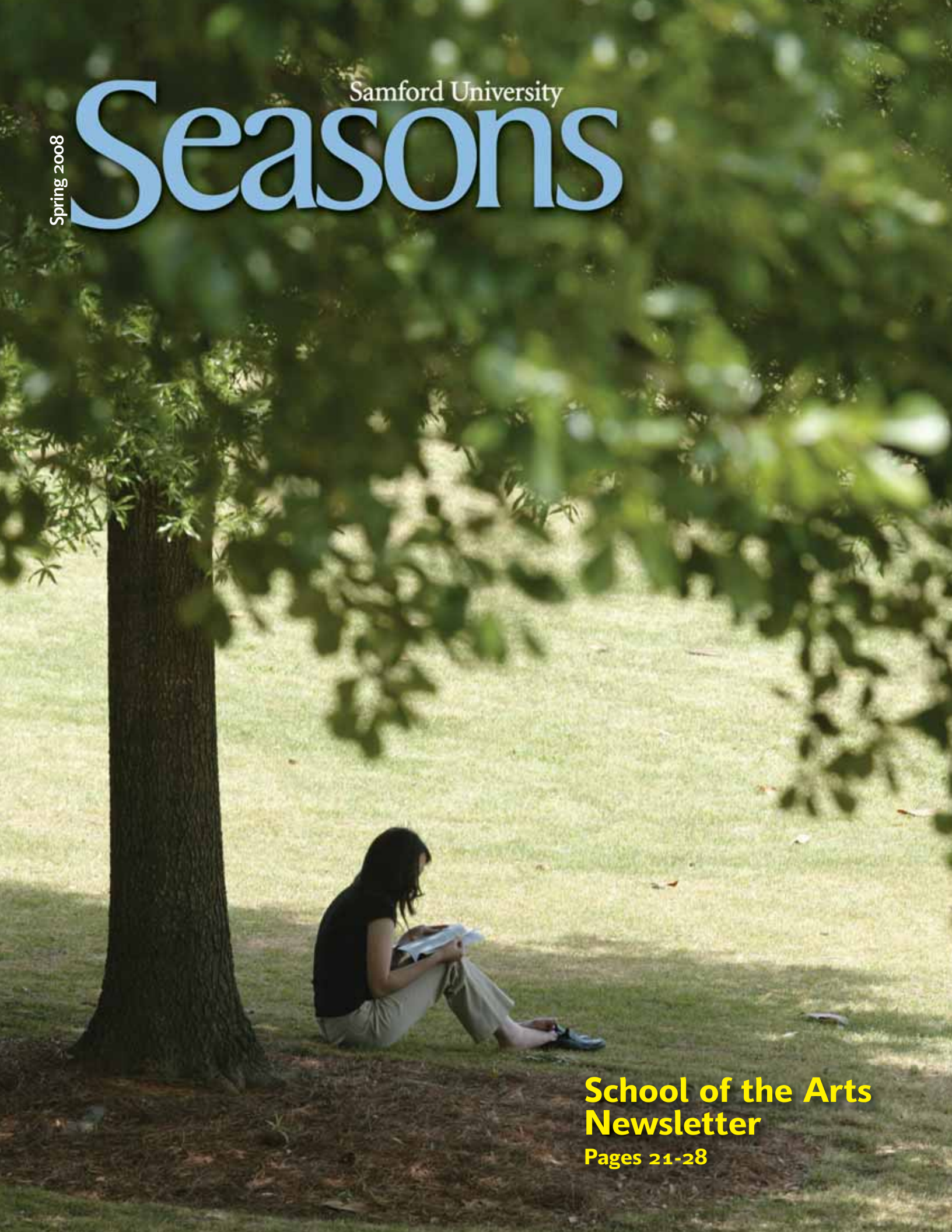


Spring 2008

Samford University

# Seasons



**School of the Arts  
Newsletter**

**Pages 21-28**

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features

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## 4 Migrating from East Lake

Samford faculty members who moved from East Lake to Shades Valley recall 1957–58 as a year of transition. “It was not exactly covered wagons or trekking the Oregon Trail, but the move . . . had some aspects of a migration,” said retired English professor Sam Mitchell.

## 6 Seeking the Moral Point

English professor Rod Davis '58 likes to explore works “that peel back the surface layers of things to reveal what is at the heart of the matter.” This year’s Macon Award winner believes every story should have at its center a moral point.

## 8 Chance Meeting Opens Door to Past

Samford student Gaines Johnson had talked often with his grandfather about World War II service, including the crash of his B-17 bomber in Belgium. After language study in Spain last summer, Johnson tracked down the crash site—but only after an amazing coincidence introduced him to residents of the village where the crash occurred.

## 18 Business Is His Ministry

Chick-fil-A founder S. Truett Cathy bases his successful business on Christian principles of service. Cathy, his sons, Dan and Donald '75, and his daughter, Trudy Cathy White '79, gathered at Samford in March to present a two-day leadership forum, one of the rare occasions for all four to be together for such an event.

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Members of the group, Music from Japan, perform in Samford's Brock Recital Hall Feb. 26 as part of the group's Festival 2008 tour. Founded in 1975, Music from Japan is a leading presenter of Japanese traditional and contemporary music in the United States.

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# Thank you, Elouise

**Y**ou'll read in this issue of *Seasons* on page 43 of the retirement of Mrs. Harold Williams from a Samford University Auxiliary leadership role that spanned three decades. Jeanna and I join with the entire Samford community in acknowledging with great appreciation the work of this stalwart friend.

My first encounter with Mrs. Williams was on a December morning two years ago, as a panel of civic leaders from the Birmingham area interviewed me as a candidate for the Samford presidency. In particular, I noted that day that the gentle lady asking the careful questions was a person of towering intellect and great grace. A few weeks later, during a visit when Jeanna and I were beginning the process of learning about our new hometown, Mrs. Williams gave of her time to drive Jeanna throughout the city, pointing out landmarks and offering sage advice. Along with Marla and Tom Corts, we treasure her friendship.

For her tireless support of the programs of the auxiliary, for her careful stewardship of the dollars entrusted to the organization, for her keen interest in seeking scholarships for our students,

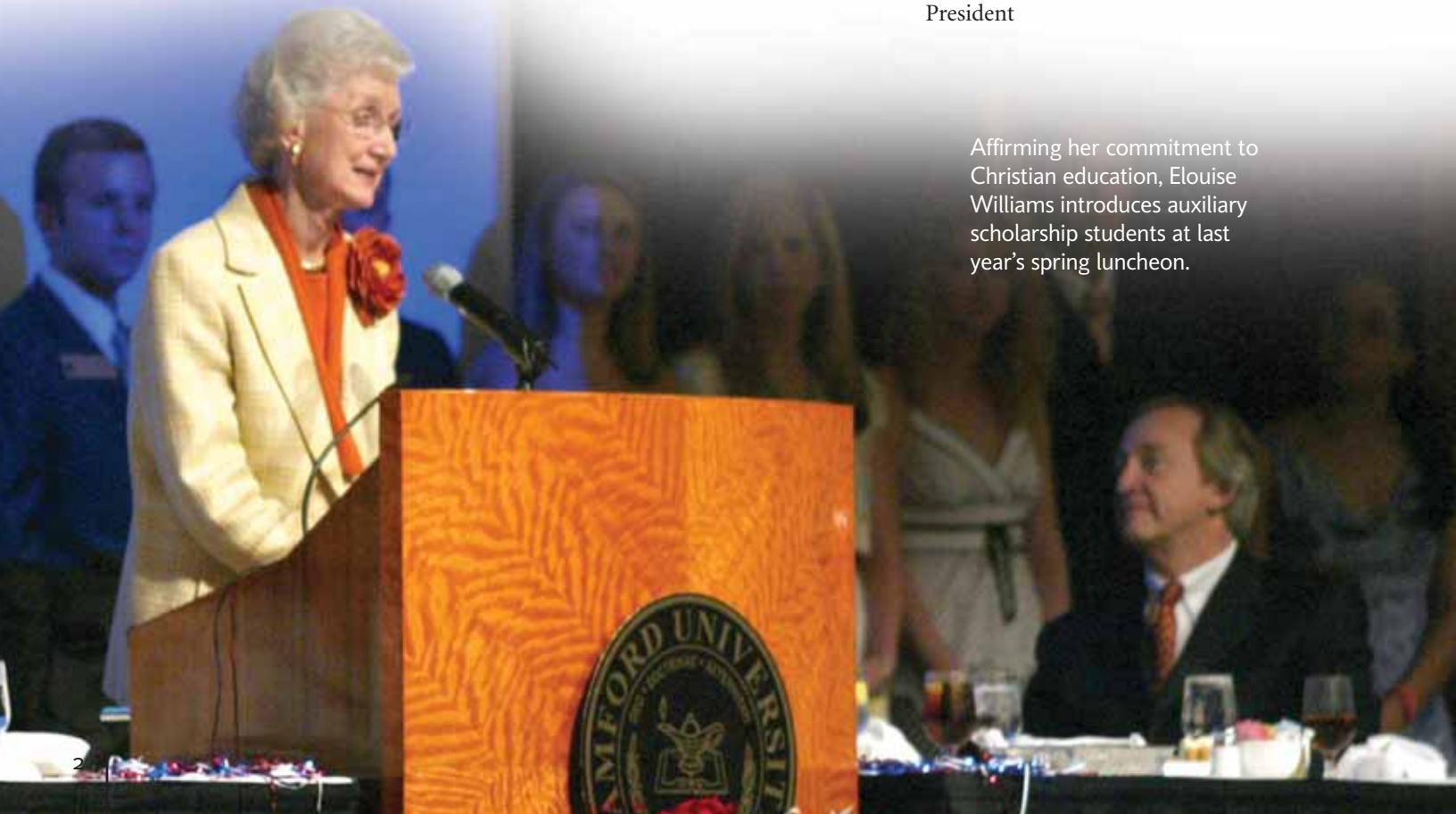


for her loyalty to Samford's mission, and for modeling the grace of a virtuous woman, we express our profound thanks to Mrs. Williams.

As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.

Andrew Westmoreland  
President

Affirming her commitment to Christian education, Elouise Williams introduces auxiliary scholarship students at last year's spring luncheon.



## Brock Brought New Concept To Staid Banking Industry: Brewer

Former Alabama Governor Albert P. Brewer paid tribute to retired banker Harry B. Brock, Jr., and his 45 years of service and support of Samford University during dedication ceremonies Feb. 21 for the new Brock School of Business at Samford.

Brewer, a Samford trustee and retired law professor at the school, said the dedication also marked the commitment of Brock School of Business to being “a world-class business school with an emphasis on entrepreneurship in an environment of the highest standard of business ethics.”

Samford announced in December that its business school would be named for Brock, a longtime trustee and generous supporter of the university. Brock committed to helping build an endowment of at least \$100 million for the business school.

“He wants this university to have one of the top business schools in the United States,” Brewer said in his dedication remarks. “He wants Brock School of Business to be a breeding place for young entrepreneurs. He wants Brock School of Business to foster a culture of business ethics that will be a model for the rest of the country.”

Brewer noted that Brock was from the hill country of Fort Payne, Ala., a section known “for its fiercely independent and hard-working people, traits that Harry exemplifies.” He traced Brock’s legendary career in Alabama banking, from his early days of taking on established banks to his successful spreading of his Central Bank franchise across state lines to Texas.

“He brought a new banking concept to that staid old industry,” Brewer said. “He introduced the customer-oriented, retail banking concept, which is widespread now but was contrary to banking custom at that time.”

Brock led a 1980 effort for passage of a statewide bank merger bill that



Harry Brock, Jr., shows off the proclamation presented by Samford board.

allowed bank branching across county lines, Brewer noted.

“This farsighted legislation was a direct cause of Birmingham’s becoming home to four major bank holding companies with the resulting benefit to the local and statewide economy,” he said.

Later, Central Bank (now Compass Bank) became the first in Alabama to own a bank in another state and the first out-of-state bank to own a Texas bank.

Brock’s first involvement with Samford came in 1955, when he helped raise funds for the school’s new Lakeshore Drive campus. He joined the Samford board of trustees in 1962 and has played a leading role in supporting the institution since that time.

“Harry Brock’s unselfish commitment to Samford has impressed many people,” said Brewer. ■

## Pittman, Latham Named Vice Presidents

Samford has named W. Randall Pittman and Sarah C. Latham as vice presidents, and Michael D. Morgan as assistant to the president in administrative changes reported recently by



Pittman

President Andrew Westmoreland.

Pittman becomes vice president for university relations, effective April 15. He previously served as chief financial officer for Emageon, Inc., and as a member of Samford’s board of trustees since 2001.

As vice president, he will oversee development, communication, and alumni and parent relations.

Pittman is “extraordinarily familiar with Samford, and he has a keen mind for sales, finance, management and marketing,” Westmoreland said.

Pittman has a successful 32-year career in Birmingham, including executive positions with AmSouth Bank, Caremark and BioCryst. Pittman and his wife, Daina, are the parents of two daughters who have attended Samford.



Latham

Latham, assistant to the president since 2006, will become vice president for operations and planning, effective June 1. A Samford administrator since 2002, she will be responsible for facilities management, the Office of Institutional

Effectiveness, university-wide event coordination and related functions.

Morgan, vice president for university relations since 2003, led the recently completed 18-month, \$53-million Promise for All Generations campaign. He is “a creative thinker and administrator” who will help develop “new ways to tell the Samford story,” Westmoreland said.

The restructuring began when current Vice President for Facilities Don M. Mott reached the university’s mandatory retirement age of 65 for executive officers. He will remain at Samford indefinitely as a construction consultant. ■

# Looking Back

## Retired Faculty Recall the End at East Lake, The Beginning in Shades Valley

by Jack Brymer

**A**lthough a half-century in the past, the move of Samford University—then Howard College—from East Lake and its first year in Shades Valley conjure mostly pleasant memories for several retired faculty who experienced the transition.

On May 24, 1957, Howard President Harwell G. Davis told a Candlelight Dinner audience of 1,300 “this occasion will be somewhat of a salute and farewell” to the old campus. With that, he turned “with thankfulness” to the future and “an adequate and beautiful campus on Lakeshore Drive.”

Howard moved to Shades Valley during the summer of '57, and this spring completes its 50th year at the Homewood location.

“There was much rejoicing when the day came to move to the new campus,” recalled Ray Atchison, longtime English professor. “I don’t think we considered it stressful because we had a new vision of what Howard College could become, both in its physical plant and academically.”

Sam Mitchell, also an English professor, echoed the same sentiments. “It was not exactly covered wagons or trekking the Oregon Trail, but the move of Howard College from East Lake to Homewood had some of the aspects of a migration,” he said. “I was enormously pleased that we would have new facilities in new buildings.”

Education professors John and Frances Carter had been on the old campus only one year prior to the move.

“Moving my ‘office’ wasn’t much of a problem,” said John Carter. “I just had a desk in the back of a classroom with a portable screen in front of it, and I hadn’t been there long enough to accumulate many books.”

Frances Carter recalled that President Davis, “Major,” made sure someone took them to the new site with a promise that they would be moving there within a year or so. “I must admit that at that stage of development, we had to use a lot of imagination to get very enthusiastic about moving,” she said.

Music professor Eleanor Ousley recalled maintenance people moving everything “to our new home away from home,” except for her music. “That I moved myself,” she said.

A common memory was helping to pack up library books.

“I can’t remember the details of moving the office furniture, but I do remember helping to move the books in the library,” recalled math professor Ruric Wheeler.

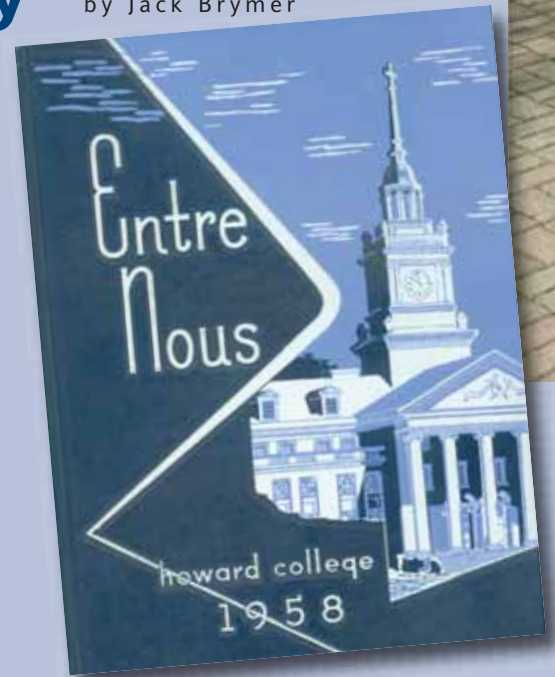
“All of us pitched in to pack books in the library and load them into trucks,” said John Carter.

The process began June 1, 1957, five days after the last East Lake commencement. Trucks transported more than 80,000 volumes to the new campus in about 100 trips.

For individual faculty, books and office equipment tended to be sparse. Speech and drama professor Allan Yeomans remembered moving all the theatre equipment to the new campus in one fairly small flatbed truck. But the memories were plentiful.

“I was able to take everything I had with me, including my memories, some of which I cherish and some I wish I could forget,” said Ousley. One bad memory, she recalled, was putting up with rain in her studio; the administration approved few repairs in East Lake during the last year due to the impending move.

“A 50-gallon drum was put in the attic of the old house in which we each



had a teaching room,” she said. “When the drum filled with water and the plaster just missed me when it fell, I think I hit a high C,” she said.

According to Wheeler, the greatest thing about the old campus was the dedication of the faculty to Christian education. “Because of the sacrifices of brilliant faculty members, Samford produced some of the finest graduates in the history of the college or university,” Wheeler said.

The new location proved an inconvenience initially for faculty members who lived in East Lake.

“For me, the most stressful aspect of the move was the long drive each day to the new campus,” said Wheeler. He tried carpooling, but only briefly.

“The first week, Dr. [James] Chapman and Professor [Hul-Cee] Acton rode with me,” he said. “The second week, we were supposed to ride with Dr. Chapman; however, on our first



East Lake faculty veterans, from left, Ray Atchison, Frances Carter, Ruric Wheeler, John Carter, Eleanor Ousley and Sigurd Bryan gather on campus for a February lunch.

day with him driving, he ran three traffic lights and two stop signs. When I told my wife about his driving, she informed me I could not ride with him any more.”

At that point, Wheeler became the taxi driver for both professors, and they helped pay for the gas. But he heard “many good sermons on these trips and learned the history of old Howard College,” he said.

While the move held the promise of new facilities in new buildings, the “migration” was not without its challenges.

“Despite the rivers of red clay mud, our academic world of classes and faculty and committee meetings began with an unaccustomed exhilaration,” recalled Mitchell. “Unlike biology, pharmacy, music and religion, most of the rest of us were housed, rather tightly jumbled together, in Samford Hall for a few years, but we could pretend that we were almost as vital to the college as was the administration.”

The new facilities were adaptable with classrooms for nearly all departments scattered among Samford and Ingalls Halls, and the library, according to Frances Carter. “Chapel, I think, was on the third floor of the library,” she said. “Step Sing was still really step sing and conducted on the front steps of the

library. Most athletics events were still held on the old campus or at Shades Valley High School stadium, or even back at the Woodlawn High School gym.”

The migration from one building to another in those earliest years was widespread. The music department’s first home, Ousley recalled, was in the “date room” of Vail Hall, the women’s residence hall.

“It was difficult trying to teach voice with Betty Sue [Shepherd] teaching piano next door,” Ousley said, and probably just as hard for Shepherd. “We were tossed about from one place to another until the Leslie S. Wright Center was built and we no longer had to share Buchanan Hall with the art department. It was quite a while before things settled in.”

The mathematics department shared Ingalls Hall with pharmacy and chemistry, and had to schedule its classes around labs. “I remember teaching most of my classes in the big pharmacy lecture hall,” Wheeler noted.

“We could tolerate the new buildings with unfinished ceilings and having to move to different places for classrooms,” said Atchison. “At one time, my classes met in the main building [Samford Hall] and at others in the upper floor of the library, where we established the English department offices.”

Now, 50 years later, the transition seems to have been worth the unpleasant and inconvenient years of both old and new locations.

“I marvel at the vision of Major Davis and all who had the vision to come from there [East Lake] to where we arrived so long ago,” said Ousley. “It really seems like yesterday, and when I look at the beautiful campus that was made possible by so many, I am proud to have had a part in building the reputation it has of a fine Christian university.”

Carter acknowledged that some of his proudest moments 50 years later are taking out-of-town guests on a tour of the campus and boasting, “This is where I used to teach.”

At least a part of the old East Lake campus still lives. Atchison recalled that a few years ago Samford nurtured seedlings from acorns produced by Sherman Oak, an East Lake campus landmark. One seedling was planted on campus, and others were given to alumni attending homecoming. The campus seedling thrives today as a maturing oak tree in front of Samford Hall. At least two others are thriving as well, said Atchison, one at his home in Homewood and the other at his daughter’s home in Atlanta. ■

Macon Award winner Rod Davis chats with a student.

# Searching for the Moral Point

by Mary Wimberley

English Literature Teacher Davis Wins Macon Award



When J. Roderick Davis '58 applied for the position of dean of Samford's Howard College of Arts and Sciences in 1990, he wrote eloquently of the need to encourage, appreciate and admire faculty.

"It is the faculty that makes the lasting impact on students and will come to mind when they think of the school in later years," he wrote. "Recruiting and supporting the best faculty possible must always be at the top of the dean's own agenda."

Davis got the job, from which he retired in 2001. Since then, he has been back in the classroom teaching English to scores of students who often sprinkle evaluations of his courses with words like "brilliant," "genius" and "inspirational."

Colleagues and students alike responded warmly when, in late January, Davis was named winner of the 2008 George Macon Memorial Award for Teaching.

The annual award, given at the opening convocation of the spring semester, honors a professor for exceptional performance as a teacher, counselor, friend and inspiration to students. The recipient receives a \$1,000 check and a silver tray.

"Students have been endeared to him by his gentle wit and compassionate heart," said Samford Provost Brad Creed in presenting the award. "He patiently listens to their struggles and problems, and offers sympathetic words and wise counsel."

The honoree knows well the value of the person behind the lectern. "I had some fine teachers when I was an undergraduate, and several became great mentors," said Davis, citing English instructors Richard Pettigrew, Sam Mitchell and Lizette Van Gelder for their encouragement.

"Sam and Lizette actually sat me down one day and told me that I was going to graduate school," recalled Davis. The two, who later married, commanded such respect in English departments around the country that their recommendations immediately got the Marshall County, Ala., native teaching fellowship offers at four major universities.

Davis, who had excelled at Samford academically and in activities ranging from national championship debate to writing for *The Crimson*, went on to earn a master's at Boston University, a master of divinity at Yale University and a Ph.D. with distinction in English and comparative literature at Columbia University.

The two decades he spent teaching at public universities in New Jersey and New York gave him a deep appreciation for the mission of his undergraduate alma mater.

"We [at Samford] aim not only to equip students with a superior foundation in the knowledge and skills needed to understand and make their way in the wider world, but we are free to explore whatever connections we may find between our material life and that of the spirit," said Davis, who was ordained to the ministry by the late Samford religion professor Dr. Mabry Lunceford.

As a teacher of literature, Davis likes to explore works "that peel back the surface layers of things to reveal what is at the heart of the matter," believing that every story should have at its center a moral point, though not always readily apparent.

"Still, I try to teach literature as literature, with attention to the appreciation also of its aesthetic qualities, not as an argument that has a palpable design on us," said Davis, noting that in his

classes and office hours, students often feel free to pose questions and start discussions that overflow to deep concerns of life. "And that is as it should be."

Davis has taught courses on the novel, theatre, 20th-Century British literature and writers from Shakespeare to James Joyce.

The man with "uncommonly eclectic tastes" enjoys them all, but has a special fondness for the Samford core curriculum's Cultural Perspectives courses required of all freshmen.

"It is great fun to get to know our first-year students from all the university's six undergraduate schools, and examine with them some of the great ideas, movements and literary works from the Greeks to the present in two semesters," said Davis. (*See list of favorite titles and authors below.*)

In addition to classroom teaching, Davis remains wholly engaged in campus life, much as he was as a student.

His work with Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society, which inducted him as a student member in 1956, was recognized in 2007 when he was named national ODK Adviser of the Year.

Known for his passion for social justice and his work for racial reconciliation, Davis serves on the board of the Selma-to-Montgomery National Historic Trail. He is an active member of Birmingham's Baptist Church of the Covenant. ■

## Davis TOP12 Reads

Of the plethora of celebrated literature, what does a respected scholar consider must-reads? Rod Davis picks his top 12.

*Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy  
*The Death of Ivan Ilych*, Leo Tolstoy  
*The Dead*, Nikolai Gogol  
*Middlemarch*, George Eliot  
*The Master and Margarita*, Mikhail Bulgakov  
*Cities of Salt*, Abdelrahman Munid  
*Believers*, Charles Baxter  
*The Death of Adam*, Marilynne Robinson  
*The Moviegoer*, Walker Percy  
*Waiting for the Barbarians*, J. M. Coetzee  
*The Songs of the Kings*, Barry Unsworth  
*Lord Jim*, Joseph Conrad

# Chance Meeting

## Coincidence Helps Student Discover Grandfather's WWII Crash Site

During the latter stages of World War II, a young B-17 pilot from Meridian, Miss., Bernard Shuff, made a bombing run over Germany and headed back to his air base in England. But enemy flak hit the plane, setting two of its four engines afire and wounding a crew member.

Shuff told his navigator, Bob Bernie, to find an airfield; they couldn't make it back across the North Sea. As the plane descended, Bernie found an airstrip for fighter planes in the seaside village of Knokke-Zuit, Belgium.

There was one problem. The strip had only a 1,500-foot runway, and the B-17 needed more than twice that much to land. Shuff had no choice. He crash-landed, wheels up, and the B-17 slid off the end of the runway and into a thicket of small pine trees.

With the plane sitting nose-high at a crazy angle, Shuff, Bernie and the other crew members jumped off the burning craft.

"That was the worst part of it for me," Shuff recalled, "jumping the 15 feet down from the front end of the plane."

All of the crew but one made it to safety; the wounded man died.

Belgium had been liberated by Canadian troops several months before the crash, so the fliers didn't have to worry about being captured by Germans.

Over the years, Shuff's grandson, Samford junior Gaines Johnson, had talked with his grandfather about World War II experiences. Last summer, he got the chance to study in Samford's nine-week language program in Spain. He planned to travel some in Europe after the course ended, and even thought of trying to find his grandfather's crash site. He knew the name of the town but had no idea where the crash occurred.

Then came an amazing coincidence.

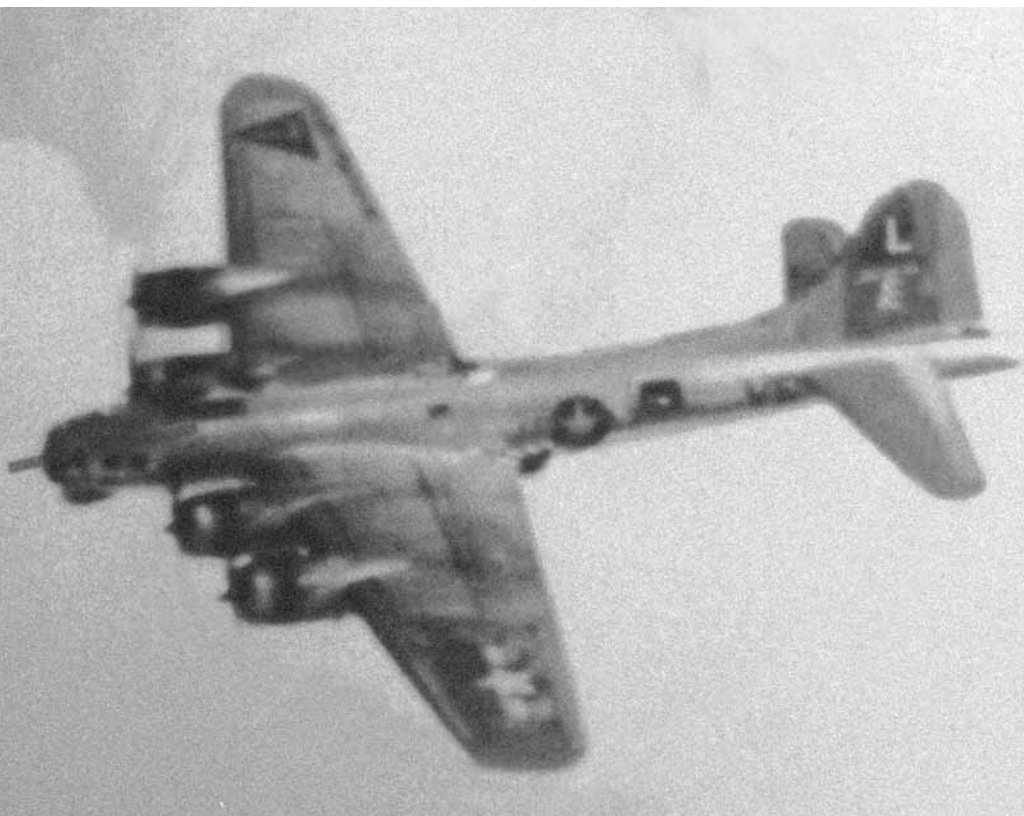
Bernie, Shuff's old navigator, was traveling on a bus tour in June through the Canadian Rockies. As they ate dinner the first night, tour members told where they were from. When Bernie heard Georges and Nellie De Lathauwer say they were from Knokke-Zuit, Belgium, he could hardly believe it.

by William Nunnelley

A B-17 flies high in this World War II photo. Top right: Villagers pose on the wreckage of Bernard Shuff's plane.

Visiting the Knokke-Zuit site are, from left, Paul Anderson, John Houston, Constant Devroe, Gaines Johnson, and Georges and Nellie De Lathauwer.





“He planned on using a technique called ‘slipping’ to land the B-17 on the short fighter runway,” said Johnson. “That involved pulling up the landing gear and turning the aircraft slightly sideways to slow it down more quickly. But the right rudder had been severed while they were under fire, so he couldn’t turn the plane.

“When we were talking about my trip afterward, he wondered whether he had attempted to use the left rudder as well. He couldn’t remember. Everything happened very quickly, and it has been over 62 years since the crash.”

Shuff recalled that their greatest danger after getting off the plane was walking through a nearby minefield. As the plane commander, he led the way, watching for telltale signs of mines close to the surface.

“I told the others to stay back and let me get through,” he said. “But when I turned around, they were right behind me. When I lifted one foot up, somebody was there ready to put his foot in my footprint.”

Johnson is grateful for Samford international travel programs, not just because it enabled him to retrace his grandfather’s footsteps, but because “it broadens your world view.” He said he might never have traveled abroad were it not for the Spanish course.

He is the fourth member of his family to attend Samford, following his parents, Bill and Cheryl Shuff Johnson ’78 of Foley, Ala., and his brother, Vince, a 2006 graduate now working in broadcast journalism in Statesboro, Ga.

Johnson still marvels at his good fortune in meeting Constant Devroe, who recalled that the B-17 sat in the field for a long time after the war. Devroe even gave Johnson a small part he retrieved from the plane, a metal tube about a foot long, as a memento.

Johnson recalled that his grandfather was just 20 years old when he crashed.

“That’s how old I was when I found the site last summer.” ■

He called Shuff, now 84 and living in Laurel, Miss., and told him of his discovery. Shuff told Bernie what his grandson hoped to do, and Bernie shared it with his new friends from Belgium. Johnson, working on his course in Salamanca, Spain, contacted the De Lathauwers.

“They invited me to their home, along with two of my friends from the course,” said Johnson. “We traveled by train, and they met us at the station. They had two houses about six blocks apart and welcomed us to stay in one.”

The De Lathauwers also introduced Johnson and his Samford classmates, Paul Anderson and John Houston, to a 92-year old historian, Constant Devroe,

who fought in World War II and was familiar with the crash.

“He was an amazing man who still drove a World War II jeep that he had restored, and he drove us around the area and took us to the crash site,” said Johnson. They stayed in Knokke-Zuit three days.

“The people were so grateful for what the United States had done in World War II. My grandfather said he and his crew were treated like kings when they were there, and we were treated like kings, too. They called us their liberators.”

Johnson gave his grandfather a full report upon his return to the United States, and his grandfather relived the incident.

They found each other at Tarrant High in Birmingham; she was a sophomore and he was a junior. While in high school, they won a televised jitterbug contest. They dated four years and married on Christmas Eve of 1953. Marvin Mann's devotion to his wife, Frances Marlin Mann, rang vividly through his comments during a February visit to Samford University's Brock School of Business. He recounted the commitment the couple made to their home and children.

This day, Feb. 19, was important for Mann. He was moving forward with a decision he and Frances made in June 2007—to make a lasting impact on the lives of all those who attended Samford by establishing a center for ethics and leadership at the business school. The center includes a professorship of ethics and leadership.

Marvin earned a degree in economics and accounting from Samford in 1954 and embarked on a business career that took him to the top of Lexmark, Inc., an international printer and imaging solutions company. He was an IBM vice president before becoming chairman of Lexmark in 1991. He is now chairman emeritus of Lexmark.

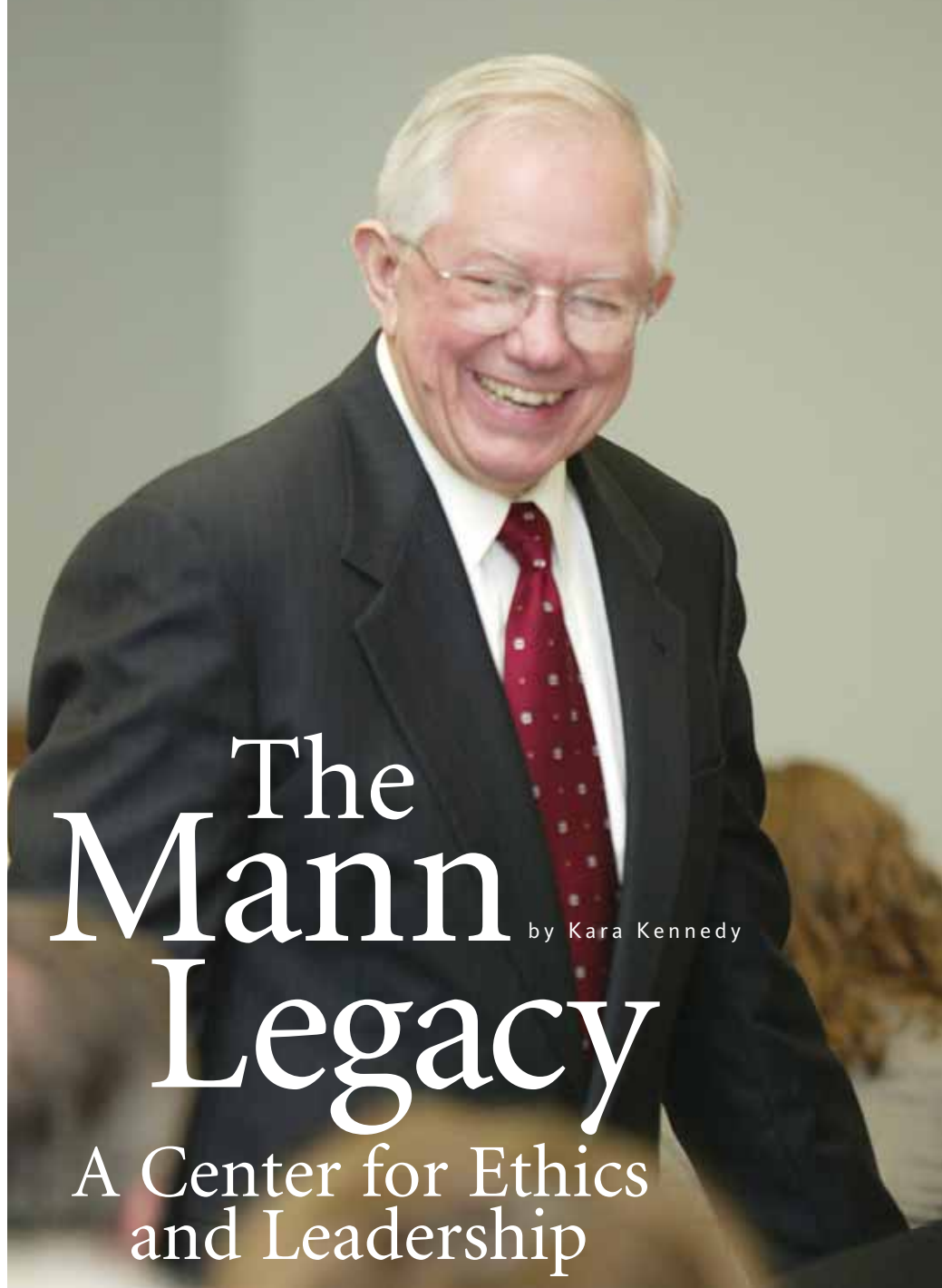
Mann believes it is extremely important to provide opportunities for people—students or business leaders—to study, discuss and learn how to lead with sound ethical principles combined with compassion. This, he believes, enables them to teach others with conviction. It was this approach that Frances and Marvin hoped could be accomplished through the center.

"I can't think of a better place to teach ethics and leadership than at a caring university based on Christian principles," said Mann. "Samford University is a wonderful place."

More than 50 of the Manns' family and friends joined them in the effort through financial contributions. After Frances died in September 2007, Marvin decided to name the center for her. In February, he told the center dedication audience about the woman for whom it was named.

"She was a beautiful woman with a wonderful smile, and treated everyone the same no matter his or her station in life," said Marvin. "Frances was a fun-loving, friendly and vivacious person who had a strong sense of right and wrong, always striving to do the right thing."

His work required long hours and extensive travel, Mann related, so the



# The Mann Legacy

by Kara Kennedy

## A Center for Ethics and Leadership

Marvin Mann enjoys a recent visit to Samford.

responsibilities for many things such as discipline and caring for the household fell to Frances. As a self-taught interior decorator, she worked tirelessly to make their home in Connecticut beautiful. During Christmas one year, it was featured on CNBC's international program.

Marvin recalled that Frances loved people and went out of her way to include those who were new to a group or who were in need.

Mann says he was very fortunate to grow up in a Christian home in a small community. He and Frances received a strong ethical foundation, which they passed on to their children and grandchildren.

He was also fortunate in his career,

he said, working for companies in which he could practice high ethical standards, including IBM, which provided one of his most exciting opportunities.

"Through the years, I made it a practice of treating people with respect, and being open to their ideas and concerns," said Marvin. "I set high standards in business to ensure that those who could not live up to those standards were given the opportunity to work elsewhere."

As Mann advanced in his career, he worked to persuade young executives that doing what was right was the best way to advance in their careers.

To his satisfaction, he found he was able to change their behavior by example. ■

# Center Reflects Mann's Approach to Business, Family and Faith

The new Frances Marlin Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership at Samford will “better equip students, faculty and the business community with the knowledge, skills and commitment required to foster good citizenship, corporate social responsibility and moral leadership,” according to Samford President Andrew Westmoreland.

The center was established by Samford alumnus Marvin Mann '54, chairman emeritus of Lexmark International, Inc., and announced Feb. 19 during a weeklong celebration of the recent naming of Samford's Brock School of Business, where the center will be housed.

It will include an endowed professorship, the Mann Family Professor of Ethics and Leadership. John C. Knapp, director of the Center for Ethics and Corporate Responsibility at Georgia State University in Atlanta, was named the first director of the center and holder of the professorship.

“It is through [the Manns'] visionary leadership, longtime commitments to Samford and the Brock School of Business, and a substantial financial commitment that we have established the center and the new faculty position,” Westmoreland said.

“Marvin Mann has been a visionary, entrepreneurial business leader during his long and distinguished career,” Westmoreland continued. “It is fitting that we have a center at his alma mater that reflects his approach to business, family and faith, and that honors his beautiful wife and life partner, Frances, for her lifelong commitment to ethics and morality, and for her support of his endeavors.”

Mann is a former CEO of Lexmark International, Inc., and a longtime supporter of Samford and the Brock School of Business. He was honored by Samford in 2004 as an alumnus of the year and received an honorary doctorate in commerce from the university in 1993.

The Frances Marlin Mann Center for Ethics and Leadership will serve as a resource for students, faculty and the business community, according to

business dean Beck A. Taylor. One of the first initiatives will be to create a multi-disciplinary faculty committee to help coordinate university-wide ethics and leadership education. The center's library eventually will maintain teaching, training and reference materials to assist faculty, students, and other business and campus leaders in their efforts to promote ethics and leadership.

Although the center will be housed in Brock School of Business, Westmoreland noted that it will be positioned as a center of learning for the entire university in an effort to strengthen ethics and leadership education throughout the university's curricula and programs. Knapp also will carry the title University Professor to reflect the university-wide emphasis on ethics education.

“Teaching students how to succeed in the world of business is no longer enough,” Mann said. “They must also enter their careers with a complete understanding of the connections between performance, ethics and leadership.” ■

Marvin Mann, left, congratulates S. Truett Cathy, founder and chairman of Chick-fil-A, on receiving the Marvin Mann Ethics in Business Award (see page 18).



# Running Away Was Not the Answer

by Mary Wimberley

When Helen Shores Lee, J.D. '87, left her native Birmingham after high school graduation, it was with a vow never to return. It was also with a resolve never to become an attorney like her dad, Arthur Shores, one of the first black lawyers in Alabama.

That the former California clinical psychologist is now a Cumberland School of Law graduate and Jefferson County circuit judge is testimony that a call to service can be quite different from what one has planned.

Lee shared her compelling life story with Samford students recently as this year's Marie NeSmith Fowler lecturer sponsored by the Christian Women's Leadership Center.

As a child in 1950s Birmingham, she faced two challenges: one as a black child in a segregated city, and one as a daughter of an attorney and highly visible figure in the Civil Rights Movement. She resented the frequent threats to her family and the necessary security measures that intruded on her childhood.

"I didn't appreciate that I had a front-row seat to history in the making," said Lee, recalling that her family housed visiting civil rights icons such as Thurgood Marshall, who would later serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

"I liked him because he had time for my sister and me. He would let us ride on his back," remembered Lee.

The many nights of sleeping with a gun under her pillow, seeing her home bombed and mother injured, and enduring spiteful name-calling from white youths caused her to take her vow to leave.

Some memories were less violent but just as poignant, such as the first time she realized there was a barrier between blacks and whites. It was at about age seven, during a Sunday afternoon with her family at Kiddieland Park at the State Fairgrounds in west Birmingham.

"I could smell the cotton candy and hear the music from the carousel," recalled Lee, who begged her dad to take her inside the park. "My father said we could not go there, because only white people could go to Kiddieland. He assured me that one day I would be able to go," she said.

"I cried and said that I wished I were white. He said to me, 'Chickadee, you don't wish to be white, you just wish to go.'"

As she matured, Lee grew determined to avoid a law career because of the treatment she had seen her father receive in courtrooms, especially when he represented Autherine Lucy, who



Helen Shores Lee, J.D. '87, left, visits with Marie NeSmith Fowler '48 and Wanda Lee '69 at Samford.





in 1955 became the first black student to enroll at the University of Alabama.

“I said to myself, ‘I can’t do this if this is the way I’m talked to.’”

After graduating from Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., Lee earned a master’s in clinical psychology at Pepperdine University in California, where she and her husband, Bob Lee, began raising their three children.

Eventually, the family moved home to Birmingham, where she continued her clinical psychology practice. After 13 years and burning out from treating one too many sadly abusive situations, Lee sought a career change.

Acknowledging that the time was right to pursue her father’s career, she enrolled at Samford’s law school. After graduation, she became a law partner in the firm of Shores & Lee, served as chair of the Alabama State Ethics Commission, and in 2003 became the first African-American woman judge in the civil division of Jefferson County circuit court.

A leader in a variety of civic and service organizations, Lee is chair of the Advisory Council of the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Minority Health and Research Center.

“Instead of running away like I did when I left Birmingham, I have learned that if I am to promote the welfare of my community and make my city a better place to live, then I must give of my time, service and self for the benefit of others,” said Lee. “Giving of your time and service can be one of the most rewarding experiences in life.”

She credits her parents with shaping her character.

“Despite the anger and bitterness of my childhood, it was the lessons taught to me by my mother and father that shaped my character, my Christian values, my faith and my call to service,” she said, adding that she has tried to model her professional and personal life from examples taught by her parents.

Her dad showed her strength and conviction, even after she would beg him to move elsewhere.

“His beliefs and convictions led him to take many cases and causes that were unpopular at the time,” Lee said. “But because of his deep beliefs and convictions that certain laws affecting our people were flagrantly wrong and a miscarriage of justice, he stayed here to correct these wrongs, often times alone and when it was dangerous to do so.

“You can’t run from what God has chosen for you.” ■

Owens dives for a shot in the 1974 U.S. Open.

# Charlie Owens

by William Nunnelley

## Former Samford Great Played (and Beat) Tennis Elite



Charlie Owens is a tennis pro in Wilmington, N.C.

Charlie Owens won the first tennis event he ever entered and never looked back. It was a Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Racquet Club tournament, and he was 9 years old.

“It was very easy to like [tennis] when I received a trophy the first time out,” he recalled recently.

Owens went on to win the national high school singles championship in the late 1960s, the NCAA Division II singles title in 1972, a world ranking of No. 36 in 1975 and an international 35-and-older ranking of No. 2 in the world in 1987.

He was a Samford player when he won the Division II singles championship, and that qualified him to enter the NCAA Division I championships at the University of Georgia. By finishing in the round of eight, he earned Division I All-American status, making him the first Samford athlete to achieve that recognition.

Owens went on to play professional tennis for eight years (1972–80), beating such notable players as Stan Smith, Arthur Ashe, Roscoe



Tanner, Vitas Gerulaitis, Manuel Santana and Cliff Drysdale. He played two years with the New York Sets (1974–75) in World Team Tennis.

He competed in six U.S. Open championships, twice finishing in the third round in both singles and doubles, and played in the 1975 Wimbledon Tennis Championships in England, getting to the third round in singles and doubles.

“As far as a career highlight, I would have to say it was playing on Centre Court at the 1975 Wimbledon Championships,” he said. “It was the greatest moment in my entire life as a tennis player.”

Owens ranks his Division II singles championship as one of his career highlights and “definitely the high point of my Samford days.” In addition to winning the singles title, he and Bulldog teammate Joel Bailey were runners-up in doubles, and the team finished second nationally in Division II standings.

“Winning and doing well as a team is even more gratifying than just winning for yourself,” he said. “I still keep in touch with some of the guys on that team. . . . Bailey, Bob Green, Jim Hand, Gary Pears, Turner Ragsdale, Joe Kelly. They had a great work ethic, and made it easy to practice and get better.”

Owens enjoyed his two years at Samford (1970–72). His coach was Dr. Max Gartman '60, a foreign languages professor who also had been a winning tennis player during his own undergraduate days at Samford.

“He had a very easy-going personality but could be a strict disciplinarian when he had to be,” Owens recalled.

Gartman once described Owens as a player who gave his all and usually emerged from a match “all bruised and bloody from diving after balls all over the court.” The player’s friend, attorney Lee Hodges, J.D. '75, of Birmingham, said Owens’ spectacular dives and rolls earned him the nickname “Charlie Hustle” on the tennis circuit.

“My basic tennis philosophy since starting at age 9 has been to have fun playing,” said Owens. “This is what I try to get across as a teacher of the game. Many tense moments in matches were made easier to handle with a smile and an enjoyment of the tight situation.”

Owens has been a teaching professional since 1980, when he retired from the pro circuit. He was director of tennis at Pinehurst (N.C.) Hotel and Country Club for six years, and then at NorthRiver Yacht Club in his hometown of Tuscaloosa. Since 2000, he has been director of tennis at the Country Club of Landfall in Wilmington, N.C., where he resides with his wife, Valerie.

Tennis has changed dramatically since his days as a competing professional, says Owens.

“The equipment is much stronger and lighter, the players are bigger, stronger and faster.

The training is much more scientific and effective.

“The players then played almost exclusively without a traveling entourage of coaches, trainers, psychologists, dieticians, etc. You just played your match and went to dinner with a group of players. You might even go to dinner with your next opponent in the tournament you were playing. I know I did.”

The money was different, too.

“Players win more now in one tournament than most players in the '60s and '70s won in their careers.”

But Owens still loves tennis, watching it, playing it and teaching it. It’s hard not to like a game that has provided so many great memories, right from his first event as a 9-year-old winner in Tuscaloosa. ■

*Editor’s Note: Seasons reported earlier that distance runner Lauren Blankenship was Samford’s first Division I All-American. Actually, tennis player Charlie Owens (below) holds that distinction, having earned the honor during Samford’s last year as a Division II school in 1972.*





David Gushee leads a discussion for Samford faculty.

Second, believers should “take that committed life into Christian community, take it into the Church.” He noted that although many believers espouse a private spirituality supported through informal networks, Christians best effect change together. “If you want to be part of changing the world,” he said, “invest in a local congregation.”

With commitment to Jesus and involvement in a church, believers next can work to make that church “a mission station for social change” rather than serve only their own community. Noting that martyred theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer called Jesus “a man for others,” Gushee said “if we are to be [Jesus]’ representatives in the world, we must be people for others.” The church, he added, “exists to give itself away in love to a hurting world.”

Ultimately, Gushee said, those who work to relieve suffering will seek the source of suffering and often find problems most effectively solved via politics. To illustrate his point, Gushee described a family made homeless by the combination of an adjustable rate mortgage and an uninsured catastrophic illness. The family would require immediate specific help, but the causes of its suffering are linked to public policy. Looking farther afield, he described a child dying of malaria in a part of the world where the disease was previously unknown. Malaria is the immediate problem in that case, but what of the policy-influenced climate change that allows the disease to thrive where it previously had not? “If we care about human beings we must engage government policies,” Gushee said.

### The Election That Matters Most

Students filing out of Reid Chapel after Gushee’s address wondered aloud how they might accept his challenge to “look around for those who are weeping and weep with them.” And if any of them wondered how they might mix faith and politics on that Super Tuesday or in November, they had an even greater challenge to ponder. “The election that most matters,” Gushee said, “is whether or not you will elect to change the world in the name of Jesus and as a follower of Christ, and that election happens every day when you get out of bed and decide how you will live on that day.” ■

by Sean Flynt

# In God We Trust: Political Engagement Should Come Last, Gushee Says

**C**ulture and chronology aligned perfectly at Samford during a spring visit by David Gushee, distinguished university professor of ethics at Mercer University. Addressing the topic of “Faith in Politics,” Gushee spoke on Super Tuesday Feb. 5 in a chapel modeled on the church founded by Roger Williams, the embodiment of traditional Baptist insistence on the separation of church and state.

Gushee’s message defied the stereotype of Christian political engagement, and brought a measure of calm and genuine compassion to the often bitter debate over how and why (or even whether) faith and politics should mix.

## In God We Trust

If Christians can’t agree among themselves about their role in secular politics, how can they hope to secure political power? Gushee’s answer to this question was more in keeping with Williams’ view than with the Christian political activism

of recent decades. “Secular politics plays a significant role” in addressing the world’s problems, Gushee said. “But it is not at the center of God’s plan to redeem the world—you are,” he told his audience.

Gushee cited a long list of crises that demand attention from Christians, but he suggested that the most effective way to confront them is via the long route. To those “who ache for a better world,” Gushee offered a four-step plan that “extends from the heart outward, all the way to political engagement, but doesn’t begin with politics.”

First, Gushee urged, “commit your life to Jesus Christ entirely.” He said that means to believe, trust, obey and, ultimately, to die—“die to self, die to sin, die to ungodly passions and actions, die to complacency, die to a life that is lived solely to make ourselves more comfortable, to enjoy more pleasures, to get richer.” That, Gushee said, “is a far more rigorous challenge than what often happens in the name of Christianity in our churches.”

# Lilly Invests Another Million in Pastoral Excellence Program

**V**estavia Hills Baptist Church is an upper-middle-class white church in an affluent neighborhood, while Sixteenth Street Baptist Church is the oldest African-American church in Birmingham. It was the site of a watershed tragedy in the struggle for civil rights, a 1963 bomb blast that killed four girls.

Despite these differences, the churches have something in common. “Both struggle for relevance and authenticity in their communities,” said Michael K. Wilson, program director of Samford’s Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence [RCPE].

They also have pastors who are willing to learn from each other: Gary Furr of Vestavia Hills and Arthur Price of Sixteenth Street.

During the past three years, as participants in RCPE’s Pastoral Partnerships for Excellence program, the two conducted case studies of each other’s ministry and learned important lessons about their congregational leadership.

“For Gary, this meant a patient and pastoral approach, laced with good humor,” said Wilson. “For Arthur, it meant a directive administrative hand, supported by solid preaching.”

The two pastors also discovered the value of the other’s personal style, he added.

“Arthur looks to Gary for practical advice about nurturing lay leadership and building a strong infrastructure for programmatic growth, and Gary, to Arthur, for a model of charismatic, even prophetic, leadership.”

They both agree they have profited from each other’s experience and perspective, and their friendship has been a good fit.

“I’ll just call Arthur and say ‘Do you have time for lunch today?’” said Furr, “and even if he is doing something right then, he’ll always call me back and we’ll make time.”

“Gary’s my friend,” said Price.

Samford began the RCPE in 2003 with a grant of \$2 million from Lilly Endowment Inc. of Indianapolis, Ind. The multifaceted project offers various programs that foster pastoral excellence among ministers with differing social, racial, religious and educational backgrounds, including the pastoral partnership arrangement.

Beginning with that grant, the RCPE has influenced the lives and ministries of more than 300 clergy, Wilson noted.

In December, Samford received a \$1 million continuation grant from the Lilly Endowment. Now, with its programs in place and with growing additional support from Samford and other sources, the RCPE goal is to train and support an additional 600 pastors over the next five years.

RCPE partners include the Samaritan Counseling Center of Birmingham, First Priority of Alabama and the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions.

“With our program alumni and our organizational partners, we will continue to create new structures for pastoral development, and disseminate both theoretical insight and practical

wisdom,” said Penny Marler, RCPE grant and research coordinator. The program systematically gathers, analyzes and publishes data on pastoral leadership.

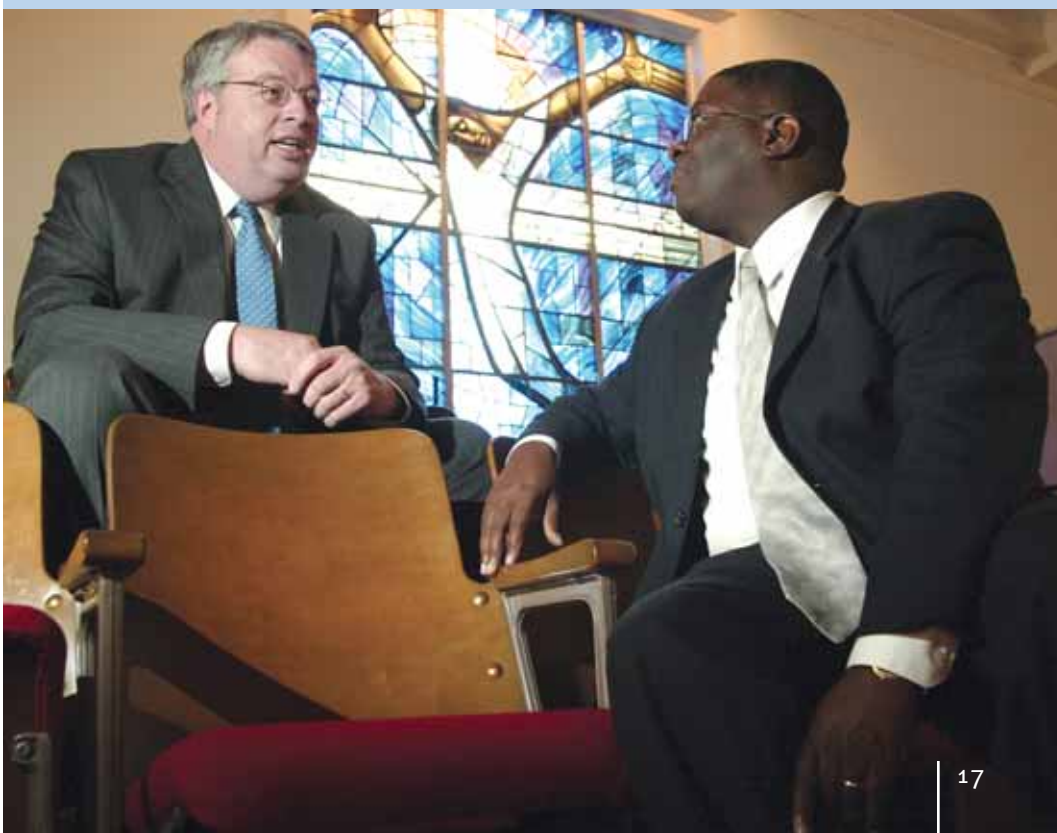
The RCPE offers several basic programs.

A Sabbath Opportunities and Resources [SOAR] program provides pastors with restorative emotional, spiritual, physical and intellectual experiences in an academic environment. In addition to sabbaticals and study leaves, SOAR features continuing education for ministers through lectures, seminars and targeted conferences. “We also offer small grants to judicatories and small groups of pastors,” Marler said, “so that they can create their own continuing education experiences.”

Pastoral Sustenance Networks work with bivocational ministers, especially in rural areas, at state and regional levels.

Project Timothy facilitates mentor relationships between college-aged ministerial candidates and experienced pastors. “This enriches the capacity of congregations as mentoring environments,” said Wilson.

Twelve for Twelve is a 12-month, interdenominational peer learning program for local clergy. ■



Pastors Gary Furr, left, and Arthur Price chat in the sanctuary of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham.

# Chick-fil-A® Business Is His



## Christian Principles Undergird

Truett Cathy greets Kayla Becker, a student who resides in a WinShape Foundation foster home.



**C**hick-fil-A, Inc., founder S. Truett Cathy and his family gathered at Samford in March to share their thoughts on the Cathy “ministry,” which he described as the business of serving people. His successful career, he said, is based on Christian principles of service.

“I see no conflict between Biblical principles and good business practice,” said Cathy, whose quick-service chicken restaurants have grown into a multibillion-dollar industry.

“We are all called, whether we recognize it or not,” he said. “God calls us each to have gifts. The Lord can take any of us and make us useful. We have to be sensitive to God’s call.”

He believes business people can have a great impact on others simply by saying the right thing and being encouraging.

Cathy, his sons, Dan and Donald ’75, and daughter, Trudy Cathy White ’79 of Jonesboro, Ga., visited March 3–4 for a two-day leadership forum sponsored by Samford. The theme was

“How Did You Do It, Truett?” which is also the title of his latest book. The event marked one of the rare occasions for all four Cathy family members to take part in such a program.

At a kickoff luncheon attended by about 400 Birmingham business leaders and others, Cathy received the Marvin Mann Ethics in Business Award presented by Samford’s Brock School of Business. The award recognizes individuals who embody professional achievement and personal integrity, who display an uncommon commitment to leadership through service, and who have left marks of influence on institutions and industries without compromising Christian virtue or charity.

“The best experience I ever had was that of being brought up in poverty,” said the 86-year-old Cathy, whose family moved to Atlanta from south Georgia in order to make a living.

After military service, he and his brother pooled their resources to invest \$10,600 in property and second-hand equipment to open The

# Ministry



foundation that supports a variety of ministries. Each shared memories of growing up in a home where faith and leadership were not just taught, but lived.

“We did not have a lot of rules, but there was a lot of role modeling,” said Trudy White. “We were taught how to exercise faith in the market place.” White said the thing she most admires about her father is his consistency of character and faith. “He’s the same everywhere he goes.”

White is director for girls at WinShape Camps in Rome, Ga., and with her husband, John White ’78, J.D. ’81, cofounder of Lifeshape Foundation.

Dan Cathy is a multitasker who balances hobbies of music, horticulture, motorcycles and piloting airplanes with his role as Chick-fil-A president.

“You must learn how to say yes to the right things and build your calendar around the things you’re passionate about,” he advised.

Donald “Bubba” Cathy, Chick-fil-A senior vice president and president of Dwarf House, Inc., also oversees WinShape’s long-term foster home program, wilderness team-building program and a marriage enrichment center. The latter offers facilities for couples simply seeking marriage enrichment or deeper help for a troubled marriage.

Bubba Cathy underscored the company credo of quality food and customer experience, great people to get great products across the counter, a vision of where the company should go, basic sales growth and financial return.

“Dad says that if you don’t have a profit, you won’t be able to support the ministries that we have,” he said. ■

## Cathy Operations

Dwarf Grill in Hapeville, Ga., in 1946. The business was open 24 hours but closed on Sundays. He continues the Sunday policy to this day with his Chick-fil-A chain. The policy “honors the Lord,” he said, and attracts the caliber of workers who appreciate having Sunday off. The practice has not hurt business, he said, noting the current 1,400 locations and \$2.6 billion annual sales.

“It was not hard to decide to close on Sunday,” said Cathy. He calls it the best business decision he ever made. “When you work 24 hours, six days a week, you’re ready for a break.”

Kindness to customers and fellow workers is another company policy.

“Courtesy is very cheap but pays great dividends for us. It doesn’t cost you anything to be kind to a customer and to be kind to each other,” said Cathy, who encourages employees to follow up their service to a customer with a polite, “My pleasure.”

The three siblings all play roles in the Chick-fil-A business enterprise and in a nonprofit

The Cathy family—above, from left, Dan, Donald, Truett and Trudy—talk about business and Christian principles at Samford.

At right, Cathy autographs a copy of his book *How Did You Do It, Truett?* for a fan.



# Samford NSSE Scores High

## Taking the Measure of Educational Engagement by Philip Poole

Samford University once again scored high in the National Survey of Student Engagement [NSSE], an annual assessment sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Samford compared very favorably in the five areas of assessment when compared nationally with other doctoral research universities, the classification assigned to the university by the Carnegie Foundation. The 2007 survey was the first for Samford in the national doctoral category after several years of classification as a regional master's level institution.

The project surveys first-year students and graduating seniors to assess levels of academic challenge, collaborative learning, student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experiences and supportive campus environment.

Assessment is done in such basic areas as number of assigned books, number of written papers, discussions with faculty, interpersonal relationships with faculty and other students, participation in cocurricular activities and community service.

A total of 368 first-year students and 231 seniors participated in the survey.

Samford scored higher in all five assessment areas than the national NSSE averages and higher than Carnegie peer institutions. The scores were "statistically significant" in all five areas, according to Dr. Sarah C. Latham, Samford assistant

to the president and director of institutional effectiveness.

Another important factor is that student engagement and satisfaction remain high from the first year to the final year, based on consistent NSSE results over the eight years of the survey's existence, Latham said.

Among the areas where Samford scored particularly high were in the number of students involved in making class presentations, working with classmates on projects outside the classroom, community service, practicums, internships or other field experience, and foreign-language requirements.

These high scores are particularly rewarding since the university is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its core curriculum, Latham said. Samford's core curriculum is designed to encourage student presentations, reading of great texts and community service.

Diversity and technology were areas where Samford scored lowest, Latham said. Even before the survey results were announced, the university was involved in a comprehensive study led by a diversity consultant.

"Although there are opportunities for improvement in gender, ethnic and socioeconomic diversity, it will be more difficult to expand our religious diversity because of Samford's historic Christian mission," Latham said. NSSE does not provide any

allowance in the survey for faith-based institutions.

The university also continues to commit resources to enhancing technology on campus, although that is an ongoing challenge because of rapidly changing technology, Latham said.

News reports about the 2007 NSSE have suggested that results are a better indicator of a university's quality than other national rankings. Although some participating institutions have not publicized their NSSE results, Samford has touted its positive responses, Latham noted.

"There are a number of indicators that prospective students, parents and alumni can and should use to assess an institution's value," Latham said. "Certainly, the *U.S. News & World Report* annual college rankings are the most publicized and probably the most popular. But, the results of NSSE undergird what we always have said about Samford—that students receive a high quality educational experience in the setting of a smaller university where faculty-student interaction is encouraged." ■

**Student presentations are a standard component of Samford classroom work.**





**Samford Announces  
School of the Arts**

**(Inside)**

SCHOOL OF THE *Arts*

NEWSLETTER

# Preparing Today's Artist to Shape Tomorrow's World



The goal is simple: to become the most outstanding and influential institution of the arts in Christian higher education. With this objective in mind, we are taking our first steps on the journey of a lifetime and charting the path for the new Samford School of the Arts.

I believe there are great opportunities before us, but none of these would be possible without the legacy of those from our past who have contributed so much to our present. We lean on the strength of this foundation each and every day. With the faithful and growing support of alumni and friends, the possibilities are limitless. Most important, we will all work to

build a school that honors Christ and prepares talented young scholars for God, for learning, forever.

Joseph Hopkins  
Dean, School of the Arts



Combined choirs and the Samford Orchestra present the *Festival of Christmas Music*.

## School of the Arts Plans Big Homecoming Oct. 24–26



Black

The Samford School of the Arts is planning a variety of activities to celebrate Homecoming 2008 the weekend of Oct. 24–26.

“It’s a Grand Night for Singing . . . honoring L. Gene Black” will be Friday night at 7 p.m. in the Wright Center Concert Hall. A reception honoring Dr. Black, the retired dean and former director of the A Cappella Choir, and Samford faculty will follow.

“Samford Music Presents: A Homecoming Concert,” featuring performances by Samford alumni and current students, will be Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. in the Wright Center Concert Hall.

Reunions already are planned for art, theatre, band and A Cappella alumni. More events are in the works. The weekend will include rehearsals, memorabilia, an art exhibition, worship, tributes to retired and current faculty, group photos, and performances at Samford’s homecoming football game with The Citadel. ■

## School of the Arts Announces Name Change April 29–May 6

Samford’s School of Performing Arts will be officially announced as the School of the Arts Tuesday, April 29–Tuesday, May 6.

The first announcement will take place at the Art Faculty Show Closing Reception April 29, 4–6 p.m.

A second announcement will occur at the May 1 opening night performance of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s

*Cinderella*, 7:30 p.m., Harrison Theatre.

A presentation of *Belshazzar’s Feast* featuring the University Chorale, A Cappella Choir and Samford Orchestra will mark the final announcement May 6 at 7:30 p.m. in Wright Center Concert Hall.

These productions will mark the beginning of a yearlong celebration of the name change. ■



## Samford Students Claim Honors in Recent Events

- Samford graphic design students led the state in awards and scholarships at the Birmingham Advertising Federation ADDY awards Feb. 23. The winners were Bob Miller, student best of show and gold ADDY, poster design; Kimberly McDaniel, silver award, interactive media; and Dana Kaita, silver award, interactive CD/DVD.

- Samford voice students led the state in the Feb. 22–23 Alabama National Association of Schools of Teaching competition. They were Cameron Johnson, freshman women; Paige Welch, sophomore women; Sadie Frazier, junior women; and Samantha Chambers, upper-level music theatre women.

- Samford theatre students excelled in the percentage of students advancing from Alabama preliminaries to Southeastern Theater Conference. Twenty-one students auditioned at the state level and 17 advanced to the national audition (81 percent). National callbacks included invitations from such prestigious companies as Actors Theatre of Louisville, Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, Flatrock Theatre and Lost Colony Theatre.

- The March 1 Birmingham Music Club scholarship auditions recognized several Samford students:

Hannah Frees, freshman violinist, took top honors in the instrumental division and overall instrumental and vocal.

Haley Longino, junior soprano, won the vocal division.

Enoch Ko, freshman pianist, won the overall piano division. ■

*Cover (page 21): Harpist Kathryn Hoppe performs with the Samford Orchestra.*

# Marching Band Is Growing in Size and Popularity

by Mary Wimberley

*The Samford Marching Band performs at a Bulldog football game.*

The Samford Marching Band, a crowd-pleasing fixture at football games, parades and other events, is growing in number and quality.

The 61-member 2007–08 band represents a 50 percent increase in size over that of the previous year, and according to director of bands James Smisek, the growth pattern is even more encouraging.

“Eighty percent of the current band is freshman or sophomore status,” said Dr. Smisek, who expects to build on a good thing with a healthy number of incoming students for next fall.

Recruitment efforts are enhanced through the band’s growing popularity with area high school band students, who often bring their instruments to football games and play along with the Samford band in the stands.

An honor band program brought about 300 talented middle and high school musicians to campus in January for three days of master classes and rehearsals, and a fine introduction to Samford.

With growth, however, comes need.

“Samford faces a serious challenge to meet the need of scholarship and budget for a growing program,” said Smisek. “Each new member means more expense for uniforms, instruments, meals, scholarships, instruction and travel.

“This is the band growth that we have wanted for many years,” said

Smisek, “but it’s an expensive enterprise.”

Attention on the marching band has been heightened with Samford’s move to the Southern Conference.

Athletics Director Bob Roller notes that involvement in the conference escalates the expectations for travel, performance and student involvement.

“Our university needs a strong band that competes with the best in the SoCon,” said Roller.

In fall 2007, for the first time in 13 years, the band paraded out in spiffy new uniforms. The durable, comfortable, machine-washable uniforms were designed specifically for Samford.

An extension of the concert band program, the marching band roster includes many nonmusic majors who represent a variety of academic disciplines. Several members, however, are instrumental music majors who likely will graduate to direct their own marching bands.

The band fine-tunes its sound in the new Brock Hall facilities, which includes space for full band and sectional rehearsals, as well as individual practice rooms.

“The marching band is a fantastic celebration of Samford spirit,” says School of the Arts Dean Joseph Hopkins. “They help us herald the accomplishments of the university from the football field to alumni gatherings to other special events.” ■



# Samford Fuses Music, Theatre, Visual Arts into One Creative Mix

by Jean M. McLean

*Annie Hackney as Nurse Ratched takes charge in the Samford Theatre production of One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. Playing the patients are, from left, front, John Cooley, Matt Godfrey, Cody Hays, and back, Neal Tucker, Paul Lance, Jordan Bondurant and Rush Brunson.*



*Samford choir sings at Festival of Christmas Music.*

It started with the School of Music. Then the Wright Center joined up. Soon, the theatre department was added to the mix and a dance program was created. Eventually, visual art, graphic design and photography came into the creative fold, transforming Samford's School of Performing Arts into the new Samford School of the Arts.

More than a name change, the School of the Arts represents all that's best in this school devoted to its mission. Creative vocations are now in closer contact, observing each other at work. Both talents and faith are better nurtured in the rich atmosphere.

"There's a lot of synergy and strength to be gained by having these folks working together as a team," said Dean Joseph Hopkins. "Theatre and art students are now working in music

rooms, and music students are spending more time in the Art Gallery. The faculty is learning from each other. In time, there will be more integrated/interdisciplinary courses to more effectively use these talents."

Graphic designers work with photographers who work with actors who also work with musicians. Each specialty is preserved and nurtured, but different majors are rubbing elbows more often. It's more than just integrating space with shared hallways and classrooms, Hopkins says. It is also more than an efficient business model, teaching students how to work with other disciplines in the real world. What's most important is that this is another step in fulfilling the school's mission to prepare today's artists to influence tomorrow's world for Christ.



“What’s at heart is our mission,” said Hopkins. “We’re preparing young artists, each with a different tool in their hand at the moment, in a more enriching environment. It’s shaping community. It’s more than a nice feeling, but how we’ll impact society.”

Everyone knows that those who create art influence culture. That’s why this faculty believes that these musicians, designers, potters, actors and others are in a prime position to offer their talents to a world hungry for Biblical values.

School of the Arts students already are making an impact, drawing national and international recognition.

- Recently, Samford senior and trombone performance major Rick Wangler won a place in the National Wind Ensemble. He will perform at Carnegie Hall this summer.
- Kerra Killingworth was recognized at the International Odegard Awards for her rug design, made in a Samford textile design course.
- Last summer, Samford joined with other schools to create England’s first Harlaxton International Chamber Music Festival, including talent from

the United States, Puerto Rico and Europe. Hopkins was director of the event, where many Samford students were featured in performance.

• Meanwhile, Samford’s A Cappella Choir and theatre students were among others achieving international recognition. (See page 29.)

Affecting society is the overriding goal of the greater Samford mission. Today’s School of the Arts students will be tomorrow’s arts leaders. That’s why the school chose “Preparing today’s artists to shape tomorrow’s world” as its mission statement, Hopkins says. Instructors are serious not only about nurturing unique talents, but also nurturing leaders who see their life mission as a convergence of arts, academic achievement and faith.

“Samford art, theatre and music alumni have established an incredible foundation,” said Hopkins. “We look forward to building on that legacy through the collaborative strengths of the new School of the Arts.” ■

*Jean M. McLean is a freelance writer in Montevallo, Ala.*



*The Samford Wind Ensemble performs at a spring concert.*



*Lisa Gibbs performs in Momentum dance concert.*

## Artists Shaping Tomorrow’s World

The arts’ impact on society has been proven in scientific study. In his articles and speeches, Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts, cites studies tracing the causes of civic participation. When researchers investigated what draws some Americans to be involved in their community—to exercise, play sports, volunteer and do charity work—they found two distinct groups across all income, geography and education levels.

One group spends its free time in passive electronic entertainment, Gioia says. In this group, household members sit in front of their own TV or computer with little family communication. The second group balances electronic entertainment with a broader range of activities. They are more active and engaged with their family and with the larger society.

The difference in the two? The second group reads for pleasure and participates in the arts.

“Art is an irreplaceable way of understanding and expressing the world—equal to but distinct from scientific and conceptual methods,” said Gioia at Stanford University last year. “Art addresses us in the fullness of our being—simultaneously speaking to our intellect, emotions, intuition, imagination, memory and physical senses. There are some truths about life that can be expressed only as stories or songs or images.”

Samford students are preparing to share those “truths about life” through their study in the new School of the Arts. ■

# iPod

## Transforming Learning in the Arts

by Mary Wimberley

*Arts dean Joseph Hopkins shows off his Samford iPod.*

The School of the Arts is using the latest technology to make learning easier and faster.

Through the generous support of a recent bequest, the school is becoming an iPod community that already is the envy of academic peers at other institutions.

Using Apple's newest iPod that was unveiled last year, students can access performances, listening assignments, video podcasts of classes and lessons, and other instructional and learning downloads.

School of the Arts Dean Joseph Hopkins and arts faculty designed the project, which he said, "seeks to transform the way faculty and students teach and learn."

It works this way: New arts students purchase an iPod or similar mp3 player. They download instructional video, photo and audio files from two sites: one created for Samford by the new iTunes University, and one created by Samford graphic design students.

"In other words," explained Hopkins, "freshmen will ultimately begin the first day of class with a repository of class podcasts on their iPods. This will serve as a principal textbook and a technology that unifies the various disciplines of the arts."

The new technology affords amazing portability and flexibility in how students can access information.

"iPods allow us to take the classroom experience wherever we go and

relive those experiences again and again," said Hopkins.

Faculty members have received iPods through the bequest and have attended sessions conducted by experts in the field to develop skills in creating electronic video and audio files, and integrating the iPod into classroom and studio instruction.

Hopkins and graphic design professor Scott Fisk presented the iPod project to technology experts across North America at the Campus Technology Conference in San Francisco, Calif., in January.

Of the 15-plus presentations on display, Samford's was one of the busiest, according to Fisk, who shared podcasts that he had preloaded on his iPod from Samford's iTunesU.

"One of the most popular topics of conversation dealt with how we use iPods in a classroom setting," said Fisk.

Hopkins finds the funding source a particular point of inspiration. "It is heartening to think that a part of a benefactor's legacy will be a new and innovative technology that may forever change the way faculty and students teach and learn at Samford.

"We really can make a powerful impact by including Christian education in our estate plan." ■

*NOTE: This gift was provided by the estate of Louise Minego.*

## iPods Make Course Material More Available

Senior interior design student Elysia Helton found the iPod helpful during a Jan Term study experience at Samford's Daniel House in London, England.

A part of the required study in her theatre and art appreciation courses was to view video material prepared by theatre professors Don Sandley and Renee Butcher, and art professor Scott Fisk.

The teachers downloaded podcasts onto iPods, which Helton and other students could handle much more conveniently than a laptop computer. Some students, said Helton, used the long flight to London from the United States to watch the videos on their iPods.

Helton also appreciates the effort that Samford faculty is making to blaze trails in the latest teaching methods for her generation of learners.

"With professors using new technology, it indicates not only that they are becoming updated with our culture, but it also connects the professors with the students in the technology that we use every day," said Helton, who over the Christmas holidays introduced her dad to the conveniences of text-messaging over telephoning.

"Thank goodness we have professors that are up to date and have those iPods." ■



*The A Cappella Choir performs in Clare College in Cambridge, England.*

## Prague and London: Two Venues Recognize Samford Student Excellence

by Jean M. McLean

Before attending Samford, Cari Short Freer had never traveled far from her Nashville home. But after four years of study that included stints in London, Istanbul and the Czech Republic, she knows her B.A. in theatre can make a *world* of difference.

“I now understand that places that I only used to dream of going are not really out of reach,” said Freer. “I believe that theatre is an amazing tool for developing understanding and healing, and I believe that our world is in need of both.”

Freer and Laura Ratzlaff Prottsman were invited to share their design talents—Prottsman in sound design and Freer in scenic design—at the 2007 Prague Quadrennial, a theatre professionals’ gathering with lectures, workshops and exhibits. This world’s-largest scenography exhibition included Broadway shows and other professional exhibits chosen for design merit. It was a noteworthy example of how Samford talents are being recognized in the United States and abroad.

That tradition of excellence dates back for generations. Dr. Timothy Banks, Samford professor and A Cappella choir director, remembers being a Samford student in the first Protestant choir to sing on the High Altar at Notre Dame Cathedral. His students are continuing

the first-time tradition with numerous tours, including a 2007 residency at Southwark Cathedral in London. There they performed in the Anglican Evensong Services and sang at Clare College in Cambridge, joining one of the most recorded collegiate choral organizations in the world.

“It’s like playing in the choir World Series,” Banks said of the experience. The choir also performed at St. George’s Chapel, the Queen’s chapel in Windsor Castle.

The previous year, Banks co-conducted a choir in Beijing, where Samford students sang at the Forbidden City Concert Hall, China’s Carnegie equivalent.

The choir also sang in Nashville’s famed Ryman Auditorium March 18.

“Having had such rich experiences myself as a student, one of my goals is to offer them the same experiences,” said Banks. Students take these opportunities seriously, realizing their talents might be used in a way they might not otherwise imagine. For students like Freer, the benefits will last a lifetime.

“I want to continue to work and think on a global scale,” she said. “And I thank Samford for inspiring me and giving me the assistance and opportunity to use my talent and training.” ■

## Trombone Talent Takes Senior To Carnegie Hall Performance

by Maegan Wilson



Wangler

“Playing the trombone has always intrigued me,” said senior music performance major R. C. Wangler. He began taking band lessons at an early age, and hopes to play the instrument professionally “in a premier band or orchestra.”

Wangler is off to a good start in that direction. He put together a series of impressive credentials during Samford student days. Most recently, he was selected to play trombone in the ninth annual National Wind Ensemble in New York City in May.

The Centreville, Ala., native was chosen to play in the small ensemble from college applicants across the nation. He will spend a week in New York rehearsing under conductor H. Robert Reynolds for the Carnegie Hall performance.

He’s also looking forward to a postconcert tour around Manhattan harbor.

Wangler has studied under Jay Evans, the principal trombonist of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, during his Samford days. His student résumé includes appearances with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Eastern Trombone Workshop in Washington D.C., Birmingham’s Vulcan Bones Trombone Choir, and Samford’s Wind Ensemble and Orchestra.

“I’ve really enjoyed my time here,” he said. “[Being at Samford] has given me opportunities to travel and play for different people. It’s been a great learning experience.”

Wangler plans to attend graduate school to pursue a master’s degree in music performance after graduating from Samford in May. He has several offers but has yet to settle on the one he will take. ■

# Q-and-A Larry Thompson Making Art More Than ‘Just a Picture’

by William Nunnelley

New Samford visual arts department chair Larry Thompson held his first one-man show in the Samford Art Gallery in February. The collection received a thumbs-up review from *Birmingham News* art critic James R. Nelson for work that ranged from “simplified photorealism to abstract expressionist explorations.”

Nelson called Thompson’s work “resolute and vigorous, a breath of fresh air in its bold imagery and sometimes unconventional content.”

A native of El Paso, Texas, with a master of fine arts degree from the University of North Texas, Thompson works primarily in the fields of painting and photography. He talks about his work and his teaching in the following interview.

**You sometimes use words or text superimposed over your painting. What prompted this?**

I started using text in my work after seeing some Russian posters from the 1920’s in an art history class. I thought they were beautiful, and while attractive from a graphic design sense, they were well composed with image and text. As a painter, I was drawn to the duality and contradiction of these images that alluded to space, while at the same time being flattened out by the text. It set up a

nice visual contradiction, which added the tension of competing elements to make something visually interesting beyond just a “picture” of something.

**The *Birmingham News* reviewer said one of your works might refer to today’s headlines. Do you get inspiration from that source?**

His reference was dead-on accurate, although not specifically about the noted piece. Each of my pieces has some story that starts somewhere. At times, it may be the news, or a piece of film, a song, a book I read, or some other experience. However, so that my work doesn’t end up just being my own personal ranting and raving, I try to use images that are metaphorical or symbolic in some way.

**Why is that?**

That way, viewers have some work to do as well, and given their own experiences and baggage they bring into the gallery, have room to have an experience with my work without me preaching to them. That is exactly why I leave things a bit more universal in terms of imagery yet ambiguous in terms of connections.

**Would you describe your works more as realistic, abstract or all across the board?**

This is tough for me, because I hate labels, mainly because I don’t know how the person asking defines a particular label. I don’t really consider myself either abstract or realistic. I tend to work in layers. Sometimes those layers might be an image with text on top, and sometimes it might be an image with an abstract element on top that achieves the same kind of contradiction as the text, but in a more formal way.

**Would you explain that further?**

Much of it boils down to a very simple principle of “it looks cool.” But, being that I am rather conceptual in nature in regard to my image making, there has to be some sort of content beyond, or to me it ends up just being about technique, which isn’t really relevant in the art world any longer. I guess my particular approach is the technique has to be appropriate for the idea.

**Would you share a few thoughts on your work and teaching at Samford?**

I’m very new to Samford, but have taught in a similar environment [Ouachita Baptist University] for many years. One of the great things about being a contemporary artist on a Christian campus is getting to work with some very talented students in a discipline that isn’t always well understood. As a teacher, that sets up the potential for a great learning curve, and thus great reward when you see a student take off and begin to do some great work.

**What did you think of your first Samford review?**

I was very happy with it, since it was my first leap into the Birmingham art scene and first ever show in Alabama. On a bigger issue as chair of the department, I was especially excited that the reviewer came to our campus gallery and felt compelled to write an article. I hope this lets the Birmingham community know we are doing some valid, professional contemporary work at Samford. ■

*Visual arts chair Larry Thompson is surrounded by his work.*



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As Alabama's largest privately funded university, Samford is renowned for the educational quality of its 26 graduate and undergraduate degree programs in more than 100 academic fields of study. Samford students are nurtured to develop personal integrity in the classroom and in life, and to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. To make the distinctive Samford experience available to deserving students, Samford annually awards more than \$12 million in scholarship assistance. An investment in the Samford Scholarship Society is an investment in the future of our communities and the future of the church. You can participate several ways in creating a better future for a deserving student at Samford through the Scholarship Society.

#### Annual Academic Scholarship Funds

Annual scholarships are awarded on a direct basis. One hundred percent of contributions are awarded to deserving students within the terms of the established scholarship. Annual scholarships are as follows:

- **Scholarship Society Contributor**—Annual gifts of less than \$1,000 are combined with other gifts and awarded annually to worthy students with demonstrated financial need. Contributors are recognized in the annual President's Report.
- **Scholarship Society Member**—Contributors of annual gifts designated to scholarships of at least \$1,000 received within an academic year (June 1 through May 31) are recognized as Samford Scholarship Society Members. Contributors are recognized in the annual President's Report and invited to the Scholarship Society Luncheon.
- **Named Annual Scholarship Fund**—Requires a signed commitment to contribute at least \$2,500 annually for four years for a total of \$10,000. Contributors are recognized in the annual President's Report and the university catalog, and are among the honored guests at the Scholarship Society Luncheon.
- **Named Presidential Scholarship Fund**—Requires a signed commitment to contribute at least \$6,000 annually for four years for a total of \$24,000. Contributors are recognized in the annual President's Report and the university catalog, and are among the honored guests at the Scholarship Society Luncheon.
- **Named Scholar**—Requires a signed commitment to contribute at least \$15,000 annually for four years for a total of \$60,000. Contributors are recognized in the annual President's Report and the university catalog, and are among the honored guests at the Scholarship Society Luncheon.



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# CLASSnotes

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This issue includes Class Notes received through March 10, 2008.

ALUMNI

'42 **Doris E. Smalley Proctor** and her husband, **Robert Proctor '48**, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary March 18. They live in Louisville, Ky., where he taught psychology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and was minister of education at St. Matthews Baptist Church. She taught English at the seminary and at Boyce College, and has taught English as a second language. They have three children, including son **David Proctor '87** of Nashville, Tenn., who, like his mother, is a former A Cappella Choir member.

'52 **James L. Gebhart** retired after 22 years as a volunteer pastor at Penitas Baptist Church, Penitas, Texas. He is a winter Texan RV park pastor, volunteer ministry director in McAllen, Texas, and a Boy Scouts chaplain in Mission, Texas, where he and his wife, Dorothy, live.

'59 **Ruth Bobo** retired after teaching English for 39 years at Claremont High School, Claremont, Calif.

'60 **Paul D. Kendrick** retired in December. He lives in Elba, Ala.

'61 **Nancy James Sayers** is in her 20th year with the Dallas VA Medical Center's institutional review board, which protects subjects in human research. She and her husband, Jerry, live in DeSoto, Texas.

**Dorothy Crawford Shackelford** of Dallas, Texas, retired from the Texas State Baptist Convention.

'63 **Doug and Marilyn Vick Cash** have participated in four church building trips to Chile. The retired educators live in Millport, Ala.

**Annette C. Duerr Douglass** of Tuscaloosa, Ala., retired from DCH Regional Medical Center after 27 years. She was a staff nurse.

**Lane Holland Powell**, who teaches in the human development and family studies department at Texas Tech University, received the Meritorious Service to Families Award from the National Council on Family Relations. She was honored for her work at Samford, where she developed the Human Development and Family Studies academic program and oversaw construction of the Children's Learning Center during her 1985-99 tenure. Powell, who earned a Ph.D. in family studies at Texas Tech, also was cited for her authorship of the first undergraduate textbook in family life education and for her 25-year tenure as a group facilitator with her husband, **Dr. Robert Z. Powell '61**, in the Association of Couples for Marriage Enrichment. She and Bob have three grown children.

'68 **Ernest Steele, Jr.**, of Andalusia, Ala., retired after 32 years in education.

'70 **Ruth Hickman Newton** of Greenville, Ala., recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

'73 **Paul Seegraves** of Williamsville, Mo., participated in a mission trip to Romania in September with the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board. He participated in street evangelism and church planting, and led a marriage seminar in Istanbul, Turkey.

'75 **Jeffrey Lee Damron** of Auburn, Ala., is academic dean at Lyman Ward Military

Academy, Camp Hill, Ala. He supervises the academic and athletic departments.

'76 **David C. Hinks** of Baltimore, Md., was elected to the executive committee of the North American Securities Valuation Association, a liaison group between the insurance industry and national regulators pertaining to investment securities pricing.

**Richard B. Neely** teaches U.S. history at Indian Springs School in Birmingham. He formerly taught at Judson College, where he won the Alton Holley Award for teaching excellence, and at Samford, where he won the Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching in 1994.

'77 **La Trelle Grice** of Vero Beach, Fla., married Bob Kennedy in November.

**Deborah King** of Moulton, Ala., retired after teaching elementary school for 30 years.

'78 **Gray Johnsey, J.D.**, was selected for inclusion in the 2008 listing of *North Carolina Super Lawyers*. He is a specialist in trusts and estates in the Kinston, N.C.-based law firm of White & Allen, P.A. He is a member of the Southeastern Trust School faculty at Campbell University.

'79 **Carla Gibson-Feehan** received a commendation medal from the Alabama National Guard for her support of officers and soldiers of the state's Joint Forces Headquarters, and was made an honorary colonel in the State Militia by proclamation of Alabama Gov. Bob Riley. The awards were presented when her husband, Col. Mike Feehan, retired after a 30-year military career. She is director of children's music, senior programs and special music programs at First United Methodist Church, Wetumpka, Ala.

'81 **Carol Spears** is a medical missionary and surgeon at Tenwek Hospital, a World Gospel Mission teaching hospital near Nairobi, Kenya.

'82 **Joseph D. Floyd** of North Augusta, S.C., married Gail Atkins in May.

**Carole Faught Heartsill** teaches special education at Hewitt-Trussville Middle School, Trussville, Ala., where she was named January 2008 Teacher of the Month.

**Jupie Lindley** received national board certification in education. She has taught kindergarten at Vestavia Hills (Ala.) Elementary School for 23 years.

'84 **Jeffrey D. Bramer** was recertified as a criminal trial advocate by the National

## Alvis Wins National Teacher Award from Foreign Language Association



Vicki Welch Alvis '78

**Vicki Welch Alvis '78** of Alpharetta, Ga., was named 2007 National Teacher of the Year: Elementary Level by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese [AATSP] at its inter-

national conference in San Diego, Calif.

Alvis first was honored as Middle School Teacher of the Year by the Georgia

chapter of AATSP for her work at Autrey Mill Middle School in Alpharetta. She taught previously at State Bridge Crossing Elementary School in its nationally acclaimed Foreign Language in Elementary School [FLES] program.

She was one of the first teachers in Georgia to earn certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Alvis is a native of Montgomery, Ala. She also holds a master's degree in Hispanic studies from Auburn University. She and her husband, **Joel '77**, have two sons. ■



Board of Trial Advocacy. An attorney in Trussville, Ala., he is a graduate of Birmingham School of Law.

**Kathy Bryan** of Decatur, Ala., is a social worker with the Morgan County Department of Human Resources.

'85 **Kevin Bussey** is associate pastor of North Point Community Church, Charlotte, N.C. He and his wife, Cassandra, have two children, Jacob and Hope.

**Tony and Katrina Stipe Brooks** '86 co-pastor NorthBroad Baptist Church, Rome, Ga. They have two children, Tara and Joseph.

'86 **Tim Bethea** was named 2007 Alabama Golf Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Coaches. His team at Montgomery Academy, Montgomery, Ala., has won five consecutive state championships.

**James Ginn** teaches honors English and drama at Gatlinburg Pittman High School and Pi Beta Phi Elementary School, Gatlinburg, Tenn.

**Karen L. Saunders** earned project management professional [PMP] certification in August. She is a project manager with Healthways, Inc., Nashville, Tenn.

'87 **Al Beville** is director of sales and marketing with Student Life church and mission support organization. He lives in Birmingham with his wife, Andrea, and children, Olivia, Mary-Catherine and Will.

**Stephen Hall** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., is assistant principal at Leeds Middle School. He earned an educational specialist degree in 2007.

'88 **Larry D. McQuiston** is the new president of the Alabama Association of Historians [AAH]. He took office in February during the annual AAH meeting hosted by Samford. McQuiston is principal of Valley (Ala.) High School.

**Jonlyn Denise Nation** is Tennessee business development manager for the surgical device division of Allergan Medical. She lives in Brentwood, Tenn.

**Mark H. Thomas** has a dual appointment in the College of Community Health Sciences at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, where he works in the Student Health Center and is developing an adolescent medicine program. He also teaches residents and medical students, and develops programs in his special interest area, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

'89 **Cindy Vines Davis**, counselor at Columbia Elementary School, Madison, Ala., was named 2006–07 Alabama School Counselor of the Year and one of the top 10 school counselors in America. The first Alabama counselor to receive the national honor, she

attended celebratory events in Washington, D.C., in January. She lives in Madison with her husband, Mark, and two daughters.

'91 **Dan Parker** is a media relations associate with A. Larry Ross Communications, Carrollton, Texas. He and his wife, Ann, live in Keller, Texas, with their son, Drew, born in October.

'92 **Kimberly “Sparkle” Greenhaw** earned a Ph.D. in counseling from the University of North Texas. She is a counselor at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.

'93 **Adrienne Gantt Baker** was named 2007 National Law Enforcement Educator of the Year. A master instructor at the Georgia State Police Academy and a firearms and defensive tactics instructor, she is Georgia state president of the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators and is on the board of directors of the Georgia SWAT Association. She lives in Dawsonville, Ga., with her husband, Rich, and daughter, Sidney.

'94 **Rob Brown** and **Debra Silverstein** married in November. He is a partner in the law firm of Moore, Brown and Gentle. She is human resources manager for EMI Christian Music Group. They live in Columbia, Tenn.

**Rodney and Kim Culpepper Johnson** live in Little Rock, Ark., where he is senior division marketing manager with Farmers Insurance. They have two daughters, Jenna Caroline and Ava Lauren.

**Ambereen Latif** and her husband, Donovan September, live in Panama City, Fla., with their three children. Active in international philanthropy, they have started a nongovernmental organization for low-income children in Pakistan.

'95 **Jason Daniel Holleman** was elected a district councilman on the Metro Council of the metropolitan government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee. He is of-council to the Nashville law firm of Farmer & Luna, PLLC. He and his wife, Margaret, have a daughter, Cecilia Charlotte, 1.

'96 **Robyn Nicole Blaikie Collins** is senior editor of *Millionaire Blueprints Teen*, a national business magazine for teens. She is coauthor with Kimberly Spinks-Burleson of a book, *Prepare to be a Teen Millionaire* (HCI). She lives in The Colony, Texas.

**Patrick and Kim Smith Falk** live in Chattanooga, Tenn. He recently earned a master of business administration degree and is a product line manager with Alliance Flooring. She is a real estate agent. They have two children, Madison, 5, and Eli, 1.

**Susan Fisher** is a clinical psychologist at VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System. She received a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Alabama. She and her husband, Matthew Johnston, have a son, Zachary Logan, 1. They live in Bethel Park, Penn.

**Christy Langford Gum** and her husband, **Steven W. Gum** '97 are houseparents at Big Oak Girls Ranch in Springville, Ala. They have two daughters, Caroline, 4, and Calla, 2.

**Melissa Lynn Hagins** married William Joshua Osborne in July. She is a certified public accountant with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama. They live in Homewood.

'97 **Cedrick D. Bridgeforth** is superintendent of the Los Angeles District of the

## Pemberton, Smitherman Compile Imposing Publishing Credits

Psychology graduates **Joy Reeves Pemberton** '00 and **Todd Smitherman** '00 were selected to be on a panel at a national meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies [ABCT] in November. The topic, “How to Successfully Publish as a Graduate Student/Young Professional,” was a natural fit for the two former Samford classmates, both of whom have impressive publication credits.

Smitherman, whose research focuses on anxiety disorders and their relationship to chronic head pain, is the author of 17 peer-reviewed journal articles and four book chapters, and has made about 25 conference presentations. He earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Auburn University in 2006 and

is completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He will begin a faculty position in the psychology department at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, in August. He is a former president of ABCT's Student Special Interest Group.

Pemberton, who is enrolled in the clinical doctorate program at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, has five publications in peer-reviewed journals and 10 conference presentations to her credit. Her dissertation examines treatment for children with disruptive behaviors. President-elect of the ABCT's Student Special Interest Group, she will begin a predoctoral internship at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in the summer. ■

California-Pacific Conference of the United Methodist Church. He holds a master of divinity degree from Claremont School of Theology and a doctor of education degree in organization leadership from Pepperdine University. Most recently senior pastor of Crenshaw UMC in Los Angeles, he is a course instructor at the University of LaVerne's Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies.

**LeAnn Gardner** is a lecturer in the School of Social Work at Baylor University, Waco, Texas. She holds a master of divinity

degree from George W. Truett Theological Seminary and a master of social work degree from Baylor.

**John Andrew Jernigan**, and his wife, Juliana, are missionaries with the Mission Society in Amakom, Ghana, West Africa, where he is missionary pastor and clinic administrator at Lake Bosomtwe Clinic. They have two children, Lucas and Ana Luiza.

**Emily Jones** married Jeffrey Files in August. They live in Birmingham.

'97 **William O'Connor** is president/owner of Primera Market, an Hispanic convenience store in Richmond, Va.

'98 **Angela Coker** is senior audit manager with the Birmingham accounting firm of Donaldson, Holman & West, P.C. A certified public accountant, she specializes in employee benefit plan audits.

**Maria Demeshkina, M.T.S.**, and her husband, former Samford student Stephen Peek, have started a non-for-profit media company, Current Pictures. Their first project was the production of *Case for X: Spirituality of 20-Somethings*, a 30-minute documentary about the spirituality of Generation X and the Millennials. Their current project is an HD reality show that features 20-somethings from across the United States and Europe involved in a hands-on social justice movement. The couple earned master's degrees at Regent University. They live in Norfolk, Va.

**Christopher George** is pastor of First Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala. He earned a master of theological studies degree from Harvard University.

**Sharla Manglitz** is an attorney with Fowler, White & Burnett P.C., in Miami, Fla. A 2007 graduate of Thomas M. Cooley Law School, she specializes in maritime law.

**Renee Dabbs Matthews** lives in Clanton, Ala., with her husband, Andy, and their two children, Harper, 3, and Dabbs, born in July. She is an elementary school teacher.

'99 **Carolyn Satchura Altman** of Tyrone, Ga., earned a degree from Georgia State University College of Law in May. She and her husband, Martin, have a daughter, Elise Katherine, born in March.

**Regina Sarmiento** married Sam Mitchell in September. She is art director at The Icebox in Atlanta, Ga.

**Erica Haynes Johnson** is associate director of admission at Belhaven College's Memphis, Tenn., campus. She lives in Germantown, Tenn., with her husband, Bryan, and daughter, Abbey Claire, 2.

**Mark A. Nobles, J.D.**, specializes in immigration law with Nobles Law Group, Murfreesboro, Tenn. He and his wife, Tricia, have two children, Ashton Grace, 2, and Michael Seth, born in December.

**Forrest Walker** teaches precalculus at Chattanooga Christian High School, Chattanooga, Tenn.

'00 **Dana Leigh Groover Baugher** and her husband, Woody, work with a church plant in St. Augustine, Fla. They have two daughters, Arden and Esther.

**Monica Duffey Cameron** lives in McDonough, Ga., with her husband,

## Stewart Helps Kenyan Women Market Handmade Items

by Mary Wimberley



Scarlett Stewart '01

The year that **Scarlett Stewart '01** spent at Amani ya Juu in Nairobi, Kenya, made a difference in the lives of those involved in the micro enterprise and ministry, as well as in the life of the former Student Government Association president.

Amani ya Juu, which means "higher peace" in Kiswahili, is a training project in sewing and marketing for African women who have been affected by wars and ethnic conflicts.

Stewart, who returned to the United States in December, spent 2007 as a special projects manager at the center that employs 70 refugee women from 11 countries. The women use their sewing skills to make products such as placemats, quilts, handbags and clothing items. The 11-year-old, self-sustaining fair-trade project markets its wares internationally. Paid by the piece, the women earn wages up to three times the normal Kenyan's salary.

According to Stewart, about 50 percent of Kenyans are unemployed, and life is especially hard for refugees.

At the same time, the women are helping provide for their families, and through Bible study and prayer, they learn about peace and forgiveness.

"The project gives the women a sense of purpose and dignity," explained Stewart, adding that the intent is to empower the women physically and spiritually.

"It's about human reconciliation," she said, for the women who come from areas with long-standing feuds and conflicts, and who carry burdens of poverty, corruption and war. The strong tribal hatred that was displayed so dramatically following the Dec. 27 presidential election took place several weeks after Stewart returned to the United States.

While most of the center's workers are seamstresses, some serve in housekeeping and

food preparation roles. The center's on-site shop and café are popular stops for tourists, many of whom are in the nation on safari.

Each workday begins and ends with devotion and prayer time. For three weeks each year, the women's children come on site for crafts and a Vacation Bible School-like program. "We want to ingrain in the children, also, the idea of peace through interactions with each other," said Stewart.

As special projects manager, Stewart's multipurpose role was to encourage and empower the women in their faith and skills.

She helped people organize workspace, and taught skills such as how to use a camera and Excel computer program, and update a website. She used her recent master's degree in higher education administration from University of South Carolina to help put in place policies and procedures that will help Amani ya Juu going forward.

Stewart worked at the center as a volunteer sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Orlando. Before her mission trip, she worked most recently for three years as a corporate recruiter in her hometown of Orlando, Fla.

Stewart's time in Kenya was supposed to end in August, but she agreed to stay longer to coordinate an October fashion show to launch a new clothing line.

"God's blessing was over that show," said Stewart, who worked with many vendors from different cultures and trained 10 women from the center to be models.

Stewart said having a few days of special attention did a lot of good for the new models, many of whom had endured lives of rejection.

She says that her journalism/mass communication major, with its "transferable skills," stood her in good stead during her Nigerian experience.

Now back in Orlando, she looks forward to beginning a new career, but also to continuing her support of the Amani ya Juu project. "I want to tell their story and make sure their voices are heard." ■

Cam, and their two children, Tripp, 2, and Annie, born in September.

**Amanda Haugh** married Charlie Pickens in October. She teaches at John Carroll Catholic High School, Homewood.

**Cindy Clowdus Morgan** is a realtor with Realty South in Birmingham.

**Tara Tiller, M.S.E.M. '03**, is an environmental consultant/biologist with AST Environmental Group, Decatur, Ala., and a tennis professional.

'01 **Lynn Blakeman** married Jay Shreve in September. They live in Louisville, Ky., where she is a missionary to refugees from Somalia. She is pursuing a master's in biblical counseling at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Stephanie Edwards Graves** earned a master of arts in leadership in December at Shorter College, Rome, Ga. She is director of foundation relations and special events in Shorter's Office of Institutional Advancement. She and her husband, Charles, live in Rome.

**Irene Moody** married Gabriel A. Rieger in August. They live in Gettysburg, Penn.

**Kristina Wyatt Thiel** earned a Ph.D. in biochemistry at Vanderbilt University and is pursuing postdoctoral research at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, with her husband, William.

'02 **Terrel Lee Boger** is band director at Port Allen (La.) Middle School. He lives in Baton Rouge, La.

**Toshia Grayson Reid, Pharm.D.**, and **Charles Jason Reid, Pharm.D. '03**, live in Kodak, Tenn. She is a retail pharmacist for Kroger Pharmacy, Sevierville, Tenn. He is a retail pharmacist for Kroger Pharmacy, Pigeon Forge, Tenn. They have two children, Macy Charlese, 2, and Grayson Andrew, born in November.

**Alyson Jane Roth** is development manager for Free Wheelchair Mission, a nonprofit organization that provides

wheelchairs to disabled adults and children in developing countries. She was paralyzed in a car accident during her senior year at Samford. She lives in Foothill Ranch, Calif.

'03 **Donald Edward Anderson, Pharm.D.**, married Alaina Thibadoux in November. They live in Montgomery, Ala., where he is a pharmacy supervisor for CVS/Caremark.

**Christian George, M.Div. '07**, is the author of *Sex, Sushi and Salvation: Thoughts on Intimacy, Community and Eternity* (Moody Press), which offers new ways to talk about God.

**Matthew Charles Grimes** married Carmen Miller in August. They live in Knoxville, Tenn., where he is middle school pastor at Faith Promise Church.

**Cheryl Janes** is sales and service manager at First Charter Bank, Mooresville, N.C. She lives in Charlotte, N.C.

**Kathrin Odierno** married Nicholas Mercer Funk in September. They live in Baltimore, Md.

'04 **Luke Lamphron** is a senior audit accountant with the Birmingham accounting firm of Donaldson, Holman & West, P.C. A certified public accountant, he specializes in auditing and consulting in the timber investment industry.

**Ross Nelson** is associate vice president of institutional client portfolios and management at YieldQuest Securities, Atlanta, Ga.

**William John Rogers III and Tanya Humphries** married in December 2006. They live in Lawrenceville, Ga.

**Amalee Carolyn Smith** of Birmingham earned a master of science in physician assistant studies at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She works at a cardiothoracic surgeon's practice.

'05 **Emily Breckenridge and Greg Kitchens, Pharm.D. '07**, married in March. They live in Tallahassee, Fla., where he is a pharmacist with CVS and she is pursuing

a master's in creative design at Florida State University.

**Megan Gladden and Josh Brennard '06** married in July. They live in Birmingham, where he works at InfoMedia and she attends University of Alabama School of Medicine.

**Sara Harman Vines** and her husband, Jerry, live in Adamsville, Ala. They have two children, Olivia, 2, and Tommy, born in May.

'06 **Joel Davis and Kathryn Claire Dorsey**, who met in the Samford cafeteria during their freshman year, married in August. They live in Birmingham.

**Todd Fleenor** is the author of a paper that was published in the Nov. 21, 2007, issue of *Circulation Research Journal*. His research for "Adenosine Receptor Mediated Adhesion of Endothelial Progenitors to Cardiac Microvascular Endothelial Cells" was done at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He lives in Franklin, Tenn.

**Trent Hadley** married Amy Stebbins in July. He recently earned a master's in accounting from the University of Tampa and works for Grant Thornton accounting firm in Dallas, Texas. They live in Bedford, Texas.

**Stephanie Marshall** married Wade Delano in March 2007. They live in Birmingham.

'07 **Matthew Brown** is an account executive with Berney Office Solutions, Hoover, Ala.

**Warren T. Herring** married Dana Warren in July. They live in Birmingham, where he is district manager with Vector Marketing Company.

**Andrew J. "Andy" Thomson, J.D.**, is an associate in the Nashville, Tenn., law firm of Wadley & Patterson, P.C. His practice areas include patent and trademark prosecution. An electrical engineer before attending law school, he holds six U.S. patents. ■

# births

'91 Ann and **Dan Parker** of Keller, Texas, a son, William Andrew "Drew," born Oct. 18, 2007.

'92 Ronny and **Tamara McKinney Chadwick** of Morris, Ala., the adoption of a daughter, Maleah.

'93 Michael and **Melissa Kay Waldron McMahan** of Decatur, Ala., a daughter, Anna Kathleen, born Feb. 4, 2008.

Toni and **Jeffrey Mark Stough** of Montgomery, Ala., triplets, Samuel Blackwell, Zora Catherine and Margerite Elizabeth, born Feb. 3, 2008.

'94 **Anthony and Carrie Naccarato Engle** of Homewood, a son, Cade Andrew, born Nov. 26, 2007.

**Rodney and Kim Culpepper Johnson** of Little Rock, Ark., a daughter, Ava Lauren, born July 24, 2007.

'95 Margaret and **Jason Daniel Holleman** of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Cecilia Charlotte, born March 12, 2007.

**Megan Elizabeth Kenney Raulston and Ron Raulston '96** of Charlotte, N.C., a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, born Nov. 4, 2007.

'96 Joe and **Elyse Watras Durham** of Murphy, N.C., a son, John McLaurin, born Jan. 18, 2008.

Corinne and **Sean Fennelly** of Smyrna, Ga., a daughter, Abigail Meghan, born Jan. 25, 2008.

Matthew Johnston and **Susan Fisher** of Bethel Park, Penn., a son, Zachary Logan, born Feb. 14, 2007.

Michelle and **Patrick H. Sutton** of Birmingham, twins, Braxton and Brienna, born Aug. 9, 2007.

Brian and **Stacey Benedict Wiseman** of Knoxville, Tenn., a son, Joseph Maxwell, born Dec. 29, 2007.

**Robyn Hess Zomorodian** and **Cyrus Zomorodian, J.D. '01**, of Jacksonville, Fla., a daughter, Lindsey Claire, born Nov. 24, 2006.

'98 Michael and **Amy Blankenship Beard** of Soddy Daisy, Tenn., a daughter, Macy Nicole, born Nov. 15, 2007.

Barry and **Heather McClinton Harvill, J.D. '01**, of Birmingham, a daughter, Maggie Rose, born Dec. 6, 2007.

Rod and **Laura Willis Henderson** of Yazoo City, Miss., a daughter, Mary Claire, born Oct. 31, 2007.

**Josh** and **Courtney Craft Reeves '99** of Birmingham, a daughter, Ruby Anna, born March 6, 2007.

Ken and **Mary Monteith Wills** of Hoover, Ala., a son, James Monteith, born Oct. 19, 2007.

'99 Martin and **Carolyn Satchura Altman** of Tyrone, Ga., a daughter, Elise Katherine, born March 26, 2007.

Glenn and **Morgan Elizabeth Amick Boothe** of Collinsville, Miss., a son, Andrew Bryant, born Sept. 21, 2007.

Candice and **Nicholas T. Broom** of Birmingham and Vientiane, Laos, a son, Deacon Elliot, born Aug. 15, 2007.

Amy and **Jeremy Campbell** of Tuscumbia, Ala., a daughter, Emma, born Jan. 27, 2006.

Neil and **Gwen Burger Dishman** of Glen Ellyn, Ill., a daughter, Allison Pearl, born July 10, 2007.

Drew and **Rebecca Lane Hanson** of Birmingham, a son, John Emmons, born Nov. 28, 2007.

**Rachel Miller Hunt** and **Marcus Hunt, J.D. '03**, of Chelsea, Ala., a son, Levi, born Oct. 1, 2006.

Tricia and **Mark A. Nobles, J.D.**, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., a son, Michael Seth, born Dec. 23, 2007.

'00 Woody and **Dana Leigh Groover Baugher**, a daughter, Sarah Esther, born Aug. 9, 2007.

Cam and **Monica Duffey Cameron** of McDonough, Ga., a son, James Stanley "Tripp" Cameron III, born Dec. 31, 2005, and a daughter, Annie Duffey, born Sept. 27, 2007.

Matt and **Christy Carter Kearce** of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., a son, Brady Matthew, born Dec. 15, 2007.

**Matthew T.** and **Karen Carmichael Lott '01** of Leesburg, Va., twins, James Wesley and Charlotte Elizabeth, born Dec. 4, 2007.

Kristen and **William N. Mauldin, M.S.E.M. '02**, of Warrior, Ala., a son, Logan William, born May 22, 2007.

**Charles R. IV** and **Rebekah Pallatt Rowland** of Duck Hill, Miss., a son, Haddon Royce, born July 26, 2007.

'01 **Chris** and **Bethany Travis Benton '02, M.S.E. '04**, of Plano, Texas, a daughter, Neely Kate, born Aug. 18, 2006.

**Ty** and **Meg Grisard Dedmon '02** of Birmingham, a son, Charles Edward, born Nov. 19, 2007.

Nathan and **Caron B. McCarthy** of Montgomery, Ala., a daughter, Alli Beth, born Oct. 27, 2007.

Stephen and **Candace Bolton Piepgrass** of Richmond, Va., a daughter, Amanda Caroline, born Nov. 9, 2007.

Scott and **Becky Cheek Richardson** of Nashville, Tenn., a son, Austin James, born Oct. 3, 2007.

Jason and **Jodi Dansby Searcy, Pharm.D.**, of Enterprise, Ala., twin sons, Jackson Thad and Jonathan Coleman, born Nov. 5, 2007.

'02 Jake and **Erin Elizabeth Chafin Honeycutt** of Valdosta, Ga., a daughter, Rowan Aislinn, born Sept. 25, 2007.

**Tyler** and **Lauren Jones Mayfield '03** of Claremont, Calif., a son, Jude Carter, born Dec. 12, 2007.

**Toshia Grayson Reid, Pharm.D.**, and **Charles Jason Reid, Pharm.D. '03**, of Kodak, Tenn., a daughter, Macy Charlese, born Jan. 16, 2006, and a son, Grayson Andrew, born Nov. 2, 2007.

'04 Simmons and **Amy Travis Pankey** of Birmingham, a son, Travis Simmons, born Sept. 23, 2007.

'05 Jerry and **Sara Harman Vines** of Adamsville, Ala., a son, Tommy, born May 31, 2007.

'07 Matt and **Brook Ingle Lee, M.S.E.**, of Birmingham, a daughter, Madison Elizabeth, born May 11, 2007. ■



Submit birth, wedding and other alumni photos for publication in *The Belltower*, Samford's weekly online magazine. E-mail your electronic image files to [bltwr@samford.edu](mailto:bltwr@samford.edu).

Read *The Belltower* at [samford.edu/pubs/beltower](http://samford.edu/pubs/beltower).

## inmemoriam

'37 **Mary Louise Lucas Crowley**, age 90, of Birmingham, died Jan. 9, 2008. She retired from the Birmingham school system and was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma education honor society.

'38 **Jean LeFurgey Hoffman**, age 89, of Birmingham, died in November 2007. She was a librarian and a teacher for 60 years. She was a past president of the American Library Association.

'40 **Lydia Sarah Haisten Gayler**, age 88, of Cape Coral, Fla., died Dec. 7, 2007. She taught school in Birmingham and was a chemist in the Philadelphia, Pa., laboratory that developed Acrilan, an acrylic fiber manufactured by Chemstrand and Monsanto. During World War II, she translated French technical journals for the American Viscose Corporation and American Chemical Society. She was active in the Masquers, Panhellenic and Phi Mu.

'41 **Samuel Andrew Granade**, age 89, of Montgomery, Ala., died Jan. 19, 2008. He was a chaplain in the 13th Airborne Division during World War II. Pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church for 25 years, he was interim pastor of 15 Alabama Baptist churches after retirement. He was founder and director of the church minister relations department, Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions, and served on the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

'42 **Gene Claytor Kelsner** of Birmingham died Nov. 23, 2007. She was executive secretary to Samford presidents Harwell G. Davis, Leslie Wright and Thomas Cortis. After

retirement, she was secretary to the editor of *The Alabama Baptist* and worked with the Jefferson County Historical Commission. She was a member of the Belvederes (former Samford coeds) and a past president of Executive Women International. A longtime 1942 Class Agent for the Samford Alumni Association, she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

'43 **Bettye Elveree Prince**, age 85, of Birmingham, died Dec. 30, 2007. She graduated from Samford with honors, and was a member of Delta Zeta sorority, the student senate and other campus groups. She retired from AT&T.

'44 **James Earl Coggin**, age 86, of Fort Worth, Texas, died Nov. 27, 2007. He served Baptist churches in Alabama, Oklahoma, Texas and Tennessee. Dr. Coggin held many posts in the Southern Baptist Convention, was a member of the Texas Baptist Executive Board and was chairman of the board of trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

'45 **Anne Patterson MacGran**, age 84, of Columbus, Miss., died Jan. 3, 2008. A registered nurse, she was a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Panama during World War II. After marrying and raising five children, she revived her nursing career at age 60 and worked until retirement at age 82.

**Ruth Thomason Ward**, age 88, of Birmingham, died Dec. 24, 2007. An English teacher in Alabama and Arizona, she also worked at First Baptist Church of Wetumpka, Ala., and Virginia Intermont College, Bristol, Va. She was a member of the Samford University Auxiliary and Kappa Delta Epsilon education honor society.

'49 **James Lewis Schnetzler**, age 87, of Alabaster, Ala., died Jan. 13, 2008. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Washington State before serving as a Radarman in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He attended Samford on the GI Bill and became an insurance underwriter.

'50 **R. Elmer Nielsen**, age 88, of Cullman, Ala., died Dec. 6, 2007. He was pastor emeritus at Cullman First Baptist Church, where he was pastor from 1958 to 1967 and was later active with senior adult groups. A World War II veteran, he served churches in Alabama, Florida and Mississippi. He was a foreign missionary in Singapore and Thailand, and a chaplain at Julia Tutwiler Prison.

'51 **Joseph Meyer Stammer**, age 81, of Birmingham, died Nov. 10, 2007. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and pharmacist who operated two pharmacies in Jefferson County. An avid world traveler, he made three trips to Honduras as a member of a church-sponsored medical team.

**Betty Adams Slay Ziglar** of Roanoke, Ala., died Jan. 18, 2008. She served three terms

as mayor of Roanoke and one term on the city council. She served on many state boards and committees, including the Alabama League of Municipalities and the Roanoke Chamber of Commerce.

'52 **Jim Myers**, age 76, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Nov. 8, 2007. After earning his pharmacy degree at age 20, he worked in Selma and Tuscaloosa before opening his first Jim Myers Drug Store in 1974. He pioneered many retail pharmacy firsts, and was named Alabama Small-Business Person of the Year in 1992.

'55 **Benson I. Hattem, J.D.**, of San Francisco, Calif., died Jan. 22, 2008, of cancer. One of the city's first affirmative action officers, he held posts with Caltrans and the Oakland Redevelopment Agency, and was executive director of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority.

'56 **Jesse R. Brady**, age 85, of Huntsville, Ala., died Feb. 3, 2008. He was an ordained Baptist minister and a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps. He taught school in Huntsville.

**Otis Wayne Walker**, age 73, of Sylacauga, Ala., died Nov. 26, 2007. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve, and taught and coached at schools in Vincent, Ala., and Childersburg, Ala. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

'58 **Billy Gene Batson**, age 76, of Lucien, Miss., died Jan. 22, 2008. He was a retired pharmacist. A U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, he raised Polled Hereford cattle as a hobby.

**William Brian Cain, J.D.**, age 75, of Columbia, Tenn., died Sept. 27, 2008, of cancer. He was a former circuit court judge and presiding judge of the Tennessee Court of Appeals.

**John A. Hogan**, age 80, of Toney, Ala., died Jan. 8, 2008. During his ministerial career, he served rural, inner-city and suburban Baptist churches in Alabama.

**Waymon Carlton Reese, Jr.**, age 72, of Statesboro, Ga., died Jan. 5, 2008. A former administrator at Bulloch County Hospital in Georgia, he also worked with Smith Healy Farms and Joiner International.

'59 **Jack K. Holloway**, age 71, of Hoover, Ala., died Jan. 25, 2008. He was former executive director/administrator of several nursing homes, and was state president of several nursing home and pharmaceutical professional associations. He was a member of Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy advisory board and an adjunct instructor.

'60 **James Jordan**, age 84, of Gadsden, Ala., died Dec. 4, 2007. He served in the U.S. Army in the European Theatre during World War II. He was a pastor of Baptist

churches in north and central Alabama for 50 years.

'61 **Melvin Dodson Beatty**, age 73, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Nov. 24, 2007. He was a decorated U.S. Marine Corps veteran of the Korean War and a former Samford football player. He retired from Uniroyal Goodrich.

'62 **Virginia Kent Barnwell**, age 69, of Huntsville, Ala., died July 24, 2007. She was a retired elementary school teacher who taught in Tennessee and Florida, and most recently in Huntsville.

**Helen Aycok Brewer**, of Florence, Ala., died Nov. 30, 2007. She was a public school teacher.

**Robert Eugene Thomas, Jr.**, age 78, of Cullman, Ala., died in January 2008. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving two years in Germany. He sold corrugated boxes for 40 years.

'67 **Charles M. Ingrum, Sr., J.D.**, age 71, of Opelika, Ala., died Dec. 22, 2007. He was a member of the Lee and Ingrum law firm, and was the first assistant district attorney in Lee County, Alabama. He served with the Alabama National Guard.

'69 **Kenneth S. Torrontor** of Clarence Center, N.Y., died Dec. 25, 2007, of complications from diabetes. A Kmart employee for more than 28 years, he was retired supervising pharmacist at Kmart Hertel/Delaware in Buffalo, N.Y.

'70 **Jean Drake Vaughn, M.S.E.**, age 85, of Birmingham, died Jan. 26, 2008. During World War II, she was a U.S. Navy lieutenant in the communications unit that participated in breaking the German code. After she retired from high school teaching, she was an editorial assistant for the Woman's Missionary Union.

'81 **Mike Emfinger, J.D.**, age 54, of Mitchell Station, Ala., died Jan. 15, 2008. He was Bullock County district judge for 17 years, and a former executive director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency.

'82 **Vigdis Naomi Aune** of Brooklyn, N.Y., died Dec. 14, 2007, after a heart attack. She taught at Baruch College in New York and later worked for an American/Russian drug company. She was fluent in five languages. In her spare time, she taught piano to children in her neighborhood.

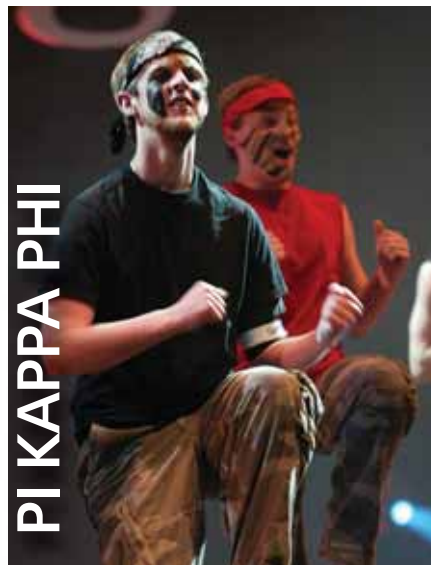
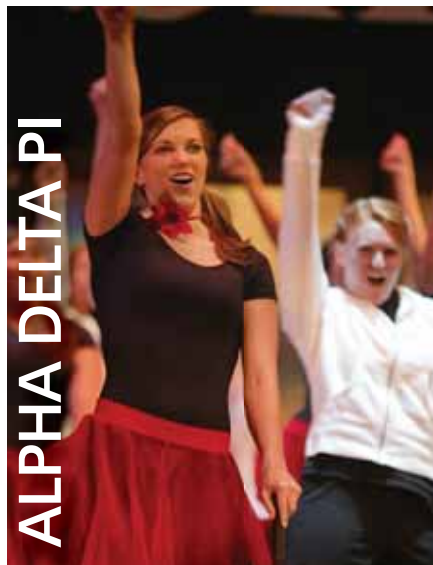
**Gary C. Sherman**, age 54, of Gaylord, Mich., died Oct. 15, 2007. A U.S. Air Force B-52 mechanic during the Vietnam War, he was a nurse anesthetist and a ski instructor.

'83 **Lewis Terry, J.D.** '88, age 47, of Enterprise, Ala., died Feb. 4, 2008. He was an attorney in Dothan, Ala. At Samford, he played basketball his freshman year and was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. ■



# STEP SIN

**Sigma Chi Takes Top Hon**



**S**igma Chi won the sweepstakes trophy at Step Sing Feb. 16 with a theme entitled “The Original Fraternity.” The presentation, which focused on Jesus and the 12 disciples, also won the judges award and the participants award for excellence in music.

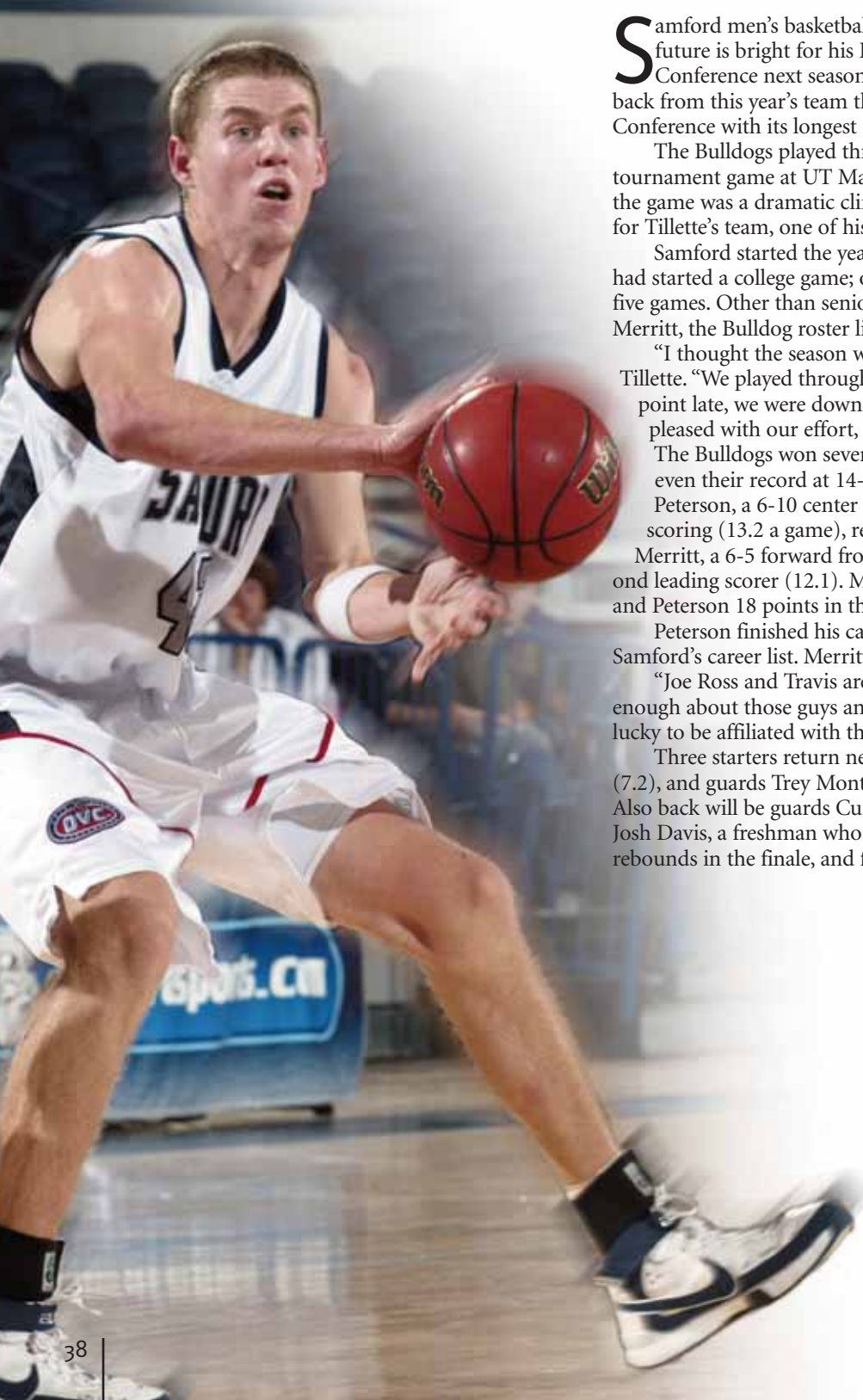
Dudes-a-Plenty, an independent men’s group organized only to perform in Step Sing, was first runner-up with “Magic.” The Dudes won sweepstakes honors in 2007 and 2005.

Phi Mu sorority was second runner-up with an act entitled “Se7en” about the seven deadly sins. The group also won the judges award for excellence in theme and participants awards for best overall and best choreography.

Alpha Delta Pi sorority won the judges award for excellence in choreography, and Pi Kappa Phi fraternity won the participants award for best costume.

Alpha Omicron Pi sorority was recognized for raising the most money for the 2008 Step Sing philanthropy, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. ■

# Men Look to Southern Conference After ‘Work-in-Progress’ Season



Samford men’s basketball coach Jimmy Tillette thinks the future is bright for his Bulldogs as they head to the Southern Conference next season. Tillette will have all but two players back from this year’s team that ended five years in the Ohio Valley Conference with its longest game in history.

The Bulldogs played three overtimes in their OVC finale, a tournament game at UT Martin, before losing, 101-94. Even so, the game was a dramatic climax to a “work-in-progress” season for Tillette’s team, one of his youngest ever.

Samford started the year with only three players who ever had started a college game; one of those was lost to injury after five games. Other than seniors Travis Peterson and Joe Ross Merritt, the Bulldog roster listed only sophomores and freshmen.

“I thought the season went OK and that we got better,” said Tillette. “We played through some adversity with injuries. At one point late, we were down to one point guard. But I was very pleased with our effort, especially in the last game.”

The Bulldogs won seven of 11 games down the stretch to even their record at 14-14 before dropping the final two. Peterson, a 6-10 center from Glendale, Ariz., led the team in scoring (13.2 a game), rebounding, assists and blocked shots.

Merritt, a 6-5 forward from Oklahoma City, Okla., was the second leading scorer (12.1). Merritt scored a career high 29 points and Peterson 18 points in the final game at Martin.

Peterson finished his career with 1,121 points, 16th on Samford’s career list. Merritt had 984 career points.

“Joe Ross and Travis are champions,” said Tillette. “I can’t say enough about those guys and their character. I’ve been extremely lucky to be affiliated with them.”

Three starters return next season—forward Bryan Friday (7.2), and guards Trey Montgomery (10.0) and Josh Bedwell (6.5). Also back will be guards Curtis West, the veteran injured early; Josh Davis, a freshman who scored 20 points and grabbed 12 rebounds in the finale, and five others. ■

Travis Peterson



# Women Post Best Record in History with 23-9 Mark

The Samford women's team posted the best record in its 11-year history this season, a 23-9 mark that included a 15-5 Ohio Valley Conference slate. That boosted the record to 62-30 for the past three years.

Led by senior guard Taryn Towns and conference Freshman of the Year Emily London, the Bulldogs made their final OVC season one to remember. Coach Mike Morris' team, which moves to the Southern Conference next year, featured balanced scoring and strong defense.

"This year's team has been one of the best teams I've been around in terms of chemistry and unity," said Morris. He attributed it to the influx of freshmen combined with a solid group of returnees.

He called Towns, who was named to the OVC All-Tournament team, "as consistent a player—from freshman to senior, game one to game 30—as I've ever been around."

London, a 5-7 guard from Lexington, Ky., led Samford scoring with a 12.2 average and topped the conference in 3-point shooting percentage (.488). She also led the Bulldogs in overall shooting percentage, free-throw percentage and steals.

London picked up the slack when starting guard Megan Wilderotter, the team's sparkplug, went down with a season-ending injury after eight games.

Sophomore Monica Maxwell also scored in double figures (10.7), and four other Bulldogs were close—freshman Savannah Hill (9.8), senior Alex Munday (9.2), Towns (8.4) and junior Chika Okoli (8.2).

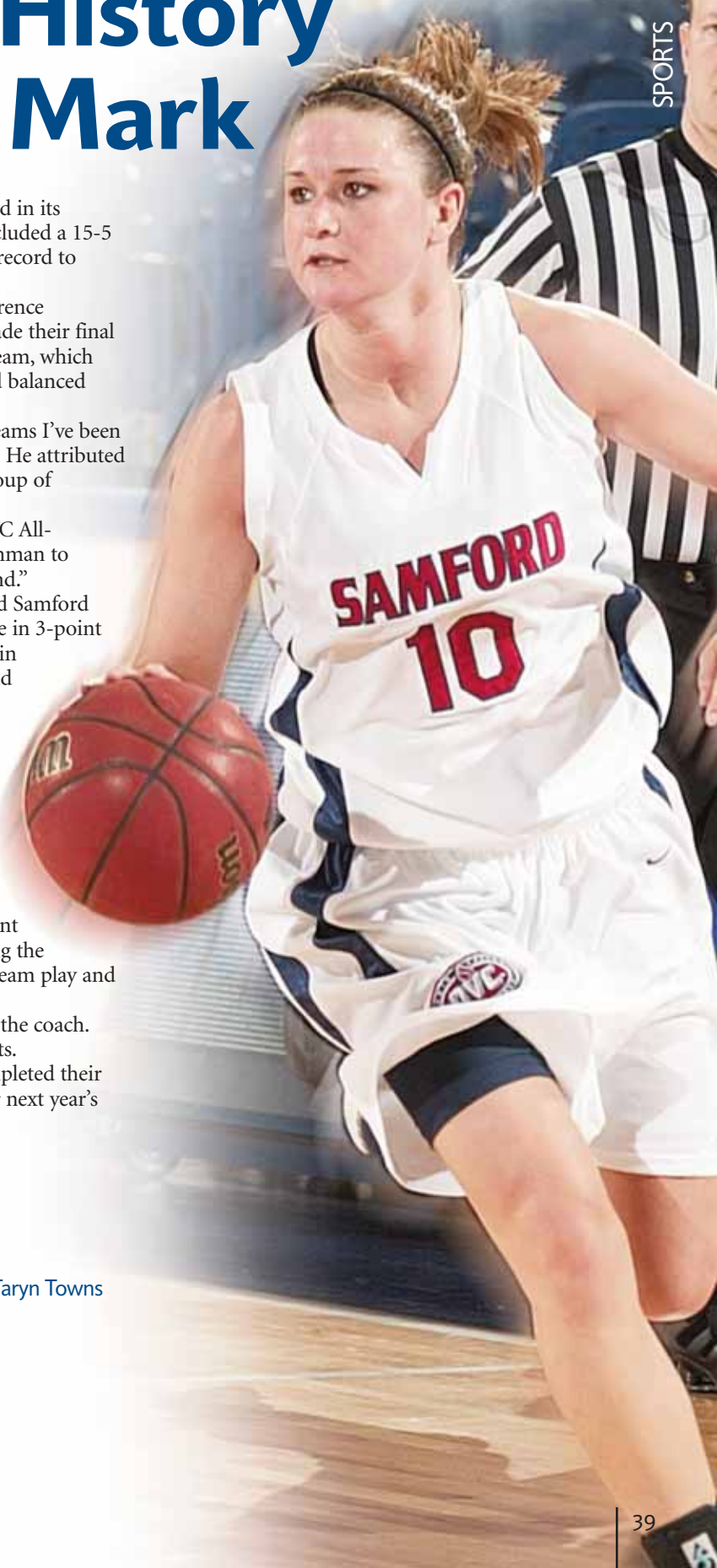
Munday, Samford's career scoring leader, went through a midseason stretch of not starting after being the team's top scorer for three years. But she focused on team play and contributed greatly to the team's success, said Morris.

"She handled it well and kept fighting," said the coach.

Munday finished her career with 1,603 points.

Towns, Munday and MaKenzie Spruiell completed their eligibility, but the majority of the team will return for next year's inaugural run in the new conference. ■

Taryn Towns



# Bulldogs To Face Ole Miss

## Samford Draws Appalachian State in First Southern Conference Home Game

SPORTS

Coach Pat Sullivan



Coach Pat Sullivan's second Samford football team will face some immediate challenges during the 2008 season. Not only will the Bulldogs visit Ole Miss Sept. 13, they will face three-time defending national champion Appalachian State in their first home game as a member of the Southern Conference Oct. 11.

"We are excited about moving into a new conference and about our trip to Ole Miss," Sullivan said. "This should be an exciting year and a very challenging schedule."

The Ole Miss game will be Samford's first against a Southeastern Conference foe since a 1993 game at Auburn.

Appalachian State made big news last year with its 34-32 season-opening win at Big Ten power Michigan. The

Mountaineers capped a 13-2 season with a 49-21 win over Delaware in the Football Championship Division title game.

Samford will play eight Southern Conference opponents, four at home and four away. The Bulldogs also will host West Georgia Aug. 28 and cross-town rival Miles College Sept. 6.

Even though Samford lost 14 seniors, including its starting quarterback, leading receiver and top two tacklers, the

Bulldogs were basically a young team last fall. Sullivan played 12 true freshmen and a total of 20 freshmen counting redshirts in every game.

The same could be true this fall. Sullivan and his staff signed 21 new players to scholarships on national signing day Feb. 6. The coach seemed pleased with the effort.

"Athletically, this is a very good class," he said. "There is enough athletic ability in this class that a lot of them could come in and play next fall.

"Academically, it is awfully strong. We have seven kids that have a 28 or above on their ACT, and that speaks volumes for Samford."

Sullivan said the recruits will help answer some needs for the Bulldogs, specifically at tight end and on the line offensively and defensively. He also said the Bulldogs recruited "two outstanding quarterbacks" in Dustin Taliaferro of Roswell, Ga., and Connor Lowery of Lebanon, Tenn., and added some speed at wide receiver by signing Riley Hawkins of Pace, Fla., and Chinedu Amah of Marietta, Ga.

Samford returns six starters on offense and nine on defense, plus its punter and placekicker. The Bulldogs were 4-7 last fall, but showed marked improvement over the previous year. Close losses to Austin Peay (28-25) and Tennessee State (38-28) last year spelled the difference between a winning and losing record. ■

### 2008 schedule

<b>Aug. 28</b>	<b>WEST GEORGIA</b>
<b>Sept. 6</b>	<b>MILES</b>
Sept. 13	at Ole Miss
Sept. 27	at Elon*
Oct. 4	at Western Carolina*
<b>Oct. 11</b>	<b>APPALACHIAN STATE*</b>
<b>Oct. 25</b>	<b>THE CITADEL* (Homecoming)</b>
<b>Nov. 1</b>	<b>FURMAN*</b>
Nov. 8	at Georgia Southern*
<b>Nov. 15</b>	<b>WOFFORD*</b>
Nov. 22	at Chattanooga*

\*SoCon games

Dates are subject to change. Home games are in **BOLD CAPS**.

# HOMECOMING

October 24–26, 2008

HOMECOMING



### Featured Reunions (Already Announced)

1971 National Championship Football Team  
Chi Omega  
Daniel House (London Study Centre)  
Gamma Sigma Sigma  
Phi Mu  
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia  
Sigma Chi  
Step Sing participants  
Zeta Tau Alpha

On Saturday, join us for Live @ the Library with Dr. Wayne Flynt '61 and singer-songwriter Kate Campbell '83, the homecoming parade, reunions, lunch on the Quad, football vs. The Citadel and much, much more!



### Special Weekend Celebration of the Samford A Cappella Choir!

Friday night's program honors Dr. Gene Black '59. Saturday night's A Cappella Choir reunion concert features guests from the School of the Arts.

It's going to be a full weekend in Birmingham, so make your hotel reservations now!



Online registration begins in June. Go to [samford.edu/alumni](http://samford.edu/alumni) for the current schedule and updates, or e-mail [homecoming@samford.edu](mailto:homecoming@samford.edu).



# CAMPUS news

## Samford Environmental Center Wins Educator of the Year Award

The Vulcan Materials Center for Environmental Stewardship and Education at Samford University received an Educator of the Year award from the Cahaba River Society for its work in behalf of environmental conservation.

The society cited the Vulcan Materials Center's "leadership and support to launch a community response to [biologist] E. O. Wilson's altar call" to build broad partnerships for water and energy conservation and biodiversity protection.

Following Wilson's 2007 Earth Day lecture at Samford, the Vulcan Materials Center organized dinner and luncheon meetings with faith leaders, scientists, educators, and environmental and civic leaders to continue and deepen the conservation dialogue.

The society also cited Vulcan's support for the Watersheds & Warming effort, and for its exploration of an Alabama chapter of Interfaith Power and Light to open new avenues for science, education and faith collaboration.

"It was an honor to receive this award from a highly respected organization such as the Cahaba River Society," said Virginia N. Brown, Vulcan Materials Center program administrator. "The center will continue to open avenues for science, education and faith collaboration, working toward the common goal of earth sustainability in response to climate change."

Samford biology professor Larry J. Davenport is director of the Vulcan Materials Center. ■

## Student Memorial Garden Planned Beside Reid Chapel

Samford is planning a memorial garden to honor the memory of students who died while they were enrolled at the university. The memorial will be a prayer garden in the courtyard between Reid Chapel and Chapman Hall.

"The impetus for the development of these plans grew out of a request from the Student Government Association," said Dr. Richard H. Franklin, Samford vice president and dean of students. "The request coincided with a request for a quiet outdoor space on campus for meditation and prayer.

"The memorial site will serve both of these purposes."

Samford has compiled the names of students who died during their student days dating back to 1989 and is working to add the names of those who died as students prior to that time.

Anyone with information about such students may contact Franklin or Dr. Michael D. Morgan at Samford.

A design bearing the names of students has been approved, Morgan noted, and Samford is moving ahead with plans for the memorial site. ■

## Student Wins ADDY Award

Samford University graphic design student Bob Miller won Student Best of Show and an accompanying \$2,000 cash prize at the Birmingham Advertising Federation's ADDY Awards presentation Feb. 23.

Miller, a senior from Glasgow, Ky., also won a Gold ADDY in the poster design category. Both awards were for his submitted design for Homewood's Salamander Festival poster. He will now compete for regional honors in the Advertising Federation of America competition.

Other Samford graphic design students recognized at the event were: Kimberly McDaniel of Clanton, Ala., \$1,000 silver award, interactive media; and Dana Kaita of Dothan, Ala., \$1,000 silver award, interactive CD/DVD. ■

## Samford Debate Team Named Best in South

Samford's five-member debate team was named the best squad in the Southeast following the regional debate tournament at Georgia State University in Atlanta Feb. 22-24.

The Samford team of Logan Gramzinski of Covington, Ga., and Erin Ramsey of Peachtree City, Ga., was named the top varsity team in the Southeast Central region after qualifying for the national debate tournament at California State University at Fullerton March 28-31.

Gramzinski and Ramsey finished fifth among the 39 teams from 13 schools at the regional meet.

Samford's Nick Agnello of Snellville, Ga., was named regional individual debater of the year. Jayme Cloninger of Denver, N.C., and Josh Smith of Birmingham were named the region's top junior varsity team.

Abi Williams is Samford debate coach. ■

# Elouise Williams Steps Down After 18-Year ‘Adventure in Service’ to Samford Auxiliary

by Mary Wimberley

After 22 years in top leadership roles of the Samford University Auxiliary, Elouise Williams is stepping down.

After serving four years as auxiliary president (1985–89), Williams accepted an invitation from Samford President Thomas Corts to fill a new role as coordinator of the historic volunteer organization. This resulted in what the indefatigable Samford supporter calls “18 additional years of adventure in service, relationships and learning.”

Williams’ retirement this spring as coordinator of the 1,400-member auxiliary doesn’t mean she won’t be involved in its programs and other campus causes.

“I’m not leaving,” she said recently. “I’ll be right here in Birmingham, close to Samford. I’ll be on campus attending concerts and other events, and will still be a member of the auxiliary, doing whatever any other member is asked to do.”

Williams is also a founding member of the Samford University Board of Overseers and a member of the executive council for Friends of Samford Arts.

During her active leadership in the auxiliary, she led many projects. Especially rewarding to her was the creation of the first endowed scholarship fund in 1988. Fund-raisers included the publication of *A Samford Celebration* cookbook, a desktop calendar, *Food for Thought*, and Healing Angel note cards.

The auxiliary now supports 12 named endowment funds that assist 36 worthy students with \$1,500 annual tuition scholarships each. Auxiliary scholarship endowments total almost \$1 million.

Her tireless efforts are appreciated by scores of auxiliary members and leaders.

“Elouise reinvented and revitalized the auxiliary with countless hours of hard work and an energetic, enthusiastic devotion that amazed us all,” said former Samford first lady Marla Corts, who served alongside Williams as executive director. “Truly, no accolades could sufficiently express how much she has meant to the organization and to Samford.”

Williams and her husband, Harold, long have been faithful fixtures at many Samford programs. An attorney and avid

amateur photographer who has documented countless Samford gatherings, Harold serves on the Board of Advisers for Paralegal Services and the Dean’s Executive Council for the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies.

The Samford Alumni Association in 2004 recognized the couple’s service by naming them the school’s first honorary alumni. Both are graduates of other institutions. Elouise earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama and a master of science degree from Columbia University, New York. Harold is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Columbia law school. Both of their children, however, Richard Williams ’81 and Anna Williams ’83, J.D. ’88, claim Samford as their alma mater.

In addition to her commitment to Samford, Elouise finds time to support a variety of other worthwhile causes. A former national president of the American Lawyers Auxiliary, she has been president or board member of Alabama Men’s Hall of Fame, Judson College, Birmingham Music Club, Birmingham Bar Auxiliary, Music Club Guild, Antiquarian Society and the

Women’s Committee of 100 for Birmingham, which named her 2007 Birmingham Citizen of the Year.

She and her husband are longtime members at Mountain Brook Baptist Church.

Before moving to Birmingham some four decades ago, the Williamses lived in their native Pell City, Ala., where she taught school. They still maintain close ties there. In December, they were grand marshals for the town’s Christmas parade.

A new Pell City school to open in the fall will be named Elouise and Harold Williams Intermediate School.

Dr. Jenna Westmoreland, wife of Samford President Andrew Westmoreland and the auxiliary’s current executive director, notes that it will “require the work of many” to match the leadership provided by the retiring coordinator.

“When it comes to the Samford Auxiliary, no one demonstrates the love and devotion shown by Elouise Williams,” said Dr. Westmoreland.

“While she plans to remain active in the organization, her gentle guiding hand will be sorely missed.” ■



Harold and Elouise Williams serve as grand marshals of the 2007 Christmas Parade in their hometown of Pell City, Ala.

# with appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these additional tribute gifts received Nov. 1, 2007–Feb. 15, 2008. For further information, contact the Samford University Gift Office at 205-726-2807.

## HONORS

### Beeson Divinity Alumni Scholarship Fund

*in honor of Mr. Jeffrey Faulkner Martin*  
Ms. Shelley J. Wood, Waycross, Ga.

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*in honor of Kerry and Larry Tate, and Nancy and Joshua Hartgrove*  
Mrs. Joyce G. Warren, Nicholson, Ga.

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*in honor of First Baptist Church Andalusia and Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Ozark, Ala.*  
Anonymous

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Mrs. Elizabeth P. Miller, Birmingham

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Dr. Myralyn F. & Mr. Stephen C. Allgood, Birmingham

Anonymous, Birmingham

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*in memory of Marsha Morrison Buttram, Mary Sue Beard, Rev. H. T. Karn and Tom King, Sr.*  
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**Katherine Victoria (Kavi) Vance Scholarship**

*in memory of B. L. Abrams, Jr. and Ruth E. Bailey*  
 Mr. Harry S. Abrams, Eutaw, Ala.

*in memory of James Cross*

Ms. Karen D. Blair, Eutaw, Ala.

*in memory of Alice F. Frederick*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Lapine, Eutaw, Ala.

*in memory of Betty Perkins*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Beeker, Eutaw, Ala.

*in memory of Frances Richardson*  
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 Ms. Rita Stephens, Eutaw, Ala.  
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*in memory of Hayne and Ooleeta Williams*  
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# Vance Memorial Scholarship Illuminates More than a Cemetery

by Jack Brymer

Katherine Victoria “Kavi” Vance jumped at the opportunity to do her Advanced Pharmacy Practical Experience [APPE] rotation at Greene County Hospital in her hometown of Eutaw, Ala. Not only had she always wanted to be a pharmacist, but she had ties to the hospital. Her late maternal grandfather, Dr. Joe P. Smith, practiced medicine there for 54 years, and her late maternal grandmother was a registered nurse at the hospital and director of nursing at the hospital’s nursing home.

Equally important, Vance knew the people and the challenges they faced in a rural setting, including poverty, lack of transportation and especially health care. Eutaw’s 20-bed Greene County Hospital, with 24-hour-a-day emergency service and the county’s only nursing home (a 72-bed facility), is an absolute necessity to the community.

After earning her doctor of pharmacy degree in 1998, Vance returned to Eutaw and her chosen profession of pharmacy.

“Kavi was full of enthusiasm in everything she did—work, play, home remodeling, everything,” said Robert J. “Bob” Coker, administrator of the hospital and nursing home. “She did her clinical rotation the same way and then returned to work with West Alabama Health Services, which had begun an in-house pharmacy program, but was struggling. Even so, Kavi went about doing her work in a most positive fashion.”

Robert Henderson, professor and vice chair of the pharmacy practice department at Samford’s McWhorter School of Pharmacy, remembered Vance well. “She embodied all that we hope to produce in a pharmacist through our program. She was filled with a love of people, life, and a dedication to rural life and health care.”

In the meantime, West Alabama Health Services closed, and Vance relocated to Bryan Whitfield Hospital in nearby Demopolis, Ala. Slightly more than a year later, on Sept. 26, 1999, while

returning home from a weekend visit with her pharmacy school roommates, she lost her life in an automobile accident. She was only 26 years old.

Unwilling for Vance’s “giving and loving lifestyle” to be forgotten, family and friends began exploring ways to honor her. Her uncle and aunt, Joe and Anne Fricks, came up with the idea of a scholarship. Her maternal grandmother, Katherine Smith, established the Katherine Victoria “Kavi” Vance Pharmacy Scholarship at Samford as a beginning with a \$10,000 gift in the fall of 1999.

One of Vance’s lifelong friends in Eutaw, Kay Lamb, had seen luminaries in a national magazine and suggested doing the same at Eutaw’s Mesopotamia Cemetery on Main Street, where Vance is buried. For a donation to the scholarship fund, a luminary would be placed at a loved one’s grave on the first Saturday in December.

In the beginning, Vance’s parents, Sue and Lon Vance, provided the candles and supplies, filled the buckets and placed them on graves. They were joined by their son, Dean, and his wife, Holly, of Knoxville, Tenn., both 1995 Samford alumni, and close friends. The idea has blossomed into a community project. This past December, 700 luminaries created a flood of light throughout the cemetery. As a result, the Vance scholarship already has grown to more than \$175,000 in eight years.

But Vance’s influence and scholarship light up more than a cemetery. The demise of West Alabama Health Services had forced Greene County Hospital into a new way of doing business, according to Coker. In addition to the loss of physicians and other services, the Advance Pharmacy Practical Experience rotation with Samford’s pharmacy school had been discontinued.

With the help of Sue Vance, the program is now back in place. A retired teacher of English and French, she serves on the Greene County Hospital board of directors. She contacted Dr. Henderson about getting the rotation reinstated.

“Mrs. Sue Vance and Mr. Robert Coker have played a special role in inviting us to restart the program,” Henderson said. “Both were involved in the effort before and have been invaluable in their personal devotion to Samford University and our involvement. Mrs. Sue Vance is a special friend of the pharmacy school.”

According to Henderson, the course is important to the pharmacy school’s efforts to expand its rural health-care offerings.

“Rural health care represents an area of great need where the mission of Samford University and the pharmacy school can be fully implemented in yet another sector of life that many students are not familiar with and will benefit from experiencing,” he said.

*See Vance page 49*

Pharmacy scholarship donors Lon and Sue Vance, seated, visit with Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, left, and pharmacy dean Bobby Bryant.



# events

For details or the complete Samford University calendar, go to [samford.edu/calendars/html](http://samford.edu/calendars/html).

- April 1** Cabaret Recital: Randall Richardson and Students, 7:30 p.m., Bolding Studio, 205-726-2505
- April 3** United Educators Program, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Flag Colonnade, 301-215-9546
- University Chorale Vespers Service, 7:30 p.m., Hodges Chapel, 205-726-2498
- April 4** State Geography Bee, 1 p.m., Brock Forum, 205-726-2112
- April 4–5** Cumberland School of Law Alumni Weekend, [mtmiller@samford.edu](mailto:mtmiller@samford.edu)
- April 4–6** Alabama Ballet presents *Coppelia*, go to [alabamaballet.org](http://alabamaballet.org) for performance times and ticket information
- April 5** BMTA Sonata/Sonatina Competition, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Buchanan and Brock Halls, 205-726-2617
- April 6** Dawson Memorial Baptist Church Youth Choir Spring Concert, 6 p.m., Reid Chapel, 205-871-7324
- April 7–30** Annual Art Faculty Show: 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Art Gallery, 205-726-2840
- April 8** ASO Concertmaster and Friends Series, 7 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-251-7727
- April 9** Roundtable Discussion and Book Singing with Ace Atkins and Pete Hanna, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Hanna Center VIP Room and Lobby, 205-726-2823
- April 10** Percussion Ensemble Festival, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2488
- David Crowder Concert, 7 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, [itickets.com](http://itickets.com)
- April 10–13** Senior Theatre Project, *A Piece of My Heart*, 7:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. on April 13, Bolding Studio, [samfordartstickets.com](http://samfordartstickets.com)
- April 11** Pharmacy HEAL Conference, 7 a.m.–4 p.m., Brock Forum, 205-726-2820
- TheatreWorks USA, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* school matinee, 10 a.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, 205-726-2615
- April 12** ACT exam, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-2561
- April 13** ACT exam, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Orlean Bullard Beeson Hall, 205-726-2561
- April 14** College Republicans present Two Political Speakers, 7 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall
- April 15–17** Beeson Divinity School Biblical Studies Lectures: Douglas K. Stewart, 11 a.m.–12 p.m., Hodges Chapel
- April 17** Session of the Alabama Supreme Court and Court of Civil Appeals, 9 a.m.–1 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, 205-726-2887
- April 18** Delta Omicron and Phi Mu Alpha Benefit Concert for the KIDS Center, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2778
- April 19** Old Howard 100 Bike Ride, 9 a.m., [samford.edu/oldhoward](http://samford.edu/oldhoward)
- ALEEC Spring Conference presents Jared Diamond, 9 a.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, 205-726-4246
- April 22–27** Spring Fling, 205-726-2598
- April 22** Kathryn Fouse/Tony Pattin duo piano recital, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2851
- April 25** Wind Ensemble/Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2485
- April 26** Samford OperaWorks: Spring Opera Scenes Concert, 7:30 p.m., Bolding Studio, 205-726-2504
- April 27** Super Jazz Big Band Concert, 3 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-4188
- April 29** Grief Community Support Service presents Dr. Allen Wolfelt: Helping Yourself Heal When Someone Dies, Reid Chapel 7 p.m., 205-870-8667
- Holocaust Forum: The Righteous Gentile, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2489
- April 30** Beeson Divinity School and the Division of Music present Holocaust Memorial Events, 6 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2489
- May 1** Guitar Ensemble Recital: Samford and Birmingham-Southern College, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- May 1–4** Samford Theatre presents *Cinderella*, Harrison Theatre, [samfordartstickets.com](http://samfordartstickets.com)
- May 3** Alabama Genealogical Society Annual Meeting, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Brock Forum, 205-726-4103
- May 4** Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing Alumni Appreciation Tea, 2–4 p.m., Center for the Healing Arts Rotunda, 205-726-4566
- May 5** Rushton Memorial Carillon 40th Anniversary Lawn Concert and Reception, 4:30 p.m., 205-726-2826
- May 6** Samford Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- May 8** Bells of Buchanan Concert, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2826
- May 14** Birmingham International Center Transformative Justice Conference, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2710
- May 16–17** Spring Commencement activities
- June 1–7** Miss Alabama, Wright Center Concert Hall
- June 2** Summer classes begin
- June 2–5** Women's Basketball Camp, grades 1–12, 205-726-4072
- June 2–13** Orff Schulwerk Music Workshop, 205-726-2651

- June 6–7** Father/Son Basketball Camp, 205-726-2920
- June 8–13** Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research Conference: 205-726-2846
- June 9–10** Orientation 1, 205-726-2216
- June 9–12** Women's Basketball Camp, grades 1–12, 205-726-4072  
Baseball Camp, grades K–7, 205-726-4095
- June 9–13** Theatre Workshop: "Once Upon a Time," grades K4–6, 205-726-2951
- June 11–13** Football Youth Camp, 205-726-2575
- June 13–14** Women's Basketball Father/Daughter Camp, 205-726-4072
- June 14** ACT exam, 8:30 a.m.–2 p.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-2561
- June 16–17** Orientation 2, 205-726-2216
- June 16–19** Baseball Camp, grades K–7, 205-726-4095  
Soccer Girls and Boys Camp, ages 5–13, 205-726-4039
- June 16–20** Adventures in Music Camp, 205-726-4049
- June 17** Men's Basketball Middle School Play Day, 205-726-2920
- June 18–19** Men's Basketball Team Camp, 205-726-2920
- June 19–20** Orientation 3, 205-726-2216
- June 19–21** Women's Basketball Team Camp, High School and Junior Varsity, 205-726-4072
- June 22–28** Samford Senior Piano Camp, 205-726-2501
- June 23–24** Orientation 4, 205-726-2216
- June 23–26** Men's Basketball Fundamentals Camp: 205-726-2920  
Soccer Girls and Boys Camp: Ages 5-13, 205-726-4039
- June 23–27** Ministering to Ministers Retreat, 205-726-2736  
Theatre Arts Intensive Workshop, grades 7–12, 205-726-2951

**June 27–28** Women's Basketball Play Day 1 Camp, High School, Junior Varsity, Middle School and AAU Teams, 205-726-4072

**June 29–July 12** Samford Summer Forensics Institute, 205-726-2049

**June 30** Women's Basketball Play Day 2 Camp, High School, Junior Varsity, Middle School, and AAU Teams, 205-726-4072

For schedules and information on Samford athletics, go to [samfordsports.com](http://samfordsports.com).

For a list of Samford After Sundown classes, go to [samford.edu/sundown](http://samford.edu/sundown).

For the complete academic calendar, go to [samford.edu/calendar.html](http://samford.edu/calendar.html).

For ticket information, performance details and schedule updates on art performances go to [samford.edu/arts](http://samford.edu/arts).

Information was compiled from the university calendar as of February 29, 2008. Dates, times and details are subject to change. Please go to [samford.edu](http://samford.edu) for updated information. ■

## More ways to get Samford news and information

If you are not receiving *Belltower*, Samford's weekly electronic news magazine, you've missed these recent headlines and stories:

- A Cappella Choir, Bobby Horton to Perform at Famed Ryman Auditorium
- Samford Establishes Fund to Assist Tornado-Damaged Union University
- Samford to host NPR's *Wait, Wait Don't Tell Me*
- In Flew Enza
- D.C. Alumni Gather for Friendship, Networking

plus photos of campus events and of your friends and fellow former students.

To receive *Belltower*, send an e-mail to [bltwr@samford.edu](mailto:bltwr@samford.edu).

Or, you'll find up-to-date Samford news at [samford.edu](http://samford.edu).

Don't miss out on Samford news!

## 1958 Reunion Set for Commencement May 16–17

Samford will host a 50th anniversary dinner and other events during commencement weekend for members of the Class of 1958. The program is scheduled for the weekend of May 16–17.

Almost 50 members of the class—the first to graduate on Samford's Shades Valley campus—already have responded that they will attend.

"I'm really excited that they will join us for the weekend," said David Goodwin, director of Samford alumni and parents programs. "We want this to be a chance for them to reconnect with friends and classmates. For some, this will be the first visit to campus since graduation."

Events will include an afternoon reception on the Quad, and a dinner at which they will receive an anniversary diploma.

Members of the Class of '58 also will participate in the procession during Saturday morning's commencement program.

Goodwin urged other class members to plan to attend. For information, contact Goodwin at [dbgoodwi@samford.edu](mailto:dbgoodwi@samford.edu) or 205-726-2337. ■

## Vance continued from page 47

"The current program represents the reemergence of involvement after a several-year hiatus due to state and local factors beyond our control. The course experience is unique in that students are involved in at least six different aspects of practice while there, including hospital, nursing home consulting, emergency room, ambulatory care and home visitations with the home visit team."

Likewise, Coker added, the students who come to the Greene County facility really have their eyes opened as the hospital's pharmacy department is only an 8-by-14-foot room. Despite such quarters, the physicians welcome the students' ideas and freshness, and include them in making rounds, work with hospital, emergency room, nursing home, home health, clinic and the local drug store.

Pharmacist Cecil Durrett of Eutaw Drugs, who handles hospital and nursing home pharmacy needs, involves the students in performing chart reviews and consulting. ■



Samford basketballer Emily London was named Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Year (see page 39).