



Magazine

FALL 2009 • VOLUME 17 • No. 3

for alumni and friends of the University of North Alabama

Contents

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Departmental

Jeff McCrary ('83), *UNA Band*
 Chris Smith ('99), *Geography*
 Jasmine Williams, *Student Alumni Association*

in this Issue

Hey, it's good to be back home again!

With the words of John Denver (and the GPS on the dash) directing me to the University of North Alabama Highway (157), I am pleased to say that the Alumni and

Foundation Officers have covered the Southeast this summer with the *Catch us in your Area* campaign to take our alumni out to the ballgame. (We hope to see you next summer!)

We saw **Josh Willingham** in the Astrodome, visited with more than three hundred alumni at the Huntsville Stars stadium, sat in the Smoky Mountains and saw baseball

Dru Gambrell ('69), Pauline Gravlee, Carolyn McCollum ('57), Fran Vest ('69), Sherri Stewart ('69), Patricia Burns ('86), and Carol Lyles ('70)

greats Dale Murphy and Hank Aaron. Montgomery, Birmingham, Jackson, Miss., Dallas, Texas, as well as Nashville, Chattanooga, and Memphis, Tenn., boast UNA alumni and friends who came together to share nine innings of camaraderie and remembrances.

The single most-asked-about individual in the history of modern-day UNA is seen on the cover of this magazine. Polly Gravlee influenced all of us. Male and female alike have stories to tell about her living legacy—some stories that may be better left untold, but some that will bring a smile or a tear to us all.

We also introduce you to three dynamic students who will leave a deep footprint on our campus. They bring individual talents and world recognition to UNA. Early scholars, they started their college careers while they were in high school. They will contribute to the UNA Honors Program and the community as well. They are the *Best and Brightest*.

The loveliest campus in the country? Yes, thanks to Master Gardener and first lady Mrs. B.J. Cale and UNA's impeccable grounds crew! In this issue we share with you photos of campus vignettes destined to capture regional magazine cover stories.

OnLion© is a reality! Have you registered? Are you electronically savvy? Keep up with your friends (on UNA's social networking site) and allow us to keep up with you. Join NOW!

Carol Lyles ('70), Director
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UNA Magazine 2009

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message from the Alumni President



Jan Ingle ('85) and Brian Ingle

It has been a very exciting year at UNA and we look to the future with great anticipation. We have enjoyed a summer of theatre brought to us by alumnus **Will Stutts ('70)**; baseball games across the South with our local alumni chapters; and touring with the Bowden Express! Football games and tailgating are in full swing, and we hope you are participating in the fun of fall on the hill and around our beautiful campus.

You will find a registration form in this *UNA Magazine* for Homecoming. There will be tents spread across the lawn of Rogers Hall on the afternoon of Saturday, October 3, for decade reunions, affinity chapter meetings and artist's signing of the new mascot posters.

The UNA OnLion© Community is up and running. Stay connected with your friends from UNA via this site. If you have not received information, perhaps it is because the Alumni office needs your email address! Go to the alumni website, alumni.una.edu, and update your information today.

As we look forward to the upcoming school year at the University of North Alabama, please continue to give as you are able. UNA has so much to offer our students, the community, state, country, and the world. I hope you will be a part of that—even the smallest donation helps. If you can't give monetarily I encourage you to get involved. It really is most rewarding . . . and fun!

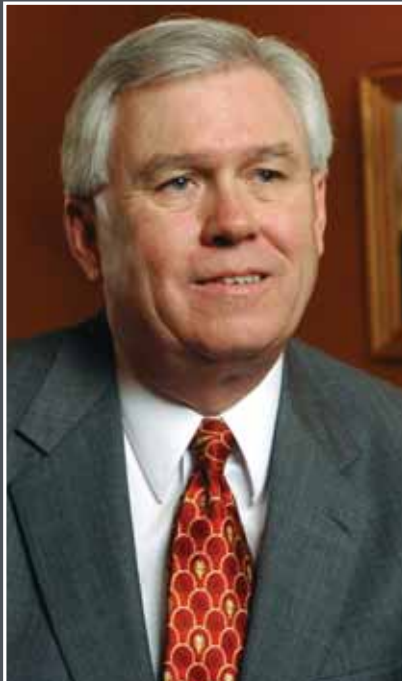
Thank you for allowing me to serve as your NAA President this past year. It has been an honor and a privilege. I cannot begin to thank Carol Lyles and Rhonda Derrick, for their hard work and commitment to UNA. They truly make our alumni association flourish.

Roar Lions!
Jan Ingle ('85), President
National Alumni Association

Join **ALUMNI** and **FRIENDS** Under the **SPRIT TENT** on Game Day

3 HOURS PRIOR TO KICK OFF ON SATURDAYS
2 HOURS PRIOR TO KICK OFF ON THURSDAYS

September 5	UNA vs. Carson-Newman <i>Home - Saturday</i>	6:00 p.m.
September 19	UNA vs. West Georgia <i>Home - Saturday</i>	6:00 p.m.
September 26	UNA vs. Harding <i>Searcy, Arkansas - Saturday</i>	6:00 p.m.
October 3	UNA vs. Arkansas Tech <i>Home - Saturday - Homecoming</i>	6:00 p.m.
October 8	UNA vs. North Greenville <i>Home - Thursday</i>	7:00 p.m.
October 15	UNA vs. Delta State <i>Home - Thursday (TV-CSS)</i>	7:00 p.m.
October 22	UNA vs. Valdosta State <i>Valdosta, Georgia - Thursday (CBS-College Sports)</i>	7:00 p.m.
October 3	UNA vs. West Alabama <i>Home - Saturday - Preview Day</i>	6:00 p.m.



William G. Cale, Jr.

president's message

William G. Cale, Jr.

of national prominence, all the services necessary to support the health and well-being of each student, and a location (on a campus and in a community) that is both welcoming and safe, we have the perfect ingredients for a great college experience.

As I'm sure you are aware, Alabama is undergoing the same kinds of financial issues that are challenging other states and our nation. There is no question that the cost of a college education has been increasing far too quickly to suit any of us, but the reasons for that are not well known. I would like to explain the situation more clearly than it is portrayed in the popular media. Public higher education in this country has historically been regarded as a public good, meaning that society as a whole valued an educated citizenry and was willing to heavily subsidize the cost of a college education. About two decades ago attitudes began to change as greater demands (such things as Medicare contributions, infrastructure improvements, prisons, social programs, and many more) were placed increasingly on state budgets. At the same time, there began a strong emphasis throughout the nation on access to college, and greater and greater numbers of students began to seek a degree. Since tuition has never met the full cost of an education, and with state support in decline, increasing enrollments meant increasing costs.

Pressures on state budgets continue to this day, and available dollars to fund public education, both K-12 and higher education, remain in decline. The response by colleges and universities has been the obvious one, to raise tuition to partially offset the per capita loss in public support. These increases are often portrayed in ways that place public universities in a bad light, but the true basis for college costs rising so quickly is not about greed but rather about seeking to sustain high quality programs in the face of diminishing resources.

In Alabama, higher education budgets were cut by 11.5 percent for the budget year that began October 1, 2008. In December 2008, it was determined by Governor Riley that revenues would not be able to meet that budget. Proration was declared and annual operating budgets for higher education were cut by an additional 9 percent. In late July they were cut again and the legislative session that ended in May reduced next year's budgets by 3 percent. Thus, universities in Alabama will have lost over 23 percent of their state appropriations in one year. When October 1, 2009, arrives, our state appropriation will be nearly \$7 million less than it was one year ago!

I wrote about our approach to this problem in the Spring issue and I think that each of you would be proud of how the plan has worked. I was determined that we would do everything in our power to protect our programs and our people so that the student experience would not be diminished. And we succeeded: not a single academic program was touched; not a single person lost a job; not a single student-life program was cut; not a single service was diminished. And as I write this to you, I want to assure you that we have long range plans in place to ensure that this approach will continue and the quality we strive so diligently to deliver to our students will be maintained. How will we do this?

What we have done at UNA is examine our enrollment, the federal stimulus funds that will be assisting us for two years, our essential programmatic needs, and the inevitable increases in fixed costs (some examples: health insurance, utilities, library books and databases, teacher retirement contributions, retiree health premiums), to build a tuition structure that will see us into the future without any extraordinary measures (no double-digit tuition increases). Yes, there will be a tuition increase this fall, and unfortunately, for the second year in row,

Earlier this summer I took the opportunity to write a letter to the families of students who have been accepted to the University of North Alabama for the fall semester. I wanted to reassure them that despite some difficult times in our state that UNA continues to blossom and that enrolling here is a wise decision. I also wanted to explain some of the relevant history in the state and nation that has resulted in the rising cost of a college education. As alumni and friends of UNA I know that you too are keenly interested in where we are today. What follows, in a version tailored for alumni and friends, are the points I shared with the entering class and their families.

During my career in higher education I have had the opportunity to work at several universities, and to know many others. There is no doubt in my mind that UNA offers one of the finest educational experiences anywhere. That experience begins with the professors who teach our classes, a group of individuals who are experts in their fields and committed to the success of each UNA student. As I hope you have witnessed personally, the learning environment here is unsurpassed in its beauty on the outside, and fully equipped with the most modern technology and resources on the inside. When we combine that with dozens of student organizations, an athletic program

from the Board of Trustees



Billy Don Anderson ('62)
Sheffield



Richard H. Cater ('67)
Montgomery



Lisa Greer Ceci ('89)
Huntsville



John B. Cole
Florence



Ronnie Flippo ('65)
Florence



Rodney L. Howard ('76)
Muscle Shoals



Steve Pierce ('75)
Florence



Harvey Robbins
Tusculum



Libby Watts
Florence

All summer long we have texted, Twittered, and downloaded. We have MySpaced and Facebooked.

And now comes the time of year I love the most . . . cool weather, football, and tailgating! When we can communicate the old-fashioned way: handshaking, back-slapping, laughing, and big-hugging.

Good friends and good times. Enjoy your college years on every level.

Steve Pierce ('75), *President Pro Tempore*
UNA Board of Trustees

there will be no across-the-board salary adjustments. But the integrity of every program remains. And through your support, alumni and friends, we have been able to increase the amount of scholarship support from the UNA Foundation by several hundred thousand dollars.

I firmly believe that the following are so important to our students that we must commit ourselves to each. We must continue to hire new faculty with the highest degrees in their fields; we must continue to fully support all our programs to give students every opportunity for success; we must equip our laboratories

and classrooms with modern technology; we must provide our faculty and staff with appropriate opportunities to remain at the cutting edge of their professions; we must maintain our physical plant; and we must as a university remain a point of pride for every student who attends here. We can do all that and more with your support.

Here is what you already know, and what our entering students will soon discover. An investment in a college education is a life-altering experience of enormous value. Part of that value is the ability to understand complex issues and function effectively in a rapidly

changing world, and to meet and learn from people of other cultures. Part of that value is in enjoying lifetime earnings in excess of one million dollars over those of a high school graduate. Part of that value is building friendships that will last a lifetime. Part of that value is enjoying opportunities of leadership and service, of joining a community of learners and knowing that every person can make a difference. We will always place the student first, and remain the right choice for a truly outstanding educational experience.



Reflections

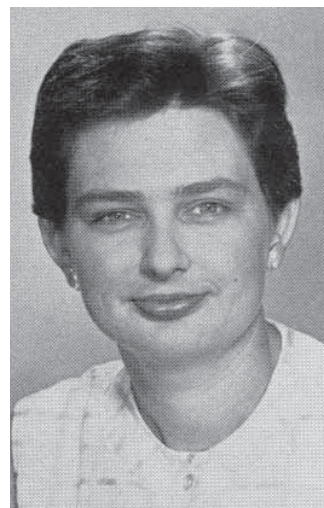
MISS POLLY GRAVLEE *By Carolyn Cole McCollum ('57)*

When Miss Gravlee came to Florence State Teachers College in the fall of 1954, a welcoming committee made up of the officers of the Women's Student Government Association—including Shirley McDaniel, Mary Lee Cathey, Joyce Campbell, Laura McAnnally, Jean Thomas, Nancy Price, Gloria Speake, and Carolyn Cole—met her and helped her get settled into her rooms on the first floor of O'Neal Hall. (At that time, the first floor of O'Neal also housed the dining room, kitchen, a large lobby, housemother's rooms, and a few dorm rooms, showers, etc.) Shortly after unloading her car,

she assumed her role as Dean of Women and was out front welcoming students who were moving in that Sunday afternoon, getting ready to register for classes on Monday morning.

Without delay, Miss Gravlee was a regular part of our campus life: eating in the dining hall, walking to the office she shared with Mr. Peacock on first floor of Bibb Graves across from Dean Stabler and President Norton, and teaching one class in the sociology department. She explored all our clubs and scheduled events and was readily accepted as a helper and partner in student activities.





Miss Gravlee and Mr. Abel DeWitt, Dean of Men, supervised the dormitories and that was a major responsibility and concern of theirs. Miss Gravlee strived to improve these facilities and the environment in each building. Gradually, changes occurred, and a program of Student Life began to emerge from the influence she had in these early years. It was evident that Miss Gravlee was a person we could talk to about any of our concerns and also a person who expected us to do our best. From firecrackers in the gym at the 1954 Sadie Hawkins Dance to sewing "trillions" (it seemed) of yards of cheesecloth together to make a "sky" for dances in the gym, Miss Gravlee helped us work through problems and projects with diligence and good humor.

During her first couple of years, we revised the handbook for women students, but we still had to wear raincoats on campus if we had on shorts or "pedal pushers" (jeans rolled up just below the knees). She was understanding, but that didn't change the need to keep us all safe and polite and lady-like according to 1950's morals and customs.

Miss Gravlee adopted new ideas to improve campus life and to enrich lives individually, although I doubt many realized this at the time. She encouraged men and women to be leaders and to think "outside the box."



Without sororities and fraternities, campus organizations were our main source of extracurricular activities. Formal dances and special events filled the year with opportunities to participate in a wide variety of venues. Religious Emphasis Week was an example of the efforts to give students a balanced view of life: not just academic or athletic or aesthetic or social avenues of growth.

The college at that time was a small community and the faculty and staff played an important part in every aspect of the college experience. In classes we were addressed as Miss or Mister. This kind of respect was reciprocal and the student/ Dean of Women relationship was a prime example that prevailed on campus.

In 1955-56, the college received a grant from the Danforth Foundation which provided convocation programs and other initiatives which supported leadership development. Miss Gravlee and some students attended American Youth Foundation's Camp Minnawanca in Michigan which emphasized leadership training. As an outgrowth of this, the first Leadership Retreat was held in the summer of 1957 for campus leaders and sponsors. (It was held at the Girl Scout Camp Hillcrest on Shoals Creek.)

Miss Gravlee was a wonderful counselor. She had the talent of listening and encouraging and guiding. When a problem was presented to her, she plainly helped decipher fact from fiction and helped you focus on a goal, with concrete steps to take to achieve it. Many students (and parents) have benefited from her sage advice, unlimited resourcefulness, and skilled guidance. Many a problem was turned into a positive situation after she helped you dig yourself out of a "pit."

In fact, the whole community of Florence has been guided by her influence and leadership over the years: among these are the First Baptist Church, Pilot Club, March of Dimes, AAUW, YMCA, Safeplace, UNA Athletics, and many other organizations in which she has been active.



Carolyn Cole McCollum ('57)

Carolyn Cole McCollum ('57) said, "Fortunately for me, my close association with Polly (it took me many years to be able to call her Polly!) has grown beyond that of a college coed. Since graduation in 1957, we've been involved in a lot of endeavors both on and off campus and she has been a significant influence in my life. (I was actually the Head Resident of Powers Hall one summer and have served on various committees throughout the years with her.) Our friendship is a special treasure which began that sunny September day in 1954. For all the advice and specific assistance she has given me, the opportunities she has led me toward, and for all the vistas we have explored together, I truly thank her. And I do hope she has forgiven me for short-sheeting her bed in 1956!"



Frances Vest Rowe ('69)

Frances Vest Rowe ('69) remembers, "When we came to Florence State College in the fall of 1965 the world was changing rapidly. The assassination of President Kennedy two years earlier had made the world a very different place for us. The Vietnam War—or non-war—was taking away our friends in great numbers. The civil rights movement left us with mixed feelings that were often very different than those of our parents and even our friends. Women's liberation was gaining ground, but where did we fit into this movement and how could we be more involved? What did it mean for us as college students preparing to enter the work world?"

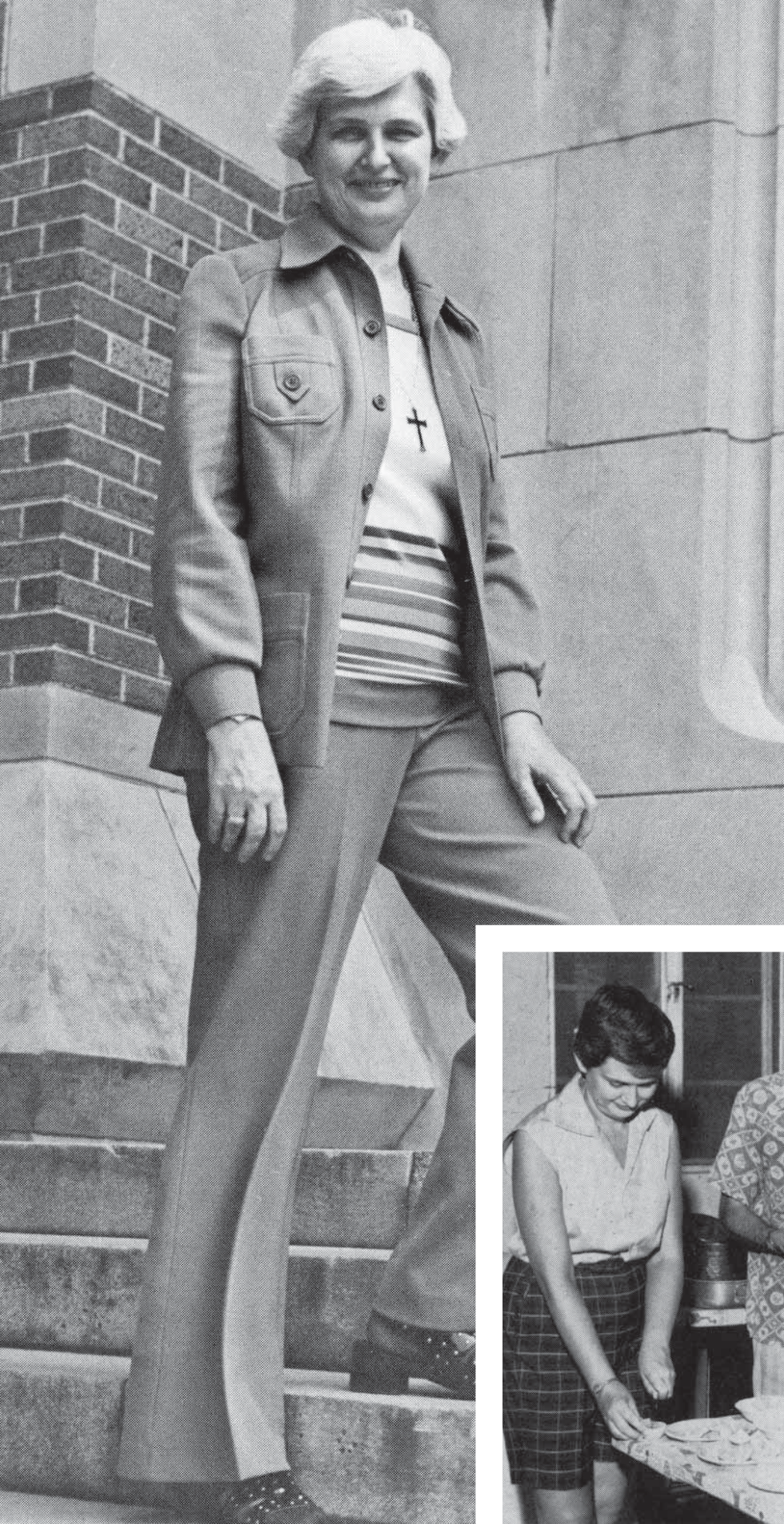
"I remember the first meeting that Dean Gravlee had with the freshmen girls that fall. She mentioned these concerns and spoke of what was happening in other places in the world. I was so impressed that she wanted us to know and be concerned about these things and about people we would never meet. She encouraged and challenged us to be involved on campus and to make our college and the world a better place.

"I truly appreciate the adults—and Dean Gravlee was the main one—at Florence State that provided the environment for our creativity and the encouragement to dream. That spirit is what I have tried to emulate with the students I have worked with over the years. It is what made it easy for me to say yes when they asked if we could do two American Red Cross Blood Drives each year instead of the usual one. It is what made the homecoming dance decorations happen that I alone would never have thought up or attempted. (The coach in charge of the gym told me recently that his job is easier since I retired!) It is the spirit that made it possible for our small school student council to collect dresses, shoes, jewelry, etc., to send to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, after Hurricane Katrina and then be able to put on the prom for Bay High School, which is a much larger school. The lessons that I learned at Florence State have served me well indeed."




Faye Hunter Torstrick ('65)

"Polly was so influential in my participation in campus life, church life, and later with my career. She encouraged me to accept many responsibilities that I likely would never have done on my own. Her belief in me probably changed my concept of my own abilities more than any other individual I ever had the pleasure to know. To this day, I cherish the friendship we share and respect Polly for her ability to see in others what they may not recognize on their own. What she did for me, she did for many before and after I was at UNA," reflects **Faye Hunter Torstrick ('65)**.



From 1954 until 1973, she wore the title Dean of Women and was Dean of Student Life until 1983 when she became associate professor of sociology. Pauline Gravlee retired from the University on August 7, 1987.

The Pauline E. Gravlee Leadership Scholarship was established in 1992 for recipients who demonstrate outstanding promise for enhancing vitality of campus life through significant and diversified activities that include, but are not restricted to, leadership and service to UNA. If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship that bears her name, indicate the scholarship by name on the business reply envelope in this publication.

She is a living legacy. 





AROUND *the* CAMPUS



ADMISSIONS OFFICE *moves to* COBY HALL

The Office of Admissions has new digs. Well . . . kind of new. What's now the admissions building is actually one of the most historic buildings on campus, built in 1843.

Coby Hall is first UNA building on the approach to campus from North Court Street or North Pine Street. This fully restored antebellum mansion offers what Admissions Director **Kim Mauldin ('94)** calls "a first-impression location" for prospective students, who visit the admissions office daily.

"UNA offers such a beautiful, historic campus, it's only appropriate that we make a building like Coby Hall the first stopping place for prospective students when they visit us for the first time," Mauldin said.

She added that the additional square footage in Coby is more conducive to the nature of a university admissions office, offering much more work and meeting space. Her staff of 12 full-time employees and 20 students had previously operated out of a smaller office space on the first floor of Bibb-Graves Hall.

Coby Hall, previously known as the Simpson House and then as Irvine Place, has been owned by UNA since 1990. The building received extensive renovations in 1990 and 2005. It had previously housed several UNA administrative offices, including Continuing Education, University Events, and the Seminar Center.

HODGES *receives national award for* **25 YEARS** *in sports information*

Jeff Hodges ('82), UNA sports information director since 1983, received the 25-Year Award at the 2009 College Sports Information Directors of America's (CoSIDA) annual convention in June. In addition to his responsibilities as SID, Hodges has served in several leadership roles for the NCAA Division II football championship, the Harlon Hill Trophy award, and the selection committee for the College Football Hall of Fame.

In 1997, Hodges was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame. Last year,



he was the recipient of the Scoop Hudgins Outstanding SID Award from the All-American Football Foundation for outstanding work to promote college football.

KELLER HALL *GOES GREEN WITH RENOVATION*

Keller Hall is currently undergoing an extensive renovation, funded in part through a \$984,000 federal grant for projects under the Green Campus Initiative program. The Green Campus Initiative is a program to encourage greater efficiencies of energy usage, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and recycling of appropriate items.

The Keller renovation will include, among many other features, new lighting, new windows, a new heating and air system, and new solar panels.

Keller Hall, built in 1947, houses the College of Business.



BURNS *finishes as first runner-up at* MISS ALABAMA

UNA graduate **Colene Burns ('07 & '09)**, of Hayden, finished as first runner-up at the Miss Alabama Pageant in June. Burns is the current Miss Jefferson County. She held the title of Miss UNA in 2007.

Burns has earned two business degrees from UNA and is preparing to begin doctoral studies at the University of Mississippi this fall.

Burns was one of three UNA students competing at this year's Miss

Alabama Pageant. Others were Laura Milligan, of Muscle Shoals, and Brandi Poss, of Tusculumbia. Milligan is the current Miss UNA, and Poss is the current Miss Chelsea Area.



'BACK TO THE FUTURE'

writer, producer to appear at **2010 FILM FESTIVAL**

Award-winning screenwriter, producer and director Bob Gale will be a special guest of the 13th annual George Lindsey UNA Film Festival, scheduled for March 4-7, 2010. Along with friend and frequent collaborator Robert Zemeckis, Gale co-wrote and co-produced "Back to the Future," which was the No. 1 U.S. box office attraction in 1985 and earned Gale an Oscar nomination.

In addition to his work on the "Back to the Future" trilogy and several other films, Gale is recognized for his work in the comic book genre, with writing credits that include "Batman," "Daredevil," and "Spider-Man."



ELEANOR P. GAUNDER PHI KAPPA PHI
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD
DR. LISA G. MINOR



DR. LISA G. MINOR ('80 & '82), professor of English at the University of North Alabama, was presented the 2009 Eleanor Gaunder Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching Award. Phi Kappa Phi is a collegiate honor society dedicated to the recognition and promotion of academic excellence in all disciplines.

Lisa, who has taught at UNA since 1988, holds her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. She specializes in the academic areas of African American literature, the novel and 20th century British literature.

As a military brat, Lisa grew up in Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, and the Panama Canal Zone before returning to the Shoals area to finish high school and to attend the University of North Alabama. She began her teaching career as a Graduate Fellow at Vanderbilt, teaching courses in composition and drama and later taught for three years at Alabama A&M University in Huntsville. She returned home to UNA in 1988.

Lisa's first and foremost love is teaching. Her father was a teacher before he began his military career and after his retirement. Her mother was an elementary school and music teacher for almost 30 years. With teachers on both sides of her family, she was always surrounded by those who loved, and supported, and encouraged education. Lisa also credits the teachers she had throughout her life, in particular the ones at UNA, with her professional success. As an undergraduate, she had some accomplished and gifted professors not only in her major but in other courses as well.

She said, "As an undergraduate, I did not set out to become a teacher, or to major in English for that matter. Now, almost 30 years later, I cannot imagine a different path for my life."



In January 2000, she was selected to serve as the University Ombudsman and was awarded the President's Award of Excellence in 2001 and 2002 for her work. Other honors and awards include Featured Scholar, Sixth Annual Alabama Writers Symposium; 2005-2006 Laura Harrison

Distinguished Professor of English; Outstanding Young Women of America; the UNA Alumni Association Faculty/Staff Service Award; the Alpha Lambda Delta Outstanding Teaching Award; the Black Student Alliance Teacher of the Year; and Who's Who Among America's Teachers.



Whatever you call them, one thing is for sure: these students are exceptional. And they're in good company at the University of North Alabama. You see, making a short list of UNA's exceptional students is quite a tall order. We have no shortage of young minds that would safely qualify for the distinction of Best and Brightest.

Those who are chosen are chosen for a variety of qualities: academic achievement, leadership, ambition, and character, to name a few.

This year, three were tapped for the distinction: a future neurosurgeon, a world-class guitarist, and an advertising professional. Selected from about 7,000 students, they represent UNA from the incoming freshmen to the graduating seniors. Meet a few of UNA's finest.



Abril Agnew, a freshman from Florence, has known since age seven that she wanted to be a doctor. At age 10, she knew, more specifically, that she wanted to be a surgeon. By age 14, she had decided to specialize in neurology and autism.



Lofty goals for such a young girl? Not when she started earning college credit in the 10th grade. Agnew, salutatorian of her class at Shoals Christian School, was part of UNA's Early Scholars Program, which enabled her to enroll in college courses while still in high school. She's coming

in this fall with 36 hours as she begins work on her degree in biology.

"The professors I had in the Early Scholars Program were so amazing," she said. "They really cared, and they drew me in instantly."

As Agnew began her

college search, she said the Honors Program at UNA caught her attention because "they put value on being the best of the best and wanting the most out of your education, but they say have fun with it, as well. That was really special to me."

As she begins life as a UNA student, Agnew plans to be involved with the Honors Program while applying for the Freshman Forum, LaGrange Society, and the Beta Beta Beta biology club, among other groups.





Dillon Hodges, a sophomore from Florence, remembers precisely the moment he decided to become a guitarist. As a skinny, pale-skinned 11-year-old, he looked through his thick glasses into the mirror and said, "Man, I'm never going to have a girlfriend if I don't learn how to play guitar."

That was motivation enough. Within two years, he had won a national championship as one of the country's top flat-pickers age 12 or under. Within seven years, he had won the

Flat Picking National Championship – dubbed the Olympics of Guitar by many – as one of the top flat-pickers in the world.

His second semester at UNA, he signed a five-year deal to exclusively represent DHR Music Experience, one of the world's leading guitar distributors and a premier dealer of left-handed guitars. His first semester, he juggled his college studies with concert dates as he toured with Missy Raines and the New Hip, a Nashville-based band. The group's debut CD



featured two of Hodges' original songs.

Songwriting, he said, became a passion for him early in his UNA experience when he was part of the university's Early Scholars Program. "I took a songwriting class in the ninth grade, and that's really what turned me on to songwriting and to UNA," he said.

As for Hodges' future, he said his major in entertainment industry management opens the field to him: everything from songwriting to production to technical engineering. "Or," he said, "I might just be a guitarist and do my own thing."



For Amy Minnelli, a senior from Decatur, marketing seemed the best major to encompass her varied interests and skills: interacting with people, computers, creative work, writing.

The value of Minnelli's choice of major was confirmed this summer when she interned for Tomlinson/Sims Advertising in Florence, where she was one of five UNA students producing an issue of No'Ala, a magazine published by the agency.

This hands-on experience has been just one of many activities that keep Minnelli busy. In addition to her activities with the Honors Program, the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority, and the admissions office, you can find her volunteering at the Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital in Florence several hours a week.



She became an ECM volunteer two years ago as part of her civic engagement for the Honors Program. "I've stayed with it since then because I've gotten really close to the people there, I've really enjoyed it and I thought it could lead to some really good things."

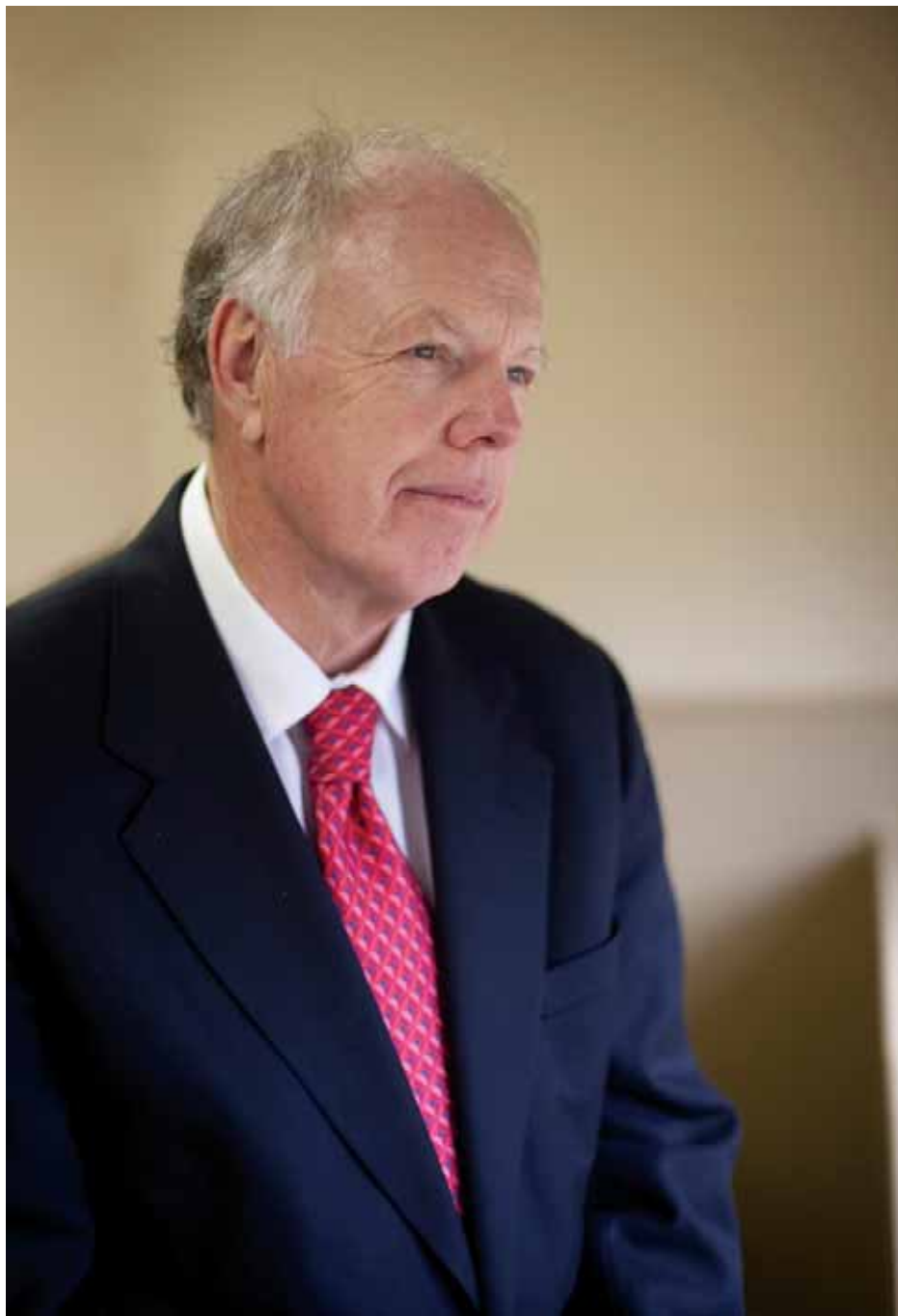


Minnelli said the Honors Program, which she calls "a small little family," and the "small-town feel" of the Shoals area are what drew her to UNA.

"I love the Shoals area. There's so much to do, you have this great university here, but there is still the small-town feel," she said. "My sister and I have both gone to UNA, and we've both loved it so much that we don't want to leave. We just want to stay. We love it here."

SETTLING IN

Meet UNA's new provost, Dr. John Thornell



progress through which that change is occurring, looking to see if it's a good fit for where we need to be going overall."

One glance at Thornell's vita will tell you that this quiet, empowering, "more listening than talking" style has apparently worked over the years. While at Delta State University, he quickly advanced from professor to director of institutional research and later to graduate dean and associate provost. He would eventually serve as provost and, in 2003, as interim president. Before coming to UNA this summer, he was vice president for academic affairs at North Carolina Wesleyan University.

"John brings a wealth of experience in academic administration," said Dr. William G. Cale, UNA president. "His many successes in program creation, accreditation, distance learning and policy development suggest that his background fits extraordinarily well with our future plans."

Thornell has several items on his to-do list this year, with assessment of academic structures at the top. "We must be sure the structure of our colleges and departments fit current students' needs. We want to take a look to make sure that, organizationally, we are where we need to be."

Thornell said he is also getting ready for the university's 2012 SACS (Southern

When Dr. John Thornell moved into his new office this summer, he did so quietly. No spotlight, no lavish production. Surprising for the top academic leader of a university? Not when you hear his plans for his first year on the job: "To do a lot more listening than talking."

Getting to know the people, the culture and the history of UNA, he said,

will be vital to any contributions he makes to the university. It will also be a reflection of what he calls his "dean-centered leadership."

"We have four very good deans at UNA with very strong colleges and departments," Thornell said. "I want to empower our deans and their chairs and faculty as drivers of change and progress in their areas. My job is to monitor the

Association of Colleges and Schools) visit, a process he recently completed at North Carolina Wesleyan.

He also plans to spend time with the university's grant team to help with grant funding and "generate additional revenue." As public universities receive less and less state funding, he said, "we must take a more entrepreneurial approach to funding higher education and slowing the financial burden being placed on our students."

As Thornell settles into his new position at UNA, he plans to continue his academic research, which he has pursued for more than 30 years. While much of his research has been in the field of educational administration, he has also had a longtime research interest in Asian history, particularly the history and culture of Chinese immigrants in the Mississippi Delta region.

While Thornell's doctorate from the University of Texas is in curriculum and instruction, he later earned a master's degree in history at Delta State, after having joined the Delta State faculty to teach education. Gradually, his research and academic interests shifted until his professorial status was finally changed from education to history.

As a researcher, Thornell has written extensively on Asian history. He has also traveled twice to the Soviet Union through a Kellogg Fellowship while studying the history and politics of that country. He later toured Japan while doing additional study in Asian history at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He also did postdoctoral work in higher education administration at the University of Michigan.

As UNA's new provost and vice president for academic affairs, Thornell replaced Dr. Garry Warren, who retired in July.



NITA THORNELL

As her husband, Dr. John Thornell, settles into his new leadership role at UNA, Nita Thornell is focused on getting settled into a new home they're renovating while exploring Florence and the Shoals.

From her very first visit, she said, she was drawn to the vibrant downtown area, the various local festivals, the Tennessee River, First Fridays downtown and everything that makes this "a very rich area."

She said she might even spend a little time as a UNA student, taking advantage of some of the culinary arts classes and various continuing education offerings.

Nita Thornell, who met John while they were students at Delta State University, has had a career of more than 30 years as a reading teacher on all levels – elementary, high school and college. The last several years of her career were spent working with students at Delta State's developmental lab. In retirement, she enjoys a variety of activities, especially traveling and spending time with her grandchildren, who live in Florida.

As she and John were considering the move to Florence, Nita Thornell said it was more than the university and the Shoals area that attracted them. It was also the people. "From our very first visit, everyone has been lovely to us. Kudos to every single person, from the students who showed us around campus to the support staff to everyone we met. Everyone."



BLOOM *Where You are* PLANTED

Mrs. Cale Transforms the President's Home and Garden

By Phillip Oliver, contributing writer



The campus of the University of North Alabama has undergone major renovations over the past decade. A landscape project was completed in 2002 which realized the original plans made by the acclaimed Olmsted Brothers in 1929 for a central plaza with a fountain and walkways.

At the President's Home, built in 1940 and patterned after English and American Colonial structures, other transformations have been underway that are not readily seen by the public. President William Cale and his wife B.J. arrived at University in the fall of 2005. Mrs. Cale is an avid gardener and she immediately set about to work on the enclosed back garden behind the house.

When she first arrived, the garden consisted of grass, some overgrown boxwoods and old azaleas. She had these removed and installed a long bed directly behind the patio which runs along the backside of the house. She fills this bed with annuals, perennials, roses and even vegetables.

Another area is planted with seventy-five Encore azaleas planted underneath a grove of crape myrtles. Daylilies are also prominent

in a winding bed that curves along the back fence. The side garden is shady and is planted with hostas, ferns and hellebores. A beautiful variegated dogwood grows in a corner next to the house.

The front lawn is an elegant expanse with mostly lawn and mature trees. Mrs. Cale had a boxwood hedge that runs in front of the house removed and replaced it with a border of shade-loving plants like hosta, camellias and hydrangeas. "I just wanted some color there. The boxwoods were so boring!" she said.

Mrs. Cale says that she has always been interested in gardening. She was born and raised in Miami, Florida, and while her parents did not grow flowers, they did cultivate all kinds of fruit trees, including oranges, kumquats, avocados, grapefruits and mangos. "I just love having my hands in the dirt and I've had gardens in all the places I've lived."

She has lived in various locations around the southeast, including Athens, Ga., and Beaumont and Plano, Texas. She has lived in the South most of her life with the exception of two excursions in Pennsylvania. The first





was in Indiana, Pa., and the last time was a five-year stint in Altoona just prior to moving to Alabama. She calls her time in Pennsylvania "culture-shock" when it came to gardening. The long winters were especially difficult, and this is when she got the idea of starting her own seedlings in the basement of her home under grow lights. The experience was so rewarding that she has continued the practice since.

She starts the seeds in February and grows various flowers and vegetables such as lobelia, petunias, dianthus, coleus, columbine, salvia, rudbeckia, peppers, lettuce and tomatoes. Most of these plants go into the new long bed which becomes a riot of color in summer.



Mrs. Cale says that the Alabama climate is wonderful for gardening. She is a Master Gardener, having completed the course in Beaumont, Texas, in the late 1980s and again taking the course when she moved to Alabama. When she is not gardening, she has a plethora of other interests. Bridge is her favorite hobby and she has taught bridge classes at UNA and participated in tournaments. She serves on four boards of civic groups and volunteers on several others. "I enjoy being busy, but sometimes wish that I had more time for gardening, reading, and golf."



*Excerpted with permission from the July/August issue of Alabama Gardener magazine
www.alabamagardener.com*

The **CAMPUS BEAUTIFUL**

It's no wonder that the University of North Alabama has received the Florence Beautification award every year since 1999. Each one of the 13 members of the Grounds department at the University is dedicated to properly maintaining the campus to the highest standards and works hard to improve its overall appearance. The UNA Grounds department is guided by **Joe K. Littrell ('73)**, grounds supervisor.

Michael Gautney, director of facilities, said, "The department staff has an average of 10 years experience with over 130 years of combined experience in maintaining the 200-plus acres of highly groomed landscape. Visitors from all over the world have commented on how beautiful the UNA campus is. Most will compliment on how clean, well-kept, pleasant, safe, and friendly the environment is while they are here."

Michael credits the grounds department staff with their commitment to excellence. He said, "Since the facilities and grounds are the first thing that visitors and prospective students see when they visit our campus, everyone works very hard to make sure that their 'first impression' of the University is positive and everlasting."



Making Music on a Global Scale

UNA Choral Ensembles, director enjoy an international year

It was about a year ago—July of 2008—when Ian Loeppky, director of choral activities at UNA, embarked on what would be the first of three international trips on behalf of the UNA Choral Ensembles.

"I was a delegate at the Eighth World Symposium on Choral Music in Copenhagen, Denmark," he said. "An amazing festival—I heard choirs from all over the world, attended workshops with people on the vanguard of choral music, and brought home about twelve pounds of single-copy choral music for our UNA choirs. I've used some of it with our choruses already, but I won't run out for awhile!"

But his international ventures didn't stop there. Thanks to matching funding from UNA, the Chamber Choir (a 20-voice elite ensemble) was able to tour Italy during their Spring Break.

"We started our Italian tour in Florence, of course," he laughs. "On the day before our first evening concert, we saw Michelangelo's *David* and climbed the steps to the top of the Duomo. We were a little worn out, but that didn't stop us when we saw our concert venue!"

They presented a program of music from all over the world to a diverse audience inside a wonderful Italian basilica in downtown Florence. "Folks

were coming in off the street as they heard us warming up," Loeppky said. "They loved everything we did. We had been advised not to sing anything in Italian—which they've heard a zillion times—but to sing American music. Among their favorites—and ours—were two items from *The Sacred Harp*, a collection which is native to Alabama and the South."

The tour continued to the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi. "We had been invited to sing at a service at the Basilica, which we did inside this beautiful and resonant space.

Afterwards, one of the monks led us down into the crypt of St. Francis—all the while seeing signs that read 'Silencio'—and asked us to sing something there. I was careful to choose something prayerful! Afterwards, we were told by our tour guide that she had brought many choirs to sing at the Basilica, but this was the first time that one had been asked to sing down in the crypt!"

They spent a day in Rome, seeing the sights that they had only read about. "Our students were blown away. Here was the Coliseum, the Pantheon, the ruins of the Senate—it was like a dream come true. We even did a little singing on site, and got a few folks to come to our next concert."

Their next engagement was a concert with several American choirs under the direction of Rollo Dilworth. "Our students sang together with these choirs, but we also got to sing a few things in the concert with just us," he said. "We took advantage of this beautiful, tall, resonant cathedral's sound, and the other choirs went crazy for us. It was a real treat. I've never been so proud of a choir in my life!"

But Loeppky's globetrotting wasn't quite done. "Back in January, I'd been asked to take part in a conducting workshop in Varna, Bulgaria, at the



Loeppky finds a poster for the UNA Chamber Choir in downtown Rome.



In front of St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican

end of May. I kind of became a student again—it's the sort of thing where they pick a major two-hour choral work, divide it up among the participants, and each takes his or her turn conducting this professional chorus and orchestra from Bulgaria."

But he had a surprise in store for him. "Three days before I'm to get on the plane for this workshop, they tell me that because of the economic downturn, all of the other participants have bailed, and I'm the only one left! So I got to conduct the entire thing myself!"

Was he nervous? "Oh yes," he said. "The work that they had chosen—Joseph Haydn's *The Creation*—is a classic, and I didn't get a bit of sleep on the plane trying to learn it! Fortunately, the people at that end were so musical and dedicated, and we had a fabulous concert. In fact, it turns out that Varna—a city of half a million people—had never had a performance of *The Creation*. So we got a premiere!"

What's in store for the UNA Choral Ensembles next year?

"Well, now that I know *The Creation* inside and out, we're going to do it in Spring 2010 with the Collegiate Singers and Florence Camerata, complete with orchestra. The rest," he added with a wink, "is a surprise—you'll just have to come and hear us."



Loeppky conducting in Varna, Bulgaria.



Inside the Pantheon



SCHOLARSHIP FUND *has the right formula to* HONOR CHEMISTRY PROF

FRIENDS AND FORMER STUDENTS OF DR. THOMAS MURRAY INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE

Dr. David Sunseri and I want to inform you of the creation of an endowed scholarship named in honor of Dr. Thomas P. Murray, professor of chemistry. Dr. Sunseri, one of Dr. Murray's former students, established this scholarship with an initial contribution of \$1,000 which was matched with a \$1,000 contribution from his employer. When fully funded, the Thomas P. Murray Endowed Scholarship will provide scholarships to students majoring in the sciences. Students majoring in chemistry will receive first priority. The scholarship may be renewable for up to four years of a recipient's undergraduate education.

Dr. Sunseri and I have set a goal of \$25,000 to completely fund the Thomas P. Murray Endowed Scholarship. This amount was selected in order for the scholarship to participate in the Lion Match program. Under this program, endowed scholarships of \$25,000 or more will pay out a five percent distribution from the endowment fund and an additional five percent distribution from the University.

As I ask you to consider making a tax-deductible contribution to this scholarship honoring one of your professors, let me remind you what Dr. Murray did last year after his retirement as professor of chemistry. As you read in a former issue of the UNA Magazine, Dr. Murray continued to teach his classes last year and the University established three endowments with the salary he would have been paid if he had

not retired. These three endowments will fund: a scholarship in chemistry, a scholarship in English (in honor of his wife Sandy), and a stipend for the recipient of the Phi Kappa Phi Teaching Excellence Award.

Dr. Tom Murray is committed to teaching and scholarly excellence and loves the University of North Alabama, his professional home for more than 35 years.

I hope you agree with me that Dr. Murray is an example of the best that UNA has to offer to its students and to the community at large. I invite you to join me in expressing our appreciation to this good man who has made such a positive contribution to so many students, friends, and colleagues.

I invite you to fill out the form (*below*) and mail your check made payable to the University of North Alabama Foundation. We will be happy to send you an official acknowledgement letter verifying that your contribution is tax-deductible. (Be sure to check if your employer matches charitable contributions—matching funds may be available.)

If you have any questions or would like to talk to me about this opportunity to honor your friend or former professor, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,
Barry Morris, *Director of Planned Giving*
256-765-4861 • bkmorris@una.edu

THOMAS P. MURRAY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

I want to thank Dr. Murray for all his service to his students, to UNA, and to the community.

Please accept this contribution of \$ _____ to the Thomas P. Murray Endowed Scholarship.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____



Mail to: UNA Foundation
One Harrison Plaza
University of North Alabama
Florence, AL 35632-0001



FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the Lion Match Program – or for one of Kanipe's scarves or shawls – contact Missy Pettus at 256-765-4757 or rmpettus@una.edu.



SCARVES *for* SCHOLARSHIPS

KANIPE FUNDS TEACHER EDUCATION WITH KNITTING NEEDLES AND YARN

Need a scarf or a shawl? Linda Kanipe will be glad to knit you one! But only on one condition: you make a \$20 gift to her UNA scholarship fund (and she'll match it with \$20 of her own). Linda established her endowed scholarship fund through the UNA Foundation in August 2005. The scholarship is for students planning to become chemistry or physics teachers—a career path she followed for 39 years. "We're in dire need of science teachers, particularly in chemistry and physics," she said.

While Linda Kanipe is not a UNA graduate, she has worked with student-teachers and interns from UNA and said she wants to help the university produce more like them.

With knitting needles in hand, Mrs. Kanipe has built her scholarship fund up to the milestone \$10,000, the point at

which the fund can begin issuing financial awards to students. Her next milestone: \$25,000, the point at which a scholarship fund qualifies for UNA's Lion Match Program, doubling the financial impact of a typical endowed scholarship. Where UNA Foundation endowed scholarships award five percent of the fund's value each year, the Lion Match Program provides an additional five percent, totaling a 10 percent annual award.

That means that, where a typical \$25,000 scholarship issues \$1,250 to students annually, Kanipe's would award \$2,500. UNA is doubling the impact of her scholarship, just as she is doubling each scholarship gift made to it.



IN CONCERT
NOV. 12
NORTON AUDITORIUM

MAC MCANALLY

Shoals resident and internationally acclaimed songwriter and performer Mac McAnally will perform a benefit concert at 8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, in Norton Auditorium. The show is part of UNA's Distinguished Events Series.

Tickets are \$25, with all proceeds benefiting the UNA Commercial Music Endowed Scholarship. Tickets are available at 256-765-4670 and www.una.edu/macmcanally.

Prior to his concert in Norton, Mac will make a special performance at the President's Donor Dinner. This exclusive performance will be for alumni and friends contributing \$1,000 or more to any UNA scholarship, program or capital fund through the UNA Foundation between Oct. 1, 2008, and Sept. 30, 2009. Attendees of this special performance will also receive complimentary tickets to the Distinguished Events Series concert following the dinner. Make your tax-deductible gift to the UNA Foundation by calling 256-765-4670 and be included in both shows.



DISTINGUISHED
Event Series



PICKIN' for PRIDE



*Mac McAnally concert,
Guitar Auction benefits
Commercial Music program*

The commercial music major at UNA. It's one of the oldest music-industry programs in the country. It's helped create leading music publishers, engineers and executives. It's graduated top performers, record producers and hit songwriters.

Now, through the new Commercial Music Endowed Scholarship, it can open even more music-industry doors for students who, without it, may not have the opportunity for a college education.

The best part is, you can help.

Here's how ... **THE LION GUITAR**



There will be only two of them in the world. The question is, who will play them?

DHR Music Experience and Benedetto Guitars are teaming to build two custom-made UNA signature guitars, which will be auctioned, with all proceeds benefiting the UNA Commercial Music Endowed Scholarship.

DHR, one of the world's leading guitar distributors and a premier dealer of left-handed guitars, is exclusively represented by Dillon Hodges, a UNA sophomore and one of the world's leading flat-picking guitarists. Dillon also exclusively endorses Benedetto archtop guitars and electric guitars.

The two UNA signature guitars will be auctioned online at www.una.edu/guitars Sept. 7 through midnight Nov. 11. The winner will be announced at a special benefit concert with Mac McAnally Nov. 12.

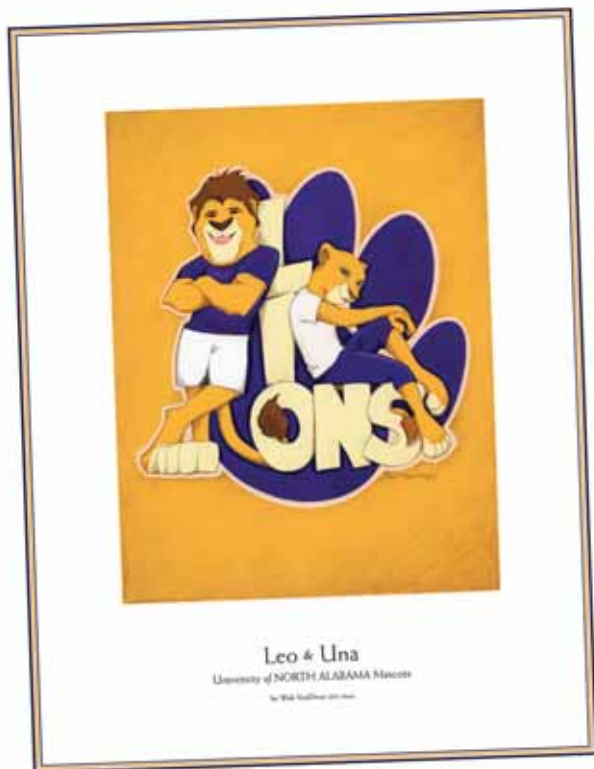
The online auction site will also offer a photo gallery of the guitars' production progress.



The back, front and headstock of one of two UNA custom-made guitars, illustrated by Jennifer Kelleher.

The second guitar will have a honey blonde front with an espresso back and sides.





HEROES IN THE MAKING **HOMECOMING 2009**

Walt Vandiver '01
*will be autographing limited
edition mascot posters & prints.*

Saturday, October 3

12:00 - 2:30 p.m.

at Rogers Hall/Alumni House

3:00 - 5:30 p.m.

at Spirit Hill by Braly Municipal Stadium

Limited Edition Print.....\$55

Poster.....\$12

Includes tax and handling

Limited edition prints and posters can also be purchased online at alumni.una.edu/purchase.

SHOW YOUR LION PRIDE!

The UNA National Alumni Association VISA®

Card is the only card that rewards
you while benefitting UNA.



Apply today at

www.una.edu/alumni/rewards

SPATS *to* HATS

PRIDE of DIXIE MARCHING BAND

CAMPAIGN FOR UNIFORMS

If you have seen the Pride of Dixie Marching Band perform lately, you may have noticed something different about members of the percussion section: they are not wearing uniforms. Dressed in all black, these players are just one sign of the band's growth in recent years.

A growing band membership, an outdated UNA logo, and nearly eight years of wear and tear have signaled the need for new uniforms. While the band now has 180 suits in stock, they hope to have 250 suits of the newly redesigned uniform.

The \$90,000 cost of these new uniforms is easily met when alumni and friends like YOU make a tax-deductible gift to underwrite just one uniform, from **SPATS to HAT!**

There are a few different ways for you to participate, including the following:

- A \$350 donation that purchases one uniform
- Pledge \$87.50 per month for four months that purchases one uniform
- A \$500 donation with \$350 toward one uniform, \$75 goes towards the Band Travel Fund, and \$75 goes in the Band Scholarship fund.

SPATS TO HATS



All former Pride of Dixie band members (including auxiliary) are invited to participate with the Homecoming Alumni Band. Plan to come for rehearsal to the practice field across from the Rice/Rivers Hall at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning, October 3, in order to perform the half-time show during the ballgame.

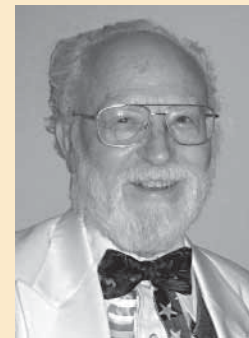
TO MAKE YOUR GIFT, contact
Melody Stewart ('06), Director of Annual Giving,
at 256-765-5080 or mastewart@una.edu.

HOLCOMBE FINDS LION MATCH PROGRAM TO BE A



DEAL

HONEY of a



Although Edwin Holcombe is known worldwide as a leading authority on beekeeping, he is known for much more at UNA. Here, he is known for his efforts to give students the same educational opportunities he was given as a UNA student about 50 years ago.

Edwin Holcombe and his wife, Elaine—a 1958 graduate of UNA—established the Inez Holcombe Chandler and Vickie Charleen Parker Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund. Mr. Holcombe also wanted the scholarship to honor **Laura Leigh Parker ('96)**, Jerry

Wayne Chandler, Teresa Kay Chandler Riggs, and Carol Holcombe Potette. The scholarship is part of UNA's Lion Match Program, which doubles the financial impact of a typical endowed scholarship. Where UNA Foundation endowed scholarships award five percent of the fund's value each year, Lion Match Program scholarships provide an additional five percent, totaling a 10 percent scholarship award.

The Holcombes' scholarship is awarded to students demonstrating financial need.

A longtime beekeeping expert and enthusiast, Holcombe has taught beekeeping and bee biology in seven different countries and at three universities. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he was stationed in Berlin during the height of the Berlin Crisis. He had a 30-year career with TVA, including service as an agricultural aide and land appraiser. He and his wife currently operate Backwood Apiaries in Shelbyville, Tenn. They are the parents of four daughters.

Rock, Roll and Remember



A Tribute to Brian Vick and Friends

By Terry Pace ('85, '04), UNA Adjunct Instructor of English

For eight faithful years, **Brian Vick's ('93)** loyal friends and loved ones have gathered together for a special night to "Rock, Roll and Remember."

The annual benefit concert—which has evolved into a longstanding Muscle Shoals music tradition—honors the memory of the late rock 'n' roll drummer. Vick and two close friends, **Michael McCarthy ('94)** and Jon Parks, were killed on a flight home from Tunica when their

single-engine plane crashed in the dense woods of northeast Mississippi on Aug. 19, 2001.

"This is always sad, of course, but it's good because it reminds us of so many wonderful memories," said Vick's brother and fellow drummer, Michael Vick. "This concert is the perfect way to honor Brian, because he loved playing music and he loved all of his fellow musicians. If he were still with us, I know that's what he'd be doing today. He'd be sitting up there

behind those drums with that great big happy smile on his face."

Soon after the fatal plane crash, friends and families of all three men launched efforts to endow a Brian Vick/Jonathan Parks/Michael McCarthy Scholarship at the University of North Alabama. The annual "Rock, Roll and Remember" concert—the fund's chief fund-raising vehicle—remains a bittersweet but rewarding labor of love for Michael Vick and his wife, Melanie.

"Once it's endowed, the scholarship will be awarded to a music student from Red Bay, which is where Michael and Brian grew up," Melanie Vick said. "Ideally, since Brian was a drummer, we'd like it to go to a percussion student. But if we don't have any percussion students from Red Bay who are interested and eligible, it will go to a high school student from Red Bay who is studying music."

Multi-talented musician Brian Vick—who was only 30 at the time of his death—was the original drummer for Muscle Shoals' high-powered funk-rock band, Gulliver. Vick also performed over the years with legendary Muscle Shoals guitarist Travis Wammack, the local band Monkee and the Spank Daddies and the Huntsville-based Calamity Jane.

"Brian was a great guy, and we all miss him," said Gulliver founder Gary Nichols, a Muscle Shoals singer, songwriter and guitarist who will perform at this year's "Rock, Roll and Remember" benefit. "He never met a stranger, and he didn't have any enemies—I don't know anybody that ever had a bad word to say about him. You can't say that about too many people."

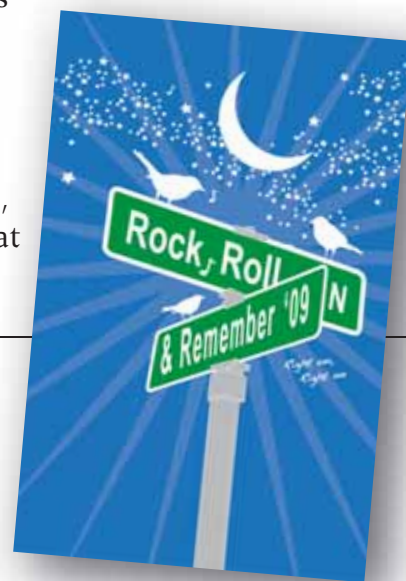
Brian Vick and McCarthy were both UNA graduates, and Parks was a prospective UNA student at the time of the crash. Even though they weren't musicians, Nichols says Parks and McCarthy were a vibrant part of the local music scene.

"Jon was a friend and came out to see Gulliver play quite a bit," Nichols said. "We recorded a song for the Gulliver album called 'Brian and Jon B.' We also knew Mike through Brian. That's why the scholarship is in all three of their names—it's a tribute to all three of them."

Nichols will be joined on this year's concert lineup by the country-rock group Hillbilly Delux as well as a new band, Gone Arye, which features Michael Vick on drums. To help boost the scholarship fund, the Vicks hope to organize an additional fund-raising concert in downtown Red Bay sometime before the end of the year.

"After all these years, you'd think that memories would have faded a little or drifted into the backs of people's minds," Michael Vick said. "But every year the bands and musicians we talk to say, 'Count me in.' They loved Brian, and many of them also knew Jon and Michael. They're more than happy to pitch in and help keep the memories of these three guys fresh and alive for years to come."

Upcoming **Rock, Roll and Remember** concerts are scheduled for October 3 at Red Bay High School Auditorium (6 p.m., \$10 admission) and October 17 at Side Pockets in Florence (9 p.m., \$5 cover charge). Joseph Baldwin and Travis Wammack will play one-hour sessions, and all proceeds will go towards the scholarship. For updates on this year's concerts and other fund-raising activities related to the Brian Vick/Jonathan Parks/Michael McCarthy Scholarship, visit the event's MySpace page at www.myspace.com/bvick07.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, or to make a donation to the Brian Vick/Jonathan Parks/Michael McCarthy Scholarship, contact Missy Pettus at 256-765-4757 or rmpettus@una.edu.



LION TALK

LIONS' LATEST **ALL-DECADE TEAM** FEATURES 18 ALL-AMERICANS

Every Fall a new University of North Alabama football squad takes the field knowing that it is trying to live up to a legacy that only a handful of collegiate football programs can equal. Over the last 10 years, the UNA football teams from 1999-2008 did their part to maintain and enhance that historical record as the University closed out its sixth decade of intercollegiate competition.

Over the last 10 seasons, since 1999, these Lions posted a 78-40 overall record that included two Gulf South Conference championships and five NCAA Division II playoff appearances. The Lions will carry a current streak of four straight seasons with 10 or more wins into 2009, as well as a streak of four straight playoff appearances. UNA has also been ranked in the final NCAA Division II Top Ten

11 times, including in five of the last six seasons.

From this group of several hundred players that have worn the purple and gold UNA jersey since 1999, 32 have been selected for the UNA "Team of the Decade for 1999-2008."

This sixth All-Decade squad, since football was brought back to UNA in 1949, includes 18 All-Americans. Twenty-nine of the 32 players selected were All-Gulf South Conference selections at least once while playing for the Lions, and a total of 20 of the players selected were four-year lettermen at UNA. Three of the players selected are current Lion players who will complete their eligibility in the Fall—Michael Johnson, Will Batson and Montrell Craft.

The latest All-Decade team includes 15 student-athletes who are native Alabamians. The other 17 all come from one of five other Southern states—Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia or Louisiana.

The team was selected by a panel of UNA athletic department personnel and news media representatives.

Leading the Lion offense is 2003 Harlon Hill Trophy winner Will Hall (QB), two-time Hill Trophy finalist quarterback A.J. Milwee (QB), 2005 Rimington Trophy recipient Lance Ancar (C) and five other All-Americans on the offensive line. A formidable group of defensive selections is led by a secondary that includes All-Americans Evan Oglesby, Blake Farris, Chad Sears and Craig Fox.



Will Hall



A. J. Milwee



DeMarcus Blount



Randy Vickers



Marcus Lewis



Anthony Merritt



Jason Messing



Rocky Coleman



Chip Long



Covington Wright



Lance Ancar



Sam Hathorn



J.D. Whited



JoJo Bates



Sherwin Lyons



Matt Horton



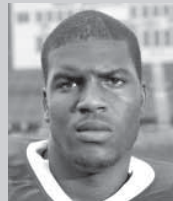
Travis Johnston



Tim Hunt



Montrell Craft



Ken Triplett



Jonathan Taylor



Larry Paul



Donald Tharpe



Michael Johnson



Courtney Wright



Harold Wisdom



Evan Oglesby



Blake Farris



Chad Sears



Craig Fox



Bobby Brooks



Will Batson

1999-2008 OFFENSE

QB	WILL HALL	2002-03	Amory, Mississippi	All-GSC All-American	
QB	A.J. MILWEE	2005-08	Boaz, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
RB	DEMARCUS BLOUNT	2002-05	Pensacola, Florida	All-GSC	4-year letterman
RB	RANDY VICKERS	2001-03	Athens, Alabama	All-GSC	
WR	MARCUS LEWIS	2002-04, 06	Pensacola, Florida		4-year letterman
WR	ANTHONY MERRITT	2003-06	Columbus, Georgia	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
WR	JASON MESSING	2004-07	Knoxville, Tennessee		4-year letterman
WR	ROCKY COLEMAN	2007-08	Clarksdale, Mississippi	All-GSC	
TE	CHIP LONG	2002-05	Birmingham, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
TE	COVINGTON WRIGHT	2005-08	Columbus, Georgia	All-GSC	4-year letterman
OL	LANCE ANCAR	2002-05	Harvey, Louisiana	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
OL	SAM HATHORN	2005-08	Corinth, Mississippi	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
OL	J.D. WHITED	2005-07	Oneonta, Alabama	All-GSC All-American	
OL	JOJO BATES	2003-06	Birmingham, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
OL	SHERWIN LYONS	2000-03	Fort Valley, Georgia	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
OL	MATT HORTON	2000-03	Florence, Alabama	All-GSC	4-year letterman
PK	TRAVIS JOHNSTON	2000-03	Auburn, Alabama		All-American 4-year letterman

1999-2008 DEFENSE

DL	TIM HUNT	2003-05, 07	Mobile, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
DL	MONTRELL CRAFT*	2006-08	Memphis, Tennessee	All-GSC	
DL	KEN TRIPLETT	2003-04	Louisville, Mississippi	All-GSC All-American	
DL	JONATHAN TAYLOR	2001-03	New Orleans, Louisiana	All-GSC	
DL	LARRY PAUL	1999-00	Moody, Alabama	All-GSC	
LB	DONALD THARPE	2002-06	Pensacola, Florida	All-GSC	4-year letterman
LB	MICHAEL JOHNSON*	2006-08	Panama City, Florida	All-GSC All-American	
LB	COURTNEY WRIGHT	2002-05	Wetumpka, Alabama	All-GSC	4-year letterman
LB	HAROLD WISDOM	2003-04	Tuscumbia, Alabama	All-GSC	
DB	EVAN OGLESBY	2001-04	Toccoa, Georgia	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
DB	BLAKE FARRIS	2002-05	Jasper, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
DB	CHAD SEARS	1997-00	Russellville, Alabama	All-GSC	All-American 4-year letterman
DB	CRAIG FOX	2006-07	Kentwood, Louisiana	All-GSC All-American	
DB	BOBBY BROOKS	2005-08	Hoover, Alabama	All-GSC	4-year letterman
P	WILL BATSON*	2006-08	Killen, Alabama	All-GSC All-American	

* Current Players

OF NOTE:

* Of the 32 players selected for the UNA Team of the Decade for 1999-2008, 18 earned All-American honors with the Lions.

* 29 of the 32 players selected were All-Gulf South Conference selections at least once while playing for the Lions.

* A total of 20 of the players selected were four-year lettermen at UNA.

* Three of the players selected are current Lion players who will complete their eligibility in the Fall—Michael Johnson, Will Batson and Montrell Craft.

2009 UNA FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
August 29	Sat	at Southern Arkansas	Magnolia, Ark.	7:00
September 5	Sat	CARSON-NEWMAN	HOME	6:00
September 12	Sat	*at Henderson State	Arkadelphia, Ark.	6:00
September 19	Sat	*WEST GEORGIA	HOME	6:00
September 26	Sat	*at Harding (TV- CSS)	Searcy, Ark.	6:00
October 3	Sat	*ARKANSAS TECH (Homecoming)	HOME	6:00
October 8	Thu	NORTH GREENVILLE	HOME	7:00
October 15	Thu	*DELTA STATE (TV - CSS)	HOME	7:00
October 22	Thu	*at Valdosta State (CBS-College Sports)	Valdosta, Ga.	7:00
October 31	Sat	*at Arkansas-Monticello	Monticello, Ark.	6:00
November 7	Sat	*WEST ALABAMA (Preview Day)	HOME	6:00
November 14	Sat	Playoff First Round		
November 21	Sat	Playoff Second Round		
November 28	Sat	Playoff Quarterfinal		
December 5	Sat	Playoff Semifinal		
December 12	Sat	NCAA Division II National Championship Game		

All Times Are Central

* Gulf South Conference Games

• Game dates and times may change due to television broadcasts

BOWDEN DAY

SHINES NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT ON UNA



The "First Family" of College Football paid a visit to the University of North Alabama campus on July 14 and brought the national media spotlight with them to the UNA campus. UNA head football coach Terry Bowden and his brother, assistant Lion football coach Jeff Bowden, were joined by their father, Florida State head football coach Bobby Bowden, and their brother, former Clemson head football coach Tommy Bowden, for A Day With the Bowdens. The event was part fundraiser, part community service and a major media event.

In addition to hosting a prayer breakfast in the morning, a free motivational event for youth at midday and an evening motivational event for the community, the Bowdens also held a press conference that drew 52 media members from

across the nation. Members of five national media outlets were in attendance, in addition to the Associated Press and representatives of all four major television news networks (ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX) that fed every other media outlet in the country.

The Fox Business Channel aired a 10-minute interview with the Bowdens from the Marriott Shoals Conference Center. CBS recorded footage for an hour-long show that will air later this Fall on the Bowdens' legacy in college football. Fox Sports is also working on a similar feature show for its network.

In addition to wealth of media coverage from across the state of Alabama there were also media representatives from South Carolina, West Virginia, Florida, Tennessee and Georgia.

On the day following the press conference there were 156 newspaper articles nationwide on the event, in addition to the radio and television coverage. The Bowdens and UNA drew headlines in the Chicago Tribune, Houston Chronicle, Orlando Sentinel, Charlotte Observer, Miami Herald and dozens of other publications from coast to coast.



Bobby Bowden and his sons (Terry, Tommy and Jeff) have a combined 131 years of collegiate coaching experience between them entering the 2009 season. As collegiate head coaches, Bobby, Terry and Tommy have a combined 583-225-6 record that rounds off to an astounding 72 percent winning percentage. Bobby's record is 382-123-4, Terry is 111-53-2 and Tommy is 90-49-0. In their combined 70 seasons as collegiate head coaches, the Bowdens have suffered only six losing seasons.



BISHOP RETURNS TO LEAD UNA TENNIS PROGRAM

Former University of North Alabama tennis All-American and coach **Brice Bishop ('85)** has returned to take the helm of the Lions' tennis program. UNA Director of Athletics Mark Linder announced the hiring of Bishop as head men's and women's tennis coach, replacing Al Morgan who resigned prior to the 2009 season.

Bishop, who lettered in tennis at UNA from 1982-85, will be in his third stint as head coach for the Lions.

The Sheffield native coached the UNA women's tennis teams and men's and women's cross country squads from 1988-90 before resigning to become tennis director at the Huntsville Athletic Club. He returned to campus in 1997 to lead the men's and women's tennis programs.

In 2004, Bishop left UNA to become head tennis coach and director of women's athletics at Shoals Christian School. During his time at UNA, he led the men's team to five NCAA Tournament appearances and the women to six consecutive NCAA regionals.

He was inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001 and was inducted into the Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame the following year.

Bishop was North Alabama's first All-American in tennis, posting a 54-19 singles record his final two seasons while winning back-to-back Gulf South Conference individual championships.

He holds a bachelor's degree in health, physical education, recreation and dance from UNA and a master's degree in physical education from Western Carolina. He and his wife, former UNA cross country runner and fellow Hall-of-Fame inductee Carol Franklin, have two daughters (Mackenzie and Lee-Taylor) and a son (Will).

2009 UNA WOMEN'S SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Aug. 28	Fri	MONTEVALLO	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Aug. 30	Sun	LIMESTONE	HOME	12:30 a.m.
Sept. 1	Tues	Georgia Southwestern	Americus, Ga.	2:00 p.m.
Sept. 4	Fri	CBU vs. Eckerd	HOME	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 4	Fri	LYNN	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 6	Sun	CBU vs. Lynn	HOME	12:30 a.m.
Sept. 6	Sun	ECKERD	HOME	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 11	Fri	Newberry College	Newberry, SC	2:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	Sun	Clayton State	Morrow, Ga.	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 16	Wed	Southern Indiana	Evansville, Ind.	4:00 p.m.
Sept. 20	Sun	*OUACHITA BAPTIST	HOME	2:00 p.m.
Sept. 22	Tues	NORTH GEORGIA	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 29	Tues	TREVECCA NAZARENE	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 2	Fri	*ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 6	Tue	*Christian Brothers	Memphis, Tenn.	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 11	Sun	*West Georgia	Columbus, Ga.	3:00 p.m.
Oct. 12	Mon	Brewton-Parker	Mount Vernon, Ga.	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 16	Fri	*Harding	Searcy, Ark.	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 23	Fri	*West Florida	Pensacola, Fla.	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 25	Sun	LAMBUTH	HOME	2:00 p.m.
Oct. 28	Wed	*DELTA STATE	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 30	Fri	Kentucky Wesleyan	Owensboro, Ky.	12:00 noon

*All Times Central * - Gulf South Conference match
Games dates and times may change.*

2009 UNA CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

DATE	HOST/EVENT	LOCATION
Sept. 5	University of the South	Sewanee, Tenn.
Sept. 12	UAH Invitational	Huntsville, Ala.
Sept. 18	Crimson Classic	Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Oct. 2	Tennessee Tech Invitational	Cookeville, Tenn.
Oct. 10	Jacksonville State Invitational	Jacksonville, Ala.
Oct. 24	Gulf South Conference Championship	Birmingham, Ala.
Nov. 7	NCAA Div. II South Region	Tampa, Fla.

2009 WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Aug. 28-29		Nebraska, Omaha	Omaha, Neb.	TBA
Sept. 4-5		UNA Classic	HOME	TBA
<i>Teams: UNK, UCP, Indianapolis, CBU, Truman State</i>				
Sept. 11-12		West Florida	Pensacola, Fla.	TBA
Sept. 15	Tues	Emory	Atlanta, Ga.	6:00 p.m. EST
Sept. 19	Sat	HENDERSON STATE	HOME	1:00 p.m.
Sept. 22	Tues	West Georgia	Carrollton, Ga.	7:00 p.m. EST
Sept. 25	Fri	ALABAMA HUNTSVILLE	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 29	Tues	SHORTER COLLEGE	HOME	6:00 p.m.
Oct. 2	Fri	VALDOSTA STATE	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	Sat	WEST FLORIDA	HOME	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 6	Tues	West Alabama	Livingston, Ala.	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 9	Fri	UNIV. OF PUERTO RICO, RIO PIEDRAS	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 10	Sat	ARMSTRONG ATLANTIC STATE UNIV.	HOME	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 12	Mon	EMORY	HOME	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 16-17		University of Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	TBA
Oct. 16	Fri	Florida Southern College	Tampa, Fla.	5:15 p.m. EDT
Oct. 17	Sat	Eckerd College	Tampa, Fla.	1:15 p.m. EDT
Oct. 17	Sat	University of Tampa	Tampa, Fla.	8:00 p.m. EDT
Oct. 23	Fri	Valdosta State	Valdosta, Ga.	6:00 p.m. EDT
Oct. 24	Sat	West Florida	Pensacola, Fla.	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 27	Tues	Alabama Huntsville	Huntsville, Ala.	7:00pm
Oct. 30	Fri	WEST ALABAMA	HOME	7:00 pm
Oct. 31	Sat	WEST GEORGIA	HOME	1:00pm
Nov. 3	Tues	Christian Brothers	Memphis, Tenn.	7:00 pm
Nov. 13-14		GSC Tournament	West Division Champion	
Nov. 19-21		NCAA South Regional		TBA
		NCAA Elite Eight/NCAA Division II National Championships		TBA

Games dates and times may change.



UNA ALUMNI NEWS

EMPOWERING *the* PEOPLE

GARY SMITH'S NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMPANY SEEKS TO HELP ENERGY CUSTOMERS

By William Underwood ('08)

When Gary Smith arrived at UNA in the early 1970s, he was just a talented shortstop/second baseman from Corinth, Miss., with a baseball scholarship and a penchant for accounting. Now, 33 years after graduating from UNA, Smith is the acting president and CEO of PowerSouth Energy Cooperative, a "not-for-profit business" that serves electricity customers in Alabama and northwestern Florida. While Smith's activities between now and then have kept him busy, he was still able to set aside time to give our readers an update on his life.

After graduating from UNA in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in accounting and economics, Smith attended Samford University's Cumberland School of Law. He earned his law degree from Cumberland in 1979 and soon began his legal career as a defense attorney in Birmingham. Six years later, he began a four-year tenure with Pemco Aeroplex.

Smith left Pemco Aeroplex in 1989 and moved from Birmingham to Andalusia, where he took the role of staff attorney at PowerSouth, which was known at the time as Alabama Electric Cooperative. Smith soon became PowerSouth's director of legal affairs and was named vice president of legal and corporate affairs in 1996. In 2000, he was named to his current role as president and CEO.

During his 20 years with PowerSouth, Smith has developed "a sense for the problems faced by the poorer population" and has a "compassion for people and their challenges in life." Because of this compassion, Smith has dedicated himself to fighting a bleak future where rural customers will be unable to afford electricity. To show evidence of this possible future,

Smith cited a recent congressional bill that calls for the doubling of electricity costs over the next few years. Smith was opposed to the bill and stated that PowerSouth is "a not-for-profit business" with a business model that "focuses on returning profits to our members and consumers in the form of lower electric rates."

When not at work, Smith spends time with his wife, Debbi, and their three daughters: Ashley, Kalli, and Carrie. He also continues to keep up with baseball and his friends from UNA. Though he rarely gets to go on campus, he still has a "real affinity" for both UNA and the Shoals area, which he proves by being a member of the UNA President's Cabinet.

He gives special credit to his parents, C.W. and Lottie Smith, who still live in Corinth. Smith says that his mother taught him his work ethic and his father taught him to have confidence in himself and his abilities.

All materials for this article were either provided by Mr. Smith or borrowed from PowerSouth's website with Mr. Smith's permission.



Gary Smith ('76)

Make your Alumni Gift to UNA and become a card-carrying Alumni Pride Member – receive the following benefits:

- 10 percent discount at the on-campus University Bookstore
- 10 percent discount on Athletic season tickets (purchased from the UNA ticket office)
- 10 percent discount on University performances at Norton Auditorium (purchased at the box office)
- 10 percent discount on Student Recreation Center fees
- A brick in the Alumni Victory Garden (with a gift of \$100 or more)
- On-site use of Collier Library • Charitable Tax Deduction
- Alumni Pride membership donor card • Alumni Pride lapel pin

To receive your Alumni Giving membership card make a \$50 minimum gift/reply envelope in the center of this magazine



Giving Back

ELIZABETH GAINES MANN



Elizabeth Gaines Mann ('31), a native of Jasper, Ala., established two endowed funds through the University of North Alabama Foundation. One was to endow a professorship in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science—currently awarded to **Miranda Roden Bowie ('04)** and previously to Miranda's mom, **Pat Roden ('75 & '77)**—and the other was to create a scholarship fund for alumni children to attend UNA. The scholarship fund was actually combined with an existing Alumni Scholarship since they serve the exact same purpose and the fund is named the Elizabeth Gaines Mann Alumni Legacy Scholarship. The fund qualifies for the LION Match award and the University matches the payout each year.

Mrs. Mann is possibly our oldest living alumna. She began FSTC at the age of 16 and graduated at 20. She met her husband while working in Aberdeen,

Md., in the federal government Ballistic Research Department and aided in the directed firing of missiles during World War II. She was a math student at UNA and taught high school in Parrish and Morgan counties for five years before moving to the Washington area. After the war, she moved with her husband to his native Texas. After several years at home, she went back to teaching high school math in Richardson for another 25 years where she retired as the chair of the math department. During that time, she taught and still stays in contact with Dr. Willingham's (the President at UNA during her time as a student) grandson.

Mrs. Mann lives in a retirement village inside the loop (I-635) in Dallas, Texas. She has lived there for several years and has thoroughly enjoyed living there. Mr. Mann passed away in April, 2007, after retiring from the Texas Department of Transportation. For

someone who is 98 years old, she is in remarkable health and extremely mentally alert. Mrs. Mann gets a kick out of the fact that her current driver's license is set to expire on her 100th birthday.

Your donations to the Alumni Giving Pride Program are distributed equally with this scholarship fund and the UNA National Alumni Association administrative operations. The NAA provides financial support for campus reunions, homecoming events, alumni publications, pre-game tent parties and regional and departmental alumni chapter development. If you have not made your donation for 2009, do so now by marking Alumni Giving Pride Fund on the business reply envelope in this magazine. With the help of this fund, we have visited with thousands of alumni around the country this year. What a pleasure it is to come to you, meet you, and share your life story.



CLASS NOTES

1940s

Virginia Young Martin ('40) and husband John recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They have three children, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. They reside in Coral Springs, Fla.

1950s

Phillip M. Anderson ('56) is retired from Foreign Mission work with Southern Baptist and International Mission Board. He and his wife, Martha, reside in Florence.

Neil Glasscock ('56) is retired and enjoying the beach and oak trees on St. Simons Island (Georgia) with his wife, Anne.

1960s

Kay Richter Powell ('61) is a retired educator and lives in Cullman, Ala. She has two daughters and four grandchildren. She enjoys gardening.

David Puckett ('64) retired from the FBI at the age of 52 after nearly 29 years of service, counting military time. David and wife May reside in Geraldine, Ala., where they are members of Seniors With a Testimony (SWAT)—First Baptist Church's senior ministry.

Thomas C. Rains ('64) was inducted into the Marshall County Sports Hall of Fame in June of 2005. He is the owner of Rains Tax Service where he resides in Pulaski, Tenn.

Majorie Hamm ('65) recently retired from Russellville High School where she was the librarian for 44 years.

Linda Priest Schgier ('65) is the church pianist at St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church. She also teaches private piano and organ lessons to students, plays clarinet in the community band of Cullman, and teaches children and adults how to play hand bells. She and her husband, William, reside in Cullman, Ala.

Jacqueline Vickers Thrasher ('68) is a retired school teacher after 36 years of being an educator. She plays the clarinet in the community band and church in Hanceville, Ala. Her husband, **Lawell L. Thrasher**, is also retired.

Marvin McDaniel "Mac" Buttram ('69) retired in June 2009 from 28 years as a United Methodist Pastor. He and wife Pam live in Cullman, Ala.

Richard Gurley ('69) recently retired from education after 34 years of teaching. He resides in Cullman, Ala.

Tom McNeill ('69) is the Vice President of Operations at TexAla Enterprises. He and his wife, Dena, celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary June 29th. They reside in Houston, Texas, where Tom is taking a leadership role in the UNA Houston Alumni Chapter.

1970s

James Clayton Fisher ('70) is a retired city planner and artist. He resides in Cullman, Ala.

Wayne Higgins ('71 & '72) retired from the Florence City School system after 36 years

as a classroom teacher. Wayne was Florence City Teacher of the Year three times and received over 30 awards from local, state and national veterans groups for outstanding service. He was the VFW Teacher of the Year in 2001 for the State of Alabama. He has also served on the Florence Historical Board. Currently, he is working as a substitute curator for Pope's Tavern Museum and the Indian Mound Museum. Wayne also serves as a military history consultant for several museums in Alabama and Tennessee. Wayne and wife Anne have three daughters and one granddaughter.

Don Burt ('75) is an Elementary Music Specialist at Windsor Woods Elementary in Virginia Beach City Public Schools. He resides in Virginia Beach.

Beverly White Williamson ('77) is a Registered Nurse working for DCI, Inc., in Birmingham, Ala.

Freddie Copeland ('79) recently retired from his position as Vice President Operations at Wabash Alloys LLC in Wabash, Ind. He and his wife, Jane, have two sons: **Freddie Copeland, Jr. ('06)** and **Adrian Russell**, currently a senior at UNA. They reside in Florence.

1980s

David R. Lang ('80) is a director of ERP Development at Fiserv. His wife, **Kelly McAvin Lang ('81)**, is a special education teacher at Gwinnett County Schools. They have two daughters and currently reside in Suwanee, Ga.

Anthony J. Augustin ('81 & '89) is serving as an education consultant for the Public Broadcasting Service in Washington, D.C. Anthony completed a Specialist in

Education degree in curriculum and instruction in May of 2009 at Middle Tennessee State University. He was also appointed Principal at Loretto High School in July.

David Hammon ('82) is the Southwest Region Account Manager for Airgas Specialty Products, with responsibility for Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and the northern three-fifths of Texas. He and his wife, **Debbie Wells ('83)**, live in the Canyon Creek area of Richardson, Texas. Debbie is mainframe computer broker. They are the parents of two daughters, Audrey and Lindy.

Kembrel Jones ('82) was recently awarded the "Whatever It Takes Award" honoring one member of the Wharton Administration who has gone above and beyond the call of duty in his/her respective area to ensure Wharton Graduate Division at the University of Pennsylvania remains the "best MBA program in the world." Jones joined Wharton in July 2008 as Deputy Vice Dean of Student Life where, in addition to his duties as dean, he teaches in the Wharton Communications Program.

Alesia Allen ('83 & '90) worked for UNA as the director of the North Alabama Group Home for Girls from 1994 to 2004. She is currently Treatment Coordinator of the Alabama Department of Youth Services. She is a member of Capitol City Church of God in Christ.

Ramona Sutton ('83) is teaching criminal justice and forensic science at Siegel High School. She and her husband currently reside in Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

Cindy Hatcher ('84) is a Global Account Manager at AT&T Mobility. She has been very active as a member of

the Board of Directors for the Knoxville Opera where she serves on the committee for future memberships. In addition, Cindy and husband Derrick are both members of the Committee for the Future for East Tennessee Children's Hospital—a board that helps fund programs in the child life department at ETCH. They are also members of the Blount County Republican Committee. Cindy and Derrick reside in Knoxville, Tenn.

Julee Murphree Lovelace ('86) recently received an endorsement on her teaching certificate in K-12 Library Media Specialist from Union University in Jackson, Tenn. She is a teacher of emotionally disturbed children for Jackson-Madison County Schools. Julee and husband Steve reside in Jackson.

Melissa Foster ('87) celebrated 20 years with Barnes and Noble College Booksellers in December of 2008 and was honored at the Barnes and Noble national meeting in March of this year. Melissa has been the manager in the UNA Bookstore for all 20 of her years with the company. She has been performing as a musician and singer for the Smithsonian Institute as part of the New Harmonies traveling exhibit in March. She resides in Florence.

Jonathan Pettus ('87) and **Angela Jackson Pettus ('87)** reside in Athens, Ala. Jonathan is the Chief Information Officer at NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, while Angela is a math teacher at Athens High School.

Alena Nail Cook ('88) is a personal trainer. She and her husband, Sam, are new grandparents. They reside in Crane Hill, Ala.

Steven Eddy ('89) works with the Team Lead, iSeries Application Development at Permanent General Assurance Corporation in Nashville. Steven and wife Stephanie have four children: two girls and two boys. Their family currently resides in Spring Hill, Tenn.

Pam Vines Shurett ('89 & '93) is a Radiology Educator at the University of Alabama in Birmingham Radiology Department. Pam and husband Scott reside in Hoover, Ala.

1990s

Tim Beavers ('90) is the Deputy Director for the Division of Materiel Resources with the Social Security Administration Office of Disability Adjudication and Review, where he oversees the 150-plus facilities nationwide. Tim and wife Cindy just had their fourth child in October of 2008. They reside in Arlington, Va.

Randy Hamilton ('90) is completing his 19th year the education field as Assistant Principal at Creekside Elementary. Randy and wife **Regina Lindsey ('89)** have two sons, Blake and Cole. They reside in Athens, Ala.

Donna Faye Hudson ('90) is an educator in Cullman County, a member of Good Hope Park and Recreation Board, and active in her church and Community of Good Hope, Ala. She has two daughters, Haley and Kayla.

Bennie Jennings ('90) has been selected to be inducted as part of the 20th class into the University of North Alabama Athletic Hall of Fame in October. He is currently a resident of Murfreesboro, Tenn., and a Tennessee State Trooper.

Charles Edwin Warren, Jr. ('90) is an attorney in private practice. He is also the Director of "Quiet Place" in Cullman, working with the Supervised Visitation Center, and with the Lutheran Ministries of Alabama, Inc. His wife, **Leslie Thornton Warren ('94)**, works with DHR in Cullman County with Child Support. Leslie is in the Cullman Community Band, Cullman Debonair Ladies Bowling League, and is a former Kiwanis Club Member. Charles and Leslie reside in Cullman, Ala.

John M. Morgan ('91) is currently attending the Chaplain Captain's Career Course in Fort Jackson, S.C., after having been to Iraq three times since 2003. John has been a chaplain since 2006. He and his wife, **Trace Smith Morgan ('91)**, have two children, Brittany and John, who are both graduates of Victory Bible Institute in Tulsa, Okla. After completing the career course in 2010, John will be assigned to a new unit.

Michael A. Anderson ('92) is a lawyer for Shaw-Anderson, LLC, in Birmingham, Ala.

Brannon Lentz ('92) is in the process of completing his doctorate in higher education leadership through Nova Southeastern University. Currently, he is an instructor at Northwest-Shoals Community College. Brannon resides in Florence.

Dr. Gerald Murray ('93 & '96) is the President of Gerald Murray Music in Muscle Shoals where he works with new musical artists. He is currently working with Zac Hacker (2007 USA TV Nashville Star). Gerald resides in Muscle Shoals, Ala.

Laura Leigh Goins ('94 & '07) is the Facility Nurse for a hospice in Iredell County, N.C. She and her husband, Roy, reside in Statesville, N.C.

David Reed Grissom ('94) and his wife **Melissa Fuller Grissom ('94)** live in Russellville, Ala., where he is president of Alabama Gun and Pawn, Inc. He also has businesses in Haleyville, Moulton, Sheffield and Red Bay. He is a member of the board of directors of the Community Spirit Bank, a member at Rockwood Baptist Church, and a member of the Russellville City Council. They have a daughter, Kate.

Bryan Walters ('94) is a National Sales Manager at Weber Marketing Systems. He and his wife, **Kelly Copeland Walters ('94)**, reside in Madison, Ala.

Beverly Byars ('95 & '05) is an accountant at Abroms & Associates, P.C., in Florence.

Jeffrey O'Kelly, MS, SM (ASCP) ('96) is the supervisor of Microbiology at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Ga. FMC is a 300-bed, Level II Trauma Center that serves northwest Georgia. Jeffrey was previously supervisor of Microbiology at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine in Gainesville, Fla. He received his master's degree in microbiology from Jacksonville State University in May of 2008.

Bradley Cook ('97) was recently promoted to Vice President of Sales at Creative Co-Op, Inc., in Memphis, Tenn. Bradley and wife Rachel reside in Hernando, Miss.

Darrell Long ('97) is now the Principal at Hazel Green High School. He was hired by the Madison County School Board in July of this year. Darrell was Assistant Principal at the school

the previous year. He and wife Kristi have three sons.

Clancy Ratliff ('97) recently published her article "Policing Miscarriage: Infertility Blogging, Rhetorical Enclaves, and the Case of House Bill 1677" in the Spring /Summer 2009 issue of Women's Studies Quarterly. She also published a chapter titled "'Some Rights Reserved': Weblogs with Creative Commons Licenses" in the edited collection *Composition and Copyright: Perspectives on Teaching, Text-Making, and Fair Use*, published in 2009 by the State University of New York Press. Clancy and her husband, Jonathan, have a one-year-old son named Henry and reside in Lafayette, La.

Lori Slade Wade ('97) is a Quality Assurance Consultant with the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources. Lori and husband James Rife Wade, III, reside in Killen, Ala.

Christy Hulsey Holcombe ('98) is a Graphic Designer and Digital Marketing Specialist with Kendall-Hartcraft. She and her husband, Jeffrey, reside in Huntsville, Ala.

Alicia Moore ('98) is a Senior Accountant at ISR Group, Inc., in Savannah, Tenn. She and her husband, Jonathan, have two daughters.

Jason Roberts ('98) was recently married to Sarah Treul in Grand Rapids, Mich. He received a master's degree and a Ph.D., both in political science, from the University of Minnesota.

James Scott Johnson ('99) recently accepted a position with Pulmonary Care of Central Florida as a pulmonary/critical care nurse practitioner. He currently resides in Maitland, Fla.

Scott Cantrell ('99) is an Agency Field Executive at State Farm Insurance. He and his wife, **Amber Frey Cantrell ('00)**, reside in Scottsdale, Ariz.

2000s

Sam Lee ('00) and his wife, **Mariela Fasce Lee ('00)**, will both be inducted into the University of North Alabama Athletic Hall of Fame as members of its 20th class. Sam earned All-American honors in baseball, while Mariela was a two-time volleyball All-American.

Lion Pride

COACHES AT THE TOP OF THEIR GAME

**Sports Week is sponsored by the
Alabama High School Athletic Association.**

During the summer of 2009, the head coaches for both the North and the South teams at the Alabama High School All-Star football game during All-Stars Sports Week were former University of North Alabama football players. That honor in itself brings recognition to the character and reputation of the football program at UNA.



Kevin Wieseman '91 and Fred Riley '82

Coach Kevin Wieseman

('91), North's coach, said, "Rarely do we get to spend a week in this unique format. To live, to sleep, to eat in this environment creates a bond with kids and coaches. I had a great year in the 6-A school classification and was selected from the other schools in the North District to lead this team. During All-Stars Week, I am coaching Seth Shotts and Matthew Tinny from Spain Park, who will join the UNA Lions this fall and coached Jared Bastin and Kaymeron Clay who will also play for the Lions this fall. I bring 32 football players to UNA camp each summer to surround my team with champions."

Wieseman graduated from UNA where he received a degree in secondary education in both history and biology. He completed his graduate studies at Alabama A & M University. He is beginning his 19th season (his ninth as head coach) at Huntsville High School where he also teaches 11th grade U.S. History. Kevin is married to **Stephanie Moore ('91)**. They have two sons.

Coach Fred Riley ('82), in his sixth year as head football coach and athletic

director of the Davidson High School Warriors in Mobile, rose to the top as coach of the South team. During his 28-year coaching career, Coach Riley has served as head coach at Robertsedale, Ensley, and Coffee High Schools. Additionally, he coached at Jacksonville State, UT Chattanooga, and Miami of Ohio. He earned his bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation and his master's in education from UNA. He is married to Susan and they have five children.

Riley played quarterback on the first conference championship team at UNA. Riley said, "Our team had great chemistry—we either liked each other or killed each other. We were the final team to live in Powers Hall when it was an athletic dorm. We had positive coaches in Wayne Grubbs, Jack Crowe and Ric Rhoades."

During All-Star Week, Riley coached Mabry Cook from T. R. Miller and during regular season he coached Michael Stroecker at Davidson. Both Cook and Stroecker will be playing with the UNA Lions this fall.

EDUCATIONAL, ATHLETIC OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND AT **Sports Week**



All-Stars Sports Week, held in Huntsville this summer, provides the coaching staffs of the Alabama High School Athletic Association member schools with excellent training in a variety of topics and sports. Coaches from all over the state attended this event for the purpose of learning and the sharing of ideas.

The All-Star games, which were held in conjunction with the coaching clinics, provided some of the best athletes in the state the opportunity to show their skills. It gave them a chance to meet and compete with other young people their same age from across the state as they shared this wonderful experience with each other. Some of these young people have never been outside of their county and this in itself was an educational experience.

Everything that is done by the AHSAA and the member schools represented ultimately is done to enhance the educational as well as athletic opportunities for the student athletes of this state.



Greg Brewer '80, Assistant Director
Alabama High School Athletic Association

CLASS NOTES



Sam played two years of minor league baseball upon graduating UNA. The couple and their daughter currently reside in Royal Palm Beach, Fla., where Mariela teaches in an elementary school and Sam is a firefighter.

Kennedy E. Meaders ('00) is the Chief of Police at the Mississippi College for Women. He and wife Hope reside in Columbus, Miss.

Misty Williams ('00) has been working as the Marketing and Public Relations Director at New Hope Telephone Cooperative since May of 2008. She and her husband, Marty, reside in New Hope, Ala.

Dr. Lisa Kessler, DO, ('01) graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM) with the Degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine in May of 2009. Lisa and husband John have two children: Tryston and Colton. She plans to enter the Family Medicine internship program at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Fairlea, W.Va.

Emmajean M. King ('02) recently started her own business known as King's Medical-Legal Consultants & Associates where she is a Senior Consultant. Emmajean is a resident of Courtland, Ala.

Emily Marshall Linenberger ('02) recently retired from Bayer where she was in Medical Device Sales to be a stay-at-home mom. She and her husband, Keith, have a son. Emily and her family are moving to Germany for Keith's work as a Major in the USAF where he will be a flight commander in Germany.

Dr. Mark Taylor ('02) is an Optometrist for the U.S. Army stationed in Fort Campbell, Ky. Wife **Hannah Elizabeth Taylor ('01)** is a production chemist at Surmodics in Birmingham, Ala. They have one daughter, Abigail Jane. Mark and Hannah reside in Fultondale, Ala.

Amanda Summer Turner ('02) is the Contracts Administrator at Dynetics, Inc., in Huntsville, Ala. Amanda married Bradley James Turner in May of this year. She and her husband reside in Madison, Ala.

Amanda Bass ('03) is the Database Administrator and Application Designer at Neptune Technology Group. Amanda and husband Conrad reside in Montgomery, Ala.

Margaret Brown ('03) is a Payroll Specialist at the University of North Alabama. She and her husband, Roger, live in Florence.

Melanie Moor Danielowicz ('03) is pursuing a Master of Arts in counseling at the University of North Alabama while serving as a volunteer co-coordinator for Angel Food Ministries at Edgemont United Methodist Church. She is the mother of three children: Jessica, Kirkland and Lauren. Melanie is a resident of Florence.

Eric Pamperin ('03) is a Senior Support Specialist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. Eric and wife Sara reside in Indianapolis, Ind.

Garrett Keith ('04) is the strength and conditioning/offensive line coach at Westminster Christian Academy. He and his wife, Leah, reside in Huntsville, Ala.

Allison Wells Taylor ('04) has been a physical education teacher at Walls Elementary School since 2008. Allison and husband David reside in Como, Miss.

Sharla Horton ('05) is a Senior Account Executive at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala.

Laurie Ann Roper ('05) just had her first daughter, Aubree Elizabeth, in March. She is an Associate Technical Specialist at Honda Manufacturing of Alabama,

LLC. She and her family reside in Southside, Ala.

Eddie Ronilo ('06) and **Lindsay Choat Ronilo ('06)** were married in March of this year and now reside in Montgomery, Ala. Eddie works at Lowe's Home Improvement in Prattville while Lindsay is finishing up law school.

Kattie Chantel Fletcher Young ('06 & '08) is a Senior Case Technician and Legal Assistant at ODAR Social Security Administration in Florence. She and her husband, Orlando, reside in Florence.

Whitney A. Dean ('07) is in a band called Firewood that will be on the cover of the No'Ala Magazine in the fall of 2009. The band has a new CD out with a single in regular rotation on Star94fm and WLAY. Whitney was recently married to wife Bethany in April of this year. They reside in Huntsville, Ala.

LaShana C. Jimmar ('07) works for a law firm in Atlanta, Ga.

Alexandria Mae Bratcher ('08) is a Project Coordinator at E.S. Robbins Corporation in Muscle Shoals, Ala.

Luis D. Fisher ('08) is working as the Contact Representative for the Department of Treasury in Nashville, Tenn.

Amy Garrison ('08) is the Coordinator of Student Organizations at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C. She currently resides in Arlington, Va.

Romeo Gail Gillyard II ('08) resides in Florence, Ala, where he is a police officer with the University of North Alabama.

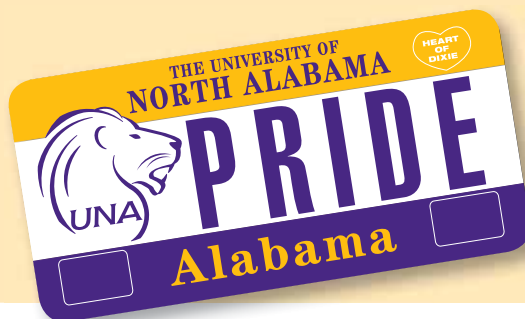
Clayton Grider ('08) is the Youth Minister at First United Methodist Church in Scottsboro. His wife, **Kristin Peck Grider ('08)**, teaches at Stevenson Elementary School. They reside in Scottsboro, Ala.

Tiffany Elaine Green ('08) has been an editor and reporter at The Cullman Times since July of 2008. She has a daughter named Mariah. They reside in Cullman, Ala.

Barbara Leatherwood ('08) is currently working as a Registered Nurse in the new Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Magnolia Regional Health Center in Corinth, Miss. She and her husband, Glen, have three children; their oldest son is a current UNA undergraduate student. Barbara and her family reside in Glen, Miss.

Katie Ree Woodard Stidham ('08) is teaching first grade at Thomas Street Elementary in Tupelo, Miss. She and husband Kyle reside in Belden, Miss.

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When you buy a UNA license plate, \$47.50* of the \$50 fee goes to student scholarships.

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UNA ALUMNI

1. Aprell Curtis-Hartsfield ('00) and Jim Curtis ('78)
2. Patricia ('77) and Don Cox ('98) with Joe Pride ('69 & '72)
3. Jeff and Jennifer Steffen Kimball ('97) with daughter
4. Romana and Roman McLeod ('95) with Alesia Allen ('83 & '90) and nephew
5. Virginia Cockrell ('52)
6. Charles Winters ('86), Greg Patterson ('72) and Matthew Schmitz ('00)
7. John and Rosemary Hampton Koger ('62)
8. Tom McNeill ('69), Donna Kicker Copeland ('78), and Jeff Emerson ('93)
9. Matt ('97) and Greta Cooper ('96) with Madeline and Bryson
10. Lydia Smith ('75)
11. Spalding ('78) and Johnette Pyron
12. Jim ('69) and Dee Grant with Alan Medders
13. Doug Sledge ('68)
14. Jeff ('92) and Michele Smith ('92)
15. Doris and Fred Aldridge ('54) with Jerry and Bill Godsey ('58)



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When the Buddha Met Bubba

Bubba takes readers on a rollicking ride

By Kathy Lee McClelland

After a long and successful career, UNA alumnus **John Lee ('78)** has turned another chapter in his life, and has written his first novel—a Southern comedy entitled "When the Buddha Met Bubba." The book has been bought by Turner Publishing and is scheduled for release in Fall 2009.

Lee is best known for his national bestselling books "The Flying Boy: Healing the Wounded Man," "Facing the Fire:



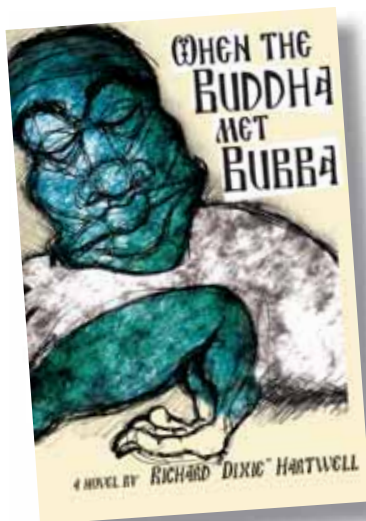
Experiencing and Expressing Anger Appropriately," "Growing Yourself Back Up: Understanding Emotional Regression," "The Missing Peace: Solving the Anger Problem for Alcoholics/Addicts and Those Who Love Them," and 15 other titles. He is internationally recognized as a leader and early pioneer in the men's movement,

recovery movement, and anger management, as well as in the fields of relationships, co-dependency, and creativity.

Lee has trained and consulted at some of world's most prestigious institutions: The Betty Ford Clinic, Guy's Hospital in London, South Pacific Private Hospital in Sydney, Hanley Center, The Cleveland Clinic, and has presented two programs every year for 19 years at Mountain Area Health Education Center in Asheville, N.C. He also taught for many years at The New York Open Center and The Omega Institute in New York. Lee has appeared numerous times on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and has been featured on 20/20, CNN, MSNBC, *National Public Radio*, Barbara Walters' *The View*, and with Dr. Mehmet Oz on *Oprah & Friends Radio*. Lee has been interviewed and published by *Newsweek Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and dozens of other national and international newspapers, magazines, and radio talk shows.

Lee said of his first novel, "I created an alter ego with my pen name, Richard 'Dixie' Hartwell, so I could finally write the kind of book I've always dreamed about."

"When the Buddha Met Bubba" is a whimsical fantasy that deals with the integrity and surrender that comes when a likeable redneck, Bubba, meets his magical mentor, Pu Tai (one of the many names for the Buddha). They set off on an unusual and unique journey through Lee's (and Bubba's) home state



of Alabama beginning in Scottsboro's famous Unclaimed Baggage, on to the Shoals' area, and ending in Mentone. It has as its center a love story between a man and a woman and the devotion of a beautiful gay couple. Throw in the struggle to heal a father-son relationship and some old Southern prejudice, add a lot of humor and true Buddhist and Christian compassion, and you end up with a quirky novel that is not only different, but just plain fun.

"Dixie Hartwell [John Lee] is the only fellow I know who can get away with a line like, 'I opened my eyes to see if I was dead,'" said Ceci Miller, author of numerous books and owner of CeciBooks Editorial and Publishing Consultancy. "Bubba Coker is a grubbier-

than-all-get-out north Alabama man; the mystic Pu Tai is his enlightened counterpart. I loved meeting them both, and witnessing the discovery of the common ground in which they exist. I will not soon forget the colorful crowd who populate this novel, nor the timeless truths their story embodies."

This book is sure to make you laugh, cry, get angry, sad, and wonder about the very meaning of life, religion, spirituality, and even your own personal relationships. It is definitely a "must read" for anyone and everyone who loves reading a book that will make you feel like you are on a rollercoaster of emotions.

Additionally, in June 2009, Concrete Dream Pictures, a film and video production company specializing in independent films, bought the option to produce a feature film based on the novel.

Steve Richerson ('84), producer/director/writer for Concrete Dream Pictures, has a degree in theater/radio, television & film from the University of North Alabama and has studied comedy writing at Second City in Los Angeles, and acting at HB Studio in New York. The idea that the camera can see an idea and an image from multiple perspectives, like in a dream, really hit home for Steve and his independent production company, Concrete Dream Pictures, was instantly born.

Lee explained why he is thrilled that Concrete Dream Pictures has purchased the option rights to his story: "When the Buddha Met Bubba" is set in north Alabama and I'm from the area. When it was time to sell option rights for my novel I knew I wanted somebody that understood that part of the country. Steve Richerson is from northwest Alabama and both of us are graduates of the University of North Alabama. I think his background and passion are a great combination for creating movie magic."



IN MEMORY

NON-GRADUATE/ UNIDENTIFIED YEARS

Dr. James D. Burney was a member of First Baptist Church of Florence. He was also a retired professor in the Education Department of the University of North Alabama, having taught from August 1976 until his retirement in December 2006.

Raymond W. England was a Korean veteran of the U.S. Navy. Raymond retired from the Federal Aviation Administration as an air traffic controller. He was also a member of Woodlawn Church of Christ and an avid patron of the W.C. Handy Musical Festival.

1950s

William "Bill" McDonald ('52) was one of the first members to graduate from the ROTC program at UNA. Bill was a Korean War veteran and served in the military for 38 years. From 1968 until 1989, he served as chairman of the Florence Historical Board, and in 1989, he was appointed Florence City Historian. In

1979 he published the first of 15 books he would write. "Paths in the Briar Patch" was Bill's memoir of growing up in the Shoals. His last book, "Civil War Tales of the Tennessee Valley," was published in 2003. He was also a longtime TimesDaily columnist, a United Methodist minister, and served as chief of the budget staff for the Tennessee Valley National Fertilizer Development Center.

Paul Wendell Taylor ('55) retired from Reynolds Metals as a supervisor after 30 years service and was a member of Petersville Church of Christ. He graduated from Florence State in 1955, and while at Florence was an outstanding football player and was a member of the 1952 team that had the best record that stood for 24 years. In 1955, he was a member of the NAIA HELMS Foundation All-American Team and was the second line football player to be named All American by this foundation. In 1992, he was inducted into the UNA Sports Hall of Fame, and he was also a member of the UNA Sportsman's Club.

Jay Nell Nixon ('57) of Hamilton, Ala., worked with the Marion County School System as a teacher for 39 years before her retirement. She was a dedicated and passionate educator who

was a source of inspiration and encouragement for hundreds of children during her long career. She was a faithful member of the Barnesville Free Will Baptist Church and active in various community and charitable organizations throughout her life.

1970s

Patricia D. Kosak ('74) was a native and longtime resident of Florence. She and her family took several trips. During the 60 years of their marriage, she and husband Fred hiked and camped with their dogs in many of our state and national parks and most of the United States.

1990s

Kenneth E. Whitten ('97) was a Colbert County native and member of Cox Boulevard Church of Christ.

Alumni Information Update

Name (include maiden name if applicable) _____

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Business telephone _____ Position _____

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Have you won an award, changed jobs, earned a promotion, or completed another degree? Your UNA classmates would like to know more about it! Send us your news and we will publish it in a subsequent issue of the UNA Alumni Magazine. Please complete the form and send it to the Office of Alumni Relations, UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001 or e-mail to alumni1@una.edu.

UPDATE YOUR RECORDS