

Seasons

The Magazine of Samford University

Spring 2004



SPIDERMEN



from the
desk of the
President

Sent to the store to buy sugar, who would ask, “What brand?” Sugar is sugar. Other than the color of the package, no one processor is able to distinguish its brand from another. While various types of sugar (confectionary sugar, unrefined sugar, etc.) are common, refined white sugar is a known quantity. In a blindfolded test, no one could identify one brand from another by tasting a few granules of sugar from different producers. Sugar is sugar. So, why would anyone buy anything but the cheapest sugar, since price is the only distinguishing factor?

What is true of sugar is not true of higher education. First, a college education is not a consumable. It is a lifetime holding. As I remind students each year at Commencement, few things in all the world stay with you longer than your alma mater. As long as you live, and after you have lived, your university is as ineradicable as your social security number and blood type.

College is more than a credentialing agency. If a student were after only a degree, as though a degree were a commodity to be used up, then any degree would suffice. If the student seeks an educational experience—one that will help shape character; focus hopes, dreams and aspirations; develop understanding of the world and how one finds a place in it; create better understanding of ourselves and our Lord; add expertise that will help to make a living and a life—then the student would do well to understand the distinctions, the character, of individual colleges and universities.

Recently, I talked with a student and parent seeking to decide between their largest state university and Samford. Though both are accredited by the same agency, two institutions could hardly be less alike. From one being accountable to the state, the other accountable to churches; from mission statement to the way trustees are chosen; from sheer size to the amount of attention undergraduates receive; from the emphasis upon athletics to campus rules of conduct—institutions of higher learning have corporate cultures and corporate personalities, and they vary widely.

I’ve heard of parents who spent months researching the best automobile for their son, considering differentiating factors—safety, efficiency, service, durability, comfort, value—and they

Not Stanford!

Not Stamford!

Not Sanford!

Samford!

carefully chose NOT the one that cost the least, but the one they deemed the best value. A year later, they let their son choose his university, and they concurred, solely because it had the lowest charges. The car, a mere implement of transportation, will be forgotten in a junkyard in a few years. The university education will have shaped a life and destiny and will still be relevant to the individual, even 50 or 60 years later. Still, cost was essentially the dominant factor.

Clearly, Samford seeks to differentiate itself. It does not for a moment intend to be a degree-granting entity that simply lets a student complete the checklist of required courses, pay the fees, frame a degree. We want the student to experience a special culture of inspiration, to grow in knowledge and understanding, “in reverence and admonition of the Lord,” to value life and, lifelong, to draw on a fund of learning and of “how to learn.”

Obviously, for most of us, cost is a realistic consideration. Private universities have no choice but to charge more in order to be private and to keep many of those distinguishing characteristics, not having the taxing authority of the state, and without the \$8,000-or-so operating dollars that the state invests in every student at a state university.

When the Samford Board of Trustees issued its Promise, it committed Samford to its rightful place as a distinctive brand, identifiably different from the 3,600 other accredited colleges and universities in America. The trustees said Samford should be a particular, identifiable place of academic vigor, of Christian influence, of genuine community. Integrating those three elements makes Samford SAMFORD!



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Biology professors Mike Howell and Ron Jenkins found a void in pictorial teaching guides on spiders. They decided to produce their own, meeting some interesting critters along the way, including the Brown Recluse Spider at right. Their new book, out this spring, has been well-received.

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Former Samford First Lady Lolla Wright celebrated her 90th birthday in November. Samford hosted a birthday party and unveiled a new portrait of her in Wright Center. She looks back on happy Samford days.

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Cover: Biology professors Ron Jenkins, left, and Mike Howell search for spiders to photograph. See page 6.

CHARTING SAM

■ An increase of 400 in the undergraduate student body, bringing overall enrollment to 5,000 with about 70 percent being undergraduate (Samford's current enrollment is 4,440.)

■ Living space for the increased number of resident students at a cost of about \$10 million

■ At least \$20 million in additional endowed scholarships

"We want outstanding students who are motivated to serving others and to making the world better, including students with modest means and those from other parts of the world."

—President Thomas E. Corts

■ Minimum of 20 additional endowed professorships

■ Endowed lectureships for each of Samford's eight colleges

"A University is intended to stretch beyond the lifetimes of any of us. Renewing itself, it does not grow old, does not retire, never finishes its course. We have the satisfaction of passing the torch to our successors who will perpetuate its distinctive mission."

With these words, President Thomas E. Corts set Samford University on its course for the next decade and beyond. Addressing students, faculty and staff at the opening convocation of the spring semester, which was also celebrated as Founder's Day, he outlined a sweeping initiative approved by the University Board of Trustees underscoring Samford's commitment to offer "a vigorous academic experience, remain loyal to Christian beliefs and values, and continue as a friendly, caring community."

These commitments were approved as part of the plan by trustees to state "the bed-rock elements of Samford University's identity and mission," said Dr. Corts. He described the commitments as a "promise" for all Samford generations.

"Samford is a special place, an alternative place," he said. "This is a university of lifelong, life-changing significance. More than can be measured on any scale, lives and destinies are shaped here.

"Our generation must leave Samford even better than we found it," he stressed.

Toward that end, Corts outlined specific parts of the initiative approved by trustees after months of study (*see above*). The plan, he said, would "define Samford's future." It would add endowed professorships and scholarships, build new buildings and renovate old ones, increase the size of the student body, and grow the endowment.

The price tag for new programs and facilities could be as much as \$200 million, Corts said.

"Samford is today launching a new effort," he said, "more specifically,

defining its future. It is intensifying its public presence and more extensively portraying itself to the public, and aggressively gathering resources, both short-term and long-term.

"These are not plans that will be accomplished in weeks, or even a couple of years," he said. "They are well-thought plans that, once funded and implemented, will give Samford a running leap into the future."

The reaction of donors and potential donors to specific goals will help determine the order in which

FORD'S FUTURE

■ Arena and fitness/wellness center

■ An instrumental music and recital hall for the School of Performing Arts

■ Renovation of Brooks Hall to serve as a home for the Howard College of Arts and Sciences
(Every Samford undergraduate takes core courses in arts and sciences.)

■ Renovation of Beeson University Center, Robinson Hall law building, Pittman residence hall, and Dwight and Lucille Beeson Center for the Healing Arts, along with replumbing and rewiring of other older structures



Samford plans to increase its student body to 5,000 during the next decade. Additional physical facilities, scholarships and professorships are part of the mix.

by coasting—they came by hard work, creative thinking and sacrificial giving. We cannot rest on the attainments of recent years and simply fade into the sunset. Samford, the university that will outlive each of us, must boldly grasp the destiny within its reach.” ■

projects are completed, said Corts. “All the needs are immediate,” he said.

Samford officials expect the instrumental music and recital hall for the School of Performing Arts to be one of the early projects completed, although no timetable was announced.

“Samford holds a unique place in Alabama’s milieu,” Corts noted. “Almost every state has at least one strong, private, nongovernment university that contributes to the quality of life, to choice among the college-going public, while having a significant role in the state’s

livelihood. Clearly, Samford is that university for Alabama. Most regions of America have at least one strong academic and seriously Christian institution. Clearly, Samford is that university for the Southeast.

“But the achievements earned to date did not come

“Our generation must leave Samford even better than we found it.”

Thomas Corts

Enron Whistle-blower Tells Chilling Tale of Corporate Ruin

“It’s the slow steps to disaster we all must pay attention to,” she said, because even a relatively small ethical lapse—stealing a company pen or padding an expense account—‘dulls your sense of right and wrong’ and compromises willingness to speak out against more significant lapses.”

by Sean Flynt

Famed Enron whistle-blower Sherron S. Watkins recently outlined for Samford students the ethical failures underlying her former employer’s spectacular collapse. Celebrated among *Time* magazine’s Persons of the Year in 2002, Watkins shares the lessons of her experience throughout the country.

Watkins, who visited Samford February 19 thanks to a collaboration between the School of Business, Campus Ministries and Davis Special Speaker Fund, was a high-flying accountant who traveled the world for Enron for many years. But at age 42 and with a two-year-old daughter to consider, Watkins traded her glamorous position for what she thought would be quiet, back-room accounting jobs.

In her new position under Chief Financial Officer Andrew Fastow, Watkins soon discovered Enron account discrepancies in the hundreds of millions of dollars. “The math didn’t add up,” she said.

When Watkins questioned her colleagues about the discrepancies, they explained to her, “without a

bit of alarm in their voices,” the complex and apparently fraudulent structures at the heart of the corporation.

Watkins approached Enron CEO Ken Lay with what she thought was shocking news—that unprecedented conflicts of interest had allowed Fastow, in particular, to create structures both within and outside of Enron that enriched himself and exposed the corporation to financial ruin and legal action.

Watkins now admits that she placed too much trust in Lay, thinking he was merely “out of touch.” Lay opened an investigation into her charges, but Watkins says that effort was a “whitewash,” intended only to find out if there was some fraud that Enron executives weren’t already aware of. Later, as a witness before a U.S. Senate committee investigating the collapse of Enron, Watkins learned that Lay had launched a parallel, but unsuccessful, investigation to find legal grounds to fire her before she approached the financial press or federal regulatory agencies.

Six weeks later, Enron was bankrupt, Watkins was on the way to fame as a heroic whistle-blower, and the

Sherron Watkins speaks to Samford audience.



company’s former executives began their slow march toward indictment. Watkins was especially outraged by the conduct of former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling. Skilling served as CEO for less than a year before suddenly resigning, citing personal reasons as well as the disappointing performance of the company’s stock. Where some might call in sick, she said, Skilling “called in rich” and walked away from the mess that destroyed the company soon after his departure.

Enron declared bankruptcy on December 2, 2001. On December 3, 5,000 Enron employees were told that they had received their last Enron paycheck and might lose their health insurance as well. Their misery was soon compounded by revelations that Enron executives had essentially looted Enron’s coffers to cushion their own fall.

“Really, it created an angry mob,” Watkins said of the executives’ betrayal of their employees. “When you’re the captain of the ship, you’re responsible for the crew.” She predicted to her 8 a.m. Samford audience that, for his alleged role in the fraud, Skilling “is headed for the handcuffed perp-walk any

day now.” By 9 a.m., Internet media outlets had posted photographs of a handcuffed Skilling in the custody of federal law enforcement agents.

Enron is gone, but the corporate and individual ethics questions it raised remain. Although Watkins only recently had moved into a position that allowed her to uncover Enron’s accounting fraud, she had by that time worked for the corporation for eight years. “How was I working for a company that had become so rotten?” she wondered. She pointed out that many Enron executives were considered good Christian people. Ken Lay is the son of a Baptist minister, and his own son is studying to enter the ministry. Andrew Fastow, recently sentenced to prison for his role in Enron’s collapse, is a conservative Jew. She also reminded the capacity crowd in Samford’s Reid Chapel that “the Bible is chock-full of good people doing the wrong thing.”

Watkins warned that the process of ethical ruin is not as straightforward as approaching the edge of a cliff and deciding at the last moment whether or not to take that final, catastrophic step. She

compared the process to walking down an ever-steeper slope that doesn't advertise its dangers until one has passed the point of no return. "It's the slow steps to disaster we all must pay attention to," she said, because even a relatively small ethical lapse—stealing a company pen or padding an expense account—"dulls your sense of right and wrong" and compromises willingness to speak out against more significant lapses.

Ultimately, Watkins said, corporate ethics depend on the ethics of the individual. "Don't fall for any groupthink or rationalization that it's okay because it's not you, it's your corporation," she warned, adding that many lower level employees are indicted long before high profile executives are led away in handcuffs.

Watkins also urged students to heed their personal ethical alarm bells and leave unethical employers before it becomes too late. When a corporation claims to value a code of ethics but rewards those who ignore that code, it's time to leave, she said.

According to Watkins, on paper, Enron was at the "top of the list" in corporate ethics. The Enron code of ethics was ever-present on posters and other daily reminders. She said even Enron's official telephone notepad carried famous exhortations to ethical conduct. In fact, that notepad's quotation of Martin Luther King, Jr. provides an ironic and instructive moral to Watkins' story: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." ■

Macon Award Goes to Shepherd

Dr. Betty Sue Shepherd has taught piano at Samford for more than 45 years, beginning in East Lake when the school was Howard College.

Her students have enjoyed recurring success in regional and national competitions, and in admission to graduate school.

"She is known as a teacher who combines the establishment of high expectations for her students with a willingness to invest extra time with them so that they might fulfill those expectations," said Provost Brad Creed.

Shepherd was named winner of the George Macon Teaching Award at the semester-opening convocation Jan. 29, and her selection was greeted with prolonged



Dr. Betty Sue Shepherd

applause. The honor goes annually to a faculty member whose performance as a teacher, counselor and friend demonstrates the ability to inspire students to greatness.

Shepherd, who has the longest tenure of any active faculty member, was named Teacher of the Year by the Alabama Music Teachers Association in 2001.

A concert pianist who has been organist at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church for 35 years,

Shepherd is the author of two publications of hymn arrangements, *By Request: Favorite Hymns for Organ* and *Sacred Concert Stylings*, for piano. She has recorded "Shepherd's Song." ■

Samford, BellSouth Work To Keep New Teachers

Nationally, half of all new teachers in urban areas leave the profession in the first five years, often feeling overwhelmed by the job requirements. Samford is joining hands with the BellSouth Foundation and other BellSouth partners to do something about the problem.

The Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies will manage a project funded by BellSouth to assist new Alabama teachers during their early years. Birmingham City Schools teachers will be the first participants in the program known as the BellSouth Quality in the Classroom Teaching Initiative.

"This new BellSouth program goes beyond simply helping new teachers survive their first years in the classroom," said education Dean Ruth C. Ash. "It will ensure they have access to high-quality professional development targeted to their needs. Most importantly, it will make a significant difference in their success as educators."

The initiative is a five-year program that will direct more than \$10 million toward professional development, recruitment and retention of teachers across BellSouth's nine-state region.

Dr. Deborah Childs-Bowen, director of the education school's Institute for Teaching and Student Achievement, will lead Samford's involvement. Already, the institute has trained 26 teachers to serve as mentors.

Samford President Thomas E. Corts, noting that teaching quality is considered the number one factor in student development, said, "This program allows Samford to participate in a very practical way. It is less ivory tower, more hands-on, in approach. It is very community oriented."

The project will fund continuing education for about 100 new Birmingham City Schools teachers in the first year. Later, the program will be offered at other selected school systems in Alabama. ■

Shades Creek Project Gets \$42,000 in Grants

Samford received grants totaling \$42,000 to assist with the revitalization of Shades Creek between Old Highway 31 and Homewood High School. The grants will help return the creek and surrounding area to its natural state for use as an outdoor classroom.

The Hugh Kaul Foundation donated \$20,000 for the project to eradicate non-native species such as kudzu and privet, and replant native species such as azaleas and mountain laurel. The Alabama Power Foundation Tree Assistance Program gave

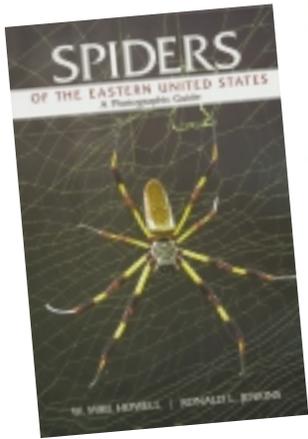
\$2,000 to purchase approximately 40 trees to be planted alongside Shades Creek. Earlier, the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham donated a starter grant of \$20,000 to the revitalization project.

Samford undertook the project with Friends of Shades Creek, Alabama Rivers Alliance and the Birmingham Audubon Society. Project managers are biology professors Larry Davenport and Ron Jenkins, and Vulcan Center for Environmental Stewardship administrator Connie Lankford. ■



SPIDERMEN

IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE WHITE BEACH WOLF SPIDER, AND OTHER ARACHNID TALES



Biology professors Ron Jenkins, left, and Mike Howell photograph specimens for their book on spiders. Their subjects include the rare White Beach Wolf Spider, top left, Brazilian Wandering Spider, top right, and Black Widow. The book is available in the Samford Bookstore.



Trapdoor spiders usually are not very aggressive, but Samford biology

professor Mike Howell has met the exception.

With a class collecting specimens in the field two years ago, Dr. Howell dug up a trapdoor spider that was about 12 inches below ground surface.

"I reached down to gently pick up the unearthed spider, and it jumped on my hand and sank its fangs in deep enough to draw blood," said Howell.

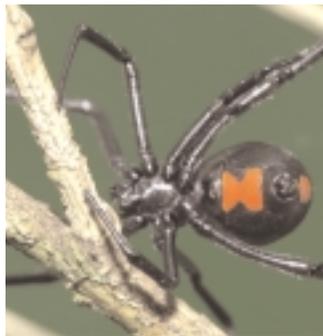
"After about 30 seconds of intense pain and 10 minutes of numbness at the site of the bite, I recovered, except for an increased heart rate, which may or may not have been caused by the spider."

Howell and biology professor Ron Jenkins have traveled thousands of miles since the mid-1990s collecting information and specimens for a book on spiders. The previous episode was easily Howell's most frightening, but he and Jenkins have plenty of spider stories to tell.

Another one concerned the deadly Brazilian Wandering Spider.

"We showed a film to a class depicting a worker on a banana farm in South America being bitten by one of these spiders," said Howell. "The worker was dead in 30 minutes due to the powerful neurotoxin released by the spider."

"One of our students, Tom Landry, who saw the film worked part-time at a local grocery in the produce market. A few weeks later, he was uncrating a



shipment of bananas. Inside the box was a stow-away Brazilian Wandering Spider. It's a vicious, aggressive spider about three inches across the legs with bright red fangs."

Howell said the student, "having received a great education at Samford," immediately recognized it.

"He carefully coaxed the spider into a large zip-top plastic bag and brought it to Dr. Jenkins and me to verify its identity," said Howell. The professors confirmed what the student suspected.

Most of the spiders studied by the biologists for their book are harmless to humans. The book, *Spiders of the Eastern United States: A Photographic Guide*, carries information on and pictures of 165 species. The 366-page volume was published this spring by Pearson Education, the world's largest textbook publishing company.

Howell and Jenkins compiled the guide because of a void in spider books with photos. They plan to use it in their upper-level class in invertebrate field zoology. Pearson will market it to the educational audience. Dr. Norman Platnick, curator of spiders at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, called the book "splendid" and added, "I am much enjoying the photos." Already, the two biologists are working on a second spider guide to the western United States.

Even though most spiders are harmless to humans, all spiders are

poisonous to something, Howell noted. Spiders eat insects, and in some cases, other spiders, killing their prey by injecting poison with their fangs. They provide important ecological control.

Howell and Jenkins say you're never very far from a spider. They proved this on their multiyear odyssey collecting facts and photos of arachnids.

"You probably have a hundred species around your house," said Howell. On one trip to western North Carolina, he looked under a picnic table and discovered a Black Widow Spider that had been within five inches of a picnicker who had just left.

During their travels, the two biologists encountered some rare species. One was the Bolas Spider, which builds no web but sits on a leaf and dangles a single line of silk with a ball at the end. When a moth flies nearby, the spider flicks the line around it, draws it in and stabs it with its fangs.

Another rare spider the two studied was the White Beach Wolf Spider, which lives only on the white sands of the northern rim of the Gulf of Mexico. This spider uses its coloration as camouflage and rarely ventures into nearby vegetation. However, it is losing out to the condominiums and strip malls being built there, and is largely limited now to Dauphin Island and a few national seashore park areas, said Jenkins.

Drew Hataway, a senior biology student at Samford, has surveyed the White Beach Wolf Spider from Mississippi throughout the Florida panhandle. His data will be published in the *Journal of Arachnology* and will be used to protect the spider and its beaches.

While the White Beach Wolf Spider is rare, other varieties of Wolf Spiders are plentiful. Jenkins said you can see a lot of them in your backyard on warm nights.

"Go out and put a flashlight beside your head," he said. "You'll see hundreds of greenish pin-point lights. Those are the Wolf Spiders looking back at you." ■

NSF Grant Broadens GIS Use

Geography students use GIS—short for Geographic Information Systems—to organize all manner of map data on a computer.

Now, Samford students in subjects as varied as history and biology are using GIS mapping techniques to get a better look at their course content.

With a National Science Foundation grant of almost \$200,000, Samford is introducing GIS techniques into introductory courses across its arts and sciences curriculum. The history and biology departments are among the earliest participants.

"GIS enables students to visualize data more readily," said Dr. James Brown, who is using the technique to teach the importance of travel corridors in history. "About 80 percent of the data stored in computers can be accessed in some form of map format."

Brown used GIS to teach about the Vera Cruz-to-Mexico City corridor in Mexican history during the fall. Now, he has added five additional transportation corridors that were similarly important in the history of Africa, the Mideast, South Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia.

"In the fall, students worked in pairs, with the data already provided, to create a realistic, colored-by-elevation terrain map with appropriate hill shading, roads, railroads, rivers, urban areas and smaller city sites," said Brown.

The experience not only taught them about their subject, he said, but showed them the power of GIS as a learning tool. "You can click on the data you want and instantly make it part of the map." ■

This spring, students will complete a research project involving some type of movement within their corridor. They will present their results in a traditional research paper and in a GIS mapping format.

"Geospatial methods are being applied increasingly across a growing spectrum of professional and academic fields," said Dr. Max Baber of the Samford Department of Geography, director of Samford's NSF grant. "What's important about this grant is that it is enabling Samford to teach the application of an emerging technology in so many academic areas."

Biology Professor Robert Stiles and his class will use GIS to study what the removal of part of an old, low-level bridge over the Cahaba River will mean.

"The hope is the removal will cause silt around the bridge to move out faster," said Dr. Stiles. "We will check the habitat over time to see how it's going."

Another biology class taught by Dr. Betsy Dobbins studied water quality and fish distribution in the Shades Creek Watershed.

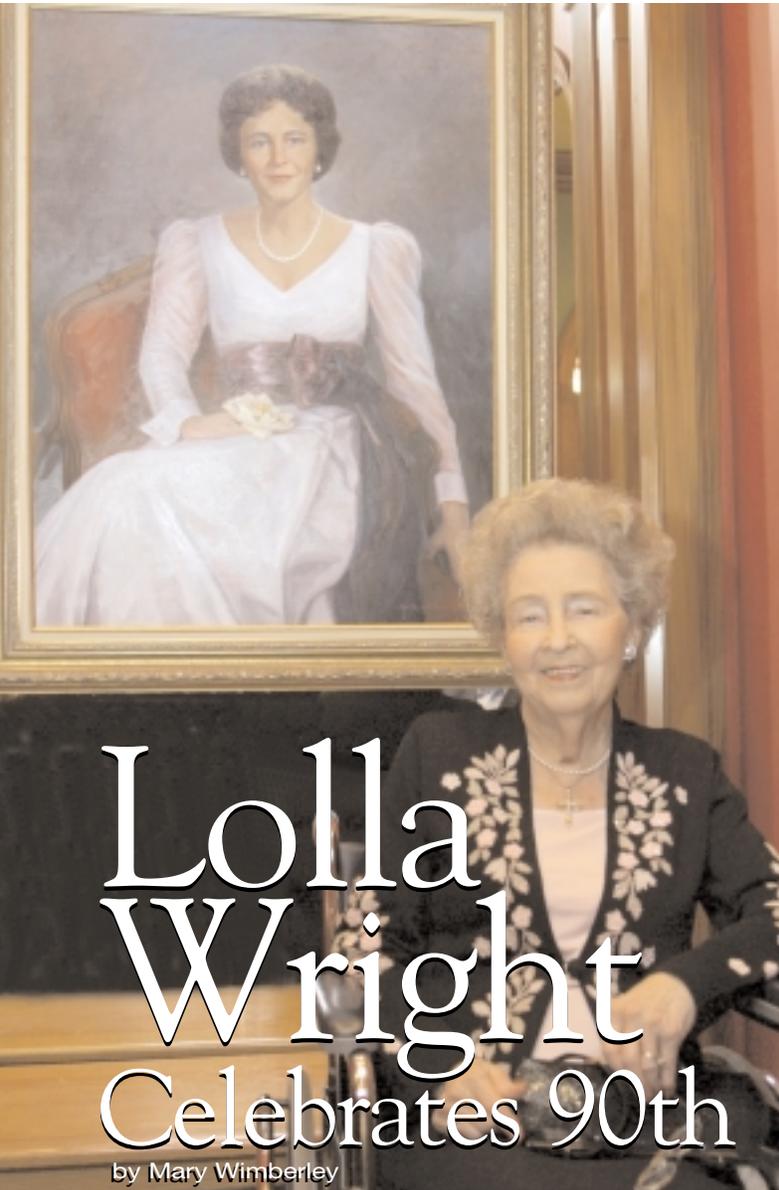
History Professor Marjorie Walker's class looked at old maps of Birmingham showing the makeup of city blocks back to the 1880s.

Geography Professor Eric Fournier has used GIS to explore global population issues as well as AIDS in Africa.

The NSF grant of \$194,605 was awarded to Samford during 2003. It provided training for 14 arts and sciences faculty to study ways to use GIS techniques in introductory courses. Dr. Paul Blanchard, biology professor who has used GIS previously, was training director. ■



Students Emily Mathis and Charlton Hollon use computer map to study Vera Cruz-to-Mexico City corridor.



Samford unveiled a new portrait of Lolla Wright for the foyer of Wright Center at her 90th birthday party in November.

dog, had faithfully attended law classes and was given an honorary degree.

“One time when we were in Lebanon, I dug some dirt from the site of Rascal’s grave and brought it back to the Samford campus. A physical plant worker helped me bury it,” she said. Today, a plaque marks the spot where students gather once a year to pay homage to the canine.

A fervent football and basketball fan, she seldom missed a game.

She credits two trustee wives, Clara (Mrs. Clarence) Rice and Hattie Mae (Mrs. Frank, Sr.) Samford, with introducing her to the community. They also helped her furnish the president’s home and acquire elegant appointments for the school.

“We furnished the date rooms in the girls’ dorms with items that were donated,” she recalled. With a twinkle in her eye, she takes responsibility for adding a touch of ambiance to the cubicles where couples visited.

“Evan Zeiger [financial vice president] had put 100-watt bulbs in the lamps. I replaced them with 20-watt bulbs. The larger bulbs were just too bright for those small rooms.”

She took great delight in introducing couples, many of whom later married. She easily ticks off names, from both student and faculty ranks, who married as a result of her matchmaking skills.

“Joanie Seever and Hugh Bailey were one of my first couples to marry. I was in their wedding when I was 48 years old,” said Wright, who was an attendant to the bride.

The Baileys, Samford graduates who have two grown daughters and two grandchildren, live happily in Valdosta, Ga., where he is retired president of Valdosta State University.

Wright attended the University of Alabama, where

she was a double history/math major, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and an ROTC sponsor. After graduation, she lived in Louisville, Ky., where she worked briefly as a secretary with Procter & Gamble. She didn’t like the job, but she liked being near an old childhood friend, Les Wright, who was attending the University of Louisville. She enrolled in graduate school at Louisville. She and Les both earned master’s degrees in 1939, and married that December.

She taught math in Alabama and Kentucky, and after World War II, taught algebra and trigonometry to veterans who enrolled at Howard College.

They lived in Washington, D.C., during the early 1950s, when Les was administrative assistant to Senator Lister Hill, and in Montgomery, where he was head of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama.

She stays busy as treasurer of her United Daughters of the Confederacy and garden club groups, and drives herself on short errands and to meet friends at the Rotunda Club.

She enjoys her computer, which she uses to produce personalized greeting cards and to e-mail messages and photos of her four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Her two sons, Leslie Stephen Wright, Jr. and John King Wright, live in Birmingham.

At a birthday celebration hosted for her by President Thomas Corts and First Lady Marla Corts in November, Wright was honored with a portrait that will hang in the Wright Fine Arts Center foyer. The oil painting by Atlanta, Ga., artist Hoeun Chung depicts Wright wearing pearls and a long white dress, reminiscent of the many lovely fashions she wore for campus receptions. ■

Lolla Wright Celebrates 90th

by Mary Wimberley

Beyond the concrete bulldog that minds the stoop of her comfortable townhouse, Lolla Wright greets visitors with elegance and enthusiasm that belie her 90 years.

Wright, who celebrated her 90th birthday in November, was Samford’s first lady during 1958–83, when her late husband, Dr. Leslie Stephen Wright, was president. They served in their posts longer than anyone else in school history.

“When we first came to Samford, I was advised to get involved in the community, and to make a happy home for Les. That’s what I tried to do,” she recalled recently. Dr. Wright died in 1997.

For four decades, she endeared herself to faculty and students with her warmth and hospitality. She delighted

in hosting faculty receptions in her home and on campus.

She was supportive of her husband as he undertook projects to build a new campus, which had relocated from East Lake shortly before he became president. Later, as a leader in Rotary International, he was instrumental in a successful PolioPlus campaign to eliminate the disease.

She accompanied him on countless trips to speak in Baptist pulpits and address Rotary meetings.

A major project in the early 1960s included the acquisition and relocation of Cumberland School of Law, which was originally in Lebanon, Tenn.

During the transition, she helped preserve a bit of Cumberland lore that continues to this day. The story goes that Rascal, a mongrel

Hypatia To Recognize 80th Anniversary at Homecoming

by Jack Brymer

Some of the trappings surrounding induction are different, but the requirements for membership in one of Samford's oldest honor societies for women, Hypatia, remain stringent.

Women in the junior class no longer gather on the lawn in anticipation of being tapped on the shoulder for membership, as they did in the 1920s and later, but the letter of notification they receive is just as meaningful. It recognizes their selection as a junior with the highest marks in four important areas of student life: scholarship, leadership, character and promise of future usefulness.

Hypatia began honoring outstanding junior women in 1924. At homecoming this fall, the organization will celebrate its 80th anniversary at a 10 a.m. brunch Saturday, Oct. 30. Before then, however, it will tap for membership its latest group of honorees.

Hypatia is named for an extraordinary woman of ancient Alexandria. She was the daughter of Theon, a celebrated astronomer and mathematician and head of the C-Platonic School of the early fifth century. She lectured in her native city and ultimately became the recognized head of the school.

Dean P. P. Burns is credited with establishing Hypatia at then-Howard College in East Lake. The society's archives contain Dean Burns' original handwritten document setting forth the criteria for membership, and the names of every person initiated since.

Burns took an active part in the early tapping ceremonies held in front of Old Main.

"It was exciting," recalled Florrie Thompson Hurtt '42, who was tapped a member in 1941. "Dean Burns would mention Hypatia a lot and really believed in its ideals."

Likewise, Hazel Johnson Dean '34 vividly recalls the day she was tapped in May 1933 by member Mary Claire Randall '33. Students were gathered on the lawn in front of Old Main, where Hypatia members stood dressed in white

and holding yellow roses. At the appointed time, they and Burns walked among the students, tapped those selected and gave them a yellow rose. The members then processed into the chapel to be introduced and recognized. Later, they enjoyed a banquet at the Molton Hotel downtown.

"It was the greatest honor I ever received in school," said Dean.

Later, rather than tapping on the lawn, members visited the classroom of a new member to tap them. In 1961, Dean's daughter, Rhonda Dean Cook '62, was tapped to form one of several mother-daughter member teams.

During the early years of the organization, women were in the minority on campus. Hypatia thus provided one of the few routes to recognition, and the organization was highly visible. Over the years, the number of women increased, and other organizations recognizing their accomplishments were established, diminishing Hypatia's visibility.

Even so, Hypatia traditions live on. The white dress and yellow rose are still the order of the day at initiation. New members still receive their certificate and white-and-gold honor cord. At Awards Day each April, the society continues to present the Hypatia Cup to the member best exemplifying its purpose. Hypatia also continues to award an annual scholarship.

One noticeable change has occurred. In 1924, seven members were chosen. Now, with the increase in enrollment

over the years, several hundred women might be eligible academically. During the past two years, Hypatia inducted 42 members each year.

Biology Professor Ellen McLaughlin, Hypatia's adviser for the last 14 years, noted that with the larger number of potential members, today's selection process places some emphasis on the service and "promise of future usefulness" standard. Of potential members, this standard asks:

"Will she be useful in her community? Will she lead in her church? Will she win eminence in laws, medicine, scholarship, authorship? Granted, she has high grades, is a student leader and is irrefragable in character. What is her promise of future usefulness?"

A casual review of Hypatia's alumni roll validates the society's emphasis on this fourth requirement, said Dr. McLaughlin. Alumni can be found in all professions listed and more. "Many are still quite active and supportive" of the Samford Hypatia chapter, said McLaughlin. She finds maintaining contact with society alumni one of the most enjoyable aspects of her role as adviser.

While some of the trappings have changed, others remain the same. Once again in May, Hypatia members will don white dresses, pick up yellow roses, and welcome new members into the society, as they have done for the past 79 years.

As always, Hypatia alumni are cordially invited to attend. ■

Hypatia members Hazel Johnson Dean '34, left, her daughter, Rhonda Dean Cook '62, and student Jennifer Cannon look over Hypatia memorabilia with adviser Ellen McLaughlin. Cannon is current president of the Samford organization.



Samford To Visit Georgia Tech, Play Six Home Football Games

Samford will play at Georgia Tech and host six home football games during the 2004 season, the first time since 1999 that the schedule will have favored the Bulldogs in the home-and-away category.

Coach Bill Gray's team will welcome Division I-AA power Furman, four Ohio Valley Conference foes and instate opponent West Alabama to Seibert Stadium this fall.

"We are very excited about our schedule," said Gray. "To have six home games is always a plus, and to add Furman, which has an excellent program, is a positive as well. Being able to play a Division I-A game just two hours away at Georgia Tech is exciting for our players and our fans.

"It is also exciting to have the schedule finalized in January," Gray added, "which is one of the positives of being in a conference."

Samford will travel to Georgia Tech for a Labor Day Weekend game Saturday, Sept. 4. The Bulldogs also will play four OVC road games.

Samford surprised the experts last fall by posting a 7-4 record and third-place finish during its inaugural OVC run. The 'Dogs had been picked to finish eighth.

Samford also made a clean sweep of conference individual postseason honors. Gray was named Coach of the Year, consensus All-American receiver Efre

Hill was the Offensive Player of the Year, and safety Cortland Finnegan the Defensive Player of the Year.



Coach Bill Gray

Hill returns after catching a school- and conference-record 92 passes for 1,387 yards and 15 touchdowns. His battery mate, quarterback Ray Nelson, also is back after averaging 271.5 yards passing a game and throwing 23 touchdown passes. Nelson was first-team All-OVC.

Finnegan, who led the league in tackles and kickoff returns, also returns.

Samford will open the season Saturday night, Aug. 28, against West Alabama in Seibert Stadium. ■

2004 Football Schedule

Aug. 28	WEST ALABAMA
Sept. 4	Georgia Tech
Sept. 11	FURMAN
Sept. 25	Southeast Missouri State
Oct. 2	EASTERN KENTUCKY
Oct. 9	Murray State
Oct. 16	UT-MARTIN
Oct. 23	Tennessee State
Oct. 30	TENNESSEE TECH (Homecoming)
Nov. 6	Jacksonville State
Nov. 20	EASTERN ILLINOIS

Home Games in Bold.

All-American receiver Efre Hill scores one of his 15 touchdowns.

Athletics Announces Football Season Ticket Packages

Spring football practice has concluded at Samford. Players demonstrated off-season improvement, and coaches implemented new plays. For fans, it's a time to think about the many reasons to be excited for the 2004 season.

It's not too early to make plans to see the Bulldogs this fall. Samford plays a six-game 2004 home schedule, and there are several affordable ticket packages available. There are also incentive plans in place for season ticket holders. For instance, each purchased season ticket will come with the official Red Zone T-shirt. Other opportunities include the Coca-Cola FunZone for kids, the Tent Village for groups, and Bulldog-themed birthday parties including game tickets, team posters, meals and a visit from Spike.

2004 Season Ticket Prices

VIP Chairback	\$90
(limited number available)	
All-Star Reserved	\$72
General Admission	\$55
Flex Plan	\$25
(three games: Furman, Eastern Kentucky, and your pick of Eastern Illinois, UT-Martin or Tennessee Tech)	

For more information or to order season tickets, contact the athletics department at (205) 726-2966 or tickets@samford.edu. ■





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'37

D. O. McClusky, Jr. is the author of *Arithmetricks*, which contains material and games to help children and adults enjoy learning math. A member of the McWhorter School of Pharmacy Advisory Board, at age 87, he is the oldest living Samford pharmacy graduate. He retired as administrator of Druid City Hospital, Tuscaloosa.

'38

Daniel G. Stewart of Short Hills, N.J., retired as actuarial adviser to the New York Shipping Association and five affiliated maritime companies.

'39

Arminda H. Thompson of Birmingham lives at St. Martin's-in-the-Pines Apartments, where she and Delta Zeta sister **Rebecca Daily Peeples '37** enjoy reminiscing about their college years. Both are retired teachers.

'42

Kathryn Abercrombie Robins lives at Somerby at University Park, a retirement community in Homewood.

Ivey Named Alumni Relations Officer

Samford graduate **Billy Ivey**, an advertising and direct marketing professional from Nashville, Tenn., has been named alumni relations officer at his alma mater.

A member of the Class of 1996, Ivey will coordinate programming and networking for the Samford alumni and parents associations, and work with volunteers to establish local and regional Samford clubs around the U.S.

He began Samford duties March 17.



Billy Ivey '96

"Billy Ivey brings strong professional credentials and creative energy to this position, as well as an immense commitment to Samford," said Philip Poole, Samford executive director of communications.

Ivey worked with an advertising and direct marketing firm in Nashville, and agencies with nationally recognized clients in Birmingham and Atlanta.

As a Samford student, he was active in the international studies program, student ministries and Sigma Chi fraternity. ■

'46

Ronald Weathers received a distinguished service award from the Alabama Baseball Coaches Association. He is retired copy editor and sports writer at *The Birmingham News*.

'51

Nelson E. Bullard recently retired for the third time and lives in Decatur, Ala.

'52

Earl M. Hall of Montgomery, Ala., is in his 65th year in the gospel ministry.

'53

Jerry Holloway of Richmond, Va., and his wife, **Alline**, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

'54

Joe Little and his wife, **Louise**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in November. They live in Sweetwater, Tenn.

'57

David B. Tew is pastor of Perkerson Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.

'58

Ron Ellison of Beaumont, Texas, is an author, historian and consultant.

'60

Ronald Euler, a retired preacher and teacher, and his wife, **Jeanine**, live in Pleasant Grove, Ala.

Richard Gilliam is a teacher/coach at Briarwood Christian School, Birmingham. He and his wife, **Ola Faye Pierce Gilliam '63**, a retired teacher, live in Calera, Ala.

'62

Curtis Rush is the author of an autobiography, *Memories & Adventures of a One Gallus Country Preacher*, in which he chronicles his life during the Depression and his 56 years in the ministry. He lives in Pell City, Ala.

'63

Lane Powell received the 2003 Meritorious Service Award from the Association of Councils, National Council on Family Relations, during its annual conference in Vancouver, Canada, in November. She was cited for her efforts on behalf of the Texas Council on Family Relations. She is a faculty associate and assistant department chair, Department of Human Development and Family Science, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

'65

Lucy Lee Connolly retired after 30 years as a community, school and church choral conductor. She and her husband, **Mark**, live in Santa Barbara, Calif., and own Special Events at Union Station in Washington, D.C. She plays the flute in a chamber ensemble and is artistic adviser to the Santa Barbara Choral Society. They have two grown sons.

David Lavies, owner of Cottage Crafters, is completing restoration of the historic Fannie Flagg House in Irondale, Ala. The home, built in the late 1800s, is a

part of her book and movie, *Fried Green Tomatoes*.

Glenn K. Rice teaches fifth grade at Cherokee Bend Elementary School in Mountain Brook, Ala. He received a *Birmingham Post-Herald* distinguished teacher award in 2003 in recognition of outstanding teaching, leadership and community involvement.

'66

James Richard Anderson, Sr. of Altoona, Ala., is a registered pharmacist and owner of Anderson Pharmacy, Altoona. His class was the first to graduate after the school name changed from Howard College to Samford University, and alphabetically, he was the first pharmacy graduate to receive a diploma with the new name.

David A. Graves, president/CEO of Brooklawn Child and Family Services, Louisville, Ky., recently was elected chairman of the Kentucky Children's Alliance, a professional association and advocacy organization.

'67

Anne Bailey is vice president of diagnostics and reagents, and is general manager, Genomics Division, of NaPro BioTherapeutics, Inc., a life science company focused on the development of targeted therapies for the treatment of cancer and hereditary disease.

'69

Darryl DeBorde is in his 31st year as pastor of Braden Park Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla.

Judy A. Owens of Longview, Texas, teaches piano at Kilgore College and is pianist for the Longview Symphony and First Baptist Church, Longview.

Sandy Sherman is director of Wheeler Basin Library, Decatur, Ala.

'70

Philip D. Wise is pastor of Second Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas.

'71

Gene J. Davis of Cecil, Ala., received the 2002 Frances P. Moss

Award presented by the Alabama Vocal Association to a retired choral director who had special impact on choral music in the state. He is nominated for the 2004 Hall of Fame at Montgomery's Robert E. Lee High School, where he was both a student and teacher.

Edward M. Nunnelley is in his 32nd year as pastor of Mount Hermon Baptist Church, Joppa, Ala.

Cynthia Walker Watts is interim minister to preschool, children and education, and minister to single adults at First Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala.

'73

Franklin Plummer, J.D., is a partner in the Concord, N.C., law firm of Plummer, Belo & Russell. His son, Joseph, recently joined the firm.

'74

Joseph Wayne Norman of Fort Mitchell, Ky., is a financial technician with the Internal Revenue Service. He and his wife, Becky, have two grown daughters.

Judy Elaine Renfroe of Marietta, Ga., was elected to the 2004 National Tour Association Board of Directors, and will serve as Destination Marketing Organization director. She is president and CEO of the Cobb County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

'75

Lt. Col. Mike Lewis serves in Operation Iraqi Freedom as chaplain for the 30th Medical Brigade in Baghdad, Iraq.

'76

Oliver J. Cejka, Jr., J.D., is an attorney in Frederick, Md. He was a finalist for appointment as judge, sixth judicial circuit.



David Martin '77

'77

David C. Martin is cowriter and coproducer of a song, "Centre

of My Heart," featured in a Christmas film, *Blizzard*. He is also cowriter of "Nothing Left To Say," on the CD released by Canadian Idol winner Ryan Malcomb. A songwriter with Sony of Canada, the former member of Samford's Hear and Now Singers lives in Toronto, Canada.

Matt Miles is owner of Buster Miles Chevrolet/Ford dealership in Heflin, Ala.

Mary V. Thompson is a research specialist for the Mount Vernon Ladies Association at Mount Vernon Estates in Virginia. Her projects include topics on Mount Vernon and food, Washington and religion, and slavery and the slave community at Mount Vernon.

'78

Nina Clark completed a master's in English with an English as a second language concentration at the University of Memphis, where she teaches in the noncredit Intensive English for Internationals

Program. She also teaches an ESL course in the graduate school.

Rick Ezell is the author of two new books, *Sightings of the Savior: Meeting Jesus When We Need Him Most* (InterVarsity Press), and *The 7 Sins of Highly Defective People* (Kregel). He is senior pastor of Naperville Baptist Church, Naperville, Ill.

Terrell Tee Jackson is director of Giles County Schools, Pulaski, Tenn.

'80

Randall Hoyt Rich is in his 10th year as pastor of Prentiss Baptist Church, Prentiss, Miss. He was named the second A. H. Newman Fellow in Baptist Studies by the Center for Baptist Studies, Mercer University, in 2003. He and his wife have two daughters, Emily, a college freshman, and Abby, a fifth-grader.

Anthony P. Underwood, M.A., is director of contracts and export compliance at Ball Aerospace and Technologies

Corporation, Boulder, Colo. He is responsible for a contracts portfolio approaching \$1 billion, and is the empowered official to ensure compliance to all U.S. government export statutes and regulations. He recently completed a one-year tour of duty as a judge advocate (rank of lieutenant colonel) at the Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colo.

'81

Brian Barlow, M.B.A. '83, is general director of the Baptist School of Amman in Jordan. He and his wife, Vicki, are Southern Baptist missionaries assigned to the school, which enrolls 1,120 in grades preschool-12. The enrollment is 40 percent Muslim and 60 percent Christian.

Lenné Kugler-Hunt is a contributor to *For Better, For Worse: Devotional Thoughts for Married Couples* (Christian Publications, Inc.). Dr. Kugler-Hunt is a psychologist and artist who lives with her husband, Christian, in Garner, N.C.

Film about Hodges WWII Heroics Available to PBS Stations

For *One English Officer*, the story of Samford Trustee Gerow Hodges' successful efforts to free 149 Allied prisoners of war during World War II, has been made available to Public Broadcasting Stations across the nation for airing on Memorial Day.

The National Educational Telecommunications Association [NETA] is offering the 47-minute documentary with closed captioning to PBS stations. The program aired on Alabama Public Television in January.

Hodges' was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions during late 1944. Declared unfit for military service because of old football injuries, Hodges volunteered for the American Red Cross and was assigned to the 94th Infantry of the U.S. Army in Europe.

Six months after the D-Day landings in northwest France, Hodges was given the responsibility of delivering food and medicine to Allied POWs held by the German



Gerow Hodges, center, negotiates 1944 prisoner exchange.

Army in the Lorient sector. These Germans—65,000 strong—were cut off from the main German Army and running low on food and supplies. This was even truer for their POWs.

After 15 harrowing trips across No Man's Land with food and medical supplies, Hodges proposed a swap of Allied and German POWs. After negotiations, an exchange was arranged. The troops were swapped on Nov. 16 and Nov. 29, 1944, in the fishing village of Etel and in an open field near Chauve.

One-day cease fires were called to complete the exchanges.

A dozen former POWs came to a reunion at Samford two years ago and credited Hodges with saving their lives. Most doubted they would have survived another six months on their starvation diets, the time

remaining before Germany surrendered in May of 1945.

Among those rescued by the exchange was British Captain Michael R. D. Foot, the officer referred to in the film's title. Foot lay near death with a broken neck and other injuries. He ultimately regained his health and went on to become an eminent historian in England, editing the papers of former Prime Minister William Gladstone and later writing 10 books on World War II history. He also coedited *The Oxford Companion to the Second World War*. ■

master's in nursing and passed the pediatric nurse practitioner boards. She and her husband, David, have a son, Jack, born in August.

Michael Aaron Fritz, J.D., is founder of Still Practicing ministries and the author of a book, *The Practice Range*. He and his wife, Elizabeth, and two sons, Michael Aaron and William, live in Montgomery, Ala.

Lydia Hostetter married Jason Watkins in October. They live in Lansing, Mich. She earned a master's in nursing at University of Alabama at Birmingham and is a pediatric hematology/oncology nurse practitioner at Sparrow Hospital.

'98

Kim Armfield Dedmon earned a law degree from Wake Forest University and is an attorney in Nashville, Tenn. She and her husband, Kenny, have a daughter, Isabelle, born in April.

Adam Greenway is pursuing a Ph.D. in evangelism and church growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He is senior pastor, The Baptist Church at Andover, Lexington, Ky.

Ainsley Harriet Kauffmann of Vero Beach, Fla., a teacher, earned national board certification.

Kelly Leigh McClendon Jordan of Cragford, Ala., earned a master's degree at Jacksonville State University and is library media specialist at Ashland Elementary School. She and her husband, Jacob, have a son, Rafe, born in May.



Jeff Pomeroy J.D. '98

Jeffrey M. Pomeroy, J.D., is vice president and assistant general counsel for Bayer Properties, Inc., Birmingham. He and his wife, Carrie, have two sons.

Angela Dougharty Porada of Cordova, Tenn., is a part-time labor and delivery nurse at Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women, Memphis, Tenn. She and her

husband, Mark, have a son, Will, born in June.

William Roe is a prosthodontics resident at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry in Birmingham. He and his wife, **Ashley Smith Roe '98**, have a daughter, Mary Alice, born in September.

Alison Lyons Thomas, Pharm.D., is a pharmacist in Huntsville, Ala. She and her husband, Paul, have two children, Annabelle and Jack.

Bess Henninger Warren and her husband, Jones, live in Pensacola, Fla. She is a middle-school science teacher at Creative Learning Academy.

'99

Katy Robinson Byram and her husband, Whit, live in Savannah, Ga. She is a teacher at Isle of Hope United Methodist Church Preschool.

Susan Corts is special assistant, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.

Sarah Kathleen Thomason Kingery and her husband, Kyle, live in Acworth, Ga. She is an occupational therapist at Infinity Children's Services, Rome, Ga., and is pursuing a clinical doctorate in occupational therapy from Nova Southeastern University.

Nathan and Elizabeth Mangham Lott live in Richmond, Va. He is a freelance editor and writer. She is a first-year student at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond.

Tricia Schramm married William Holmes in April. They live in Madisonville, La. She is a pediatric operating room nurse.

'00

Ted Alling is founder of a third-party logistic company, Access America Transport, specializing in moving flatbed freight, with locations in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Birmingham. He lives in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Gareth Dutton, a student in the clinical psychology doctoral program at Louisiana State University, recently was accepted to the doctoral psychology internship program in health psychology and behavioral medicine at Brown University, Providence, R.I. He and his wife, Becki, live in Baton Rouge, La.

Susan Flexer and Luke Roy married in June. They live in Auburn, Ala., where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in fisheries/aquaculture at Auburn University. She is a family nurse practitioner.

Allen Walker married **Eva Sciara** in January. They work with Light International ministry, based in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

'01

Alisha Basseen, J.D., and **Jason B. Thompson, J.D.**, married in September and practice law in the Atlanta, Ga., area. They recently rescued an Old English sheepdog they named Samford.

Adam Glass married Beth Howard in June. He works at Mt. Bethel Christian Academy, Marietta, Ga., and is pursuing a master's degree in middle grades education at Mercer University.

Nicole Autumn Thompson married Jason Andrew Stefano in October. They live in Charlotte, N.C. She teaches elementary school.

'02

Jennifer Andrews and Beau Whitson married in November. She is employed by Martin Advertising, Birmingham. He teaches at Vestavia Hills High School.

David G. Cole, M.M., is minister of music at Hardwick Baptist Church, Milledgeville, Ga.

Justin and Aimee Cochran Harris live in Florence, Ala.

Ronna Kinsella was selected to represent the University of Richmond School of Law at the Chicago Bar Association's moot court tournament in Chicago, Ill. She was named second-best oralist. She is a member of the law school's moot court board.

James Ryan Lowry of Hollywood, Fla., earned a master's in international relations from the University of Chicago in August. He is in officer training with the U.S. Army.

James L. Pattillo, J.D., is the author of "A Lawyer's Guide to Crisis Management," published in

the January issue of *For the Defense*, a publication of the Defense Research Institute. He is an attorney with the Birmingham firm of Norman, Wood, Kendrick and Turner, specializing in business litigation, product liability, medical malpractice and creditors' rights.

'03

James Drake and Heidi Sauers '01 married in September. They live in Birmingham and work with Campus Outreach's Project Timothy New Zealand. They soon will begin a two-year term at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Justin Myles Ireland is pursuing an acting career in Hollywood, Calif. He has been an extra on television shows such as *Joan of Arcadia*, *7th Heaven*, *JAG* and *CSI*, and in some movies. He also works at the Cheesecake Factory in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Comer T. Knight recently was commissioned as a naval officer after completing Officer Candidate School at Naval Aviation Schools Command, Pensacola, Fla.

Joseph C. Kreps, J.D., and his wife, **Carrie Michelle Lewis, Pharm.D. '02**, live in Birmingham. He recently opened a law office, practicing in many areas of law.

Lance Maddox and his wife, Sonya, live in Hueytown, Ala., where he is minister of music at Cross Road Baptist Church.

David Ryan Oakley works with Rock Advisors, a commercial real estate investment firm in Birmingham.

Laura Wilson married Greg Sharpe in August. They attend New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, pursuing degrees in international church planting. She teaches first grade.

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Virginia Brush Stevens of Mountain Brook, Ala., is a teacher at Rudd Junior High School.

'82

Kathy J. Carr Casaday of Gardendale, Ala., received national board certification for teachers.

'84

James C. Turk, Jr., J.D., an attorney in Radford, Va., recently became a member of Ted Dalton Inns of Court and also received the Bill Geimer Award given to a Virginia lawyer for exceptional representation of capital defendants. He is a certified advocate in both civil and criminal advocacy.

'85

B. J. Aderholt, Jr., Ph.D., is senior pastor at Westlawn Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala.

Lisa Robbins Hamilton is pharmacy manager for Walmart in Beaver Dam, Ky. She has two children, Taylor, 13, and Will, eight.

Jonathan Varner of Seneca, S.C., married Alana Johnson in November.

'86

Jack and Lisa Ingram Terry '84 live in Montgomery, Ala. He is Mercedes Benz manager at Jack Ingram Motors. She is manager, customer service and building operations, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama.

'87

Christy Stephens Rivas is media director for Grace Family Church, Tampa, Fla. She and her husband, Carlos, have three children: Joshua, Stephanie and Nathaniel.

'88

Lorna Ables Reeves of Birmingham is editor of *Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly*, a magazine for advanced stitchers worldwide. She also edits *Just CrossStitch* magazine and oversees Hoffman Media, Inc.'s ancillary product division and needlework seminars. She teaches counted-thread embroidery at U.S. and Canadian festivals.

'90

Steve "Ernie" Carroll, M.Div., a chaplain in the

Alabama Army National Guard, is activated for Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is also director of missions, Friendship Baptist Association, Ononta, Ala.

Christy M. Hines Lines is owner of Christy Lines Book-keeping Service, Marietta, Ga. She and her husband, Laurence, have four children: Levie, seven; Esther, five; Susanna, three; and William, one.

Roger Emerson Moore teaches English at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. He recently received the Harriett S. Gilliam Award for excellence in teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences. The prize included a pewter cup and a monetary award.

'91

Nathaniel Bagley, Jr. was appointed to a three-year term on the Birmingham Film Commission by the Birmingham City Council. He earned a degree at Miles School of Law, works in the law department for the City of Birmingham and is Parent-Teacher Organization president at Sun Valley Elementary School. He and his wife, Regina, have two children, Ashton and Taylor.

Marc Allen Beaulé, a sales engineer with Catalyst Telecom, received the company's 2003 President's Club Award for sales accomplishments. He and his wife, **Mary Prugh Beaulé** '91, live in Simpsonville, S.C., with their sons, Jack, five, and Connor, two. **Marc and Brad Medcalf** '97, M.Acc. '98, of Greer, S.C., are helping develop the upstate South Carolina Samford Club.

D. Shane Fogle is pharmacist/partner, Clinic Pharmacy, Central City, Ky. He and his wife, Cheri, have two sons, Cole, five, and Cooper Shane, born in October.

Kathyjo Spivey, M.B.A. '93, married Michael Kevin Gordon in January. She is economic development director, Phenix City, Ala.

'92

Grant Guffin is media pastor at Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, Tenn.

Mitchell A. McCoy is a teaching assistant at the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. He is pursuing a master's in Spanish literature.

Jeffrey and Kimberly Morris Quiett live in Spanish Fort, Ala.

Both teach at the University of Mobile, where she is assistant professor of nursing, and he is associate professor of leadership development, and marriage and family counseling.

Dara Trotter is a licensed massage therapist and athletics trainer in Nashville, Tenn.

'93

Timothy L. Harris and his wife, Rachel, live in Colorado Springs, Colo. He works in marketing at an international software solutions company.

'94

Gary C. Byrum, Jr. is a project manager with CNI Retirement Corporation, Orlando, Fla. He and his wife, Nikki, have two children, Jared Cole, one, and Madison Faith, born in December.

Marshall and Carissa Cole Croy '94 live in Irondale, Ala. He is chief operating officer of American Classic Enterprises, Inc. They have three children: Abigail Rac, six, Caleb Marshall, three, and Joshua Thomas, born in September.

Bobby Emerson is a certified financial planner with Merrill Lynch in Winter Park, Fla. He and his wife, **Kyra Lupino Emerson** '94, have three children: Colton, Caden and Cambrie.



Kevin Lottes '94

Kevin Lottes, J.D., is a partner in the Naples, Fla., law firm of Quarles & Brady, L.L.P. He focuses on real property, construction, and business, commercial and banking law issues.

Kevin Newsom is a state solicitor general for the State of

Alabama. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he is a former Washington, D.C., attorney and law clerk for Justice David Souter. He is married to **Deborah Wilgus Newsome** '93.

'95

Paul Fellers of Birmingham is a resident in pediatric dentistry at the University of Alabama School of Dentistry. He and his wife, Jana, have a daughter, Ivy, three.

Jon and Kathryn Hicks Henshaw '93 live in Denver, Colo., where he is a marriage and family counselor and Internet usability consultant, and she is a freelance graphic designer and director. They have a daughter, Asha Caroline, born in October.

Jason Daniel Holleman married Margaret Claire Martin in November. They live in Nashville, Tenn., where he is an attorney with Farmer & Luna, P.L.L.C.

Jason Davis Preston and **Kelly Snow Preston** '96 live in Lebanon, Ohio. He is national install sales manager for Clopay Building Products. She is a registered nurse community outreach coordinator at Miami Valley Hospital.

Scott Thigpen of Atlanta, Ga., is a freelance illustrator for book covers, magazines and gift cards.

'96

Kent Chastain Ellington is an associate dentist at East Cobb Family Dentistry, Marietta, Ga.

Kevin Monahan earned an M.Div. in counseling from South-eastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., in December. He is worship pastor at Landmark Baptist Church, Cincinnati, Ohio. He and his wife, Meghan, have a son, Jacob, born Dec. 24, 2003.

Michael Wallace, M.Acc. '97, is the managing partner in the new certified public accountants firm of Weatherspoon/Lowe/Wallace in Clarksville, Tenn. He and his wife, **Christy King Wallace** '98, have two children, Macy, two, and Mallory, four.

'97

Tyler Scott Brown is discipleship pastor at First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga. He and his wife, Shelbie, have a son, Evan Thomas, born in July.

Jennifer Huie Craddock of Homewood, recently earned a

HOME COMING 2004

Samford University alumni will gather Oct. 29–31 in Birmingham for the school's 138th homecoming celebration.

Activities already planned include the homecoming banquet Friday, Oct. 29, honoring the 2004 alumni of the year, a full day of reunions and other family-oriented activities Saturday, Oct. 30, and the homecoming football game against Tennessee Tech University.

Among special celebrations planned during Homecoming 2004 are the 20th anniversary of Samford's London Center, the 80th anniversary of Hypatia women's honor society and the fifth anniversary of the Christian Women's Leadership Center. The Harwell G. Davis Library staff is planning a special reunion for all former student workers and library staff members. Classes ending in four or nine are scheduled for reunions in 2004, and planning for class reunions is underway.

Philip Poole, executive director of communications, said homecoming is one of Samford's oldest and most important traditions.

In the first recorded alumni gathering in January

1866, then-Howard College and the community of Marion, Ala., planned a major banquet honoring former college President Samuel Sterling Sherman when he returned at the close of the Civil War. The first fall alumni reunion/homecoming was held in 1919. For more than a century, alumni gathered for the annual candlelight dinner honoring spring graduates.

"All those traditions are being combined into a major weekend of events to celebrate Samford's history and traditions, and to welcome alumni back to campus," Poole said. "It's a special time for the entire Samford family, and we encourage everyone to mark the dates now."

Other events will be added to the schedule through the spring and summer, Poole said. Homecoming updates will be posted regularly at www.samford.edu.

Registration information will be mailed to alumni and friends in late August. ■

Preliminary Schedule

138th Samford University Homecoming October 29–31, 2004

DAY/DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday, Oct. 29	12–6 p.m.	Registration
	4 p.m.	Alumni Association Annual Meeting
	6 p.m.	138th Anniversary Alumni Banquet
	8 p.m.	Homecoming Bash, Bonfire and Fireworks
Saturday, Oct. 30	8 a.m.–2 p.m.	Registration
	8:30 a.m.	Half-Century Plus Brunch
	10 a.m.	Hypatia Reunion and Brunch
	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Lunch
	2 p.m.	Football Game, Bulldogs vs. Tenn. Tech
	6–8 p.m.	Library Reunion
8 p.m.	Concert (artist to be announced)	
Sunday, Oct. 31	9:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	11 a.m.–1 p.m.	Sunday Brunch

BIRTHS

Carey and Jennifer Norville Atkinson '92 of Birmingham, a son, Michael Riley, born Dec. 11, 2002.

Stannon and Jennifer Thorn Banks '94 of Birmingham, a daughter, Avery Marie, born Dec. 18, 2003.

Joe and Rhonda Gaye Bolin Baughman '94 of Wetumpka, Ala., a son, Joseph Paul, born June 19, 2002.

Chuck and Polly Waite Bennett '92 of Alabaster, Ala., a daughter, Elizabeth Grace, born May 22, 2003.

Jeff and Kristen Lucas Blanton '89 of Powder Springs, Ga., a son, Jackson Curtis, born May 7, 2003.

Shelbie and Tyler Scott Brown '97 of Atlanta, Ga., a son, Evan Thomas, born July 9, 2003.

William and Melissa March Nichols Burns '98 of Leeds, Ala., a daughter, Madelyn March, born Feb. 12, 2004.

Jimmy and Melanie Largent Burrow '00 of Madison, Miss., a daughter, Elizabeth Largent, born Sept. 23, 2003.

Nikki and Gary C. Byrum, Jr. '94 of Orlando, Fla., a daughter, Madison Faith, born Dec. 29, 2003.

Phillip and Karen Mangum Carnes '88 of Hartselle, Ala., a daughter, Emory Grace, born Sept. 25, 2003.

Jon '94 and Melinda Bridwell Claudepierre '95 of Greenville, S.C., a son, Carson David, born Sept. 26, 2003.

Chris, J.D. '99, and Laura Daniel Cohorn, Pharm.D. '97, of Bowling Green, Ky., a daughter, Caroline Davis, born Dec. 15, 2003.

Thad and Carole Marisa Lee Combs '01 of Knoxville, Tenn., a daughter, Winnie Chatelain, born Jan. 19, 2004.

David and Jennifer Huie Craddock '97 of Homewood, a son, Jack David Craddock, Jr., born Aug. 1, 2003.

Glen '97 and Kristen Hancock Criswell '98 of Montgomery, Ala., a son, Colton Thomas, born Aug. 2, 2003.

Marshall '94 and Carissa Cole Croy '94 of Irondale, Ala., a son, Joshua Thomas, born Sept. 4, 2003.

Beth and Mark Damron '98 of Florence, Ala., a daughter, Neely Grace, born Jan. 5, 2004.

Cindy and James Harwood Davis '93 of Vero Beach, Fla., a daughter, Sarah Marie, born Dec. 16, 2002.

Mauri and Noelle Dienert Davis '97 of Crozet, Va., a daughter, Virginia Ruth, born Sept. 24, 2003.

Kenny and Kim Armfield Dedmon '98 of Franklin, Tenn., a daughter, Isabelle, born April 22, 2003.

Bryant and Lori McMullian Dooley '00 of Birmingham, a daughter, Madison Leigh, born Oct. 15, 2002.

Anthony '94 and Carrie Naccarato Engle '94 of Birmingham, a son, Carter Anthony, born Sept. 27, 2003.

Dale and Amy Marler Fenton '94 of Franklin, Tenn., a daughter, Jadyr Marler, born Sept. 5, 2003.

Bryan '94 and Jennifer Platt Fister '96 of Homewood, a daughter, Megan Lee, born Aug. 15, 2003.

James and Penny Michele Langdon Flowers '91 of Birmingham, a son, Caleb Henry, born Oct. 27, 2003.

Cheri and D. Shane Fogle '91 of Central City, Ky., a son, Cooper Shane, born Oct. 16, 2003.

Kathy and John Hunter Franklin '01 of Old Hickory, Tenn., a daughter, Susanna, born May 16, 2001.

Mark Christopher '97 and Sloane Bonner Frazer '98 of Alpharetta, Ga., a daughter, Ashton Sloane, born June 19, 2003.

Stephen '93 and Marley Myers Gardner '95 of Homewood, a daughter, Emory Elizabeth, born Jan. 29, 2004.

Neal and Elizabeth Meeks Garrett '94 of Greenville, S.C., a son, Joseph Fowler, born June 23, 2003.

Christopher and Jennifer Barone Gunn '97 of Durham, N.C., a daughter, Sophia Grace, born Sept. 4, 2003.

Jon '95 and Kathryn Hicks Henshaw '93 of Denver, Colo., a daughter, Asha Caroline, born Oct. 28, 2003.

Kerri and Chuck Howard '92 of Bradenton, Fla., a daughter, Perri, born Nov. 28, 2003.

Bethany and William Robert Ivey '96 of Franklin, Tenn., a son, Benjamin Barnes, born Sept. 23, 2003.

Mark and Sheryl Rigsby Jones '93 of Helena, a son, Evan Reynolds, born May 12, 2003.

Jacob and Kelly Leigh McClendon Jordan '98 of Cragford, Ala., a son, Rafe, born May 6, 2003.

Robby '96 and Dana DeLoach Langston '96 of Powder Springs, Ga., a daughter, Abigail Grace, born Feb. 22, 2004.

Stephen and Karen White Lillard '97 of Lawrenceville, Ga., a son, Ryan Bauer, born Sept. 13, 2002.

Ryan '99 and Courtne Herring May '99 of Chattanooga, Tenn., a daughter, Elizabeth Marie, born Sept. 10, 2003.

Michael and Melissa Waldron McMahan '93 of Decatur, Ala., a daughter, Elizabeth Lorena, born July 11, 2003.

Kevin and Nancy Watts McQuillen '98 of Greenville, S.C., a son, Knox, born March 27, 2002.

Meghan and Kevin Monahan '96 of Cincinnati, Ohio, a son, Jacob, born Dec. 24, 2003.

Harry Edward III '95 and Amy Leigh Holman Monroe '94 of Birmingham, a daughter, Mary Liles, born Jan. 22, 2004.

Cherith and Andy Parrish '93 of Birmingham, a son, Matthew Vest, born March 6, 2003.

Frank and Jennifer Guyton Parsons '95 of Birmingham, a son, Frank Walker, born Feb. 26, 2004.

Naren and Charlotte Brick Patel '95 of Marietta, Ga., a daughter, Anna Naren, born Sept. 29, 2003.

Denise and S. Michael Pettey '96 of Athens, Ala., a son, Carter Lee, born Oct. 27, 2003.

Hunter and Edie Schauble Pickett, J.D. '91, of Birmingham, a daughter, Haley Jane, born July 3, 2003.

Mark and Angela Dougharty Porada '98 of Cordova, Tenn., a son, Will, born June 29, 2003.

Jason '99, M.Div. '02, and Bethany Butler Roberts '99, M.Acc. '01, of Chattanooga, Tenn., a son, Aidan Matthew, born Oct. 13, 2003.

Chris and Nikki Pasquerella Robertson '97 of Hoover, Ala., a son, Andrew, born Oct. 31, 2003.

William '98 and Ashley Smith Roe '98 of Birmingham, a daughter, Mary Alice, born Sept. 29, 2003.

John Scott, J.D. '93, and Andrea Campbell Sims '90 of Birmingham, a son, Harrison Scott, born Jan. 7, 2004.

Rob '97 and Heather Stallworth '00 of Bessemer, a son, Robert William "Will" IV.

Joseph '98 and Lynna Rae Bryson Stubbs '97 of Florence, Ala., a son, Paul Haddon, born Nov. 11, 2003.

Paul and Alison Lyons Thomas, Pharm.D. '98, of Huntsville, Ala., a son, Jack Buckley, born Jan. 22, 2003.

Ronald Keith '88 and Martha Hollifield Threadgill '86 of Bowling Green, Ky., a son, Jacob Ryan, born Feb. 10, 2003.

Craig and Amanda Foster Tindall '93 of Birmingham, a son, Mathis Markham, born Nov. 19, 2003.

Felecia and Paul Victor Wilson '00 of Birmingham, a son, Paul Hamlin, born March 17, 2003.

Andrew '96 and Sarah Webb Workman '96 of Louisville, Ky., a daughter, Emily Taylor, born Jan. 21, 2004. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Irvin M. Aaron '64, age 78, of Birmingham died Nov. 30, 2003. He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association and the Southern Museum of Flight board of directors.

Haywood Lafayette "Woodie" Adkinson, Jr. '61, age 64, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Feb. 29, 2004. He was principal of Hueytown High School and served on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation committee. At Samford, he was president of Sigma Nu fraternity.

Charles Edward Anderson '56, age 69, of Birmingham died Jan. 13, 2004. He played football at Samford.

Henry Edwin Askew '57, age 82, of Birmingham died Dec. 3, 2003. He was comptroller for Brungart Equipment Company. After retiring, he began a second career with Hal Roach Company. Before computers were available, he created and marketed the Taxliner to help small businesses do their taxes.

Martha Burnum '26, age 96, of Birmingham died Dec. 5, 2003.

Larry Joe "Eljay" Carr '77, age 48, of Montgomery, Ala., died Dec. 24, 2003.

Richard C. Clay '37, age 85, of Jacksonville, Fla., died in January 2004 of a brain hemorrhage. He was chief of surgery at Miami Heart Institute for 15 years and a clinical professor at the University of Miami Medical School. He graduated from Samford at age 19 and later earned a medical degree from Johns Hopkins University. He served overseas as a military surgeon during World War II.

Robert R. Davis '60 of Marion, N.C., died Jan. 19, 2004. He was pastor emeritus, First Baptist Church, Marion, N.C.

Arthur W. Dennis '51 of Rainbow City, Ala., died Nov. 25, 2003. He retired as president of Gadsden State Junior College. He was also a principal and superintendent of Cullman County schools, and director of administration and finance with the Alabama Department of Education.

James William Edwards '35, age 89, of Mobile, Ala., died Dec. 11, 2003. He worked with Joanna-Western Mills and owned

Edwards Bros. Furniture Co., and was owner-relations manager for McConnell Cadillac. He was president of the Alabama Retail Furniture Dealers Association, lieutenant governor of the Alabama-Mississippi District, Optimist International and a World War II veteran. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.

Margaret Caretti Graffeo '32, age 93, of Mountain Brook, Ala., died Nov. 14, 2003.

John Roger Grissett, J.D. '83, of Birmingham died Nov. 5, 2003. He was an attorney and patron of the arts.

Emily Evans Hammood '49 of Birmingham died Jan. 25, 2004. She earned a Ph.D. from Case-Western Reserve University and was an adjunct professor of speech and theater at Birmingham-Southern College. She was founder of Opera for Youth, an international service organization. She was the author and librettist of several works for theater and opera.

Robert Ward Harrison, Jr., J.D. '51, age 81, of Camden County, Ga., died Dec. 4, 2003. He was attorney for several counties and cities, and in 1965 was elected to the Georgia General Assembly. He was the author of Georgia's first Uniform General Law. During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army in Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Dewitte T. "Dutch" Holland, Jr. '50, age 80, of Birmingham died Dec. 24, 2003. He earned a Ph.D. from Northwestern University, and held communication posts at Denison University, Louisiana College, Hardin-Simmons University, Temple University and Lamar University. He wrote books on preaching and sermons. In later years, he served interim posts at Presbyterian churches in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Texas and Alabama. As an officer/engineer commissioned by the Merchant Marine Academy, he served in the Navy during World War II.

Charles E. Hughen, M.B.A. '79, age 59, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Dec. 7, 2003. He was executive vice president of Gulf States Paper Corporation's Natural Resources and Wood Products Group, and was on the company's board of directors.

William "Ted" Johnson III, M.M.E. '74, age 74, of Birmingham died Oct. 13, 2003. He served 21

SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT WITH THE SAMFORD CAR TAG!

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years with the U.S. Army, and taught music and directed school bands for 20 years. A pianist and leader of several jazz groups, he was inducted into the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame in 1981.

Wilson Johnson, Jr. '50 of Richmond, Va., died Feb. 1, 2004. He was a hospital pharmacist who also taught at John-Tyler Community College, Westbrook Hospital and Chowan College. He served in the Pacific during World War II.

Wilbur W. Jones '56, age 85, of Foley, Ala., died Dec. 26, 2003. He served with the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific during World War II.

Julia Finklea Knight '26, age 97, of Birmingham died Dec. 17, 2003. She was a librarian at Harvard Business School and a longtime leader in Birmingham civic groups.

Linda Wellons Lee '47, age 80, of Birmingham, died Nov. 28, 2003. She was a registered nurse who worked with her physician husband in their family practice for 35 years. She achieved the rank of life master in duplicate bridge.

John W. Lewis '52, age 84, of College Park, Ga., died Jan. 6, 2004. He was principal of Hendrix Drive Elementary School for 31 years and an active participant in Friendship Force cultural exchange program.

Eleanor P. McLain '61, age 74, of Colonial Heights, Va., died Feb. 24, 2004. She taught English in Birmingham, Mobile, Ala., Richmond, Va., and Petersburg, Va.

James Ransom McWane, Jr. '79, age 49, of Mountain Brook, Ala., died Dec. 14, 2003.

Martha Ann Miller, J.D. '90, age 51, of Montgomery, Ala., died Feb. 2, 2004. She was an assistant U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Alabama, assigned to the civil division. Before attending law school, she taught elementary school in the Birmingham area.

Carolyn Berryhill Nelson '65, J.D. '69, of Birmingham died Dec. 24, 2003. An attorney, she was executive vice president and legal counsel with Brookwood Hospital and Metropolitan Properties, Inc. She was later a realtor.

D. Edward Nolen '39 of Jacksonville, Fla., died Jan. 7, 2003. He was a retired district sales manager with U.S. Steel.

John Mark Ponder '79, age 48, of Birmingham died Dec. 17,

2003. An employee at Medical Center East, he was a retired police officer at Jefferson State Community College, where he served as president of the school's Alabama Education Association.

David Paul Rogers, Jr., J.D. '67, age 62, of Birmingham died Dec. 10, 2003. He was a Birmingham attorney for 25 years before his appointment as Chapter 13 standing trustee for the Northern District of Alabama, Southern Division.

Edna Earl "Corkey" French Sample '53, age 74, of Palmerdale, Ala., died Dec. 8, 2003. She taught elementary school for 41 years, 38 of them at Inglenook Elementary School. She was president of the Alabama Association of Classroom Teachers.

Jefferson Davis Smith, Jr., J.D. '33, of Huntsville, Ala., died Dec. 22, 2003. A Huntsville attorney for more than 50 years, he was also a circuit solicitor and city attorney. He was owner of Home Ice and Coal Company, serving on the board of the National Ice Association. A former president of the Cumberland National Alumni Association, he received the school's distinguished alumnus award in 1978.

Charles Darby Stapp '54, age 80, of Kennewick, Wash., died Jan. 21, 2004. He owned a furniture store chain in California and Nevada, and an orchid farm in Costa Rica. He was president of the National Retail Furniture Association. In 1966, he received the brotherhood award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews for advancing the cause of human rights. He served in the Navy during World War II as a frogman on an underwater demolition team.

Edwin Ralph "Ted" Tamblin '56, age 68, of Birmingham died Feb. 14, 2004. He was a retail pharmacist, a hospital pharmacist and a purchasing agent at Community Hospital, Ensley Ala., and chief pharmacist at the Jefferson County Health Department, Bessemer, Ala. He was president of the Jefferson County Pharmaceutical Association and a pastor at Wharton Avenue Presbyterian Church, Tarrant, Ala.

William Arthur "Bud" Thompson '50, age 78, of Pinson, Ala., died Jan. 4, 2004. He flew many missions as a radio gunner in World War II, and was a dance band leader in the 1940s

Miriam Higginbotham Was a Life Trustee, Educator and Community Servant

Miriam Cockrell Jackson Higginbotham was a life trustee of Samford University, the first woman elected second vice president of the Alabama Baptist State Convention (in 1972) and the first dean of women at Jacksonville State University.



Mrs. Miriam Higginbotham

She was also a teacher, a pastor's wife and a lifelong servant of higher education, her community and her church. She died Feb. 23 at age 76 after a long struggle with illness.

Higginbotham was elected to the Samford Board of Trustees in 1977 and served until her death. "She brought great insight as well as personal charm and grace to her role as Samford trustee," said Samford President Thomas E. Corts.

The Ashland, Ala., native graduated from Samford and married her college sweetheart, J. B. Jackson, Jr. in 1949. He was a Southern Baptist Seminary student, and

later, they served churches in Kentucky, Colorado and Alabama until his death in 1957.

She began her career in education in 1957 as a classroom teacher in Boaz, Ala., where she was nominated for the state Teacher of the Year Award. In 1965, she

became dean of women at Jacksonville State, serving until retirement in 1989. She also held a master's degree from Jacksonville State.

On Valentine's Day in 1974, she married Ralph Higginbotham. They were members of Parker Memorial Baptist Church in Anniston for 30 years and coauthored the church history, *Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church*.

"One of her greatest joys in serving was teaching her Sunday School class," said her daughter, Miriam J. Gaines.

She is survived by her husband of 30 years, three children, three stepchildren, two sisters, 10 grandchildren and a great-grandson. ■

and '50s. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity.

Elizabeth "Bette" Trucks '41, age 83, of Fayetteville, Ga., died Dec. 31, 2003. She was a leader in school, church and civic activities, and worked at Ware Jewelers in Auburn, Ala. She was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

Joyce Delay Vines '47, age 78, of Foley, Ala., died Jan. 13, 2004. She was an organist at Chalkville Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, Foley.

Donald Chamberlain Weeks '55, age 89, of Las Cruces, N.M., died Nov. 11, 2003. As a missionary with the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, he began churches in Pueblo, Colo., and Gary, Ind. After retirement, he was director of missions in Lamar County, Ala.

Cynthia A. Wells '79, age 46, of Ojai, Calif., died Oct. 28, 2003. She had a career in business and art on the West Coast.

Paul David Wesson '65, age 60, of Childersburg, Ala., died Jan. 20, 2004. He owned pharmacy stores in Childersburg and Sylacauga, Ala., for 33 years.

Karen Dianne Wideman '88, age 35, of Helena, Ala., died Nov. 28, 2003. She was a nurse at Birmingham area hospitals.

Edith Wood '48 of Marietta, Ga., died in December 2003. She was a registered nurse and a lieutenant colonel (retired), U.S. Air Force. ■

Flooring Man Says Thanks, Leaves Samford \$1.9 Million

Enos Cuthrell was a self-made man who made a success of his Birmingham flooring business in the 1940s and '50s.

"As a young man, he would get a job, take his sanding machine and go to work," recalled his niece, Mrs. Bobbie Smith of Chattanooga, Tenn. "He would even sleep at the job site if he had to."

Beginning in the 1930s, Cuthrell (pronounced KOOTH-rull) did flooring work around the Southeast. He worked in Oak Ridge, Tenn., during World War II, helping build facilities for the Atomic Energy Commission

and those working there.

By the 1950s, his business was well-established. He lived in a house on Lakeshore Drive and was interested to learn of then-Howard College's plan to build a new campus in the vicinity. He bid to do the flooring work for campus buildings and got the job.

"He was thrilled by the confidence the school showed in awarding him the contract," said Smith. "He told me he was so grateful to Howard for that opportunity."

Cuthrell and his wife, Ginny, were Baptist, and they thought highly of the school. Determined to show his

appreciation, he decided to leave Samford something in his estate.

"He was very adamant about wanting to help the school," said Smith. "He told me that quite often."

Along the way, Cuthrell began investing successfully in real estate, and his resources grew even more.

Cuthrell died in 1976. Through his will, he had arranged for his estate to go to his widow for her lifetime, then to Samford. "This 'give it twice' plan was the perfect way to provide for his wife while also fulfilling his desire to help Samford," said Stan

Davis, Samford gift and estate planning director.

Ginny Cuthrell died April 20, 2003. By that time, the Cuthrell estate had grown to almost \$2 million.

The money came to Samford last fall, a total of \$1,991,151.40.

"Uncle Enos helped so many people along the way," recalled Smith. Now, his generosity to Samford will help even more. ■

Editor's Note: Bobbie Smith has a tie to Samford also. Her late husband, Tom Polk Smith, was a graduate of McWhorter School of Pharmacy.

Robbins Scholarship Memorializes Longtime Seminary Professor

Dr. Ray Frank Robbins was a retired Southern Baptist professor who taught New Testament and Greek for more than 35 years, the majority of that time at New Orleans Baptist Seminary.

Robbins began his teaching career at Samford University—then Howard College—in 1946, moving to the seminary faculty in 1952. After retiring in 1981, he continued to teach as senior professor and visiting scholar in the Department of Religion at Mississippi College.

Throughout his career, Robbins was a popular Bible conference leader and interim pastor. He wrote several books, including *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*, *The Life and Ministry of Our Lord* and *How We Got the Bible*.

"He never quit studying and he never quit preaching," recalled his son, Samford graduate Ray Robbins '70, M.A. '71, J.D. '75, of Talladega, Ala.



Dr. Ray Frank Robbins

1950s photo

A native of Flomaton, Ala., Dr. Robbins earned his bachelor's degree from Mississippi College, master's and doctoral degrees from Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and another doctorate from the University of Edinburgh.

Robbins died at age 87 last Oct. 26, and true to his character, he had led a Wednesday night Bible study only a few hours before suffering a fatal heart attack.

He will be remembered by the hundreds of young preachers he influenced over the years. And he will be memorialized through the Dr. Ray Frank Robbins Scholarship established by his family at Samford University this spring.

Anyone wishing to contribute may send a gift to Dr. Ray Frank Robbins Scholarship, University Relations Office, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229. ■

SIX SIMPLE WAYS TO SUPPORT SAMFORD'S MISSION

Here are six simple but satisfying ways you can be a partner in Samford's mission of Christian higher education and still use your assets during your lifetime:

1. P.O.D. Account

Many states allow people to establish pay-on-death accounts that name a beneficiary, such as Samford, for their savings, checking, CD or other financial accounts. An account with joint owners would go to the beneficiary upon the last death.

2. Totten Trust

In locales where pay-on-death instruments are not used, these work like P.O.D. accounts. Financial accounts are held in trust for Samford until the death of all account owners.

3. Retirement Plan

Samford can be named as a death beneficiary of retirement saving plans for all or a percentage of the value.

4. Life Insurance

Samford can be named as full or partial beneficiary for an existing life insurance policy.

5. Revocable Gift

Money can be placed with Samford on a revocable basis. Samford will be able to use the interest. The money can be reclaimed as needed or passed as a gift at death.

6. T.O.D. Securities

Samford can be made transfer-on-death beneficiary of securities held in a brokerage account after the death of all account owners.

For more information and other ideas, read about planning a gift wisely at www.samford.edu/giftplanning or contact the Office of Gift and Estate Planning at 1-877-782-5867. ■

With Appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these tribute gifts received June 1, 2003, through February 29, 2004.
For further information, contact the Samford University Gift office at (205) 726-2807.

HONORARIUMS

Abe Berkowitz Endowed Scholarship (Law)

*In honor of Drs. Maunel and Blanca Anton's
40th anniversary
by Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Berkowitz,
Savannah, Ga.*

Ben B. Brown Memorial Music School

*In honor of Mrs. Ben B. Brown
by Love Sunday School Class, Mountain
Brook Baptist*

Charles T. Carter Scholarship Fund

*In honor of Charles T. Carter
by Mr. James R. Lambert, Vestavia Hills, Ala.*

Cyndi Wells Art Fund

*In honor of Kari Utley, Edie Wells, Suzan Utley,
Dana Luker, Julie and Lynn Tolman
by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Utley, Austin, Ark.*

Davis Library

*In honor of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Corts
by Ms. Sandra L. O'Brien, Birmingham*

Division of Music

*In honor of Peggy and Pete Field, and Sandy
Parker
by Mr. Clarence A. Brooks II, Birmingham
In honor of Barbara McCullough Kolden
by Mrs. Mary B. McCullough, Birmingham*

General Scholarship Fund

*In honor of Elizabeth Wells
by Ms. Doris Knight, Birmingham
In honor of Dr. Thomas Corts' birthday
by Drs. Michael and Terry Morgan,
Birmingham*

History Department

*In honor of Dr. Donald E. Wilson
by Society of Colonial Wars, Birmingham*

Leslie S. and Lolla W. Wright Scholarship

*In honor of Mrs. Lolla W. Wright
by Dr. and Mrs. Leven Hazlegrove,
Birmingham*

Miriam and Ralph Higginbotham Endowment

*In honor of Becky and Terry Wilson, and Mim
and Judson Gaines
by Mr. Randall M. Woodrow, Jacksonville,
Ala.*

Robyn Bari Cohen Children's Book Fund

*In honor of Mrs. Becky Hess, Mrs. Marilyn
Davis, Mr. John Blum and Dr. Charlotte
Freeman
by Mrs. Carolyn P. Cohen, Birmingham
In honor of Jade Cohen and Morton Stern
by Mr. Mike Cohen*

Samford Auxiliary Scholarship Endowment

*In honor of Dave and Sue Belcher
by Ms. Elizabeth Slive, Vestavia Hills, Ala.
In honor of Alta Lee Coker Baker
by Mr. and Mrs. William B. Baker,
Birmingham*

Samford Fund

*In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Nichol
by Dr. and Mrs. Bill C. Weber, Memphis,
Tenn.
In honor of Peter Neuberger
by Mr. Donald N. Latham, Alabaster, Ala.*

Science Building Gift Fund

*In honor of Dr. Nash Collier, Jr.
by Dr. and Mrs. Edward L. Robinson,
Birmingham*

Virgil Ledbetter Baseball Fund

*In honor of J. T. Haywood "Coach"
by Dr. Rex C. Tuckier, Moulton, Ala.*

William R. and Fay Ireland Governors School

*In honor of Greg Butrus
by The Community Foundation of Greater
Birmingham
In honor of Din Johnson
by Dr. Carolyn Green Satterfield,
Birmingham*

MEMORIALS

Avalee Willoughby Scholarship

*In memory of Mrs. James H. Butler
Mrs. Minna R. West, Byron, Ga.*

Beeson Divinity School Scholarship

*In memory of Dr. Harris Gerald Walker
Mrs. Hudson D. Baggett, Birmingham
Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Crawford, Vestavia
Hills, Ala.
Mr. and Mrs. Grady C. Gaston,
Birmingham, Ala.
Mrs. Becky Griffith, Birmingham
Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Knight, Fultondale, Ala.
Ms. Blanche Logan, Birmingham
Mr. and Mrs. James Nipper, Odenville, Ala.
Mrs. Margaret C. Northrup, Birmingham
Ms. Elizabeth J. Nunnelle, Birmingham
Plantation Condo Association, Birmingham
Rev. and Mrs. Donald A. Phillips,
Talladega, Ala.
Dr. A. Earl Potts, Homewood, Ala.
Mrs. Leslie S. Wright, Birmingham*

Beverly Harvey Scholarship Fund

*In memory of Beverly Harvey
Mr. Frank L. Steingass, Cleveland, Ohio*

Brookwood Baptist Scholarship

*In memory of David H. Shelton
Mr. and Mrs. Monty Hogewood, Hoover, Ala.*

Colonial Dames History Award

*In memory of Irvin C. Kinney
Mrs. Augusta Hassinger, Birmingham
Ms. Betty K. Poellnitz, Greensboro, Ala.
Mrs. Deane Poellnitz Cook, Birmingham
In memory of Elizabeth C. Palmer and Natalie P.
Reynolds*

*Mrs. Elizabeth P. Miller, Birmingham
In memory of Josephine Harris Wasson
Mrs. Garland Cook Smith, Birmingham*

Cyndi Wells Art Fund

*In memory of Cyndi Wells
Ms. Dorothy Ashley, Fort Worth, Texas
Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie E. Baker, Conyers, Ga.
Ms. Grovenc Blair, Daleville, Ala.
Ms. Sara Brunson, Sea Grove, Fla.
Mrs. Celeste K. Conner, Dothan, Ala.
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