A crowning celebration—Susan Petty of Mountain Brook (center) was crowned the 2005 Birmingham-Southern Homecoming Queen during halftime ceremonies of the men’s basketball game against Virginia Military Institute Feb. 19. The senior religion major was selected in a campus-wide vote of the student body. She is shown here with (from left) BSC President Dr. David Pollick; Callie Shields, granddaughter of Camille Ennis, BSC Bookstore merchandise manager; and Amanda Latifi, 2004 BSC Homecoming Queen.

SGA president, officers elected for 2005-06

George Nelson IV, a junior biological chemistry major from Mountain Brook, has been elected president of Birmingham-Southern’s Student Government Association for the 2005-06 academic year.

Also elected to executive office for 2005-06 were Kris Sornsin, a sophomore international studies major from Alexander City, first vice president; Cal NeSmith, a sophomore business administration major from Oneonta, second vice president; Justin Philpot, a junior undecided major from Homewood, treasurer; and Julie Deupree, a sophomore business administration major from Vestavia Hills, secretary.

BSC students take top prizes in national cello composition contest

Birmingham-Southern students recently took the top prizes in the inaugural Wheaton College Internet2 cello composition competition.

Erika Pipkin of Irondale, a senior music composition major, won first place for her composition Taj America. Chris Adkins, a sophomore music major from Marietta, Ga., and Brad Sims, a junior music major from Katy, Texas, tied for second place with their compositions The Juxtaposition of Fragmented Music Cells and The Curtailment.

The competition invited music students from high schools, colleges, and universities across the nation to submit solo cello pieces. The winners had their pieces performed and critiqued via video conferencing that was conducted with the new and faster high-capacity network “Internet2” created for colleges and universities. Cash prizes were awarded.

Craig Hultgren, BSC adjunct professor of music and cellist, performed and recorded the winning compositions this spring.

Whittington Competition winners perform with orchestra

Three student winners of the fifth annual Whittington Competition at Birmingham-Southern performed Feb. 20 with the Red Mountain Chamber Orchestra.

The orchestra, led by BSC Music Professor Dr. Thomas Gibbs, accompanied the 2005 Whittington Competition winners, including vocalist Katie Hall, a senior music-voice major from Opelika; pianist Bonnie McClure, a sophomore music major from Fortson, Ga.; and vocalist Erin Wakeman, a junior undecided major from Mobile.

The Whittington Competition is named for Frances and Dorsey Whittington, who were leaders of The Birmingham Conservatory of Music, which later became the Music Department at Birmingham-Southern.