

'Southern

A Publication for Alumni and Friends

Fall 2007 Volume 33, Number 3

Voices of Our City

*'Southern alums
are changing the world,
starting right here
in Birmingham, Alabama*



BSC Birmingham-Southern College

Editor's Note

It will make you smile

BY BILL WAGNON

The college has been the beneficiary over the past few months of some rather remarkable—and innovative—gifts. There is no stronger endorsement of the good that is a Birmingham-Southern education than when alumni, friends, foundations, and organizations choose to support the college in such meaningful ways. It will make you smile.

There's the new Admission Welcome Center—a remarkable facility. On one of my many recent visits, I held the door open as a group from the Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences was entering for a campus visit. You should have seen the glow in their eyes as they walked into Hulsey Hall and one young female student remarked, "Is this really your welcome center? Wow!" I had to smile.

I smiled the day that Dr. Peter and Derry Bunting came to campus for the cover photograph of this issue. It was obvious that just being on campus gave them such an energy—an energy not unnoticed by the students they met that day who were filled with gratitude as well as questions about the Buntings' desire to integrate service into the learning experience.

James T. Stephens, who never attended BSC, continues to give his time and resources in support of the liberal arts education he believes is so meaningful. I smiled as I interviewed this compassionate man who saw a need and responded to it with a multi-million dollar gift to make a BSC education affordable to the deserving, but needy.

The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham has recognized the college's commitment to protecting our environment and responded with a commitment to the Urban Environmental Studies major, and the Dixon Foundation has provided the funds to support six Hess Center Fellows for each of the next three years as these students work to correct injustices in our society. I'm still smiling.

And then there's Regions Bank, a contribution you'll read more about in our next issue. Earlier this fall, President David Pollick suggested contacting Regions about getting some of the "lifegreen"



bikes the bank is using in its marketing campaign. It would, after all, he explained, make our campus even more environmentally friendly as students, faculty, and staff use them for sustainable transportation between campus facilities. On December 5, Regions delivered 100 of the bikes to campus led by CEO Dowd Ritter, a BSC alumnus and trustee, and several other BSC alumni who work for the bank. Later that day, Dr. Pollick would write ... "the students are still smiling as they spin around campus. Give it a try. I defy you not to smile." When I returned to

campus a few days later, having completely forgotten about the bikes while on a business trip, I went around a curve on Bruno Drive and saw a green bike in front of an academic building, then another beside the Norton Campus Center, another by a residence hall, and one outside Battle Coliseum. He was right. I couldn't help but smile.

I apologize for all the smiling, but it's sort of contagious. As is the support so many are showing for our college. And I'm sure you'll be smiling too as you read more on the pages that follow.

Bill

Bill Wagon
Vice President for Communications

USPS 087-600

Dr. G. David Pollick, President
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BSC

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On the Cover

Dr. Peter Bunting '66 and his wife, Derry Brice Bunting '69, have always believed in giving back—whether to their community or to Birmingham-Southern—to help others. Now their hope is that their significant contribution to the college will help make the world a better place for all. Read more beginning on page 44.

Photos by Brandon Gresham

Admission Welcome Center

Birmingham-Southern opens new 'front door' to campus

BY BILL WAGNON



BSC's new 'front door,' the Admission Welcome Center, opened its doors to visitors in September.

Birmingham-Southern has a new campus 'front door' as the Admission Welcome Center officially began hosting prospective students and their families in September.

The \$3.4 million, 9,800 square-foot facility is located just inside the main entrance to campus and just east of the Striplin Fitness and Recreation Center. It is across the street from the one-stop Student Services Building, where prospective students also can get questions answered about financial aid.

The new home for the Office of Admission staff includes a great hall living room with a receptionist area, a video screening room on one end of the hall and a covered porch on the other end, a kitchen, conference room, interview rooms for use by admission counselors and prospective students, and office space for the admission staff, among

other amenities. Signs in a reserved parking area in the back of the facility personally identify each day's visitors.

A courtyard with knot garden welcomes visitors who enter between the two wings in the back of the building. First established in England, knot gardens are a formal design of a variety of aromatic plants and culinary herbs.

Construction was funded by private donations.

Sheri Salmon, BSC's dean of enrollment management, says the spacious facility is a much needed addition to the college's student recruiting process.

"We visited colleges similar to Birmingham-Southern all over the South, and each one had space dedicated to welcoming prospective students and their parents to campus," notes Salmon. "The campus visit is the most important

part of the recruiting process and making an enjoyable and welcoming first impression is so important.

"We've already seen the benefits of the Admission Welcome Center among our future students. The reaction by visitors has been overwhelming."

Jeff Kallay, who is the "experience evangelist for TargetX, an interactive marketing firm for colleges and universities, visited Birmingham-Southern and the Admission Welcome Center in November. He travels the country helping colleges improve their campus experiences and tours.

Kallay wrote in his online blog after his visit, "... Birmingham-Southern's Welcome Center is amazing. I tour 3-5 colleges and universities a month and see my share of admissions offices/visitor centers. Birmingham-Southern recently built the Welcome Center/Admissions Office that rivals (and should inspire) others. It is authentic to BSC and their audience. It's also spacious but intimate, filled with natural light, has two large wings of offices and can be used by many departments on campus for receptions and meetings. If you are driving through Birmingham, take time to tour this amazing space."

The building was funded through major donations from BSC trustees Billy Hulsey and James T. Stephens, along with contributions from several other individuals, corporations, and organizations.

The great room in the front of the facility was named Hulsey Hall to honor Hulsey and his wife, Millie. The spacious Hulsey Hall also is used for various campus special events and receptions.



Hulsey Hall in the new Admission Welcome Center serves as a "living room" for prospective students and their families, as well as an area for receptions and other special events.

"I felt it was important for the institution to have an Admission Welcome Center that was attractive and that would make a good impression on prospective students and their parents who come to Birmingham-Southern for the first time to visit," Hulsey says. "It needed to be a place that was attractive, warm, and friendly, and a place you could come in and feel at home—an environment that you enjoy while becoming acquainted with the admission staff. It also needed to be compatible with the rest of campus and make an impact when you enter campus, and all of this was accomplished."

In addition to his personal donation to the facility, Stephens led an intense, one-month campaign as chair of the Board of Trustees to encourage his fellow trustees to support the Admission Welcome Center.

"As a quality liberal arts college with an outstanding faculty fully focused on teaching, BSC aims to have a full house, which regrettably we have not had," Stephens explains. "The opportunity to shape knowledge, character, and the potentials of career and life is too good not to reach every qualified student we can handle. Exposing the story of BSC through the best admission and student recruiting operation among our peers requires equipping our excellent staff with the resources and tools they need."

Contractor for the Admission Welcome Center was JohnsonKreiss Construction of Birmingham. McAlpine Tankersley Architecture Inc. of Montgomery was the architect on the project. Nimrod Long and Associates of Birmingham assisted with landscape architecture.



Enjoying Hulsey Hall during an October building dedication (from left) are Julie and Jim Stephens, BSC President Dr. David Pollick, and Millie and Billy Hulsey.

Foundation grant supports BSC's new Urban Environmental Studies major



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER BIRMINGHAM

"The Community Foundation grant is an expression of confidence in and support for BSC's new Urban Environmental Studies Program," said Birmingham-Southern Provost Dr. Kathleen Murray. "It allows us to move forward with a critically important hire and to launch the program in the fall of 2008. This grant from the Community Foundation also provides us with enhanced credibility as we reach out to other foundations for additional funding."

The Urban Environmental Studies major, approved by the Birmingham-Southern faculty in spring 2007, is the first of its kind in the state of Alabama and will focus on the study of the urban ecological environment and how people live in and interact with the environment.

The major was developed through the work of the Environmental Studies Committee chaired by Dr. Scot Duncan, BSC assistant professor of biology. It will include courses from across the liberal arts curriculum on ethics, politics, and societal issues, in addition to the sciences.

It will take advantage of the Urban Environmental Park under construction on campus, an urban oasis that when completed will be conducive for hands-on outdoor teaching and also serve as a place of recreation and leisure for students.

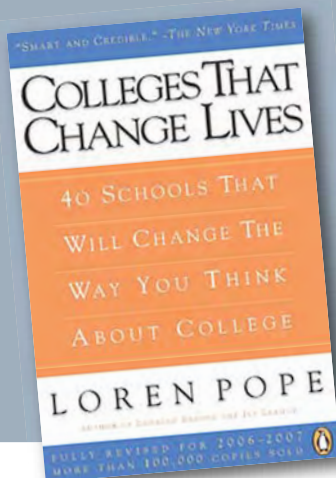
Established as a public charity in 1959, The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham awards grants to nonprofit organizations, primarily in the Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, Blount, and Walker counties, with a goal of creating positive change and a better way of life in the Birmingham region.

"We know that our community cares about encouraging smart growth and taking care of natural resources, and we have adopted these as important priorities for the grants we make from our Community Funds," said Kate Nielsen, president of The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham. "We are proud to be one of the early supporters of this unique major at Birmingham-Southern, which will train students to take on important roles in protecting our environment."

Supported by individuals, families, and corporations, The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham is the largest and oldest community foundation in Alabama and ranks among the top 100 in the nation.

A significant grant from The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham is supporting Birmingham-Southern's new Urban Environmental Studies major.

The three-year, \$140,000 grant will help fund a program director for the major for the first three years. The new major becomes a part of the college's curriculum in fall 2008.



Birmingham-Southern again lauded among colleges that change lives

Colleges That Change Lives' author Loren Pope has once again shined the spotlight on Birmingham-Southern as being one of 40 colleges that are "outdoing the Ivy League schools and the major universities in producing winners" in his latest revised edition.

The former *New York Times* education editor profiles 40 colleges in the United States that excel at developing potential, values, initiative, and risk-taking in a wide range of students. The guidebook includes profiles on the programs and personality of each college; what the school can offer students both academically and socially; candid assessments by students, professors, and deans; and the lifelong benefits of a liberal arts education for today's student.

For more information about *Colleges That Change Lives*, visit www.ctcl.com.

Pollick receives Trailblazer Award from Alabama Congressman Artur Davis

Birmingham-Southern President Dr. David Pollick was honored in Washington, D.C., this fall with a Trailblazer Award, which recognizes Alabamians who have made outstanding contributions in their communities or chosen field of work.

Pollick received the award at the fifth annual Celebration of Excellence Reception hosted by U.S. Rep. Artur Davis of the 7th Congressional District of Alabama as part of the annual

legislative conference of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation.

"I recognized Dr. Pollick as our Trailblazer of the Year because of the standard he set in responding to the church arsons in west Alabama in 2006," said Davis. "Dr. Pollick's notion of collective responsibility should animate our entire civic life."

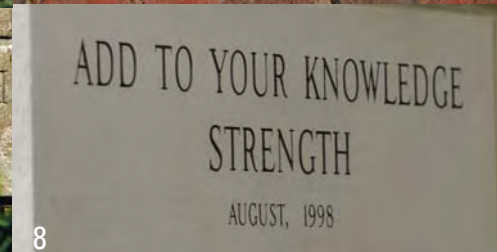
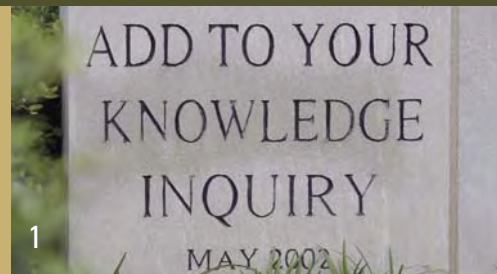
Hilltop trivia

Can you identify your BSC cornerstones?

The symbolic laying of cornerstones within the walls of many of the buildings on the Birmingham-Southern campus is a Hilltop tradition that was established close to a century ago, beginning as early as 1923 with the college's oldest building, Phillips Administration.

A cornerstone is a ceremonial building block, usually placed in the outer wall of a building, to commemorate its dedication. In addition to the cornerstone containing the date on which it was laid, each one at Birmingham-Southern bears a Biblical inscription that correlates with the academic focus within the building. BSC even went a step further by embedding time capsules within the hollow structure of some of its cornerstones.

Here are photos of eight of the cornerstones that can be found on the BSC campus. Can you identify the building that goes with each cornerstone inscription? The answers can be found at the bottom of the next page.





Walter Mosley to headline 2008 Writing Today conference at BSC

Award-winning writer Walter Mosley, best-known for his popular mysteries featuring private eye Easy Rawlins, will be the Books-A-Million Grand Master for the 28th annual Writing Today Conference March 7-8, 2008, at Birmingham-Southern.

Mosley's appearance will be the highlight of the conference's Saturday luncheon. His first Rawlins' novel, *Devil in a Blue Dress*, was adapted into a film starring Denzel Washington. Other books in the series include *The New York Times* best-selling *Bad Boy Brawly Brown*, *Black Betty*, *A Little Yellow Dog*, *Cinnamon Kiss*, and *Little Scarlet*.

His short fiction has been published in *The New Yorker*, *Esquire*, and *GQ* magazines. One of his stories in *Always Outnumbered*, *Always Outgunned* won an O'Henry Award, and the story became an HBO film starring Laurence Fishburne.

Mosley is an active voice for the black community in the ongoing effort for racial equality. In his essays and nonfiction, he examines ways that the African-American perspective can contribute to political, economic, and social progress in America. He also is the first African-American to serve on the National Book Foundation's board of directors and is the founder of the publishing program at the City College of New York. Among his many awards, he was honored in 2004 with the PEN USA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Julianna Baggott (a.k.a. N.E. Bode), novelist, poet, and children's book author, will open the conference at a plenary session on Friday morning, and Frank Deford, senior contributing writer for *Sports Illustrated* magazine and radio commentator on NPR's "Morning Edition," will keynote the Friday luncheon. Many other talented writers are included on the 2008 conference faculty.

Writing Today is a world-class conference that offers inspiring yet practical information from local, regional, as well as nationally recognized authors, journalists, playwrights, and poets. Check the Web site often at www.writingtoday.org to get updates for major speakers and presenters who will provide workshops about the craft of writing, as well as valuable information on finding agents and getting published. The 2008 conference schedule and registration material will be posted in January. All events are held on the Birmingham-Southern campus.

To be placed on the mailing list for updates and reminders, call the College Events Office at 205/226-4921 or e-mail sbarr@bsc.edu or agreen@bsc.edu.



Mosley



Spratling

Spratling appointed executive assistant to President Pollick

Camille Spratling, formerly associate director of admission for the Master of Arts in Public and Private Management program at BSC, is the new executive assistant to President David Pollick. She began her new duties this fall.

Spratling graduated magna cum laude from BSC in 1998 where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Mortar Board. She earned a master's degree from the college in May of this year and was awarded the MPPM Dyson-Wagnon Award for achieving the highest grade-point average.

Prior to joining Birmingham-Southern, Spratling served as community action coordinator for Children's Hospital of Alabama, where she organized community initiatives designed to raise awareness and support of the hospital's mission. Prior to that, she worked at the Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce, serving consecutively as manager of education and workforce development, manager of international business, and manager of public policy.

Her career also includes a position as the program director of First Look Inc., a local nonprofit agency connecting youth to meaningful community service.

Spratling currently serves on the boards of Operation New Birmingham, Friends of the Railroad District, and Sumatanga Camp and Conference Center. She also is a member of the Central City Neighborhood Association and the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama Roundtable, among other affiliations.

Answers to cornerstone quiz:

1. Stephens Science Center
2. Munger Memorial Hall
3. Norton Campus Center
4. Stockham Building
5. Admission Welcome Center
6. Rush Learning Center/N.E. Miles Library
7. Phillips Administration Building
8. Striplin Fitness and Recreation Center

Birmingham-Southern College Calendar of Events

- Jan. 13-31** **Southeastern Regional High School Art Competition and Exhibition**, high school artists from seven states compete for cash awards, 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., M-F, Durbin Gallery, Kennedy Art Center/Azar Art Studios, awards ceremony is at 2:30 p.m. on opening day, followed by a reception at 3 p.m., 205/226-4928.
- Jan. 16** **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 25th Anniversary Celebration**, noon, Norton Campus Center Theatre, 205/226-4733.
- Jan. 17** **60x60 Concert**, an hour-long event featuring 60 electroacoustic compositions from worldwide composers, each lasting 60 seconds or less, 7:30 p.m., Hill Recital Hall, 205/226-4950.
- Jan. 24, 26, 28 & 30** **Our Town Theatrical Production**, a heartfelt look at life and death in small-town America, showing at 7:30 p.m., College Theatre/Mainstage, 205/226-4780.
- Jan. 25, 27, 29 & 31** **Marry Me a Little Theatrical Production**, bittersweet musical tale of love, loneliness, and life as a single person, showing Jan. 25, 29, and 31 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 27 at 2:30 p.m., College Theatre One, 205/226-4780.
- Jan. 26** **The Winter Sky Planetarium Show**, a study of the winter triangle and other cold weather astronomy, 2 p.m., Robert R. Meyer Planetarium, 205/226-4771.
- Feb. 8-29** **BSC Studio Art Faculty Exhibition**, showcasing work by professors Kevin Shook, Cooper Spivey, and Pamela Venz, gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., M-F, Durbin Gallery, Kennedy Art Center/Azar Art Studios, opening day reception Feb. 8 is 5-8 p.m., 205/226-4928.
- Feb. 15** **Hugh & Barbara Thomas Masterclass Series** presents a concert of music by visiting composer Martin Bresnick and pianist Lisa Moore, 7:30 p.m., Hill Recital Hall, 205/226-4950.
- Feb. 17** **Whittington Concerto/Aria Competition**, featuring BSC student winners in concert with the Red Mountain Chamber Orchestra, Mark Ridings '88 directing, 3 p.m., Hill Recital Hall, 205/226-4950.
- Feb. 23** **Sky Watchers of Ancient Mexico Planetarium Show** (produced by the Hansen Planetarium), sharing the astronomical discoveries of the ancient Mayan and Aztec civilizations, 2 p.m., Robert R. Meyer Planetarium, 205/226-4771.
- Feb. 28-March 1** **BSC Student Choreography Workshop**, annual dance production by the college's Department of Theatre and Dance, 7:30 p.m., College Theatre/Mainstage, 205/226-4780.
- March 4** **Birmingham Art Music Alliance Concert**, with appearances by the BSC Concert Choir and violinist Karen Bentley Pollick both performing "The Sun is Going Down," composed by recent BSC guest professor Jan Vičar, 7 p.m., UAB Reynolds-Kirschbaum Recital Hall, 205/226-4950.

All college events can be found at www.bsc.edu.



Presidential birthday bash—The Birmingham-Southern Student Government Association recently pulled off a surprise 60th birthday party for President David Pollick. The Oct. 12 celebration included this humorous pink flamingo lawn greeting and trays of white-frosted cupcakes. Mac Smith, a sophomore theatre major, provided the highlight of the afternoon with an impersonation of Marilyn Monroe's famous "Happy Birthday, Mr. President," sung during JFK's 45th birthday tribute. Pollick's wife, Karen Bentley Pollick, also was on hand at the celebration impersonating Jacqueline Kennedy.

Dr. Tricia Witte: Engaging students of psychology in her crusade against domestic violence

BY PAT COLE



Witte

After more than a decade of treating and studying the effects of domestic violence, Dr. Tricia Witte can't avoid the cold, hard facts she's learned—truth that she doesn't mind passing on to her students.

"You can help the victims recover, but you can't stop the behavior from happening unless you target the offender," she relates.

As assistant professor of psychology at Birmingham-Southern, Witte has a deep desire to help those affected by abuse and trauma and to share her knowledge with students. And she believes she just might be destined to become a

pioneer when it comes to solving complex issues of domestic violence.

So far, she has extensive clinical experience as a domestic violence counselor, and has contributed to a variety of important research projects in that area including identifying different battering personalities, and studying the way various groups of people assign blame in a domestic violence scenario.

"When providing therapy to offenders of domestic violence," Witte says, "being judgmental doesn't help anybody. Although the offenders I counseled were aware

that I disagreed with their behavior and did not condone in any way what they did, they knew that I would still treat them with respect as a human being. That was the feedback I received from several of the offenders I treated."

Witte began doing clinical work in abuse counseling as an undergraduate student at Loyola College in Maryland, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology in the liberal arts studies. Even before interning for a domestic violence agency, she was already becoming interested in the causes, effects, and prevention of domestic violence, as well as in the field of psychology.

"I think my love of psychology came from my professors at Loyola—the psychology professors were the ones I had the strongest relationships with," she explains. "Plus, something about that major just clicked with me. One of my psychology professors suggested that I look into clinical psychology, and that's how I started working at the domestic violence agency. I co-led some of the agency's treatment groups for the perpetrators of domestic violence—mainly men who had recently been arrested. Once I started my counseling work there, I realized that it was a natural fit for me."

In addition to studying and counseling batterers during her time at Loyola, Witte was a student-athlete, playing for the college's Division I soccer team. She was team captain during her senior year.

After receiving her master's degree, Witte left her native state and traveled west to Fayetteville to earn her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Arkansas. She says she was attracted by Arkansas' strong program in clinical



Dr. Tricia Witte (second from left) receives this year's Bob Whetstone Faculty Development Award from (from far left) BSC Provost Dr. Kathleen Murray and Dr. Bob and Janelle Whetstone.

psychology and by the opportunity to learn from nationally recognized researchers in the field of violence and aggression.

"I studied intimate partner violence at Arkansas, specifically focusing on cognitive appraisals of violent arguments and treatment programs for offenders," says Witte.

While earning her doctorate, she spent evenings at a local domestic violence agency in Fayetteville leading therapy groups for violent offenders. Before leaving Arkansas, Witte was given the opportunity to teach two undergraduate courses, General Psychology and Statistics. She then did a required one-year clinical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina to complete her doctorate.

"I chose MUSC because it is one of the top internship sites for treating victims of trauma," remarks Witte. "There, I specialized in the treatment of victims not only of domestic violence, but also of rape and other forms of interpersonal violence."

After completing her internship, she and her husband searched for jobs. As a developmental psychologist, he wanted to teach at a big state university, while Witte had

the desire to teach at a small liberal arts school. Both got just what they wanted when Witte landed her first professional position on the BSC faculty in 2004, while her husband joined the faculty at the University of Alabama.

Recently, Witte has added Forensic Psychology to her

coursework at BSC. As part of this class, she teaches students how to administer therapy to convicted batterers.

"Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, and/or psychological," she says. "Once it escalates, there is going to be name-calling, threats, hitting, pushing, shoving, and possibly sexual abuse. The treatment program I teach addresses all of these behaviors."

Witte also works with students on various research projects in the field of domestic violence.

"Right now, several students and I are researching something called 'perceived norms,' which addresses perceptions of how common domestic violence is," she says. "For example, people have a greater likelihood of engaging in domestic violence if they believe that many couples engage in violence during arguments."

Witte says what she loves most about Birmingham-Southern is the relationships one can form due to the college's small student-to-faculty ratio.

"There are close relationships between faculty and students here in this college. I love that. I had great mentors at Loyola College, and

because of those relationships, I wanted to work in a similar environment so that I could develop strong relationships with my students.

"And, I just love teaching. When I finish a day of therapy with offenders or victims of interpersonal violence, I'm exhausted; it's draining. But when I get through a day of teaching, interacting with students, or conducting a research study with a student, it's a very different feeling; I'm energized."

Witte was awarded for her passion and energy for teaching this fall when she received the 2007 Bob Whetstone Faculty Development Award. The cash award, named for the 1955 BSC graduate, professor emeritus, and former chair of the Division of Education at BSC, is presented annually to a non-tenured faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in teaching during the previous year. She plans to use her award for development and travel.

"I'm still figuring out how I'll spend it," she says. "Right now, I am looking into the possibility of attending a conference sponsored by the American Psychological Association that focuses on interpersonal violence."

While remaining devoted to her teaching and with a new baby in tow, Witte plans to continue her resolve to improve the treatment plan and response to domestic violence.

"I would like to find an effective treatment program for offenders because many of the current treatment programs are ineffective," says Witte. "Once I figure that out, I can go back and help the agencies in Alabama and beyond, and tell them which programs work, and which don't. That's my long-term goal."

Neel awarded residency at Kohler Arts Center



Neel

Jim Neel, a Birmingham-Southern assistant professor of art and alumnus, has won a residency through the Kohler Arts/Industry Program and will spend 11 weeks next summer and fall creating a life-size sculpture of chimpanzee soldiers.

Neel is one of 18 artists who won the competitive international residency this year with his proposal to create a sculpture installation entitled "Babel," comprised of 50 life-size chimpanzee soldiers made of slip cast porcelain. He will work in the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wis., from July 28-Oct. 11 having 24-hour access to the Kohler factory where the company creates its bathroom fixtures.

Not only will Neel be able to work uninterrupted, but he will receive free materials, use of equipment, technical assistance, housing, and a weekly stipend.

"For my upcoming work, each chimp will play a recording of an historical

political speech, but all at the same time, rendering them unintelligible—hence the title 'Babel,'" says Neel, who grew up in Birmingham. "The installation is scheduled for display in the college's Durbin Gallery in February 2009 and will be part of a three-part exhibition that will see simultaneous installations at BSC and local Space One Eleven and Bare Hands galleries."

Having garnered a strong regional and national reputation, Neel's sculpture, drawings, and photography have appeared in exhibitions at numerous venues such as Winston-Salem's Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and the Montgomery Museum of Art, as well as academic galleries at Memphis State University and UAB.

Since joining the Birmingham-Southern faculty in 2002, Neel has won significant grants for his work in sculpture. He designed and constructed a unique kinetic water sculpture last year for a healing garden that the college's Southern Environmental Center completed near the BSC campus. Also, his teaching and expert fashioning of metal, wood, and fiber into intricate sculptures has influenced the accomplishments of many BSC students now turned professional artists.

In addition to his professorship, Neel is a freelance photojournalist and has captured dramatic images of wars in Central America and life and death among the Serpent Handling Holiness sect of Appalachia. His photography has appeared nationally and internationally in more than 30 newspapers, magazines, and hardcover publications that include *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Birmingham News*, and *Esquire*.

His upcoming solo exhibition "Howl" will be on display at the Oconee Cultural Arts Center in Watkinsville, Ga., March 1-29, 2008. The show will include a selection of digital prints from the "Monkey Say" series and four large-scale sculptures in progress.

Neel is a 1971 graduate of Birmingham-Southern where he studied sculpture and printmaking. He received a master of fine arts from the University of Alabama before returning to his alma mater six years ago.

LaMonte receives “exemplary teacher” award by United Methodist Church



LaMonte

Dr. Edward LaMonte, Howell Heflin Professor of Political Science and director of the Office of International Programs at Birmingham-Southern, has been presented with the 2007-08 Exemplary Teaching Award funded by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

The award is presented annually to a BSC professor to recognize excellence in teaching; commitment to values-centered education; and service to students, the institution, the community, or the church.

“Dr. LaMonte’s two-decade tenure at Birmingham-Southern has enriched the lives of countless young people,” said BSC Provost Dr. Kathleen Murray in announcing the award. “He continually strives to help students excel both in the classroom and in the real world by offering support to any individual who asks.”

LaMonte has taught political science courses at Birmingham-Southern since 1987. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Harvard and his master’s and doctorate from the University of Chicago.

Birmingham-Southern announces faculty additions, promotions for 2007-08

Birmingham-Southern welcomed five new faculty members to the campus this fall, including four full-time and one visiting professor, and announced the promotion of several existing faculty members. The new faculty are:

- **Dr. Clare Emily Clifford**, visiting assistant professor of English. Clifford completed a double major in English and liberal arts and sciences from Virginia Tech, a master’s in literature from Northeastern University, and a doctorate in American literature from the University of Alabama. She will serve a one-year appointment at BSC.
- **Dr. Susan Cockrell**, associate professor of accounting. Cockrell earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting and a master’s of administrative science from the University of Alabama at Huntsville and a doctorate in accounting from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. She is licensed as a certified public accountant.
- **Dr. Amy Cottrill**, assistant professor of religion. Cottrill has a bachelor’s degree in English from Earlham College, a master of divinity from Methodist Theological School in Ohio, and a doctorate in Hebrew Bible from Emory University.
- **Dr. Mark Rupright**, assistant professor of physics. Rupright completed a double major in physics and mathematics from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as an undergraduate and earned a doctorate in physics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- **Kelly Russell**, instructor of education. Russell holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in elementary education from UAB and will complete her doctorate in early childhood education there this spring.

The Provost’s Office has announced the following awards for promotion and tenure this fall for existing faculty: Promoted to the highest rank of full professor were Dr. Matthew Levey, history; Dr. Barry Spieler, mathematics; and Dr. Clyde Stanton, chemistry. Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor were Dr. Stephen Craft, business and accounting; Dr. Vince Gawronski, political science; Dr. Pamela Hanson, biology; and Dr. Sara Robicheaux, business.

Christian Strevy:

Film student gets close-up of nature through Fresh Air Family

BY PAT COLE



Strevy

Christian Strevy's path to film began years ago when he and his buddies used to shoot video as they took their stroll around the neighborhood. Now Strevy has found a way to focus his lens through the world of nature.

For over a year, he has supplemented his college studies with volunteer work for Fresh Air Family Inc., a Birmingham-based group dedicated to outdoor education. He is employed there as video director and also serves on the organization's executive board.

"Fresh Air Family gives me an opportunity to work with children, get involved with the environment, and especially do video, which I'm good at," says Strevy, a sophomore from Vestavia Hills. "Since being there, I've produced a public service

announcement for the program that has run on some local television stations, participated in several environmental video competitions, and redesigned the group's Web site."

Fresh Air Family partners with other outdoor groups and programs around the state to coordinate fun activities for families. Nature enthusiast Verna Gates, longtime president of the Birmingham Wildflower Society and a prominent writer and speaker, is the group's founder and executive director.

"I got connected to the group through my mom," says Strevy. "She introduced me to Ms. Gates, who is a good friend of hers."

As one of the first of its kind in Alabama, Fresh Air has been endorsed by Alabama Gov. Bob Riley as a model state program. The organization has reached a membership of well over 10,000 since it started in 2006, and is funded mostly by grant support, with a few corporate sponsors. Eleven children—ages 7 to 14—are board members, with eight adult advisors.

"The program started off really small," Strevy comments. "Now it's growing almost faster than what the group can handle."

Fresh Air takes families on free weekend tours, mostly on Saturdays, through woods and wetlands while pointing out the influences of

nature—from salamanders and owls to rocks and leaves. Strevy accompanies the families during their travels and shoots video as they go hiking, caving, canoeing, and birdwatching at sites throughout the city and state. He says usually four to 10 programs are planned each month, serving an average of 500-750 people.

"Families can register for membership through the Fresh Air Web site," explains Strevy. "On the day of the trip, we'll normally meet up in a Wal-Mart parking lot somewhere and follow each other. For trips with larger volumes of people, we'll use buses."

The organization serves diverse populations, including children with Asperger's Syndrome and mentally challenged adults. Their upcoming calendar includes a wildflower hike at Buck's Pocket State Park in Grove Oak, and families can sign-up to visit the Little Zoo That Could in Gulf Shores to welcome its new tiger cubs once they are born.

Strevy believes Fresh Air Family is a great concept to encourage children to acknowledge the world outside their windows.

"I think one of the biggest benefits of the program is just getting kids out of the house," he says. "With all the technology today, children are less likely to go outside and play sports or participate in anything outdoors. Fresh Air Family gives them a chance to get outside and have just as much fun as they would playing on their computers or watching TV. Another benefit of the program is that families learn to care for the environment they live in."

When he's not working or studying for his film degree, Strevy most likely can be found on the

tracks at Birmingham-Southern. In high school, he garnered All-State honors twice and All-District honors three times during his four years as a cross country runner. He was offered a track scholarship his senior year to attend BSC.

"I like BSC because of the small-college atmosphere," notes Strevy, "and it's close to home, which I thought was kind of nice. Plus, I knew a lot about the quality of the school and was attracted to its cross country program."

Since film is not a traditional major that Birmingham-Southern offers, Strevy receives some of his film credits through contracted courses at UAB, though he will receive his degree from BSC.

"My advisor, Pam Venz [BSC professor of art], has really done a lot to help me sort out all of my coursework," he says. "I love the fact that BSC is a close-knit community and everyone is considered a part of the family here."

Strevy finds himself these days more and more fascinated with video and the filming process and feels that the craft is second nature to him.

"This past summer, I shot some weddings," he says. "Ten years from now, I would like to be creating feature-length documentaries."

So far, he's off to a good start. During the past couple of years, Strevy has been recognized in a SeaWorld video contest, completed a

video project for Alabama Public Television's *Discovering Alabama* program, and worked with Henry Levkoff, former associate creative director for one of the Southeast's largest advertising agencies. Also, his video of Dauphin Island with Fresh Air will soon be featured on the Alabama Bureau of Tourism Web site.

"Most of my connections have come through Verna Gates [former CNN producer]," he says. "Ms. Gates has done a lot to help me get my videos out there, and she's promoted much of my work."

Currently, Strevy is in discussions with The Discovery Channel about future film projects.

"Christian is a talented young man with a tremendous eye for beauty and motion," says Gates. "You should have seen the face of the producer from The Discovery Channel when he realized he had been working with a teenager all this time. The producer had flown in from California to meet with us and saw Christian, the voice on the phone, for the first time. It was a great moment!"

Strevy says he hopes to one day direct or produce a video segment for Discovery on behalf of Fresh Air Family.

"I enjoy working for Fresh Air and have really gotten into it now," he says. "I want to see the program succeed and continue to grow."

BSC selects newest 'Southern Diversity Delegate

Birmingham-Southern student Tanesha Williams of Hattiesburg, Miss., represents the concerns of the student body on issues of multiculturalism and diversity after being selected in October as the college's 2007-08 'Southern Diversity Delegate.

A sophomore theatre arts major, Williams was selected by a panel of judges.

In this role, she is the primary student spokesperson for the Office of Multicultural Affairs and is given the opportunity to sponsor cultural programs, promote community building, and facilitate cross-cultural understanding and tolerance within the BSC community. In addition, she serves as chair of the Multicultural Advisory Committee that consists of representatives

from nine multicultural organizations across the campus, coordinates the "Free Food For Thought" monthly discussion series, and will assist with Diversity Week activities in the spring.

Williams also is a member of the Black Student Union and a volunteer with Urban Kids, an after-school initiative through the college's Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action.



Williams

Gift from Dixon Foundation helps Hess Center Fellows program expand

The Dixon Foundation of Birmingham has pledged \$69,000 over the next three years to continue its support of the college's innovative Hess Center Fellows program.

Begun in 2006, the Hess Center Fellows program provides summer internships for Birmingham-Southern students to examine approaches to shaping public policy by working with advocacy agencies and organizations in Alabama and across the nation. They receive a \$2,500 stipend with additional funding available for living expenses.

In the first two years of the program, BSC students gained experience with Bread for the World in Washington, D.C., The Carter Center in Atlanta, Vital Voices in New York City, and Alabama Rivers Alliance to name a few.

The Dixon Foundation gift will support six Hess Center Fellows for each of the next three summers, in addition to administrative support for the program and a retreat at the end of each summer for all fellows.

"The Dixon Foundation's goal has been to help those who help others, for instance, ministers and medical doctors in training," said Ed Dixon, the foundation's president. "This is why we support the Hess Fellows program. "It gives students exposure to the nonprofit world they wouldn't otherwise have."

Having long been involved with the United Methodist Church, the foundation first supported the North Alabama Conference through the Methodist Education Leaves Society, and now through The Institute for Clergy Excellence, which supports all denominations in Alabama and surrounding states.

The Dixon Foundation supported the first six Hess Fellows in summer 2006 and six of the nine Hess Fellows in summer 2007. The most recent Dixon Foundation contribution will help expand the number of fellows to 12 in 2008.

Others who supported the Hess Fellows in summer 2007 include the Independent Presbyterian Church Foundation and Susan Dominick Doughton (a 1974 BSC graduate). Dr. Ralph Doughton and Dr. Gayle Pelham have pledged their support for the fellows through 2009.

"This is without a doubt the best program I've been involved with at Birmingham-Southern," said Jeanne Jackson, director of



Rachel Stinson (back row in blue dress), a senior English major from Auburn, was a Hess Center Fellow last summer for Bread for the World in Washington, D.C.

the college's Hess Center for Leadership and Service. "Our objective is to support students who are concerned about injustices in society and want to commit their lives to addressing them. The internships accomplish that by allowing them to grow as leaders in their appreciation for social change."

Birmingham-Southern has a long history of student volunteerism and leadership, now under the umbrella of the Hess Center for Leadership and Service. Jackson realized, however, that the programs

needed to evolve to the level where students understand and experience how public policy affects people's lives and how systemic change happens. And this realization was supported by BSC alumni who are dedicating their lives to social change.

Jackson and Kristin Harper, director of the Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action, interviewed a focus group of such BSC graduates. Through these interviews, Jackson and Harper discovered that the summer internships enhance the students' service and leadership experiences by helping them understand the dynamics of social change and how it happens.

"These alumni are movers and shakers in addressing society's problems," noted Jackson. "It was internships that led them to make career decisions to move into the social sector, more so than researching a paper on hunger, human trafficking, or racial discrimination. They had spent a summer observing why to do it and how to do it. They got to see people who made a career of this."

"The changes we are seeing in our students after an internship is exactly what our alumni predicted."

Thus evolved the Hess Center Fellows program, which in just two years has created broad interest, not just from the financial backers, but also from the agencies and organizations which seek their services.

"It's so desirable to have our students, that more and more agencies are applying to have them as summer interns," explained Jackson. "Everywhere we send a student, the agencies and organizations ask to receive another fellow the following year—so we have the happy challenge of trying to accommodate the large number of requests!"

Eighteen legacies join Hilltop family as new students

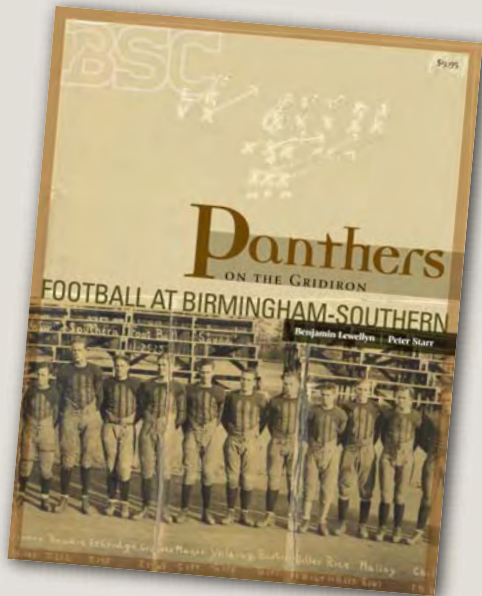
Birmingham-Southern is proud that each year a considerable number of children and grandchildren of alumni are found among the new students who've enrolled on the Hilltop. Among the 2007 Legacy Class continuing their BSC family tradition are:

Victoria Ames of Kensington, Md., granddaughter of Gilder Wideman '53; Holland Bauer of Valdosta, Ga., son of Robert Bauer '82 and grandson of Denson Franklin Jr. '58; Whitney Brown of Nashville, Tenn., daughter of Michael M. Brown '91; Corey Decker of Kinsey, daughter of Charles Decker '82; Bradley DuPree of Homewood, son of Joyce Bouyer Dupree '95; Kristen Farr of Hoover, granddaughter of the late Charles Miller '52; Sarah Garrett of Homewood, granddaughter of Nancy Barnes Wingo '52 and James Wingo '50; Henry Gibson of Vestavia Hills, grandson of Dr. Bob Whetstone '55; Katherine Glenn of Murfreesboro, Tenn., daughter of Laura Whitehurst Glenn '78 and Robert Glenn '75; Michael Hayes of Hoover, son of Susan Scott Hayes '84 and Mark W. Hayes '84; Kyle Lashley of Newnan, Ga., son of Alan Hurd '88; Patrick Martin of Helena, grandson of Pete Grice '58; Cloe Roesel of Houston, Texas, daughter of the late Dr. James Roesel '84; Curtis Schultz of Mount Olive, grandson of the late Walter W. Schultz '43; Courtney Scott of Tuscaloosa, daughter of Dr. Donald Scott '83; Dylan Smith of Vestavia Hills, son of Gary C. Smith '81; Rebbeca Terry of Slidell, La., daughter of Connie Schipman Terry '84 and James Terry '83, maternal granddaughter of Charlotte Woodard Schipman '62 and Swinson Schipman '61, and paternal granddaughter of Rev. James Thomas Terry '58; and Gaines Yeilding of Vestavia Hills, son of Leigh Ann Mathis Yeilding '86 and Foster Yeilding '85.

If we've missed anyone, please e-mail us at pcole@bsc.edu. Any submissions we receive will be published in an upcoming issue.



Ready to reign—Birmingham-Southern students Kadie Ann Duren of Hoover and Jeff Tullis of Gadsden were crowned the Homecoming Queen and King Oct. 6 during halftime ceremonies of BSC's first homecoming football game since 1939 against DePauw University. Both are senior psychology majors and were selected in a campus-wide vote of the student body. Duren serves as co-president of Students Offering Support, is executive officer for Pi Beta Phi sorority, and is on BSC's Panhellenic Council. Tullis is vice president of Sigma Chi fraternity and a member of the Student Government Association and the Triangle Club, among his many activities.



Book by two BSC students nominated for state historical association award

Panthers on the Gridiron: Football at Birmingham-Southern, a book co-authored by BSC students Ben Lewellyn and Peter Starr, has been nominated for the Alabama Historical Association's 2008 Clinton Jackson Coley Award for the best book on Alabama history with a local emphasis.

The 25-page book, published this fall, chronicles the history of football at Birmingham-Southern—from its inception at the college's parent institutions (Southern University in Greensboro and Birmingham College)—to its last season on the Hilltop in 1939.

Lewellyn, a senior history major from Hoover, and Starr, a junior international studies major from Atlanta, spent the entire 2007 spring term collaborating on the book as a contracted class with Dr. Guy Hubbs, BSC associate professor of library science and archivist, and Dr. Mark Lester, professor of history at BSC.

The prestigious award, presented biannually by AHA, will be announced at the organization's next annual meeting in April.



Comedic love—In November, Birmingham-Southern theatre students brought to life Shakespeare's popular *Taming of the Shrew*, a romantic comedy set in the colorful and eccentric '60s. In the photo, central characters Petruchio, portrayed by sophomore Mac Smith, is caught by surprise in his first battle of wits with the formidable Kate, played by sophomore Marie Hunt. Under the direction of BSC Professor of Theatre Dr. Alan Litsey, the play featured more than 50 costumes, a student company of 42, and a large go-go dance wedding celebration. Faculty and staff collaborating on the production included Matthew Mielke (scenic and lighting design) and Patti Manning (designer-in-residence). Nikki Craft, a BSC senior theatre major, served as co-designer on costumes.

Photo by Matthew Mielke



Clingan again selected as UPS scholar

Katie Clingan, a junior biology major at Birmingham-Southern, recently received a national UPS Scholarship for the second time in three years.

Clingan is one of 69 UPS scholars selected from private colleges and universities across the nation who demonstrated leadership and academic achievement. The nearly \$3,000 scholarship she was awarded this year is funded annually by the UPS Educational Endowment Fund, which was established by the United Parcel Service at the Foundation for Independent Higher Education in Washington, D.C. FIHE administers the program in cooperation with its partner, the Alabama Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., Clingan serves as vice president for administration for Pi Beta Phi sorority at BSC.

Clingan

Rushing to be Greek—Early in each fall term at Birmingham-Southern comes Recruitment Week, a formal membership drive for sororities and fraternities. Alpha Omicron Pi (pictured after raising their banner) was one of six sororities on campus that welcomed its newest members at the college's colorful Sorority Recruitment Bid Day Sept. 11. After receiving their bids, the new sorority women celebrated with their sisters inside the Norton Campus Center. The event concluded a week of sorority recruitment activities on campus. The college's six national fraternities held their annual Bid Day Sept. 14 with a ceremony and open house for parents and friends. The following day, the college's Interfraternity Council held a Block Party to congratulate new fraternity members. The Greek community at BSC provides a support system for students while fostering leadership, philanthropy, sisterhood, and brotherhood.



Voices

OF OUR CITY

*'Southern alums are changing the world,
starting right here in Birmingham, Alabama.*

BY PAT COLE, BRANDON GRESHAM, AND CAROL COOK HAGOOD

Birmingham has been home to Birmingham-Southern College since 1918 when Southern University and Birmingham College consolidated on a hilltop just west of downtown. Since that time, Birmingham-Southern has been an important partner in its home city, providing education, opportunity, and enlightenment to the metro area and beyond. It has provided quality education to its residents and

supplied highly skilled graduates for its workforce and a steady boost to its economy. It has opened its gates and its arms to a diverse community through fine and performing arts, athletics, worship, and more. Students have served its hungry, its poor, its sick, and its homeless. But most importantly, Birmingham-Southern has provided its city with its heart—its people: compassionate souls and brilliant minds with ready hands and long visions.

Birmingham-Southern is grounded in more than a century of truth that the proper end of a liberal arts education is the advancement and betterment of the human condition, to make this world better for all people. Beginning right here in our city—Birmingham. On the pages that follow you will read the stories of just some of the *voices* of Birmingham-Southern alumni who are working to make *our city* a better place for all.





THE LITTLE
THEATER

Cathy Rye Gilmore '68

Making Birmingham an arts destination

For Cathy Rye Gilmore, a former professional ballerina with plenty of musical theatre credits, performing wasn't enough; Gilmore also chose to pursue her passion for developing entertainment and arts education in her community.

Since 1996, she has served as president of the Metropolitan Arts Center and Virginia Samford Theatre—both paired on the city's Southside—and is one of the key figures in the growth of the arts culture in Birmingham.

"I was exposed to the arts at an early age; started taking ballet at age five," she says. "Plus, my mother was a concert pianist, so I was around classical music all my life and developed a love for it."

As leader of the arts center/theatre, Gilmore manages the administrative functions and operations of the facility, including the regular oversight of programming, staff, and the "face" of the theatre.

"I also work with the artists of theatre and dance companies, and with musicians who want to perform here, to get them scheduled on the calendar," says Gilmore. "We host events every single weekend."

"We have an outstanding group of artists in this city who perform," she adds, "and the theatre provides them with a venue. We are a little different though from other arts scenes in Birmingham because we focus more on local talent."

In addition, Gilmore leads a successful arts education program called Stars—Students Taking a Role at the Samford.

"The program involves young people because they are our future," she explains. "For example, this January, the theatre will produce the

show *Les Misérables*—the student edition—that will feature youth under 19."

The gorgeously restored Virginia Samford Theatre celebrated its 80th birthday this past September, since its construction in 1927. Renovations on the building were completed in 2006.

"The theatre is the oldest performing arts venue in Birmingham," says Gilmore. "The Virginia Samford was built as a 'little theatre,' which not only described its size, but also its mission. In the '20s, 'little theatres' were part of a movement to put entertainment facilities in neighborhoods and refer to them as community art centers—a gathering place for people to come together. Ours is one of the few 'little theatres' in the entire country."

Surprisingly, the theatre nearly missed entering the new millennium. It closed in the '40s due to the war, and in 1955, was donated to UAB and called the Town and Gown Theatre. In 1999, UAB chose to put the theatre up for sale, and that's when a group of community leaders stepped up to save it.

"I was actually the one who saw the 'for sale' sign on the theatre and called my friend Virginia Samford Donovan," says Gilmore. "I knew she had a great affection for the theatre, so I asked for her help. It was a matter of being in the right place at the right time because we got wonderful people in the community to help raise the \$3 million needed for renovations. We could have lost a treasured performing arts institution in our city."

A true visionary, Gilmore is the founder of the annual BRAVO! Birmingham Arts Festival, creator of the CITY DANCE inner-city outreach program, and designer of an award-winning arts education project for the BRAVO television network.

Lately, she's been working with local city and county officials to develop Caldwell Park, located next to the arts center, as a cultural park. The park would then serve as a host site for summer concerts and outdoor performances.

Gilmore reflects fondly on her performances on the Munger Auditorium stage as a theatre student at BSC. A native of Birmingham, she attended the college on a four-year scholarship she earned through the Miss Alabama Pageant.

"BSC was known for its outstanding arts students," says Gilmore. "And my theatre professor, Dr. Arnold Powell, was renowned throughout the country. "Even though I was a member of Kappa Delta sorority and other groups, my most memorable experiences on campus all evolved around theatre and working with productions."

Gilmore is looking forward to her continued work with the Metropolitan Arts Center and Virginia Samford Theatre, which she labels a Birmingham signature.

"I think the theatre adds character to Birmingham," she says. "People who come here are amazed because it is so unique; it's one of the most unique facilities in the country."

PC

Rev. Mike Harper '68

Organizing urban outreach efforts on behalf of city's poorest residents

For those who have good jobs, comfortable bank accounts, proper housing, and adequate health insurance, it can be easy to forget about the ones who aren't so fortunate. But life can be a difficult trip for the poor.

It was this concern that motivated Rev. Mike Harper, a United Methodist minister, to launch into a deep and abiding commitment to improve their experiences. For the past four years, Harper has directed development and volunteer recruitment for Urban Ministry in west Birmingham, an agency founded by the United Methodist Church in 1976 to offer programs of compassion and wholeness for the poor.

Urban Ministry operates with a current staff of seven full-time and four part-time employees, an annual budget of about \$600,000 aided by individual donors, and hundreds of volunteers each year. The ministry works to prevent homelessness and hunger by providing bill-paying assistance to low-income residents; a food pantry; a community kitchen, which feeds up to 100 people each weekday; and house painting and repair for the elderly and disabled through its Rush Program. The agency also sponsors the Urban Kids program, which offers tutoring, a summer camp, and after-school care, and the Kairos Prison Ministry that counsels inmates.

"There is a lot of need out there in our city," says Harper, "and it can even show itself in the middle and upper-class communities. I believe the work we do is a crucial extension of the church so that it doesn't lose its soul in dealing with the realities that are out there."

Even more vital, Urban Ministry

partners with advocacy organizations like Alabama Arise to fight against laws that are deemed unfair to low-income residents in the city and state.

"There is not only a lot of need out there, but there's a lot of injustice too," he notes. "Some of the difficult circumstances that the poor encounter are humanly created and can be humanly corrected."

"We've spent a lot of time and energy already on tax and constitutional reform as a means of eradicating systemic injustice and improving overall social and economic conditions. And we worked with Alabama Arise when they introduced legislation some time ago to increase payments of Aid to Families of Dependent Children [now called Temporary Assistance to Needy Families or TANF], which in Alabama were among the lowest increment per family in the nation."

Urban Ministry also has a record of encouraging plenty of churches and organizations around Birmingham to get involved in giving and charitable projects in many areas, and has provided a tremendous service-learning opportunity over the years for BSC student interns and volunteers.

Much of Harper's passion for people stems from his extensive background in ministry, which took off at the early age of 15. Not surprisingly, he studied religion at Birmingham-Southern and later earned master's of theology and doctor of ministry degrees from the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

"I had a good experience as a student at BSC," Harper acknowledges. "Professors Earl

Gossett [religion] and Henry Randall [history] were among those who illustrated for me a bigger picture of the world—a sense of meaning and justice. Those types of relationships in my early life helped me to develop a heart for the work that I do."

Throughout his career, Harper has been co-pastor or associate pastor for various churches throughout Alabama, and he served as chaplain and director of church relations at BSC from 1976-79. His wife, Barbara, shares his occupation as pastor of local Helena United Methodist Church; daughter Kristin Harper '92 directs the Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action at Birmingham-Southern; and daughter Kelly Harper Avery is a 1995 BSC graduate and teaches at Vestavia Dance, a program she also directs.

Harper, who grew up in west Birmingham, says that his work with Urban Ministry has helped him to understand how a lack of literacy, solid transportation, housing, and a traditional family support system can affect people. "There are some who can move on ahead from these sorts of deficits, but others are just stuck," he remarks.

"Without places like Urban Ministry in the city, people would be much poorer, have fewer resources, and be even more desperate than they sometimes are now. We certainly don't do everything we could, should, or want to do, but I believe organizations like Urban Ministry serve a great function in the community—one that is critical and important."

PC

URBAN MINISTRY, INC.





Janet Wiginton Holloway '73

Serving her community by keeping art alive

In her more than 30 years of bringing art into the lives of Birmingham children, Janet Wiginton Holloway has observed firsthand the vital difference that having opportunities for creative self-expression can make in young lives.

"The arts are basic to the stages of growth and development for elementary age students," this committed art educator says. "It is essential that students have the opportunity to express themselves. Provide students a chance to act, dance, and paint, and I think many people would be surprised at the improvement in their academic performance."

Convinced that art activities are of value to every child and concerned that many elementary schools in metro Birmingham no longer provide this experience, Holloway works at many different venues.

If you see her toddling around town in her "Art to Go" bus, a bright yellow van with happy students painted along its sides, she might be on her way to enlist children from local churches to create murals for their educational buildings or to paint sets for plays at Homewood Middle School.

Or she might be going to assist in Urban Ministry's after-school program, Urban Kids; to serve as art teacher at Horizons School on Southside, a post-secondary private school for students with various learning disorders; or even to bring the fun of art play to a child's birthday party.

This former Birmingham-Southern art major began her career of making art with children by exploring the therapeutic qualities of art activities in a clinical setting. While her husband, Dr. John Holcombe Holloway III '69, completed his medical training, Janet Holloway worked for six years as an art therapist for children at Carraway Hospital.

There she explored the possibilities of crafting colorful murals to enliven

an otherwise sterile environment. Because the hospital walls were made of tile, she hit on the idea of painting murals on long panels of masonite that could be attached to walls for as long as desired.

When she left Carraway, Holloway continued to receive requests for murals from churches, schools, and homes. Busy with her own children (a son and daughter now in their 20s), she found this activity a good type of art to do while raising a family. Holloway and her art students have created murals on many subjects, which, for schools, are usually directly related to classroom studies.

Creating murals often leads to more energetic scholarship, Holloway says, as students eagerly dig to find out more about the subject they are painting. The finished work becomes a prized gift to the students' school and a reminder of the joy of learning. And sometimes the mural project offers a link to the larger community. Students at Glen Iris created a mural on aviation and later presented it to a local museum of aviation.

When her children were school age, Holloway began working in elementary schools in the metro Birmingham area when Better Basics, a reading initiative for the city schools, asked if she would be interested in providing an art program for the schools at risk. Each school, at that time, had a small amount of grant money each year for enrichment, including occasional art activities.

"As I entered the elementary schools," she says, "I realized how much the children enjoyed the opportunity to express themselves and how talented they were. It was also disheartening to walk down the hall past a large room that said 'Art Room' and realize that many of the schools used to have art and music teachers. Those rooms are now storage areas.

"I wondered, 'Where is the 'voice'

for these children?' It is not fair that my children grew up with art and music every week in the Homewood public schools, but that I provide a once-a-year art experience for the students in many of the Birmingham city schools."

Holloway doesn't accept the notion that art is a luxury.

"The arts allow students to feel good about themselves, to experiment without the fear of failure," she says. "It is the process of creating, not the product, that is so important.

"Whether it is building an African village out of sugar cubes or painting a mural about Antarctica, learning through art can be fun and engaging. I know the elementary schools in the Birmingham system have many musicians, composers, and artists just waiting for their opportunity to soar. I have seen them."

But as funds are cut deeper each year, even the small amount of enrichment money is no longer present at some schools. The number of schools Holloway serves has decreased this year—some schools in metro Birmingham cannot afford to pay for the art supplies. Now she finds herself working more with after-school programs like Urban Kids.

Holloway's hope for the future of Birmingham schools is that every student will have the chance to experience art and music, from kindergarten through high school—not just once a year, but every week, as part of their academic curriculum.

As a short-term solution, she advocates bringing local college students into the city schools to offer art and music programs as service hours.

"Let our college students help bridge the gap until the city schools can once again afford to hire an art and music teacher for every elementary school."

CCH

Dan Anderson '79

Bringing diversity-owned business to Birmingham

If anyone had ever said not to dream so big, Dan Anderson didn't know about it.

Since graduating from Birmingham-Southern as an outstanding student-athlete in basketball, Anderson has arrived as majority shareholder and president of Birmingham-based Diversified Supply Inc., a wholesale distributor of electrical parts and instrumentation. The company now owns five warehouses that occupy 10,000 to 25,000 square feet of space in Alabaster; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Aiken, S.C.; and Monroe, La.

Diversified Supply employs 85 people in nine states, and, over the past two decades, has won supplier awards and sizeable contracts with dozens of Fortune 500 and multinational companies such as Procter & Gamble and International Paper. Currently, DSI is one of the top diversity-owned business enterprises in the nation.

"We provide material to Asia, Europe, South America, and Canada as well," says Anderson. "We expect our revenues in 2008 to approach the neighborhood of \$55-60 million."

"Our goal has always been to provide a quality product or service to our end user. I believe this company's greatest accomplishments though have been the provision of stable incomes and benefits for our associates and their families."

Anderson completed his undergraduate degree in business, and for two of those years was a key member of the Panther basketball team. Playing under coaches Murray Arnold and Greg Walcovich, he helped BSC to two NAIA District titles and National Tournament appearances.

A native of Harriman, Tenn., Anderson began his career as an assistant basketball coach at the University of Mississippi. A year later, he took a job as a purchasing agent for the Tennessee Valley Authority and began to build his knowledge of the electrical industry. Then, in 1982, he transitioned to a career as a stockbroker for Merrill Lynch where he discovered his shrewd business sense.

After a successful tenure there, Anderson joined Diversified Supply as president and purchased a majority interest in the business. He returned to Birmingham from Philadelphia in 2005 after leaving a company DSI had started there and acquiring an instrumentation company here called INTROL.

For Anderson, much of the past two years has been spent rightsizing his business, but he has a proven heart for giving back to community.

In the cities he's lived in, he has supported the United Way, Boys Club of America, and even devoted time to work with children in local schools.

"I've also supported Junior Achievement and served as a regional hospital board trustee," says Anderson. "Our corporation believes in giving back to the community through volunteerism."

For the past several years, he's served his alma mater as a member of the BSC Athletic Foundation Board of Directors. Anderson believes his impetus for wanting to provide quality and excellence to his customers came from lessons he learned at BSC playing under Murray Arnold.

"Coach Arnold wanted to win basketball games, and he did so successfully, but his biggest concern was for the student-athletes he was

coaching," notes Anderson. "He gave me several books to read—one was about great philosophers. He told me that book would give me a greater understanding of the human race. And he was right. Twenty-eight years later, I still read it."

Although Anderson lives in Birmingham and works out of the Alabaster office, Chattanooga remains the company's headquarters for centralized operations such as finance, information technology, and human resources. A lot of his time is spent on the road, sometimes 3-4 days out of a week, traveling to locations around the United States that serve his customers.

He says returning to Birmingham after a long time away caused him to take notice of the apparent lack of wealth sharing and utilization of minority businesses.

"I still don't see the Birmingham entrepreneurial market as being open-minded and inclusive enough when it comes to business sharing," he remarks. "One of our company's goals in the next few years is to work within a legal framework to get Birmingham businesses and political organizations to understand why it makes more sense to be inclusive. The United States is becoming more diverse by the hour."

Anderson admits he is amazed at how much the Birmingham populace has changed since he's been away, and plans to stay attuned to the city's growing business infrastructure.

"Birmingham has most of the amenities of large cities in the United States and seems poised for something special to happen here," he says. "God-willing, this is where I would like to retire."

PC





Teresa Tanner Pulliam '80

Solving a community's problems one person at a time

Jefferson County Circuit Judge Teresa Tanner Pulliam has influenced plenty of change since Alabama Gov. Bob Riley appointed her to the position in 2005.

Now in her third year on the bench, Judge Pulliam says she understands the importance of her role in the community.

"As a circuit judge in Jefferson County's criminal courts, my work profoundly affects lives on a daily basis," she says. "I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity I have to help people in need."

Pulliam made her decision to come to Birmingham-Southern after learning that 100 percent of BSC graduates were admitted to law school after applying.

"My choice was crystal clear," she says. "It was one of the most important decisions that I have ever made, and certainly one that I will always be proud of."

Pulliam was an active member in a number of honorary organizations on campus during her time at BSC, including Omicron Delta Kappa, Mortar Board, and Alpha Lambda Delta. She also was a member of Kappa Delta sorority. After graduating from Birmingham-Southern with a bachelor's degree in political science, she went on to earn her law degree from the University of Alabama.

She credits BSC faculty and former BSC President Dr. Neal Berte for

helping her become a successful lawyer and judge.

"The relationships I formed with my professors, especially Dean Irvin Penfield and Natalie Davis, were paramount," she says. "I interned in Dr. Berte's office and babysat his children. He has always been there for me when I needed him both personally and professionally."

Giving back to the community comes naturally to Pulliam, who says she believes it is a must for a person in her position to be involved in making Jefferson County a better place.

"I feel like it's important for someone who sits on the bench to be involved in all areas of our community," she says.

Pulliam is involved in a number of local community organizations. She is on the board of trustees at Gateway Family and Child Services and has served as sustainer advisor for the Junior League of Birmingham. She also is a member of the Birmingham-Southern National Alumni Association and a former president of the organization.

When she's not making rulings on the bench, Pulliam enjoys speaking to local schoolchildren on the dangers of drugs and violence.

"My family and Dr. Berte taught me early on that giving back is the right way to live your life," she says.

"I find it extremely rewarding to be

in a position to help young students, law students, new lawyers, and people in need when and where I can."

Pulliam says that while she has seen plenty of change in the community since her appointment, there is still work to be done in Birmingham and Jefferson County.

"Drug abuse and drug-related crimes are the core problems in our community," she says. "My objective is to solve these problems through one person at a time."

Pulliam says she feels encouraged by the number of BSC family members making a difference in the local community.

"Everywhere I go, I find BSC graduates giving back by making significant contributions in all areas of our community," she says. "I just hope I can do the same, and I know I have some big shoes to fill."

Pulliam encourages everyone to do their part in improving the community. Young people, she says, are a great place to start.

"If all of us would roll up our sleeves and mentor some young people in need, a world of difference could be made in the Birmingham community. I have seen lives change before my eyes when someone is there to step up and offer support and grace."

BG

Angela Fisher Hall '82

Keeping Birmingham history in focus

Since joining the staff of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute only months after its opening in 1992, Angela Fisher Hall has played many roles in the facility's development as a Birmingham landmark and as a center of interest and regard across the nation and around the world.

Hall, who graduated from BSC in art and holds a master's degree in library science, began her career in public library service. Her initial work at BCRI was as an archivist, cataloging and developing plans for making good use of a wealth of "primary sources"—original materials related to the struggles and successes of the "foot soldiers," those people directly engaged in the events of the Civil Rights Movement.

She later served as director of education, helping to develop outreach programs for use in area schools, churches, and other organizations, as well as scheduling regular and changing exhibitions to tell the story of the movement onsite. She also developed many community programs, including the annual Dr. King Birthday Celebration, Juneteenth Culture Fest, Birmingham Pledge Teen Conference, and the Kwanzaa Celebration.

As executive assistant to the president of the institute, her many duties included achieving accreditation for the BCRI with the American Association of Museums, coordinating BCRI's Transformative Justice conferences and annual Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Awards Dinner, and taking an active role in development of capital funds to support the BCRI's goal of being "a testament of things past and a monument to things to come."

Hall now is vice president of publications and special projects.

"It's no secret that when a civil rights museum was first proposed for Birmingham by then-Mayor David Vann [in the '70s], neither the corporate community nor the citizens of Birmingham were ready for such an idea," she says, reflecting on BCRI's evolving role in the Birmingham community. "However, once the storyline and the fact that the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute would speak to the city of Birmingham's progress and development was known, more people bought the idea. You can say that BCRI grew out of several struggles—not only the story of the civil rights struggle itself, but the struggle to make the vision of a civil rights museum a reality.

"The institute is used today as a selling point to bring new businesses and tourists to the city. As we talk about racial progress and racial equality, the institute is acknowledged as a place where many can learn from the challenges of the past, understand the challenges of today, and chart our growth for the future."

Validating the efforts of the many who have worked to make the vision of this organization a reality, BCRI recently was named one of 10 recipients of the 2007 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for community service provided by museums and libraries.

According to the BCRI Web site, "the annual award, made by the Institute of Museum and Library Services since 1994, recognizes institutions for outstanding social, educational, environmental, or economic contributions to their communities ... Through its outreach programs, BCRI reaches an audience of approximately 30,000 individuals in area schools, organizations, and

businesses. The institute also has an active Speakers Bureau, which provides a host of speakers on subjects related to the facility's mission to a variety of audiences."

Hall cites the importance of the BCRI teacher training program, which empowers not only area teachers, but those from throughout the nation and the world, with tools to address issues of human rights in their classrooms. She also notes that although most BCRI staff members had no experience in museum work before coming to the institute, the education they have received in nationally recognized museum training programs across the country, as well as invaluable experience at the BCRI, have made them leaders in the field, regularly consulted by those in other communities who are planning new museums and exhibitions—"something that should instill pride in our entire community."

The future holds many exciting new developments at BCRI, Hall says. "With the completion of our 'Expanding the Legacy' campaign in March 2007, BCRI is ready to begin renovation of our permanent exhibition," Hall says. "This will include a complete makeover for our Human Rights Gallery [including new interactive features] and several other changes throughout the exhibition. The renovation will give those more than 2 million visitors who have been touched by our facility since its opening in 1992 a reason to come again."

Hall says she looks forward to her new role of leading the publicity campaign to get the community—even the world—excited about the changes and interested in visiting the BCRI.

CCH





Craft O'Neal '84

Promoting a city's economic growth through the business of steel

When the *Birmingham Business Journal* recently picked its 2007 hot list of the top privately held companies in Birmingham, Craft O'Neal, chair of O'Neal Steel Inc., found out his business had earned a coveted position.

The numbers tell the rest of the story. The metal services company posted a 43 percent increase in 2006 to jump past the \$2 billion mark in recent sales revenue and land the journal's No. 1 ranking due primarily to "a strong steel market and a series of acquisitions," as cited by *BBJ*.

"We take pride in our partnerships with our suppliers and customers, and like to think that we contribute to their success as they do to ours," says O'Neal. "We are among the largest employers in the city with 550 people."

O'Neal Steel was founded in Birmingham in 1921 by O'Neal's grandfather, Kirkman O'Neal. For many years, the company has maintained a healthy posture in the heart and life of the Birmingham community. The business offers such metal-processing services as forming, laser cutting, machining, plasma cutting, tube bending, and sawing. Due to acquisitions, their newest metals products include high-end nickel, cobalt, and titanium.

"Due to our size, we impact the local community in many ways,"

O'Neal comments. "We provide metal products to fabricators and original equipment manufacturers throughout the city and state from our Birmingham operation. Fortunately, a half dozen or so of our major suppliers are located within the city and state as well."

In addition, O'Neal is doing his part to make sure that his company not only knows a lot about the steel business, but supports academically- and socially-based programs as well. O'Neal Steel currently is assisting with the expansion of the Birmingham Zoo and the greening of the community through the three-park initiative. The company also supports the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Birmingham-Southern, Junior Achievement, Birmingham city and local technical schools, and a host of other groups.

Plus, O'Neal himself is active on several boards of organizations, including BSC, the Birmingham Zoo, Children's Hospital, and UAB Leadership Cabinet, and he is working on this year's United Way Tocqueville Society campaign.

"Birmingham is a wonderful place that has yet to reach its potential," he relates. "But like all communities, this city has needs beyond what government can provide. It is up to those of us who are able to stay active and do everything possible to help people in need, as well as help solve critical issues and problems

that face our community."

As a student, O'Neal studied business and economics at BSC. "I traveled to Japan for one Interim term to learn about their management practices," he says. "It remains one of my fondest experiences of my education at Birmingham-Southern."

After graduating, O'Neal got started working in his family's steel business in sales, moving to Atlanta his first year. Following a long period of persistence and a string of promotions, he was elevated to vice president of sales, purchasing, and product development in 2003, and, in 2004, was named chair.

"Through our growth and those we do business with, we will continue to contribute to the goal of economic development for the city of Birmingham," says O'Neal. "Due to the hard work and dedication of the O'Neal Steel team, we've had the good fortune to expand to 75 total stocking locations, with 69 in the United States and with the remainder in Mexico, Europe, India, and Asia."

And thanks to O'Neal Steel, Birmingham's historic reputation as a leader in the steel industry remains strong.

PC

Cynthia Lamar-Hart '85

Making the case in Birmingham for legal quality and access to justice

When Cynthia Lamar-Hart secured an internship in college with then-Chief Judge of Jefferson County Family Court and Birmingham-Southern alumna Sandra Ross Storm '68, she had no idea the experience would set her on her career path for life.

"I knew that I wanted to be in a service-oriented profession and I knew I absolutely had to be working with people," says Lamar-Hart. "My experience with Judge Storm inspired me, and it cemented my decision to go to law school."

She served as a law clerk for the Birmingham-based firm Maynard Cooper & Gale PC the summer after she received her degree from BSC. That fall she entered Yale Law School on a graduate fellowship. Following law school, Lamar-Hart returned to her native Birmingham to clerk for the Honorable Seybourn H. Lynne—then-U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama—before joining the Maynard law office as an associate.

During her almost two-decade long career with Maynard Cooper, she has advanced to equity shareholder and now manages the firm's estate and business planning practice groups. Through her and the firm's commitment, Maynard Cooper earned recognition again this year for its pro bono work, enabling those who are less fortunate in Alabama to have access to quality legal representation.

"Our firm is driven with a deep sense of obligation to this community," says Lamar-Hart. "Maynard Cooper has won the Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Award twice (2004 and 2007) in the past four years."

The firm—a full-service practice with more than 170 lawyers whose clients represent Fortune 500 companies as well as individuals—also is active in the Alabama State

Bar Volunteer Lawyers Program, an organization that assists the indigent population with virtually any type of legal problem.

"Several of our firm's lawyers have tried capital murder cases to ensure that the constitutional protections afforded to all citizens are enforced," she notes. "Additionally, our attorneys fund and operate the Maynard Foundation, which makes significant charitable contributions annually for a number of worthwhile causes in Birmingham, including my personal favorite, the YWCA."

Lamar-Hart is a dedicated volunteer and board member with the YWCA of Central Alabama and is chair of the organization's Planned Giving Committee for their newest capital campaign. She also is a talented vocalist.

Three years ago, she released a CD with The Remnants, a community-based musical group she helped form as part of a YWCA fundraiser. The CD, *Heart of a Woman*, honored the YWCA's CEO Suzanne Durham for her 25 years of service to the agency's programs. The CD featured songs Lamar-Hart and her vocal group had performed at past charity events for the agency.

"Through my work with the YWCA, I've seen firsthand the problems with our justice system when it comes to dealing with domestic violence," expresses Lamar-Hart. "I would like to see the state or our community provide funding for advocates to shepherd these victims through the confusing and overwhelming process of seeking protection—and for the children to receive counseling and support from an early age, so there is a chance to break the vicious cycle."

Unlike the majority of law aficionados, Lamar-Hart's career has drawn heavily on her love of singing. In the early days of her law

career, she participated in community musical theatre and performed in several productions for the former UAB Town & Gown Theatre. In addition, she is an accomplished classical pianist.

As a student at Birmingham-Southern, Lamar-Hart studied under BSC Music Professor William DeVan and graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a bachelor's degree in piano performance and pre-law studies. Never one to shy away from challenges, she was a cheerleader, member of the BSC Concert Choir, chair of the Student Judiciary, and a youth ambassador for the college, among her extracurricular activities. She also was a co-grand prize winner of the Alys Stephens piano competition and was elected BSC's Homecoming Queen during her senior year.

"Probably my fondest memories of Birmingham-Southern are of the Concert Choir and the Music Department," Lamar-Hart says. "This was a group of people who spent a tremendous amount of time together each week, creating camaraderie and sharing memories, all against a backdrop of spectacular talent and gorgeous music."

She intentionally stays closely connected to BSC and currently serves on the college's Planned Giving Council. Because of all she has received from the college and community over the years—from an excellent education to challenging professional opportunities—Lamar-Hart says she feels a responsibility to give back.

"I am and have always been proud to be from Birmingham," she says. "And I am dedicated to helping this city be a community where all citizens can reach their full potential for a safe and productive life."

PC





Karen McElroy Carroll '87

Capturing a city and region's distinctive Southern style

Not too many people land their dream job right after college. But Karen McElroy Carroll did.

Following her graduation, Carroll found out about a job opening at Southern Progress Corporation in Birmingham, applied, and got hired. That first job she snagged has now stretched into a 20-year career in magazine publishing with Southern Progress.

"I started at the very bottom of the editorial food chain as an assistant," she says. "Fortunately, *Southern Accents* had a small staff and I got exposure to every aspect of putting a magazine together, from copy editing to photography and layouts. I gravitated toward the writing and story-planning side of the publication and had a lot of opportunities and room for professional growth along the way."

Since 2001, Carroll has served as editor-in-chief of *Southern Accents*, a magazine devoted to the interiors, art, antiques, and gardens of the South. She also is the editor of Southern Progress' *Entrée* magazine, a custom publication for top customers of Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman.

"*Southern Accents* is for the design and style-conscious reader who enjoys decorating, entertaining, traveling, and gardening," Carroll describes. "Although this magazine is targeted toward an affluent audience, I also want it to be warm and approachable for people who are looking for inspiration and ideas, but may not have enormous budgets."

The magazine celebrated its 30th anniversary this year. It was started by a company in Atlanta, and later sold to Southern Progress. Circulation has now reached over

400,000 with a readership of 2.2 million nationwide, and about 70 percent of magazine subscribers live in the South.

Carroll believes the Birmingham community not only benefits from the many civic and philanthropic contributions the company and its employees make regularly, but also from Southern Progress' recognition as the largest publishing company outside of New York.

"Our six magazines and book publishing division have the ability to bring Birmingham a broad, national audience," she says.

"Opportunities to tell the city's story might range from a feature on an exhibition at the Birmingham Museum of Art to the culinary talents of a local chef such as Frank Stitt to just using area locations or props from hometown stores in photography shoots.

"In addition, the corporation has hundreds of goodwill ambassadors—our employees—who are out and about the country tracking down stories, meeting with influential people in their fields, and recruiting new employees to relocate to Birmingham. We've had significant success recruiting employees from places such as New York, the West Coast, and other markets around the country."

Carroll works with an editorial staff of 18 and with dozens of freelance photographers, writers, and stylists. "Travel is an important component of the job—it's critical that I'm out in the field meeting with freelancers, attending design markets to keep up with what's happening, and interacting with readers and advertisers to raise the profile of the magazine."

Between these duties, she found the time to author a book on decorating and entertaining entitled *Entertaining with Southern Style*, and contributed to two others—*Accents on Accessories* and *Southern Style*.

"It represented years of my work as the entertaining editor of *Southern Accents*," she says, "photographing and working with the South's most creative party planners, florists, and hostesses."

Carroll also has been involved with numerous civic and charitable organizations in the city, including the board of the Alys Stephens Center, and Alabama Ballet, United Way, Birmingham AIDS Outreach, and of course, Birmingham-Southern. She is a former member of the board of the BSC Alumni Association and currently is serving on the college's Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

As a political science major in college, Carroll was a member of the President's Student Service Organization, president of Kappa Delta sorority, and an officer of Phi Alpha Theta honorary.

"A lot of people are surprised when they find out I majored in political science—they just assume my background is in journalism or English," she says. "But I was inspired early on by [political science] classes taught by Drs. Natalie Davis and Irvin Penfield and have always been, and continue to be, fascinated by politics. And I firmly believe that getting one of those weekly 20-page papers through Dr. Davis' editing pen was writing experience as valuable as any journalism class could have been."

PC

Dr. Helen Krontiras Anderson '89

Teaching a community what it needs to know about breast cancer

Breast surgeon Dr. Helen Krontiras Anderson says as a small child, she made regular affirmations about becoming a doctor. Those self-spoken predictions were confirmed once she spent a month in New Jersey during college with her aunt, an operating room nurse.

"There was a window where you could observe the doctors performing surgeries," says Anderson. "My aunt told me she knew I would be a surgeon when I could eat a bagel while watching."

Now assistant professor of surgery at UAB and medical director of the UAB Breast Health Clinic, Anderson has become deeply involved in the study of breast cancer—its risk assessment and prevention as well as the outcome of treatments. In addition, she is an associate scientist with UAB's Comprehensive Cancer Center and Minority Health and Research Center, and co-directs the university's Lynne Cohen Preventive Care Program for Women's Cancer.

"Getting into the area of breast cancer was just a natural fit for me," says Anderson, who grew up in Birmingham. "These are special women, and I really enjoy taking care of them."

She takes care of men too, although fewer than 1 percent get breast cancer, she says. Anderson finds there are many complex and interrelated factors that account for breast cancer incidence.

"I believe that improving diet, reducing obesity and alcoholism, and withdrawing hormone replacement therapy in women may reduce the incidence of breast cancer in the population at large," she notes. "The disease is very curable when detected at an early stage, and we've found that its mortality rates might be decreasing due to improved imaging and treatment."

After graduating from BSC in biology, Anderson attended the

University of Alabama School of Medicine, where she finished as chief resident in surgery. Since 2001, she has been involved in the education of medical students and residents in addition to treating hundreds of breast cancer cases and collaborating on research for the disease.

"I probably perform more than 300 breast surgeries annually, and at the breast clinic, see more than 800 new patients each year," she says. "The lumpectomy [breast conserving] and mastectomy [breast removal] are the most common procedures that breast surgeons perform."

Anderson's breast cancer patients, who she sees at her Kirklin Clinic office, fall into three different groups, she describes: those who think they have cancer, those who need treatment for their cancer, and those who are at an increased risk for developing cancer.

"Through my work at UAB, I feel I can contribute to the community by educating patients about breast cancer—how it can be detected early and the risk factors that predispose a woman for developing breast cancer. "Throughout the city and state, I give lectures to patient groups about breast cancer, and try to involve myself in patient care and every other aspect of treatment."

Anderson also is a strong supporter of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama, Komen Foundation, Climb for the Cause, and other breast cancer fundraising organizations in the city, and is a member of BSC's Norton Board of Advisors. She says some of her fondest memories are of Birmingham-Southern.

"I remember going on the college's first service-learning trip to Zimbabwe, Africa, with Stewart Jackson [former BSC chaplain]," says Anderson. "Service-learning even

then was a big thing at Birmingham-Southern. It instilled in me the need for service and the desire to give back."

UAB works closely with the American Cancer Society and was awarded a grant from them this year that will allow a patient navigator to be incorporated for the care of cancer patients at UAB.

"The navigator connects patients to resources that provide cancer patients with those extra things they need to get through the cancer diagnosis, such as counseling, career and legal advice, and childcare," Anderson describes. "We try to treat patients on an emotional as well as a physical level."

With breast cancer being at the forefront of cancers, UAB's research in this area has grown considerably in the past decade.

This past October, The National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute recognized UAB's commitment to cancer research by renewing a major Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPOR) grant to support groundbreaking breast cancer science and discovery. The UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center was awarded the \$11.5 million SPOR grant for which Anderson will serve as the co-primary investigator for one of the five projects.

"The SPOR prevention project will look at new drugs to prevent breast cancer with less side effects," says Anderson.

"Even with all that's available, there are lots of pockets throughout Alabama that are still underserved, where patients are not able to get access to the breast cancer care that they need. That's an area we'd love to see improved."

PC





Glenny Brock '99 and Kyle Whitmire '01

Writing for change in Birmingham

Glenny Brock and Kyle Whitmire have spent the better part of a decade penning their work for the same publication.

And while offices, job titles, and co-workers have come and gone, the two Birmingham-Southern grads have discovered they are all but inseparable in their work.

Brock and Whitmire serve as managing editor and staff writer, respectively, for *Birmingham Weekly* magazine. Operating out of the *Weekly's* two-story office behind the Tutwiler Hotel in downtown Birmingham, the duo has made it their mission to write stories about a city they love—in a way that few others will.

"It's inevitable that there are good and vital stories out there for the telling that any single publication is going to miss," Brock says. "We want to make an impact on this community by telling stories and providing a venue for divergent voices."

The impact of the BSC grads' work is clear. From questioning the actions of Birmingham mayors, past and present, to examining the traffic disaster that is U.S. Highway 280, Whitmire and Brock don't shy away from the difficult questions.

"Our job is about informing other people so they can make educated decisions," Whitmire says. "You definitely have to approach this job with a lot of sobriety."

Brock and Whitmire, who both graduated with English degrees from BSC, will be the first to tell you that they're not in the business of attacking through their writing.

"When we write stories and columns, we're not concerned with getting people in trouble," Whitmire says. "We just want our readers to have a greater understanding and awareness of what's going on in Birmingham."

The two writers' careers came together as members of BSC's student newspaper, *The Hilltop News*. Both spent time as the publication's editor-in-chief.

"Kyle brought me in to this business when we were just silly undergrads," Brock remembers. "And we've been 'playing newspaper' ever since."

The duo credits Birmingham-Southern for encouraging them to think critically about the world around them, and then translate that mindset into writing.

"I refer back to things I learned at BSC that I never thought I would," Whitmire says.

Brock is quick to second Whitmire's gratitude for her own BSC education.

"My coursework in literature, political science, psychology, religion, and visual arts all factor into how I approach my stories," she says. "My *Hilltop News* experience was formative, but equally

important was the scope of my liberal arts education."

Brock and Whitmire have plenty of ambition to drive their writing—a great respect for Birmingham's past and a positive outlook for the city's future.

"You can't walk in Birmingham without walking through a lot of history," Whitmire says. "My time at Birmingham-Southern got me addicted to this city."

The BSC alums have a laundry list of issues they feel need to be at the forefront of the city's and state's concerns right now. From constitutional reform on the state level to a better support base for the arts in Birmingham, they plan on staying busy for a good while.

"These are not modest ambitions," Brock says. "But we believe that telling the stories of this city to the people in this city is the only way to affect change in Birmingham."

Whitmire says he believes his job is not to make change, but rather highlight the issues and get people thinking.

"It feels like sometimes we're the court jesters—the only ones who realize what's going on," he says. "This job is more about advocacy than it is vocation."

BG

Ben Moncrief '99 and John Peinhardt '02

Strengthening the social conscience of Birmingham's young professionals

The satisfaction of providing education, networking, and civic engagement opportunities to young professionals in Birmingham has animated the careers of BSC alumni Ben Moncrief and John Peinhardt.

Peinhardt and longtime friend Mike Mahon co-founded in 2004 a vibrant, new spin-off Rotary Club called the Rotaract Club of Birmingham to offer a diverse pool of young professionals from ages 22-32 a chance to learn, socialize, and serve. Since then, the founders have brought to their virtual office local attorney and acquaintance Ben Moncrief, who serves as chair.

"Rotaract provides young professionals with opportunities to learn leadership and management skills, gain exposure to key decision makers in the area, and learn best practices from people in various disciplines," Peinhardt explains. "It also helps ensure that Birmingham's future leadership not only understands the key challenges of our community, but also is better equipped to address those challenges."

The club has monthly social meetings and twice-a-month luncheons with notable speakers, and its Ready 2 Read signature service project supports the development of quality libraries for second-grade classrooms throughout the city.

"Ready 2 Read is our largest service project," says Peinhardt, "but the club has community service projects every other month with organizations like Children's Village, Girls Inc., and Habitat for Humanity. This year, Rotaract is planning to launch an international service project, which is still under development."

With 130 members, the Rotaract Club of Birmingham has been named one of the largest and fastest growing Rotaract clubs in the nation. It is supported primarily by the dues of its members, plus the club holds a fundraiser—The Gala—each March.

"I believe the involvement of young professionals in civic organizations has blossomed as a result of groups like Rotaract facilitating and pushing them to get involved," says Moncrief, an attorney with the law firm of Bradley Arant. "And we've found that many of the business leaders in Birmingham are willing to go above and beyond to contribute to the community."

Peinhardt, a cum laude business graduate of BSC, works full-time as a project manager at Blue Cross Blue Shield. He has reflected on the significance of his Birmingham-Southern undergraduate career to this project, and particularly on an academic discussion group that he

and BSC Economics Professor Dr. Paul Cleveland started while he was a student.

"My experiences establishing that discussion group, in which we debated important economic issues, inspired a vision in me that ultimately became the Rotaract Club," says Peinhardt. "One of the key success factors of Rotaract is its ability to leverage the power of a group to gain access to better information than members could obtain individually—a concept well ingrained in me as a result of what I learned at BSC."

Moncrief, a summa cum laude political science graduate of BSC, credits his alma mater with teaching him to be an active member of the community. He believes that doing so involves more than succeeding in one's chosen profession.

"To me, it means putting the resources and skills I have been blessed with to work for more than just me," Moncrief expresses. "I am responsible for improving the lives of those around me."

Both Moncrief and Peinhardt are on a quest for the club to be long lasting and to leave its mark on the Birmingham community in the form of a professional civic culture that honors diversity, achievement, and responsibility.

PC



Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action

Alumni couple's major contribution aimed at making the world a better place for all

BY BILL WAGNON



Dr. Peter and Derry Bunting with three of the college's service-learning coordinators.

Birmingham-Southern alumni Dr. Peter and Derry Bunting have long believed that the purpose of education is to make the world a better place, and now a significant gift to their alma mater is serving as an embodiment of that belief.

The Buntings have provided the

seed money and have established an endowed fund to support and sustain the continued advancement of the college's Service-Learning Program. The Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action will promote and support volunteer community service while providing the resources to further expand and incorporate service-learning into the academic program. "Community" will include local, national, and international venues.

The Buntings chose the terms "engaged study" and "community action" in the name of the center to emphasize that the process begins with engagement, study, and understanding of

the problem first in order to develop and implement an effective action plan.

"The thing that really drove me was the words of philosopher and educator John Dewey as to the real purpose of education, and that is to make the world a better place," says

Peter Bunting, a 1966 biology graduate, BSC trustee, and retired physician. "That resonated through me years ago and has never left. Derry and I felt this would be a way to help make the world a better place and that is why we endowed this program."

The college's formal Service-Learning Program was established more than 20 years ago and currently supports 10 ongoing projects, such as First Light Women's Shelter, Meals on Wheels, and Urban Kids. Yet while there has been some element of service-learning in the college's academic program over the years through Interim trips and 1Y courses for first-year students, the Buntings' donation provides the resources to incorporate service-learning into academic course content as well as expand the scope of service-learning.

"The current Service-Learning Program gives opportunities to volunteer, but there is a huge difference between volunteering and real service-learning," explains Peter Bunting. "That's not to minimize volunteerism. That's very important, but a volunteer addresses the problem at hand. At some point somebody must look behind the volunteer and ask, 'Why does this problem exist and how can we eliminate it or improve or lessen the seriousness of the hardship?' That's service-learning."

Derry Bunting, a 1969 elementary education graduate, emphasizes the

impact that each empowered person can make and compares it to a never ending ripple effect. That thought led to the conceptualization of the center's logo.

The Buntings' seed money has allowed the center to begin working with faculty to incorporate service-learning into course content until earnings on the endowed portion of the gift become available. Kristin Harper, director of the Bunting Center, says that four courses were involved in service-learning this fall, with the concept expected to be more fully incorporated into the curriculum in fall 2008.

"We are planning an intense faculty workshop for summer 2008 where we will introduce the concept of incorporating service-learning into the curriculum with a core group of faculty," she explains.

"Faculty also will be given resources to work together to develop courses that are interdisciplinary in nature. This type of learning develops best when working in collegiality with each other, and hopefully it will snowball from there.

"In five years, we would like to have at least one course offering in each department that has a service-learning component."

While incorporating service-learning into course content will not be mandatory for faculty, Peter Bunting believes that every discipline can make a difference.

"It became clear to me many years ago that every curriculum has a chance to make a difference in the world," he says. "I don't look for faculty to be a part of service unless they want to be involved and have a means in place to carry out the service. It takes a lot of time. But it is our hope that they embrace the concept that what they teach has relevance to make the world a better place, and think of creative ways to link content within their courses to accomplish this."

Harper says the Bunting's donation also will allow the college to develop community partnerships and provide student leadership development.

"We have 10 ongoing service projects that we've never had the resources to develop into full partnerships where these agencies can see how our academic programs can be enhanced because of the work they do, or how their work can be enhanced by our academic program and our service," she explains.

In addition, the college will now be able to offer leadership development through teaching assistantships for the students who coordinate the ongoing service projects to assist faculty in incorporating an agency's work into a course.

Peter and Derry Bunting became friends while students at BSC and ultimately married. After graduating in the top 10 percent of his medical school class at the University of Alabama, Peter Bunting was accepted for surgical training at Massachusetts General Hospital in the Harvard Medical School system. Upon returning to Birmingham, he served as a plastic surgeon with Bunting Plastic Surgery Clinic, head of surgery and plastic surgery at Baptist Medical Center-Montclair and chair of its Executive Committee among many other positions, and also was on the plastic surgery staff at UAB.

Dr. Bunting believes the educational disciplines and processes learned during his Birmingham-Southern years to be invaluable. "I maintain a huge memory bank of patients who are the real heroes and who contributed immensely to my personal growth," he says.

Over the years, the Buntings have supported their alma mater in many

ways, including being members of the Endowment Builders Society through a will commitment to support a professorship in biology. They funded the Peter D. Bunting Physical Chemistry Laboratory within the Stephens Science Center, and established the Derry Brice and Peter Douglas Bunting M.D. Endowed Scholarship that supports a pre-medical student from a single-parent home. In early May 2006 during the college's Sesquicentennial Celebration, they initiated the Bunting Challenge to match dollar for dollar up to \$50,000 to all alumni who made new or increased gifts to the Annual Fund by May 31, 2006, which resulted in 650 new or increased unrestricted gifts totaling more than \$124,606.

They also have given back to their community through volunteer and leadership roles with Independent Presbyterian Church where Peter Bunting is an elder, the Community Foundation, Gateway, and Jimmie Hale Mission, to name a few. Derry is on the board of Highlands Day School, and Peter is a past Highlands board member and serves on the board of The Altamont School.

"We have always been accustomed to giving back," says Derry Bunting. "We try to stay involved and support charities. We go to First Light Women's Shelter and serve meals for the homeless women, and it's a wonderful and meaningful experience."

"People helped us along the way and we've done what we could along the way to help others as well," says Peter Bunting. "It's a deep-rooted belief that we have in our family—and that many others have—of the value of giving back. That's why our support of service-learning at our alma mater just fit. It's the most exciting thing we've been involved with at Birmingham-Southern, and we are dedicated to its lasting."

Pennington takes the helm of Alumni Association, bent on improving alumni engagement

BY PAT COLE

Attorney James Pennington '87, the newest president of the Birmingham-Southern Alumni Association, set out this fall to transform the levels of volunteerism and connectivity among BSC graduates.

Since receiving the torch from Julie Lockwood '92 in October after two years on the Alumni Association's Executive Board, Pennington has steadily been working toward his goal of improving the overall familiarity among BSC graduates and recruiting and retaining more alumni volunteers.

"I want to continue the board's work of increasing recognition among alumni by providing even more opportunities for graduates to interact personally with one another through affinity groups and other activities," says Pennington. "We now have a minister's group, a travel club for alumni, and a thriving lawyers club, and hope to expand the very successful Downtown Birmingham Business Luncheons to other cities."

To further support his and the board's goals, Pennington plans to evaluate the effectiveness of BSC's online community, AlumNet. And he is leading the effort of board members in recruiting leaders and volunteers in other cities to work with the Alumni Association in setting up area chapters and affinity groups. BSC's affinity groups are comprised of alumni who come together because of a common

bond, such as a mutual professional interest or a shared student experience.

"I believe the association's primary role in BSC advancement is to continuously strive to maintain and strengthen the connection that alumni feel to their alma mater," remarks Pennington. "Last year, we increased alumni volunteerism in the admission area by getting BSC graduates to send a regular stream of prospective student referrals, and we want to build on that success."

"This year, one of our biggest and best opportunities is planning for Homecoming 2008 next November. Homecoming and reunion will be combined for the first time, and the entire board is working together to make that the most fun campus event in the history of the college!"

As a leading attorney representing employers in national labor and employment matters, Pennington is enthusiastic about his new role with Birmingham-Southern and believes he is equal to the task. "Overall, I think I will bring organizational and recruiting skills to this assignment as well as my experience in performance measurements," he says. "Plus, the Alumni Association has tremendous resources that can be used to benefit the college and each other."

As a student at BSC, Pennington was president of Kappa Alpha Order fraternity, a member of the college's Interfraternity Council, and chair of the Student Judiciary Board, which is now the Honor Council. He



2007-08 National Alumni Association President James Pennington '87

graduated with a degree in political science and went straight to law school at Vanderbilt. After practicing at the Lange Simpson firm 10 years ago, he co-founded the Birmingham office of Ogletree Deakins. This firm has since expanded to more than 400 lawyers in 32 offices across America, becoming one of the largest labor and employment firms in the country.

"Birmingham-Southern has done so much to change my life for the better," says Pennington, who is married with two young daughters. "I could never repay that debt, but getting involved with fellow BSC alums is an opportunity for me to give back just a little of what I have received from my education and continuing association with the college."

Other members of the
BSC Alumni Association
Executive Board are:

Richard Yeilding '73 of
Birmingham—president-elect
Julie Lockwood '92 of Huntsville—
past president
Kacy O'Brien Donlon '89 of Tampa,
Fla.—vice president for service and
outreach
Chad Jones '88 of Austin, Texas—
vice president for marketing and
communications
Anil Mujumdar '97 of
Birmingham—vice president for
chapter and affinity programs
William Nicrosi II '90 of
Birmingham—vice president for
advancement
Vicki Van Valkenburgh '88 of
Birmingham—vice president for
reunion and class activities
Chad Wachter '87 of West Point,
Ga.—vice president for enrollment
John Watts '86 of Huntsville—vice
president for athletics

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now keep them.

AlumNet



- A searchable alumni directory
- A permanent BSC e-mail address
- Register for BSC events
- Make gifts

For login information,
contact June Odom
at jodom@bsc.edu.

BSC

Birmingham-Southern College

www.bsc.edu/alumnet

LIVIN' FOR THE WEEKEND

Save the Date for Birmingham-Southern College Reunion 2008.
We're celebrating Homecoming + Alumni Reunion weekend together!
Friday, November 7 – Saturday, November 8

Join us for a host of fun reunion events with a visit back to the Hilltop, centered around the Nov. 8 Panther vs. Sewanee Homecoming football game.

Alumni Reunion 2008 will include activities for all ages and the entire family:

Alumni Mini-College
Class Reunions for 3's and 8's
Tailgating
Awards Luncheon
Dinner on the Grounds
And Much More ...



Don't miss what certainly will be a special reunion experience. And while you're here, you can check out our handsome new Admission Welcome Center. Make your travel plans and hotel reservations today to join us for this new BSC Homecoming tradition. And in the meantime, talk to all of your friends and encourage them to be there!

For more information, contact Lisa Harrison, director of alumni affairs, at 205/226-4912 or lharriso@bsc.edu, and look for more details in upcoming issues of *'Southern*.

BSC Birmingham-Southern College

Staying *connected*

BSC Alumni Association links graduates through chapter and affinity group events

A variety of alumni chapter events and affinity group programs this past summer and fall have kept Birmingham-Southern grads on the move and growing more active.

The Alumni Association has hosted chapter events in Chattanooga, Mobile, Pensacola, and Tuscaloosa, and affinity group events such as Birmingham Lawyer's Club, Downtown Birmingham Alumni Business Luncheon, Alumni Minister's Breakfast, and the summer's "Mommy & Me" Picnic. In celebration of BSC's first football season since 1939, the association also hosted tents, give-aways, and parties at all home games, as well as for away games in Sewanee, Tenn., and Jackson, Miss.

If you're interested in the alumni office helping you host an event in your city or starting an affinity group program in your area, contact Mallie Searcy, assistant director of alumni affairs, at 205/226-4908 or msearcy@bsc.edu. To check online to see what events are coming up, go to www.bsc.edu/alumnet.



Tailgate kick-off—The Alumni Association hosted the first tailgate party of the new football season Sept. 6 on campus.



Chips and sips in Chattanooga—Alumni in the Chattanooga area enjoyed one another at an event at Riverside Food Works Aug. 9.



Fish tales—Young alumni in the Mobile area got acquainted July 20 at Felix's Fish Camp.



Mommy and me—Alumni young mothers and their children enjoyed a BBQ picnic and garden project at the BSC EcoScape Aug. 4. Robin Horner Shelton '92 and her children, Jack and Wes, were among those who came for the play day.



BSC attorneys take a break—The BSC Birmingham Lawyer's Club held its summer social at the Wine Loft Aug. 2. Included among those attending were (from left) Marion Lagman, Henry Lagman '73, Frank Ozment '85, and Cynthia Lamar-Hart '85.



Happy hour at Hub's—Pensacola area alumni met for drinks and sandwiches at Hub Stacey's on Aug. 30. Among them were (from left) Ashley Zerull Frohock '03, Larry Mosley '58, JeriLynn Brooks-MacBeth '81, Margie Moore, Diane Appleyard '69, and Alan Moore '74.



A toast to Tuscaloosa—Alumni in the Tuscaloosa area enjoyed a wine tasting of Spanish wines at Milagros Aug. 23. At the event were (from left) David Scott '91, Sonya Scott, David Rains '93, and Jane Berry Searcy '74.



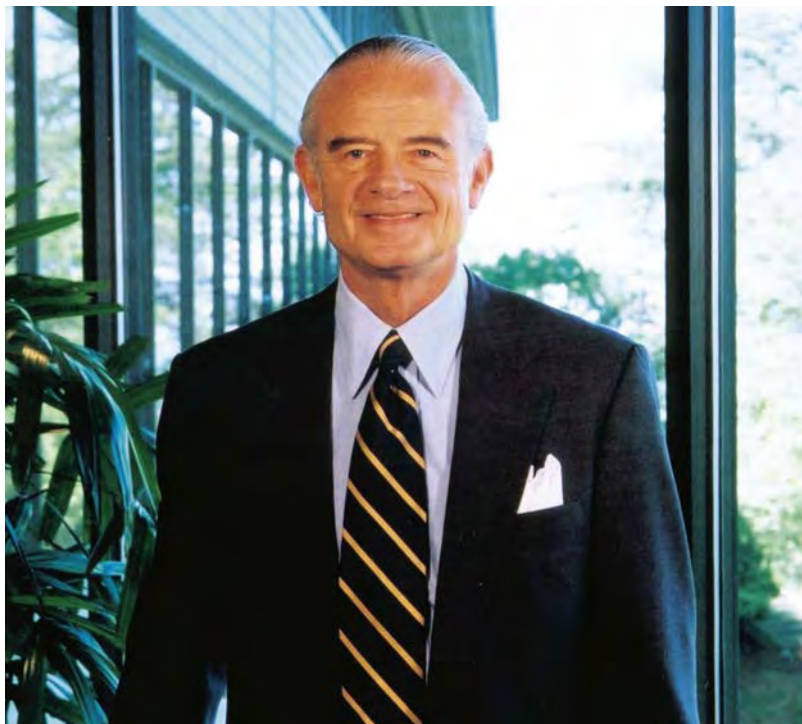
A chaplain's welcome—The newly formed BSC Birmingham Minister's Affinity Group met Sept. 27 for the first time for breakfast at the college to welcome new BSC Chaplain John Richardson. Among those attending were (from left) Jerry Sisson '58, Barbara Harper '68, John Mount, Laura Boyer Sisson '79, Jasmine Hodges '99, and Richardson '00.

www.bsc.edu/alumnet

The Stephens Grants

\$4.8 million pledge from Jim Stephens is helping deserving students fill financial need

BY BILL WAGNON



Stephens

James T. Stephens puts great value in meaningful education, and particularly a liberal arts education like that from Birmingham-Southern.

Recognizing that not all families have the financial resources for their children—even those with high academic achievement—to attend BSC, he understands that an institution needs to provide financially for these students. So he came up with the solution.

This fall, the current chairman of the board of EBSCO Industries pledged \$4.8 million to Birmingham-Southern over the next

seven years to establish the Stephens Grants that will provide financial assistance to students of character and promise who might not otherwise be able to attend the college due to their financial situations.

"With the portion of average household income now required for our top colleges, I chose, with the gift I made, to reach out to students whose families need assistance in order to attend Birmingham-Southern," says Stephens, who retired as president of Birmingham's EBSCO Industries in 2005. "In my career, I have noted that career and

life achievement individually and within society definitely do not correlate with family economic resource and, in fact, that often the individual with less economic advantage possesses the advantage in determination. So, with thanks for my personal good fortune, my gift aims to provide some help where family resources need a boost to put that qualified student at BSC.

"A society together reaches across differences of all kinds and causes whole community elevation and betterment. Unhealthy societies fragment and ossify into unwhole communities. Where a young person of merit does not get the best education they can absorb, we have failed."

In addition to meeting the financial criteria of the Stephens Grants, recipients must participate in work-study. Birmingham-Southern provides campus employment opportunities for qualifying students through both federal and college programs. Stephens Grants are renewable each year for four years provided the recipients continue to meet the criteria and are enrolled as full-time students seeking an undergraduate degree.

According to Sheri Salmon, dean of enrollment management, more than 30 BSC first-year students received Stephens Grants this fall.

"The Stephens Grants allowed us to enroll students this fall that were deserving of attending Birmingham-Southern, but that in the past just could not have afforded to do so," she explains. "Mr. Stephens' thoughtful contribution allowed us to fill the financial gap these students still had after their family income, scholarships, and aid were taken into account. And so many future BSC students will be able to take advantage of this thoughtful-

ness and receive the education they deserve.”

Stephens has devoted thousands of hours in service to Birmingham-Southern over the years, while also leading one of the 200 largest privately held companies in the nation. He is a longtime member of the college’s Board of Trustees, and served as its chair for three years, from 2004-07.

His financial support is equally impressive. His gifts have funded scholarships and professorships and helped build the Elton B. Stephens Science Center and the new Admission Welcome Center, among other donations.

Although he never attended Birmingham-Southern, Stephens says he gives so much of his time and financial resources to the college for two reasons.

“Had my parents not met at

Birmingham-Southern, I might not be me, so some ‘thank you’ is in my interest,” smiles Stephens, who holds a bachelor’s degree from Yale and an MBA from Harvard.

His parents, the late Elton B. Stephens ’32 and Alys Robinson Stephens ’32, both graduated from Birmingham-Southern, as well as two siblings, among other relatives. Elton Stephens was founder of EBSCO Industries, former chair of the BSC Board of Trustees, and a generous benefactor to the college.

Jim Stephens values liberal arts education, and making that education available to all those deserving students who otherwise don’t have the financial means to attain it.

“There are many ways one can ‘give back’ to those with whom one lives and who will be your society’s future, and I put meaningful

education at the top of the list,” explains Stephens.

“As an Alabamian, I know the comparative educational disadvantage which enveloped our area from 1865 to 1945 and the great strides since made, but, as yet, incomplete. The liberal arts education which teaches one to question, how to identify the right questions, how to develop values for finding answers, and the discipline of the mind to think clearly and independently, as differentiated from career education, is the highest and most important education. Birmingham-Southern does this while also providing career direction if the student wishes. A community with a comparatively distinctive liberal arts college is blessed by this community attribute, and I want our community, Birmingham metro, blessed.”



Left, the Elton B. Stephens Science Center. Stephens Grants are already helping more than 30 first-year students attend BSC who otherwise might not have been able to do so.

year-end giving tips

The end of a calendar year is an important time for the review of charitable giving priorities in order to assure maximum benefits for you and Birmingham-Southern. Your gift to the college is much more than a consideration of tax brackets and charitable deductions. It demonstrates a commitment to the students and faculty who are at the heart of all that happens on the Hilltop. In addition, you also may enjoy tax savings by making a gift by Dec. 31. We offer the following tips to make your year-end giving easy and rewarding.

GIFTS OF CASH

Gifts by cash or check are the most popular giving methods. Through gifts of cash, it is possible to eliminate or reduce income tax on up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. Larger gifts may result in tax savings that can roll forward for up to five additional years.

Are you short on time or stamps? Make a gift online by using the college's secure site that allows you to make a contribution through your VISA, MasterCard, or Discover. The gift date on your official receipt sent by the college will be the date you completed your online transaction.

www.bsc.edu/egiving

Tip: If you mail your gift, make sure your envelope is postmarked by Dec. 31. That way, it will be counted as a 2007 gift even if it is received in the first week of 2008.

Birmingham-Southern College
Box 549003
900 Arkadelphia Road
Birmingham, AL 35254

GIFTS OF STOCK

Gifts of property such as stocks, bonds, or mutual funds that have increased in value since you have owned them can result in extra tax savings. You will receive a tax deduction for the full fair market value of the stock on the date the gift is made. Also, you may avoid paying any capital gains on the increase in the value of your stock.

Tip: You and/or your broker should take care to inform the college that a stock transfer is imminent to ensure that the transaction is completed in a timely way. We need notification of the names of the stocks or securities and the number of shares that you are giving so that we are prepared to receive and acknowledge your gift. Additional time will be necessary when transferring mutual fund shares or non-publicly traded securities.

The college asks that you instruct your broker to transfer the gifted securities to:

Merrill Lynch DTC#5198 Deliver Free
For Credit to: Birmingham-Southern College
Custody Account # 435-07494
Contact:
Brad Osborne or Drew Cundiff
205/298-7403 or 800-937-0288 (Phone)
205/453-1696 (Fax)

If you have investments that have decreased in value since you have owned them, consider selling them and making a deductible gift of the cash proceeds. This creates a loss that you may be able to deduct from other taxable income along with your cash contributions. The amount of your deductible loss combined with the charitable deduction may actually amount to more than the current value of the donated asset.

GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE

Do you own a life insurance policy that is no longer needed? A transfer to the college is a great way to make a year-end gift. Birmingham-Southern must be both the beneficiary and owner of an insurance policy to receive a charitable deduction. In general, you will receive credit for a gift valued at the cash surrender value.

Tip: Check with your life insurance agent for information about the forms to complete. Then mail us copies of the forms you have submitted to your insurance company.

IRA ROLLOVER GIFT

Recently enacted legislation permits individuals age 70 1/2 or older to rollover up to \$100,000 from their IRA accounts to Birmingham-Southern (or other tax-exempt organization) without federal tax consequences. For persons with charitable intent, the IRA rollover opportunity permits a gift from their IRA that will qualify for the minimum distribution amount, thereby reducing taxable income.

Tip: The provisions allowing these gifts under the Pension Protection Act of 2006 expire Dec. 31, 2007, after which these distributions will once again become taxable. This is a one-time only gift opportunity!

We offer these tips as general information only. Please consult with your accountant, tax attorney, or financial advisor about your specific situation.

Although the college will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 18, 2007, through Jan. 1, 2008, the Office of Institutional Advancement will remain open each business day with the exception of Christmas and New Year's. Just call 205/226-4919 and a gift officer will help you.

Birmingham-Southern gift officers available during the Christmas holidays include:

- Adelia Thompson, vice president for institutional advancement – 205/226-4918
- Keith Thompson, associate vice president for institutional advancement – 205/226-4910
- Martha Boshers, director of gift planning – 205/226-4978
- Susan Ellard, director of annual giving – 205/226-4977
- Pat Flowers, director of major gifts – 205/226-4979
- Patrice Glass, director of research – 205/226-4981
- Lisa Harrison, director of alumni affairs – 205/226-4912
- Maggie McDonald, donor relations manager – 205/226-7737



every gift—large or small—
helps provide the essentials
of a Birmingham-Southern
college education ...

The Annual Fund is vital to Birmingham-Southern. The money you give goes to ensuring that the college has the resources and the people necessary to deliver the BSC experience. With the Annual Fund, there are no insignificant gifts, because every commitment makes a difference. Help us provide the essential elements of the Birmingham-Southern experience.

... be the difference in the
lives of our students.

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1-800-523-5793, ext. 4909
205/226-4909

BSC

THE BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN ANNUAL FUND

Local couple honored with 2007 Volunteer in Philanthropy award

Birmingham-Southern alumnus Bruce Rogers '80 and his wife, Kim Judge Rogers, of Birmingham have been honored by the Alabama Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and Birmingham-Southern as notable Volunteers in Philanthropy for 2007.

The award was presented to the couple as part of the AFP's annual National Philanthropy Day Awards ceremony in November. It recognizes professionals who strive to make volunteerism and philanthropy a major part of both their working and personal lives.

A partner in the Birmingham law firm of Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, Bruce Rogers is a magna cum laude graduate and current trustee and chair of the board's Institutional Advancement Committee at BSC. A 1983 graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Law, he was 2002 president of the Birmingham Bar Association. He served on the board of the Bell Center for Early Intervention and serves the United Way as co-chair of law firm fundraising.

A Vanderbilt University alumna, Kim Rogers formerly worked at UAB's Comprehensive Cancer Center and now is with the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham. She was in the 2004 class of Leadership Birmingham and is a board member for the YWCA, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, and Oasis Women's Counseling Center.



Two new advancement professionals join BSC's fundraising team

Susan Smith Ellard '88 and Franklin Slaton '04 have joined the Birmingham-Southern fundraising team in the Office of Institutional Advancement. They will work closely with the vice president of Institutional Advancement and have the primary responsibility of developing external relations and major gift support.

Ellard, a Stockton native and BSC cum laude political science and business graduate, has been named director of annual giving. Her prior employment includes coordinating the annual fund drive for the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and running daily campaign operations for Alabama Congressman Spencer Bachus.

Slaton, who is the new major gifts officer, received his bachelor's degree in history from BSC and his master's in advertising and public relations from the University of Alabama. He has spent the past four years in marketing for organizations which include Southern Living and the Alabama Press Association. Slaton also performs as a stand-up comic and is a member of the BSC Alumni Choir.

Ellard can be reached at 205/226-4977; toll-free at 800-523-5793, ext. 4977; or sellard@bsc.edu. Slaton can be reached at 205/226-4920; toll-free at 800-523-5793, ext. 4920; or fslaton@bsc.edu.

Student calling program vital to fundraising efforts at BSC

Birmingham-Southern continued its student calling program this year in an effort to bolster the school's Annual Fund effort. The program currently has 22 active student callers who are employed by the college.

"The phone program has been very successful so far this year," BSC assistant director of annual giving Erica Crump Sellers '05 said. "We have a lot of energetic callers and will be hiring more when the students return from Interim in February."

Sellers said the group includes students from every class at BSC, and serves as a great representation of the student body.

The goal for the student calling program this year is \$100,000 by May 31, 2008. Sellers said that as of the end of November, the callers had raised more than \$44,000.

"The whole group has been very diligent," she said. "These students are making a great impact on this college and we're grateful to all of them."

For BSC Parents Fund, loyalty makes the difference

The Birmingham-Southern Parents Fund is off to another good start this year.

According to Erica Crump Sellers '05, BSC's assistant director of annual giving, there have been 95 gifts and pledges for a total of \$28,595 so far. The goal for the fund is to raise \$75,000 by May 31, 2008. Sellers said the fund's success relies heavily on the work of her volunteer parents.

"We have a group of parents who are working with me to ensure that the Parents Fund is successful," she said. "They are helping to make phone calls and encourage other parents to join them in participating."

Teresa Wright is chair of the Parents Fund committee, which also is comprised of John Isbister, Rasie Miller, and Keith and Sandra Armstrong.

Wright is from Atlanta and is the mother of junior Wright Wiggins. Isbister is from Ellicott City, Md., and is the father of senior Gillian Isbister. Miller is from Birmingham and is the mother of senior Ellen Miller. The Armstrongs are from Bay Minette and are the parents of freshman Dustin Armstrong.

The Parents Fund was established at Birmingham-Southern more than 25 years ago to give parents of current students an opportunity to assist annually with needs of the college and to directly support their child's educational experience. All students benefit from the Parents Fund.

Some 272 families participated in last year's fund drive. Gifts to the Parents Fund over the years have supported a wide range of programs and facilities, including the campus installation of blue light assistance phones, the Speech Center, construction of an area within the Elton B. Stephens Science Center, the Foreign Languages Lab, library technology, and the Writing Center. The campaign takes place annually from October through mid-spring.

"We have a lot to accomplish before we can reach our goal," Sellers said. "Our Parents Fund committee is working on making phone calls to parents we hope will be able to make leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more before the end of the calendar year. So far, there have been 22 gifts of \$500 or more, 10 of which were leadership gifts."

For more information about the Parents Fund, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 205/226-4919 or toll-free at 800-523-5793, extension 4919. Some employers have matching gift programs which could at least double contributions to Birmingham-Southern and the Parents Fund.

Parents interested in volunteering to raise funds should contact Sellers at 205/226-7738 or ecrump@bsc.edu.

Kirby Sevier '68

Former two-sport BSC student-athlete answers call to mentor youth

BY LINDA HALLMARK



Sevier

Birmingham attorney Kirby Sevier says it is nothing to boast about. In fact, he considers it a privilege.

Inspired by his mother's heart of service, and bolstered by his love of children, he answered the call to

reach out to inner-city youth right in his own hometown. He signed on to mentor one 12-year-old boy from the Loveman Village neighborhood, but he ended up taking on a group of eight children.

He says he was the lucky one in the deal.

Sevier learned about the opportunity more than 15 years ago through a weeklong evangelistic crusade at the Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center called "Break-Thru '92." On the final day of the crusade, adult leaders from the community were called upon to become a mentor for one child for a year. Sevier says he was happy to have the chance to volunteer. His mentoring assignment was with Eric Foster.

Sevier's plan was to pick up Foster for church each Sunday and then take him to lunch. When he arrived at the youth's home that first Sunday, Foster appeared with his 10-year-old brother, Derrio. Sevier didn't mind having both boys accompany him to worship and share a meal.

The next Sunday, he stopped by to pick up the two Foster boys and was met by their other brothers, and four of their neighborhood friends. Over the next several Sundays, Sevier's group swelled to a total of eight children ranging from age 2 to 12.

Over the next 11 years, Sevier and his young friends, along with his own six children, attended church together and went to ball games, the movies, Christmas caroling, and other family-oriented activities. He also served as a major support system for the children and their families, helping with basic needs from time to time. Mostly, he says, he tried to provide spiritual and emotional support.

"My van was full," says Sevier. But I got more out of it than I ever put into it."

Sevier came to Birmingham-Southern as a sophomore transfer student from Vanderbilt University. He says his sole purpose was to play

basketball here and that the quality education was a bonus. Although he was a member of the freshman basketball team at Vanderbilt, Sevier felt he would have a better opportunity to play at Birmingham-Southern.

Don Lundy, a high school teammate who was on the basketball team at BSC, encouraged him to consider making the Hilltop his home. The Panthers offered him a basketball scholarship, so he decided to transfer.

"It was one of the best decisions of my life," he says. "It not only provided the foundation for my career, but also for my life and family."

He met his wife, the former Becky Simenson of Huntsville, who was a cheerleader at BSC, and the two were married his junior year. They continued to live on campus in married student housing. The couple's first child, Julie, was born in 1967, while the two were still BSC students.

Life as a married student-athlete with a child wasn't always easy, he says, but it was fun. It gave him an incentive to buckle down, study, and figure out what he was going to do to support a family. The answer was law school. He says the flexibility of a law degree was appealing because it could offer him several options for a career.

With his young bride and daughter in tow, Sevier entered Vanderbilt Law School after graduating from BSC with a degree in history. His wife had to forego completing her education at BSC to follow her husband to Nashville. She took courses at Vanderbilt and earned a degree in secondary education in 1970, the same year the couple's second child was born.

Sevier finished law school in 1971 and spent a year as a clerk for Judge Seybourne H. Lynne, the chief justice of federal district court in Birmingham for many years. The years that followed included four more children and a successful career as a practicing attorney.

He is a founding partner of Birmingham-based Maynard Cooper & Gale PC. He has always been the hiring attorney for the firm, which now employs a total of 23 BSC graduates, with two more soon to join the firm.

When asked to reflect upon his time at Birmingham-Southern, Sevier recalls many fond memories. Not only did he spend his three years on the Hilltop as a successful student-athlete on the basketball team, but he also played on the college's first baseball team. The team opened its first season in the spring of 1967 with a game against the University of Alabama.

"I remember making two errors at third base in a game, and after that, being moved to left field for the rest of the season," he says.

His favorite memories though include the friendship and camaraderie with his teammates. He says playing team sports and being a student-athlete taught him the life lessons of teamwork and discipline.

Today, all of Sevier's children are grown, including his three sons and three daughters, and the eight children he mentored from Loveman Village. It was only a few years ago that he discontinued his regular shuttle service with the kids he reached out to and came to love. But he is still involved with all of them and says he prays for them every day and still tries to be available when they have needs.

His eight "adopted" children now

have a collective 11 children of their own, and his six children have produced eight grandchildren. His "adopted" children all are actively involved in their churches, and all who are parents are fully devoted to their children.

Much like the future of his large, extended family, Sevier believes the future for his alma mater seems really bright. Having arrived at a better understanding of the reasons behind the college's move from D-1 to D-III athletics, he is especially excited for current and future student-athletes at BSC, and says the addition of the football program looks to be a success.

Drawing from his childhood lessons and the example his mother set through her work in inner-city ministry, Sevier says the service-learning aspect of BSC is really important.

"True leadership is servant leadership," he says. "To instill that in students is vitally important."

Sevier is trying to do his part to have an impact at BSC. He serves as a member of the college's Norton Advisory Board as chair of its Pre-Law Committee. The committee assists with arranging mentors for pre-law students to advise them about preparation for law school, the selection process, and what to expect.

When asked about his hopes for the college, Sevier hopes Birmingham-Southern will always be mindful of its Judeo-Christian heritage and its many blessings, and that it will continue to seek divine guidance and direction for its future.



Sophomore outside hitter Sarah Harris led the team in kills and points this season.

Volleyball concludes with record-breaking season, posts longest winning streak ever

The Birmingham-Southern volleyball team had a historic season in 2007, becoming the first team in program history to reach the 30-win mark and totaling a 32-3 record. The Panthers also defeated seven top-25 opponents, including No. 3 Wisconsin-Whitewater, No. 5 Emory, and No. 10 Ohio Northern, while their only losses were to No. 3 UWW, No. 5 Trinity University, and Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference power Colorado College.

BSC won every regular-season tournament it played in, winning the Whitewater Invitational, Emory Invitational, Comfort Inn Challenge, Loco's Invitational, and Emory National Invite.

At the Emory Invitational, sophomores Caitlin Dees, Michelle Maciejewski, and Milica Stojanovic were named to the All-Tournament Team, with Stojanovic earning Tournament MVP honors. Two weeks later at the Comfort Inn Challenge that BSC hosted, sophomores Sarah Harris, Maciejewski, and Stojanovic received All-Tournament nods, with Harris being named Tournament MVP.

Three Panthers also earned All-Tournament honors at the Loco's Invitational, hosted by BSC: junior Casey Demos, Maciejewski, and freshman Christine Denning. Demos, Harris, and Stojanovic were honored once more as All-Tournament selections at the Emory National Invite, and Harris was named Tournament MVP.

BSC volleyball coach earns hall of fame recognition



Volleyball Coach Pavlina Steffkova is presented with a commemorative plaque documenting her Hall of Fame induction by BSC President David Pollick (far left) and BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr.

Birmingham-Southern Volleyball Coach Pavlina Steffkova has been inducted into the Hall of Fame Class of 2007 by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Volleyball Coaches Association.

She was one of four honorees that were recognized for their individual efforts at this year's NJCAA Division I Volleyball Championship banquet held in November in Iowa.

Steffkova is in her fifth season on the BSC volleyball coaching staff. During that time, she has helped the Panthers to their third straight semifinal appearances in the Big South Conference Tournament, and this year, coached the team to its first 30-win season in the program's history with a 32-3 overall record.

A native of the Czech Republic, Steffkova began her collegiate volleyball career at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Mo., where she was an NJCAA All-American and a member of the National Championship All-Tournament Team. As a player at the University of Texas, she earned Big 12 All-Academic and Honor Roll distinctions.

Prior to coming to the Hilltop, Steffkova was an assistant volleyball coach at the University of Arkansas. At Arkansas, she was an integral part of the Razorbacks' 27-6 campaign in 2002 in which they were ranked as one of the top-30 teams in weekly polls.

Steffkova received a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Texas and a master's in recreation and sports management from Arkansas.

Softball looks to new coaches and key returners

The Birmingham-Southern softball team returns to the diamond for the 2008 season with a new coaching staff, as Craig Hyde was hired as head coach, and former Alabama standout and National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-American Stephanie VanBrakle was brought on as assistant coach.

Hyde, a native of Birmingham, brings extensive experience as an official with the Amateur Softball Association and the Alabama High School Athletic Association, as well as with several major NCAA conferences. He has umpired five NCAA Division II Regionals, two Division II National Championships, and a Division I Regional. Hyde also served as an amateur softball coach for seven years.

An All-Conference honoree in 1975, Hyde earned two baseball letters at Jefferson State Community College in 1975-76, and went on to earn two more letters at the University of Montevallo in 1977-78, helping lead the Falcons to the district title in 1978. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Montevallo and an MBA from Samford.

VanBrakle, a pitcher from Chambersburg, Pa., played for the Crimson Tide from 2002-06, helping Alabama to the Southeastern Conference title in 2006 and the SEC Tournament championship in 2002 and 2005. She also helped Alabama to three NCAA College World Series appearances (2002, 2005, and 2006). She was named SEC Pitcher of the Year and was a top-10 finalist for Collegiate Player of the Year as a senior.

Prior to coming to the Hilltop, VanBrakle played professionally for the Philadelphia Force and also worked softball camps at the Patrick Murphy Softball School from 2003-07. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Alabama this past May and is certified to teach physical education.

The Panthers return 13 players from last season's squad, including eight starters: seniors Lindsay Creighton, 2007 Second-Team All-Big South Conference honoree Bethney Reynoldson, and Grace Stokes; juniors Kayla Backlund, Anne Lawrence, Melissa Muehlenfeld, and Brooke Reed; and sophomore Danielle Honore'.

While BSC's other 20 sports are now Division III and members of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference, the Panther softball squad will remain Division I and a Big South Conference member for one more season, allowing the Big South to retain its automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament.

The Panthers open the 2008 season at home, facing Huntingdon College Feb. 9 in a 1 p.m. doubleheader at the BSC Softball Park. BSC also hosts a regular-season tournament, the Panther Spring Classic, Feb. 16-17.



Hyde



VanBrakle

Women's basketball faces several new teams this season



Senior forward Reba Ross earned First-Team All-Big South Conference honors last season.

Although the Birmingham-Southern women's basketball team returns seven players from last year, the 2007-08 season is very much a new beginning for the squad. With the college's move to NCAA Division III and the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference, third-year Head Coach Brad Hodge and his players face a bevy of new opponents they've never seen before.

"It's the great unknown," Hodge said. "We really won't know much about our league opponents until we get into January and February. Obviously the statistics show that it's a very strong league, and we know we'll be up against some very tough competition, but our knowledge base is limited at this point."

The Panthers hit the floor in late November and will spend a lot of time on the road this season as they visited Southern Mississippi Dec. 15, as well as a return trip to Spring Hill Dec. 17, and a trip to Atlanta to face Emory on New Year's Eve.

BSC will continue conference play to open 2008, with travel to Rhodes College Jan. 5, and then finish it out with three-straight home games against Oglethorpe, Sewanee, and Rhodes Feb. 15, 17, and 23.

Another change this year is the format for conference games, which are all doubleheaders with the men's team.

"Because of the transition to Division III, we can't play for a championship, but the seniors have set some goals and high expectations for this team," Hodge said. "They want to leave their mark in the record books, and I really believe that they will do all they can to be successful."

Men's basketball back and ready for action



After a one-year absence, the tradition and excitement of Birmingham-Southern men's basketball has returned to the Hilltop in 2007-08 under the direction of first-year Head Coach Mitch Cole.

The college's decision in the spring of 2006 to reclassify from NCAA Division I to non-scholarship NCAA Division III resulted in a host of returning players and BSC signees to transfer to other institutions around the country. Therefore,

the men's basketball season was cancelled for 2006-07. The team opened its new Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference schedule Nov. 30 against Oglethorpe University with 16 new players—13 freshmen and three sophomores.

"We want to build upon the success that was established previously by Joe Dean, Duane Reboul, and the many other outstanding men who have coached at Birmingham Southern," said Cole, who spent the past 11 seasons as the top assistant coach for Duane Reboul. "These guys have been successful doing it the right way with quality student-athletes. We hope to carry on the tradition of success both on and off the court."

The Panthers are competing in the East Division of the SCAC, along with the defending conference champion Centre College, and DePauw University, Rhodes College, and Sewanee.

BSC men's and women's cross country teams turn in banner campaign

The Birmingham-Southern men's and women's cross country teams represented the Hilltop in fine fashion in 2007, finishing high in several meets.

The women's team brought home first place in the Asics Invitational and Rhodes College Invitational, and posted runner-up finishes at the Great American Cross Country Festival and the Coach O Invitational. BSC opened the year with a third-place finish at the Sewanee Invitational and finished 13th of 42 teams in the Memphis Twilight Invitational, beating several Division I and II teams along the way.

Freshman Caitlin Hodges led BSC in three of five meets, leading the team at Sewanee, the Great American Cross Country Festival, and the Coach O Invitational. Sophomore Karoline Briggs won the Asics Invitational with a 5K top-10 time of 18:59 and was the top BSC runner at the Memphis Twilight. Freshman Mary Williamson led the team at the Rhodes Invitational.

On the men's side, BSC closed out the year with a second-place finish at the Coach O Invitational. The Panthers also had two third-place finishes at the Asics Invitational and the Rhodes Invitational. BSC claimed fifth in the Great American Cross Country Festival, and sixth place in the season opener at Sewanee. The Panthers finished 14th out of 42 teams at the Memphis Twilight, again coming across the finish line ahead of several Division I and II schools.

Junior Justin Leach led the Panthers in four of six races, including a season-best fourth place finish at the Asics Invitational. Leach also led the team at Rhodes, Memphis, and the Great American Cross Country Festival. Junior Forrest Boughner was the top BSC finisher at Sewanee, and junior Blake McDaniel crossed the finish line in eighth place at the Coach O Invitational.

Men's soccer concludes 25th anniversary season



Fifty-five former players and managers of Preston Goldfarb returned to campus in October in honor of his 25th anniversary as BSC's head coach.

Head Coach Preston Goldfarb and the BSC men's soccer team celebrated the program's 25th anniversary in 2007. The Panthers endured injuries and the first year of BSC's transition to NCAA Division III and the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference to post a 10-10 record.

The Panthers welcomed back more than 55 former players and managers for its annual Alumni Weekend on Oct. 28-29, celebrating a milestone. At halftime of the Austin College game, the BSC soccer alumni presented Goldfarb with a framed commemorative 25th anniversary poster, and later in the season, the school honored the occasion at a reception in the T.B. Pearson Hall of Fame Room.

A 1-0 win over new Big South Conference member Presbyterian College got the season off to a good start in August. However, a rash of injuries followed as the Panthers dropped the next five games against Charleston, Air Force, Denver, UAB, and Alabama A&M to fall to 1-5. BSC went 9-4

down the stretch and 8-3 in the SCAC to close the year.

Senior Gino Cozzolino led BSC with 29 points—13 goals and three assists—followed by senior Norman Baer with 17 points, leading the team with five assists and netting six goals. Sophomore Stefan Haben had four goals and two assists, and junior Robert Geil had three goals and an assist. Senior Denis Brunotte had a goal and two assists, while junior Michael-Jon Tehini and senior Matt Barcelona had a goal apiece.



Senior forward Caitlin Gordon is BSC's career leader in assists and game-winning goals.

Senior forward Caitlin Gordon etched her name in the BSC record books, becoming the school's all-time assists leader with 14 this season for a career total of 27. Gordon also became the career leader in game-winning goals with 12 total, and led the team this year with 11 goals and 36 points.

Green, a goalkeeper, also was impressive for the Panthers, recording a record of 10-6 while making 62 saves and tallying a 1.09 goals-against-average rating.

Women's soccer caps successful 2007 season by winning 12 matches

The Birmingham-Southern women's soccer team had another winning season this year, posting a record of 12-6, including victories over Texas-Dallas, Nicholls State, former Big South Conference rival UNC Asheville, and North Alabama. The Panthers also tallied a 7-3 record over Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference opponents, and recorded five shutouts.

BSC won the Gardner-Webb Classic with its victories over Nicholls State and UNCA, and seniors Brittany Green and Anne McIntyre, sophomore Serena Murphy, and freshman Lindsay Miller were named to the All-Tournament Team.



Walter Arrington was named the SCAC Newcomer of the Year in 2007.

Ten Panthers receive All-SCAC honors in football

The Birmingham-Southern football team concluded its first football season in 68 years with 10 players earning All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference recognition.

Freshman Walter Arrington was honored as the SCAC Newcomer of the Year and was named to the conference's Second-Team.

Freshmen Joe Thigpen, Anthony Mostella, Justin Dunn, and Eric Dalglish joined Arrington on the Second-Team. Junior Tony Myers and freshmen Alex Streetman, Hayden Wald, Jerron Mitchell, and Chase Brown received Honorable Mention SCAC accolades.

Arrington led the team with 43 receptions for 491 yards and three touchdowns, including a school-record 80-yard touchdown against Trinity University. He ranked second in the SCAC in all-purpose yards per game (120.8), sixth in receptions per game (4.75), eighth in receiving yards per game (51.9), and was third in the league with 19.8 yards per kickoff return average.

Thigpen led BSC in rushing and passing, completing 167 of 289 passes for 2,059 yards and 13

touchdowns while rushing for 367 yards and nine touchdowns. He ranked fifth in the league in passing and total offense and was fourth in pass efficiency (124.8).

Mostella was the team's second leading rusher and third leading receiver. He caught 30 passes for 297 yards and a touchdown, and rushed for 222 yards and two touchdowns.

Dunn was the team's top tackler with 70 tackles (28 solos) and had seven and a half tackles for loss, an interception, and a sack. He finished ranked seventh in the SCAC. Dalglish was fifth on the team with 46 tackles, ranking 18th in the SCAC.

Myers caught 30 passes for 558 yards and three touchdowns. His 74-yard touchdown reception was the second longest touchdown reception in school history. Streetman finished the season with 22 receptions for 317 yards and three touchdowns that included a long pass play of 68 yards.

Wald registered 24 tackles and tied for the team lead with three and a half sacks. Mitchell had 47 tackles,

with a tackle for a loss and an interception. Brown struggled most of the season with an injury, recording 16 tackles, and had a 79-yard kickoff return for a touchdown.

BSC finished the season 3-7 overall posting victories over Mississippi College (JV), LaGrange College (JV), and Sewanee.

The Panthers lost four home games by an average of seven points. Rhodes College kicked a field goal with :29 left to nip BSC 10-7 and DePauw University scored with :44 left in the contest to erase a four-point deficit and take a 28-24 win.

Comeback attempts fell short against Centre and Colorado colleges. Centre held a 24-7 lead entering the fourth quarter before 10 points by the Panthers cut the lead to 24-17 with 3:49 to play in the game. Centre would run out the clock on its next possession to hold on for the win. Colorado held a 17-0 lead at halftime before BSC scored 28 fourth-quarter points to take a 28-24 lead. Colorado scored the final 14 points of the game to earn a 38-28 win.

BSC air rifle hitting targets



Nikita Dees in action for the BSC rifle team.

Under the direction of Birmingham-Southern Chief of Police Randy Youngblood, the Panther air rifle team is turning in a banner season.

BSC was scheduled to open the season at Memphis University and Ole Miss, but travel complications forced the team to pull out of the invitational fields. But that has not slowed down the Panthers, who won three straight and finished second in four events through November 17.

BSC captured the Wofford Invitational with 2,249 points, the Mercer Invitational and The Citadel Invitational with 2,266 points, and claimed second at the annual BSC Panther Invitational. BSC did compete in the Gamecock Invitational hosted by Jacksonville State University, but results from the three-day event were not finalized.

Junior Nikita Dees was the top shooter at Wofford with 579, and totaled 577 points, respectively, at Mercer and The Citadel.

Senior Tawnya Nylund and Senior Katie Furr each totaled 558 points while senior Sirena Wang had 554 points at Wofford.

Junior Baylee Dodson had a 524 and sophomore Xinyan Yan

scored a 494 to round the BSC individuals. Nylund finished second with 573 points at Mercer, followed by Furr's 566 and Wang's 556. Nylund was again the second top shooter at The Citadel with 573 points. Furr scored 560 points, and Wang followed with 556 points.

The Panthers will compete in three tournaments in February and March to conclude the season. BSC shoots Feb. 9 at The Citadel and Feb. 16 at the SEARC Tournament on the BSC campus. The season concludes at the SEARC Championships hosted by The Citadel.

Birmingham-Southern at top of NCAA graduation rates

A recently released NCAA graduation study has underscored the quality of the Birmingham-Southern student-athlete experience.

The NCAA figures, released in October, tracked the graduation success rate (GSR) and examined graduation rates at 318 Division I colleges and universities for athletes who enrolled from 1997-2000.

Birmingham-Southern appeared at the top of the list nationally in the major sports of men's basketball (100 percent graduation rate) and baseball (95 percent graduation rate). BSC was one of only four schools nationally to achieve that

overall level of academic success in the two sports.

"The national recognition is certainly an indication of something that we have long known—that the education of student-athletes at BSC has always been of the highest quality," said BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr. "This is a tribute to those gifted student-athletes who came here to receive a quality education, the coaches who recruited them, the professors who taught them, and the administrators who supported them."

BSC joined the NCAA Division III league of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference this fall.



BSC sports fields project recognized for quality of construction

Birmingham-Southern served as a state model for sports field design and craftsmanship during its first phase of construction of the new Athletics Complex.

The BSC project recently won the Associated Builders & Contractors Excellence in Construction award for Alabama. Brasfield & Gorrie LLC, regional general contractors for the project, were honored at ABC's annual awards banquet in Birmingham this fall for their work on the college's sports fields.

The Excellence in Construction program was started by ABC 18 years ago and is now a premier competition within the construction industry to recognize outstanding quality and innovation by contractors in Alabama. The Birmingham-Southern project, entered in the \$5-10 Million Institutional category, will next be considered for the national Excellence in Construction award.

Phase I of construction of BSC's Athletics Complex—which included the athletics building, practice field, and state-of-the-art competition field with turf surface—was completed in October.

BSC SPORTS SCHEDULES, PANTHER HIGHLIGHTS ONLINE

If you'd like to check out any of BSC's Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Division III sports teams live and review game schedules, or read recaps of the day's sports action, visit the athletics Web site at

www.bsc.sports.net

ClassNotes

'29

In August 2007, the late **Dr. James Otis Brooks** was elected to the Marion County (Al.) Sports Hall of Fame. Brooks, who practiced medicine in Hamilton County from 1939 until his death in 1972, loved football and was for decades the beloved team physician for the Hamilton High School Aggies. He received many honors for his service to Hamilton County athletics, and was once presented a letter sweater with the words "Team Doc" knitted in.



500 workshops on five continents, she "envision[s] a future with a powerful and

provocative new world

order." Says one of her many enthusiastic reviewers: "Janette Rainwater's got it all—up-to-the-minute political savvy and the human insight of a career psychologist, plus panache, wit, and charm." The book is available online at www.amazon.com or through local bookstores.

'54

Pediatrician **Dr. Robert M. "Bob" Gray** of Sylacauga, who has cared for thousands of Talladega County children over his 46-year career, was honored in October with a special chair from the Sylacauga City Schools Foundation. The chair signified a \$25,000 donation to the foundation. In Gray's case, the sum represented the cumulative donations of many throughout the community who wished to honor his career. He has been the UAB Department of Family Medicine's Outstanding Preceptor for the past four years. In 2002, he was presented with Children's Hospital's Master Pediatrician Award, and in 2004, he was named one of Alabama's first Health Care Heroes.

'55

In July 2007, **Dr. Bob Whetsone** presented "Mill Village Life in Alabama" as one of a series of "Heritage Forums" at Dothan's Landmark Park. Whetstone is author of *Grave Dancin'*, a novel based on the lives of textile workers in Alabama's mill villages.

'34

Murray Fincher of Mandeville, La., who as former head of Louisiana operations for South Central Bell once oversaw public and political relations involving local, state, and national government, used his experience in the world of politics as background for his new novel, *Favorite Son*. In this book, the protagonist sets out to combat a corrupt political system controlled by a conniving ex-president, but finds that he must wage battle on two fronts—both in Washington and in his own hometown. The work is available online at www.booksurge.com.

'36

Dr. Penny Cunningham of Birmingham, one of BSC's most loyal alumni, recently welcomed the birth of her first great-grandchild, William Martin Keith, son of Alston and Ellen Keith. Congratulations to all the family.

'43

Dr. Janette Rainwater of Pacific Palisades, Calif., at age 85 has written her first novel, *2060: a love story in a utopian future*. Drawing on her many years in private practice as a clinical psychologist, during which she led more than



Honoring three centuries of song—On Oct. 21, 2007, **ST Kimbrough '58** appeared on the BBC television series "Songs of Praise," in a special program celebrating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Charles Wesley. Kimbrough was featured in an interview and a scene from his musical drama *Sweet Singer*, on the life and work of Wesley, which he premiered at New York's Carnegie Hall in 1985 and has since performed over 500 times and on three continents.

The BBC filming took place inside the Lovely Lane Chapel at Epworth By The Sea on St. Simon's Island, Ga., where Wesley served as a missionary in 1736. Throughout 2007—the Tercentenary year of Wesley's birth—Kimbrough, who has published widely on Wesley, performed the drama in many locations, both nationally and abroad. A DVD of the musical drama is available at www.ecufilm.org, along with a free, downloadable study guide for pastors and congregations.

'57

Dr. Albert William Ray Jr. and wife **Kay Lowe Ray '60** of Joliet, Ill., were honored in an Aug. 16, 2007, article in the (Joliet) *Herald News* for their longtime service to their community through the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic. This United Way agency, since the '80s, has provided free medical and dental care to those who cannot afford health insurance. Instrumental in the founding and operation of the clinic, the Rays continue their work with the clinic in retirement, serving on its Executive Committee and continuing with other volunteer services.

'58

In June 2007, **Frances Osborn Robb**, an Alabama Humanities Foundation Road Scholar, presented the program "Science into History: The Photographs of Eugene Allen Smith, State Geologist" to the Escambia Co. Historical Society. The lecture was presented in conjunction with a display of the photographs of Smith, who was Alabama state geologist for more than 54 years, at the Thomas E. McMillan Museum at Jefferson Davis Community College in Brewton.

'63

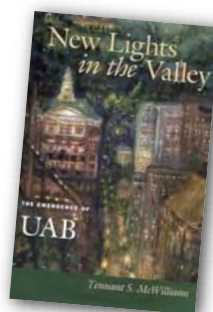
Jo Paula Campbell Girouard is continuing her teaching career at Bellingham Technical College in

Bellingham, Wash., after retiring from high-school teaching in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. This news was shared with us by her mother, BSC alumna **Pauline Lyle Campbell '38** and **'61** (master's of education).

'65

Dr. Tennant S. McWilliams is a professor of history and dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UAB. His most recent book is *New Lights in the Valley: The*

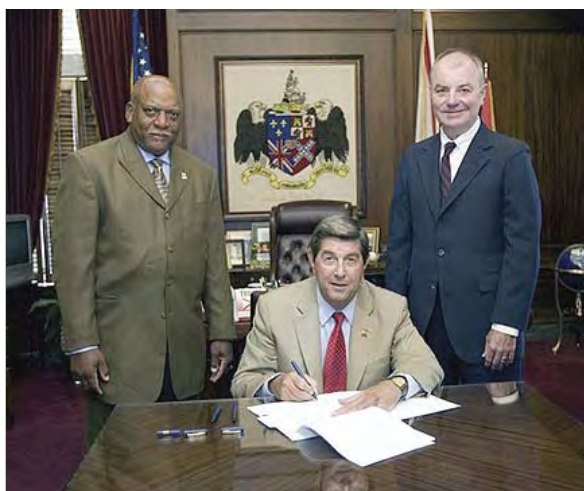
Emergence of UAB, a scholarly history of the school from its beginnings through the mid-'90s, published by the University of Alabama Press. The work has received strong reviews, including this



one from E. Culpepper Clark, author of *The Schoolhouse Door: Segregation's Last Stand at The University of Alabama*: "Tennant McWilliams has written a superb account of UAB's history ... The research is prodigious, the interpretations sustainable. This book makes a substantial contribution to the literature of higher education and a huge contribution to the history of the University of Alabama, indeed the history of this state and of its 'Magic City.'"

'66

Dr. Robert Jan Lerer of Fairfield, Ohio, received the American Academy of Pediatrics Outstanding Pediatrician of the Year Award at the November 2006 meeting of the Ohio Chapter. This recognition marked "a lifetime of caring for children with disabilities in southwest Ohio/Butler County, and also the international community." Lerer has practiced with Pediatric Associates of



Moody '69 (right), who testified before the Alabama Senate Health Committee on the need for greater access to screening. Riley said, "It is estimated that more than 3,000 men in Alabama will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and 480 of them will die. But if it is detected early, prostate cancer is highly treatable." His proclamation notes that 25 percent of men who get prostate cancer are under the age of 65 and urges all men to become aware of the risks and to get screened for the disease.

Healthcare guardians—

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley declared September 2007 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the state, and wants more Alabamians to be aware of a new prostate cancer screening law passed earlier this year, requiring insurance companies to offer full coverage for prostate cancer exams that are ordered by a physician.

Riley is shown signing the bill into effect, flanked by Senator Rodger Smitherman, one of the bill's sponsors, and **Dr. Thomas**

Fairfield since 1973, when he completed his pediatric residency at Yale. He has been a leader in the care of children with special needs and has served as health commissioner for Butler County since 1976. In addition, Lerer has donated a month a year since 1991 to international relief and missions travel to impoverished areas around the world. He chairs the board of Caring Partners International, a humanitarian organization that recycles new and gently used medical equipment from the U.S. to third world countries. In recognition of his work, Lerer also was presented an Unsung Heroes Award by the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

'68

Legal Studies Professor **O. Lee Reed** of Athens, Ga., has been appointed to the Robert W. Scherer Chair in Public Affairs in the Terry College of Business at

the University of Georgia. He also holds a UGA appointment as a Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor, resulting from his 1996 selection for the Meigs Award, the university's top teaching honor. Reed, who earned his law degree from the University of Chicago, joined the legal studies faculty at UGA in 1972.

'72

Wayne Morse Jr., a lawyer with Morse & Dolan P.C., was named a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, an honorary society



recognizing experienced litigators and trial counsel throughout the United States. The society is composed

of less than one half of 1 percent of American lawyers.

'74

John B. Barnett III has been named president of BankTrust in Brewton. Barnett also is president of BankTrust in his native Monroeville, and will continue those responsibilities along with his new position.

Rev. James J. Jines III of

Graceville, Fla., was chosen by the Kiwanis of Florida as Clergy Person of the Year. Jines is senior pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Graceville. He also serves as president of the Graceville Kiwanis.

'75

Dr. Denise Ragland Shaw retired from UAB this past June, after 24 years on the faculty of the Department of Medicine. She has embarked on a second career at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., in the Center for Scientific Review, where she will organize peer review of research

grant applications in the oncological sciences. Living outside the Birmingham area for the first time ever, Shaw and her menagerie of three cats and two dogs now are settled happily in Germantown, about 15 miles north of Bethesda.

'77

Dr. Kenneth Friday of Indian Springs received the prestigious Fellowship Award from the Academy of General Dentistry at its annual meeting this past June



in San Diego. To receive this award, Friday completed 500 hours of continuing dental education,

passed a comprehensive written exam, and fulfilled three years of continuing membership with the academy. News of this significant accomplishment came to us from **Ann Barr Friday '54**, who is proud mother to Kenneth Friday, and also to **Lea Ann Friday Strickland '84** and **Rev. Patrick Friday '91**.

'78

William A.B. Dowell of Birmingham, president of Vision Financial Group Inc., is a life and qualifying member of the Million



Dollar Round Table and has qualified for 2007 "Top of the Table" status, recognizing

his exceptional professional knowledge, client service, and ethical conduct. MDRT President Philip E. Harriman commented, "Attaining any membership level in MDRT is a distinguishing career milestone achieved by less than 1 percent of our industry's professionals around the world. Recognition as a Top of the Table member is reserved for a select few like Bill who have proven they are the 'best of the best.'"

'79

In November, BSC's **Dr. Lester Seigel** and wife **Jane Sisson Seigel '80** were discussion leaders at the first meeting of the new

McWane Science Center Book Club in downtown Birmingham. Both presented incisive commentary on *Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain* by *New York Times* best-selling author Dr. Oliver Sacks, whom *NYT* has called "the Poet Laureate of Medicine."

This past October, **Kenneth Watson '79**, a longtime performer with the Alabama Symphony Orchestra and Opera Birmingham, debuted his new CD, *So Far ... A Piano Journey*, at the Mountain Chapel United Methodist Church in Birmingham. A graduate of the Julliard School, Watson has served as minister of music at several churches in the Birmingham area.

'81

Chris Bratton serves as president of the San Francisco Art Institute, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious schools of higher education in contemporary art. He formerly was dean of undergraduate studies at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. We were alerted to Bratton's role at SFAI by his former classmate, **Angela Tower Walker**.

Dr. Ronald MacBeth Jr. of Habersham Co., Ga., now is affiliated with Toccoa Clinic Medical Associates in northeast Georgia as an orthopaedic surgeon. MacBeth practices at an office in Demorest, but also will see patients weekly in Toccoa.

'82

Bona King Allen of Atlanta has been named corporate controller of NYLO Hotels. Most recently serving as founder and CEO of Montgomery Financial Services, he has had a 25-year career in corporate finance, accounting, and operations.

'83

Classmates **Bonita Gale Conley** and **Anthony Williams Jr.** both are seasoned professional musicians who travel widely, performing around the world. When the two perform together, they're known simply as "Conley and Williams." In November, the duo performed at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute's annual Fred L. Shuttlesworth Human Rights Awards Dinner, and treated the assembled company to a memorable gospel medley.



Leading with confidence—In its Sept. 14, 2007, edition, the *Birmingham Business Journal* profiled "Top Birmingham Women 2007" and named attorney **Ann Huckstep '75** "Businesswoman of the Year." As chair of the Executive Committee of the law firm Adams and Reese LLP, Huckstep leads a 300-attorney law firm with offices in nine cities. According to her *BBJ* profile, colleagues and associates, who work with her within her firm and who partner with her in her many community efforts, praise her "rare leadership ability," saying, "she's bright, conscientious, and competent," and "employs a management style that is inspiring not overbearing"—"she builds confidence."

An article in the Sept. 3, 2007, *Birmingham News* features the career of Birmingham attorney **Danny Feldman**, a tennis player during his years at BSC and, for the past 20 years, an avid cyclist. Feldman, as the article says, "has found a way to combine passion and profession," building a practice subspecialty representing cyclists. Feldman says, "My focus is helping injured people, but I'm also concerned about advocacy issues." Feldman's wife is **Mary Anne Averyt Feldman** (also a 1983 BSC graduate).

Courtesy, Bob Farley/f8photo.org.



How 'bout those Panthers!—**Chad Jones '88** of Austin, Texas, who is EVP and chief services officer for Grande Communications, recently enjoyed the BSC vs. Trinity University game in San Antonio with his children Trey, Hunter, and Meghan. Jones' wife is Isla Hunter Jones. His BSC family includes his father, the late **W. Chadwick Jones Sr. '63**; his mother, **Lady Bonds Jones '61**; and sister, **Dr. Lady Allison Jones-Farmer '90**.

How 'bout those Panthers? Are you enjoying the return of football to Birmingham-Southern? Send your best gameday photos and stories for 'Southern to Carol Hagood at chagood@bsc.edu.

'84

In July 2007, **Barbara Elebash Benson** of Marietta, Ga., was elected president of Atlanta's Capital Partners Certified Development Co., a nonprofit that provides real estate financing to grow small businesses. She has served with the company since 1995.

'85

Theodore Davis has served as organist and choirmaster at St. Batholomew Episcopal Church in Baltimore, Md., since 2005. The church now is celebrating the installation of a newly purchased restored pipe organ. Built in 1955 in Quebec by the Casavant Frères Co., and restored by the Baltimore firm David M. Storey Inc., the organ replaces a smaller instrument dated to the church sanctuary's 1931 construction.

Dr. William J. Roy Jr., medical director of Gyn Oncology at the Cancer Center located at Providence Hospital in Mobile, says the group now is able to offer area women advanced treatments

for gynecological cancer, "innovative procedures and protocols previously only available at the nation's leading medical centers."

'87

The Winston-Salem, N.C.-based financial firm BB&T Corp. has named **Burton J. McDonald Jr.** as its Birmingham city executive. McDonald is a member of the Birmingham Banking Group.

'88

Dr. Daniel Potts of Tuscaloosa spoke at the National Respite Care Conference in October, relating his experiences as a neurologist and as a caregiver to his father, who recently died of Alzheimer's disease. He also has spoken on this topic at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine, the UAB Department of Geriatrics, and other organizations around the Southeast. Potts is one of the few neurologists in the country chosen by the American Academy of Neurology to attend the 2008 Donald M. Palatucci Advocacy Leadership Forum. He

was nominated after speaking on behalf of caregivers of the chronically ill at the American Academy of Neurology meeting in Boston last May.

'89

Dr. Jennifer Root of Columbia, S.C., recently was elected vice speaker of the South Carolina Medical Association and first vice president of the South Carolina Society of Anesthesiologists. She balances professional activities with a growing family (see "Births") and reports that she is "staying busy!"

'90

After working as an attending physician at Methodist Hospital in Dallas for the past five years, **Dr. Daniel Lee Garrison** is taking a sabbatical in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he plans to live for a year with partner Steven Moore, learning Spanish, volunteering, and hopefully working as an internist. He is looking for BSC contacts in the area.

'92

Kerry McInerney, a partner with the Birmingham-based Sirote Permutt law firm, was honored Oct. 13, 2007, in the 2007 Komen Birmingham Race for the Cure as "Outstanding Race Chair," raising the greatest amount of money for the breast cancer cause and enlisting the most team members. His team, "Team Kate has Hope," was named in honor of his wife, **Hope Cogen McInerney '93**. The couple lives in Mountain Brook with their two young daughters. He is the son of **Lester Seigel '79** and **Jane Sisson Seigel '80**.

Brian S. Romine, CPA and CHFP, is a member in the healthcare reimbursement practice at Birmingham's Warren, Averett, Kimbrough & Marino Wealth Management LLC. He specializes in providing healthcare entities such as hospitals, nursing homes, and home health agencies with services including cost reporting, reimbursement consulting, intermediary audits, and settlement negotiations.

'93

Ellie Dees has been a sales associate with Sotheby's Realty in Bridgehampton, N.Y., since 1999. This summer, she was listed in the July 2007 *Robb Report* for a record-breaking sale of a home near the ocean in Sagaponack, N.Y.

An article in the July 1, 2007, *Birmingham News* profiled Birmingham's **Fred Smith**, a realtor for RealtySouth and, on weekends, an accomplished sailor. Smith recently participated in the Iron Man Regatta through the Birmingham Sailing Club.

BSC on the magazine stand

The next time you scan those shelves of colorful periodicals, you may see BSC graduates' editorial and marketing skills on display. An increasing number of our alumni are finding careers helping readers explore leisure and lifestyle topics in the pages of their favorite magazines.



Courtesy, Hoffman Media LLC.

Catherine Hamrick '80 of Birmingham is managing editor of *Victoria* magazine. A favorite of many readers when it was published from 1987 to 2003 by Hearst Corp., the magazine recently relaunched in a joint venture of Birmingham's Hoffman Media LLC and Hearst. According to Hoffman's Web site, the publication is "created for all who love the timeless appeal of romantic fashions, heritage linens, charming homes, gracious gardens, unique decorative touches, and all that is beautiful in life."

Melissa Brown '05 has worked for the new magazine *flower*, based in Birmingham, since fall 2006, after a few years at local *Portico* magazine. The new *flower*, Brown says, "is the first magazine of its kind about flowers and flower arranging, intended to appeal to flower lovers from the novice to the professional. Each issue contains how-to articles; weddings, balls, and galas with superb floral décor; profiles of the people who make floral magic here and abroad; and [other pieces showing] how flowers makes a difference in our lives."



Courtesy, flower magazine.

As managing editor, Brown works closely with editor and founder Margot Shaw on all aspects of magazine production, from scheduling photographers and writers to editing copy and writing articles of her own for each issue. She says she enjoys going to work not knowing exactly how the day will unfold, and finds that the spontaneity within the structure keeps it interesting. "Working for *flower*," Brown says, "definitely helps me tap into my creative side and call upon my skills as a writer that were honed by the fine English faculty at BSC."

Mimi Hardin Brown '02, owner of antiques business *Chez Mimi* and an antiques dealer at Birmingham's *Peck and Hills*, also is manager and head designer for the local firm *Wildflower Designs*, which creates floral arrangements for parties, events, and photostyling. She shares her design knowledge with the readers of *flower* in a column called "Mimi's Mechanics" and does other freelance writing and photostyling for the magazine. Brown also has begun doing speaking engagements and stage demonstrations for the publication, and will be appearing at the Southeastern Flower Show in Atlanta in January, and possibly the Festival of Flowers in Mobile in March.

Brittany Miller '03 of New York is associate manager of integrated marketing for *Golf Digest*, *Golf World*, *Golf for Women*, and *Golf Digest INDEX*, collectively the Golf Digest Publications. Her role with these publications is to work with the group's advertising partners to create multi-platform, integrated marketing programs. From large-scale sweepstakes to intimate golf outings, she creates programs that make use of the publications' best assets to fulfill advertising partners' marketing goals.

Miller provides this snapshot of each of her titles: *Golf Digest* is "the No.1 golf publication, a one-stop service that gives the reader the full spectrum on how to play, what to play, and where to play." *Golf World* is "where readers, writers, and players connect—it takes the reader inside the game to an extent no other publication can." *Golf for Women* is "the ultimate destination magazine for women who embrace the game and the sophisticated lifestyle of golf." And *Golf Digest INDEX* is "about a player's best time, experiencing the game, and the golfing life at its peak."



Courtesy, Golf Digest Publications.

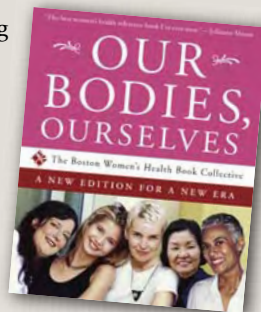
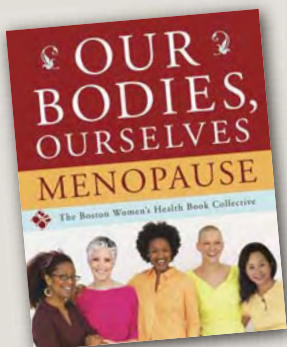
AlumNews '95

Amanda Buck Varella '95, a Boston attorney, has been elected chair of the board of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, the nonprofit organization that publishes the well known health book *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. According to the group's Web site, www.ourbodiesourselves.org, "For over 35 years, *Our Bodies, Ourselves* has provided readers with indispensable information on women's health and sexuality. The 2005 [eighth] edition, *Our Bodies, Ourselves: A New Edition for a New Era*, includes updated medical information, anecdotes from a diverse group of women, and informed perspectives on the emerging health issues that affect our lives." The group also publishes *Our Bodies, Ourselves: Menopause*.

Varella says, "I became involved with OBOS through my law firm, Brown Rudnick. I grew up in a household in which my mother, **Jacqueline Carrell Buck '67**, an alumna as well, was the executive director of the Red Cross, first in Decatur, and now in Montgomery. As a result, I was particularly aware of the important work that nonprofits do, and wanted to use the skills I'd developed as a lawyer as a volunteer.

"OBOS's mission is bringing accurate, evidence-based information to women around the world. What I hope to accomplish is to help OBOS expand its core audience

beyond the group of women who first read the book in the '70s and supported all of the later editions. OBOS is one of the best-selling women's health references of all time, but many women my age and younger have never heard of it. We're hoping to start changing that with the new book on pregnancy and childbirth, which is due out in March."



David Precise is employed at UAB as the benevolent fund manager, raising funds from UAB employees for more than 150 nonprofit organizations and for UAB employees in crisis situations.

During the past 18 months, **Dr. Jason Shumake** has been a Humbolt Fellow in Germany. He has published several key papers in the neuroscience of a particular model of depression and is co-primary investigator on a recently won multimillion-dollar grant for the lab at the University of Texas at Austin where he did graduate and postgraduate work and where he will return this January.

'98

Dr. Robert Carl "Trey" Baird III, an orthopaedic surgeon with Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine in Mobile, has begun an association with D.W. McMillan Memorial Hospital and Encore Sports Medicine. He now will see patients once a week at Brewton Medical Center.

Anna Marie Banks Cash is an attorney for the District Attorney's office in Jackson, Tenn.

'94

Scott Berte is a member of the 2007-08 class of Leadership Birmingham, a group which also includes Dr. Kathleen Murray, BSC provost.

Todd Green received his doctorate in the history of Christianity at Vanderbilt University last summer. He will serve as an adjunct professor at Vanderbilt Divinity School for the spring 2008 semester.

'95

Kathryn Callaway Daniel '95 and husband **Jason Mark Daniel '96** moved to Cullman in January 2007. She owns and operates a professional organizing business called Simplified Spaces, and he is a psychotherapist with Alabama Psychiatric Services.

'96

Karen Willner Rogusz of Suwanee, Ga., received a master's degree in gifted education from the University of Alabama and is teaching sixth-grade social studies in Fulton County Schools.

'97

On Nov. 4, 2007, friends of **Dane Peterson** gathered at the Women's Clubhouse on Highland Avenue for an elegant "Opening the Curtain to New Stages" party, to wish the veteran Birmingham actor, director, and teacher "bon voyage" in his move to New York to pursue his acting career. While Peterson explores new possibilities in the Big Apple, the Dane Peterson Theatre Series he created here in Birmingham will be in the care of its second artistic director, Janelle Cochran.

'99

Jason Matthew Angelichio was promoted to manager of the Tax Department at Tidwell Dewitt LLC, a regional accounting firm headquartered in Birmingham.

Hunter Manasco is a speech-language pathologist, specializing in autism and neurogenic communication disorders, and is nearing completion of his Ph.D. at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. He recently authored a book on behavioral management

BSC artists in exhibition: Two from Florida

Two BSC art alumni now residing in Florida maintain busy careers in teaching and exhibition.



Artist **John Lytle Wilson '99** returned to the BSC campus to present his exhibit "Sweet Calamity!" in the Durbin Gallery from Nov. 2-30, 2007.

Wilson also has had solo exhibitions at the Oglesby Gallery, Pelican Place, and the Airport Gallery in Tallahassee, Fla. His work has been included in juried exhibitions including Birmingham Artwalk and the Magic City Art Connection in Birmingham and the Southeastern Juried Exhibition at the Mobile Museum of Art, as well as in national and international juried shows in Atlanta; Charleston, S.C.; Rocky Mount, N.C.; and Tallahassee. For more details and many examples of his striking artwork, check his Web site www.johnlytlewilson.com.

Animals and robots are often the subject matter of Wilson's paintings. According to his Web site, he chooses animal and robot imagery "as stand-ins for traditional human subject matter. These also allow me to explore issues like consciousness, free will, and mortality."

Wilson, who received an MFA in Studio Art from Florida State University in 2004, currently is an instructor at FSU and at Valdosta State University and artist in residence at 621 Gallery in Tallahassee.

Joanna White '02 of Cocoa, Fla., who holds an MFA in Studio Art from Florida State University, is a full-time art instructor at Brevard Community College in Melbourne. She also serves as program coordinator for the school's Art Department, which offers approximately 24 studio art courses each semester and enrolls 500-650 students annually.

White's own artwork was the subject of two solo exhibits earlier this year. In January, Atlantic Center for the Arts in New Smyrna Beach, Fla., hosted her first solo show *Frowning in the Mirror*. In April, the Brevard Art Museum in Melbourne mounted her second solo exhibit *Joanna White: Recent Work*. Additionally, one of her pieces was included in the Texas National, a national juried exhibit held in Nacogdoches, Texas, in June and July. Her work was chosen



from more than 400 entries submitted by artists across the United States.

Last year, White's work was included in several national juried shows in New York, Massachusetts, and California, as well as two regional juried shows at the Tampa Museum of Art and the Boca Raton Museum of Art. The exhibits were juried by curators from the Museum of Modern Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Museum of Fine Art Boston, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian Institute, and the High Museum of Art.

This year, White served as one of two jurors for an international juried exhibit *Stretching Threads* held at the Atlantic Center for the Arts' Harris House Gallery in New Smyrna Beach. The April exhibit drew hundreds of entries from across the globe, including Germany, Canada, and Iceland.



of special needs children, entitled *The Way to A: Empowering Children with Autism Spectrum ...*, illustrated by his wife, **Katharine McElroy Manasco '97**. A simple workbook-style resource for teachers and parents, the work is receiving strong reviews. The Manascos also are rock musicians and have recorded with Daemon Records. This news was brought to our attention by Hunter Manasco's aunt **Carol Manasco Donahoo '59**, wife of **Dr. James S. Donahoo '59**.

Bill W. Payne, CPA, has been promoted to vice president at Daniel Island Mortgage in Daniel Island, S.C. Before joining the company in 2005, Payne worked as controller of a venture group for a private equity firm in New York.

Dr. Heather Phillips has joined the staff of Tennessee Medicine and Pediatrics as an internal medicine and pediatrics physician. She will practice at Middle Tennessee Medical Center in Murfreesboro.

Rev. Melisa McMurry Saccucci, husband Timothy, and their two children have moved from Florence to the Northeast District of the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church. She is pastor at Gurley UMC, and he is pastor at Owen's Cross Roads UMC. Daughter Elisabeth and son Andrew are enjoying their new school and daycare. Their mother reports that she is glad to be close to family and old friends and is hoping to get back in touch with some "BSC roots."

'00

Mary Catherine Anthony of Birmingham showed her work at the Amanda Schedler Gallery's

AlumNews '99

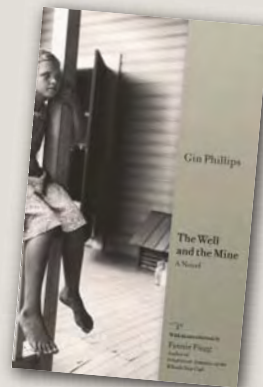


Ginny Phillips '99 graduated from BSC with a degree in political journalism, and during that time, received a 1997 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship on Social Activism in Women's Religious Communities in Ireland and Thailand. Now she is a freelance writer. Her articles have appeared in *American Profile*, *Preservation*, *Woman's World*, *Platinum*, and *Frontier Airlines* magazines. Her interviews have included James Carville, George Stephanopoulos, Dee Dee Myers, Sally Ride, Hamilton Jordan, and John Cleese.

Phillips' first novel, *The Well and the Mine*, will be published by Hawthorne Books in March 2008. Set during 1931 in a North Alabama coal mining town, it follows one family after the youngest daughter sees a woman throw a baby down the family well.

Advance reviews of the book have been very strong:

- from Vicki Covington, Birmingham author of *Gathering Home* and *The Last Hotel for Women*: "If you've been waiting for a new voice to rise from the South, here it is. Gin Phillips is the real thing. Her novel, *The Well and the Mine*, is a stunning triumph: haunting, lyrical, a portrait of the southern family, a story of the human predicament."
- from Dr. Peter Donahue, BSC associate professor of English, author of *Madison House* and winner of the Langum Prize for Historical Fiction: "*The Well and the Mine* weaves the multiple voices of a Depression-era family into a tale that's both tragic and affirming. Gin Phillips evokes the coal mining country of rural Alabama—its poverty, racial tensions, and labor loyalties—with startling vividness. Like a Gee's Bend quilter, Phillips stitches tradition, color, and necessity into every sentence of this superb first novel."
- from Fannie Flagg, author of *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café* and *Daisy Fay and the Miracle Man* (who provides the introduction to *The Well and the Mine*): "When you close the book, you'll miss these characters. But *The Well and the Mine* doesn't just give you characters who'll stay with you—it gives you a whole world."



2nd annual 12 Best Contemporary Artists of Alabama exhibition.

B. Christopher Hardin has accepted a position as an assistant professor of acting, voice, and movement in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn. In addition to teaching classes, he also is responsible for curriculum development for the theatre major (performance emphasis), for directing one production per year,

and for serving as vocal and movement coach for all departmental productions.

Dr. Morris "Butch" Roebuck Jr. has joined Birmingham's Southview Medical Group PC at St. Vincent's professional office building, where he is practicing internal medicine.

'01

Ansley Collins continues to work as a Trajectory Operations Officer (TOPO) in Mission Control at

NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. She currently is the Lead TOPO for the Expedition 16 crew, who are living aboard the International Space Station for six months through April 2008. As Lead TOPO, she is responsible for planning the International Space Station trajectory with NASA's international partners during this time.

Robert Dunn has joined the NorthRiver Yacht Club in Tuscaloosa as tennis director.



'05 Mini-Reunion features California fun—During the 2007 Labor Day weekend, four AXO pledge sisters from the Class of 2005 reunited in Los Angeles for some holiday fun. *From left to right: Katie Pellerin, Ingrid Sheaffer, Kristen Prince, and Sarah Sullivan* strike a pose in the California Adventure theme park at Disneyland.

Pellerin, who lives in Birmingham, and Prince, now in New York, traveled to L.A. to visit Sullivan, who is enrolled at the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, and Sheaffer, who works for *US Weekly* magazine.

Todd Ginn has been named head coach of men's basketball at Gadsden State Community College. He has served the school as assistant coach since 2004.

Mitch Robinson is pursuing a doctoral degree at the University of Geneva. He holds master's degrees in international law and international relations from the University of Edinburgh and the University of Wales, respectively. For two years, he taught American Society and Culture at Tsinghua University in China.

'02

Optometrist **Dr. David Cole** of Cullman has begun seeing patients Tuesday, Thursday, and by appointment, Saturday in the Moulton office of Dr. Robert Soulages. Cole is a recent graduate of the UAB School of Optometry and completed an externship at the Birmingham Veterans Affairs Hospital last year.

Kevin Faraci is performing with the national tour of *The Wedding Singer*. Faraci has a contract with the show through June 2008.

Michelle Damweber Harmer holds an MBA from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins College and is manager of investment analysis at Servant Investments LLC in Orlando, Fla.

Dr. John David Reed has begun a family dental practice in Huntsville. He holds a degree from the University of Alabama School of Dentistry, and recently completed a general practice residency at the University of Mississippi Dental School in Jackson.

Daniel Seigel won second place in the Rose Palm-Tenser Competition of the Mobile Opera Guild in May 2007. He has been contracted for roles in Mobile Opera's upcoming productions of *La Traviata* and *Andrea Chenier* for the 2007-08 season. Last season, he appeared in leading roles for Baltimore's Harbor Opera in *The Old Maid* and *The Thief and Trouble in Tahiti*. This fall, he is a guest artist at LeMoyne College in Syracuse, N.Y.

In spring 2007, **Joshua South** returned to Birmingham to perform in Alabama Operaworks' Virginia Samford Theatre



"On my honor, I will try..."—BSC alumna **Lesley Searcy MPPM '07** is taking the Girl Scout oath and gearing up to lead thousands of Alabama girls and their adult leaders in the ongoing adventure of Girl Scouting. As of Nov. 1, 2007, four existing Girl Scout councils—the Cahaba, Cottaquilla, North Alabama, and Tombigbee—were merged to become the Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama, headquartered in Birmingham. Searcy was chosen to be CEO of this newly created council, which will serve over 18,000 girls in 36 counties in the northern half of the state.

Searcy comes to the Girl Scouts from Cornerstone Schools of Alabama in Birmingham, where she has been the executive director since 2002. She has more than 14 years of experience in nonprofit and political affairs and communications, and has worked in general management, communications, strategic planning, financial oversight, and sales, marketing, and customer service.

Donna Smith, president of the board of directors for the Cahaba Council, says, "This is a great day for Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama. We start[ed] operations Nov. 1 with a new name and a new CEO. These are exciting times. The Girl Scout organization is very proud of the work it is doing in a diverse environment committed to meeting the needs of girls—the hallmark of the Girl Scout organization for over 95 years."



Photos courtesy of the Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama.

production of *Iolanthe*. Local critic Michael Huebner praised his "droll portrayal of Strephon." After his return to New York this summer, South played softball in the historic Broadway Show League, as part of the "Spring Awakening" team.

'03

Matthew Thomas Caine of West Columbia, S.C., received a master of music degree in both choral conducting and vocal performance from the University of South Florida. He is pursuing a doctorate in choral conducting from the University of South Carolina, where he is teaching Introduction to Music and assisting the director of choral activities. He also serves

as director of music at Grace United Methodist Church in Columbia.

Anna Donaldson and **Alexa Jones** are appearing as morning news anchors on Birmingham's WIAT, CBS Channel 42.



Donaldson
Courtesy, WIAT.



Jones

Last summer, **Nikki Elliott** completed a 28-week training academy with the Frederick, Md., Police Department and joined the force in July.

Robert H. "Bo" Harris II has completed the LLM in Taxation program at the University of Miami and has accepted a job as an associate with the law firm of Christian & Small LLP in Birmingham.

'04

Amy Woods Barnett of Gardendale received her master's degree in Spanish education from UAB in August. She is employed at Spain Park High School in the Hoover City Schools district.

Stephanie Houston Mays of Birmingham has joined Maynard Cooper & Gale PC in the firm's labor and employment practice group. She is a graduate of Samford University's Cumberland School of Law.

Laura Latham Wood was awarded a J.D. degree with honors from Drake University Law School in Des Moines, Iowa, this past May. She practiced juvenile law for the Middleton Children's Rights Center under Iowa's Student Practice Rule during her final year of law school. She and husband Neil have now located to Nashville, where she plans to practice family or juvenile law.

'05

Emily Kathryn Hunter graduated from the University of Memphis with a master's degree in city and regional planning, focusing in the areas of economic development and transportation. She has accepted a position with the Tennessee Advisory Commission

on Intergovernmental Regulation, preparing publications and presentations on fiscal affairs for the Tennessee State Legislature.

Emily Laborde is an art consultant for the NaPua Gallery at Maui's Grand Wailea Resort, Hotel & Spa in Hawaii.

Matthew Nickerson of Raleigh, N.C., completed his master's degree in acoustical engineering at Pennsylvania State University.

'06

Anna Fuller has enrolled in studies at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, W. Va.

Lisa Glenn currently is teaching technology to grades 8 and 9 at McAuley House School in Johannesburg, South Africa, while completing a degree in human rights and democracy in education on a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship. In December, she will hike more than 500 miles from Johannesburg to Durban, South Africa, to raise funds for HIV/AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children. More information is available online at <http://rotaryaids hike2007.googlepages.com>.

Trey Tatum, a theatre alumnus, is a scholarship student in the prestigious Actor's Studio graduate playwriting program at Pace University in New York City. Last spring, he established a Web site for emerging playwrights at www.brassringwriting.com. The site features podcasts on various topics in playwriting, with a style that, according to BSC Professor of Theatre Dr. Alan Litsey, a regular participant on the site, is "a kind of 'Car Talk' meets academia—a salad of informal humor and academic context."

'07

Jordan Amirkhani is interning at the Birmingham Museum of Art in the areas of volunteer coordination, education, and curatorial development.

Stefan Bourgoon is attending Florida State University pursuing a doctoral degree in marine biology.

Mattie Coats is teaching English communication at Kodolanyi College in Hungary.

Clay Foster is attending medical school at the University of Alabama, and **Kelly Frey Foster** is attending veterinary school at Auburn University.

Sean Hollis is pursuing a doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Mississippi.

Anna Katharine Meegan was awarded a full scholarship to law school at the University of Alabama.

Casey Ragsdale of Brandon, Miss., is teaching at River Hills Tennis Club, where she works with her father, Jim Ragsdale, who is a tennis pro at the facility.

Brittany Bross Reid has enrolled in the UAB School of Dentistry.

David Scoville is pursuing a doctorate at Vanderbilt University.

Farley Lord Smith of Washington, D.C., who minored in environmental studies at BSC, has taken a job with Seaweb, "a communications-based nonprofit organization that uses social marketing techniques to advance ocean conservation. By raising public awareness, advancing

science-based solutions, and mobilizing decision-makers around ocean conservation," she says, "the group is 'leading voices for a healthy ocean.'"

Abha Soni is enrolled at the UAB School of Public Health, where she says she is learning a lot and assuming a leadership role. She plans to apply to medical school next year.

Megan Grace Wimberley is living in rural Japan, near Kyoto, and working as an assistant English language teacher. She also participates with her students in sports days and festivals, and recently introduced her fellow faculty and students at Nishiazai Junior High School to an American custom by throwing them a Halloween party.

MPPM

'93

Sandy W. Wright has joined Whitney Bank of New Orleans as senior vice president and director of treasury management and commercial payments for the bank. Her responsibilities include product development and management, sales management, marketing, external business development, and internal promotion. She most recently served as senior vice president and national sales director for commercial depository/treasury management at Regions Bank in Birmingham.

'94

David Donaldson, director of community and government relations programs for Vulcan Materials Co., is the new chair of the Nature Conservancy's

Alabama Board of Trustees. Donaldson joined the group's board in 2005.

Friends

Bryson Edmonds, a member of the BSC Board of Trustees, has been promoted to vice president of process sales for Birmingham firm BE&K's engineering and construction group.

In August 2007, **Dr. Belon D. Friday** was inducted into the Marion County Sports Hall of Fame based on his record as an outstanding player of high school basketball, softball, baseball, and football. A United Methodist minister for 60 years, Friday holds an honorary doctorate in humanities from BSC. His wife is **Ann Barr Friday '54** and his children are **Dr. Kenneth Friday '77**, **Lea Ann Friday Strickland '84**, and **Rev. Patrick Friday '91**.

Marriages

Sarah Elizabeth Wilder '85 and Tommy G. Olsen, Aug. 18, 2007.

Dr. William Michael Wall '88 and **Melanie Jane Miller '90**, Aug. 25, 2007.

Jean Bailey '89 and Zeph Webster, Sept. 24, 2007.

Kacy O'Brien '89 and Kevin Francis Donlon, Aug. 19, 2007.

Laura Underwood '95 and John Bodenmann, July 20, 2007.

Julieanna Dufek Edwards '96 and Donovan Eric Brandino, Sept. 26, 2007.

Karen Willner '96 and Paul Rogusz, June 9, 2007.

Laurie Allen Walker '97 and Marco Butturini, July 2, 2007.

Anna Marie Banks '98 and Michael Cash, Oct. 20, 2007.

Sabrina White '99 and Andrew Davis, Oct. 21, 2006.

Justin Barrett Lamb '00 and **Kristen Diane Kurtts '05**, Aug. 11, 2007.

Laura Elizabeth McGahey '01 and Charles Martin Van Pelt, Aug. 11, 2007.

Dr. Mary Margaret Whatley '01 and Wade Lancaster Whatley, Sept. 8, 2007.

Michelle Damweber '02 and Deryck Harmer, Oct. 13, 2007.

Matthew Tyson Parrish '02 and **Lindsey McCabe Thomas '02**, Aug. 4, 2007.

Dr. Linsey Steadman '02 and Timothy A. Williams, Aug. 18, 2007.

Dana Jo McArthur '03 and **Thomas Lars Porter '04**, Dec. 2, 2006.

Amanda Lorene Wilson '03 and Raymond Lee Delchamps, Sept. 8, 2007.

Gretchen Noelle Deutsch '05 and Shaun Timothy Krisher, Sept. 16, 2007.

Matthew Nickerson '05 and **Jessica Smith '06**, June 26, 2006.

Marae Bernard '06 and Zachary Shewmaker, June 1, 2007.

Brittany Elizabeth Bross '07 and Kaleb Allen Reid, June 2, 2007.

Kelly Lynn Frey '07 and **Clayton Lee Foster '07**, April 27, 2007.

Tara Lynne Hamann '07 and Joshua Gallimore, Sept. 15, 2007.

Elizabeth Farley Lord '07 and Owen Smith, Aug. 4, 2007.

Births

Twins, daughter Harper and son Vaughn, June 21, 2007, to **Dr. Jennifer Root '89** and husband, Dr. Forest Evans (big brother, Finley).

A daughter, Margaret Claire "Maggie," Oct. 26, 2007, to **Chris Baldone '90** and **Missy McInnes Baldone '92** (big brother, Matthew Christopher).

A daughter, Emory Graysen, Aug. 28, 2007, to **Richard Pittman '90** and wife, Dana (big sister, Lauren).

Twins, son Wilson "Wright" III and daughter Molloy Staton, April 17, 2006, to **Laura Leigh McManus '93** and husband, Wilson (big sister, Clara Grace).

A daughter, Anna Margaret "Maggie," May 14, 2007, to **Dr. Lauren Hawkins Batson '94** and husband, Thomas (big brother, Jack).

A son, William Jeffries, June 15, 2007, to **Sarah Parker Scaffidi '95** and **John Michael "Jake" Scaffidi '96** (big brother, Matthew). Proud grandparents are **R. Michael Parker '68** and **Trudy Jeffries Parker '69**.

Other relatives include aunt **Jennifer Parker Gauld '98**; great-grandmother **Mary Ruth Franklin Jeffries '43**; and the late **Dr. William Worthington Jeffries '35**, great-grandfather.

A son, Hagan Tobias Taylor, June 29, 2007, to **Tesha Garcia-Taylor '95** and husband, Toby Taylor (big sister, Catherine).

A son, Joshua Lewis, April 4, 2007, to **April Lewis Arendall '96** and husband, Ty (big brother, William Mullins).

A son, Judson Michael, Aug. 9, 2007, to **Laura Cammack Eanes '96** and husband, Michael.

A daughter, Maggie Ruth, Aug. 9, 2007, to **Dr. Michael Greenwood Lawley '97** and wife, Jan (big sister, Hannah Kate).

A daughter, Kathryn Wynn, March 7, 2007, to **Patrick Strubel '97** and wife, Kathryn.

A daughter, Evelyn Karen, June 21, 2007, to **Dr. Dan Haggstrom '99** and wife, Maureen.

A daughter, Susanna Caroline, Oct. 1, 2007, to **Reed Haigler Hoppe '99** and husband, Mike.

A daughter, Taylor Grace, May 3, 2007, to **Steven William Hughes '99** and **Beth Wiggins Hughes '01**.

A daughter, Bryn Evelyn, Nov. 26, 2006, to **Chelsea Hull Larson '99** and husband, Kyle.

A son, Brandon, July 20, 2007, to **Jessica M. Mattes Sobat '99** and husband, Mark Senn.

A son, Logan James, Dec. 23, 2006, to **Allison Graden Hawley '00** and husband, James.

A son, Wilson Branscomb, June 28, 2007, to **Allison Head Pace '01** and **William Wilson Pace '01**.

A daughter, Journey Simone Katrice, July 25, 2007, to **Dana Hawkins Smith '01** and husband, Victor.

A son, William Reid, Sept. 5, 2007, to **Erin Kendrick Stephenson '01** and husband, Scott.

A daughter, Bailey Edith, June 16, 2007, to **Melanie Stutts Williams '02** and husband, Scott.

A daughter, Claire Alexandra, Sept. 17, 2007, to **Jillian Anne Greer Fried '05** and husband, Carl.

A daughter, Frances Ellen, Sept. 25, 2007, to **Sara Coleman Nowell '05** and husband, Judson. Proud aunts are **Evelyn Coleman '03** and **Katie Coleman '08**.

In Memoriam

Loraine Varnon Stuart '29 of Crumley Chapel died June 30, 2007. A graduate of Montevallo, she received a master's degree in education from Birmingham-Southern. She was employed with the Jefferson County school system for 44 years, including 30 years as a principal.

In Memoriam Friend



H. Bert Hallock of Palm Beach, Fla., died July 10, 2007. Born in Rocky Ford, Ga., and raised in Dallas, Hallock came to Palm Beach in 1950 as associate conductor and business manager of the Apollo Boys Choir. During the choir's years in Palm Beach, some 26 boys at any one time, along with Hallock, lived in several Palm Beach landmark homes including the P.A.B. Widener House, Ill Palmetto, and Casa Della Porta. While the choir toured the United States for one month

in the fall and spring of each year, and had summer voice camps in North Carolina and Connecticut, their winter residence was Palm Beach.

In addition to his responsibilities as accompanist and choir manager, Hallock was very active in the cultural life of Palm Beach and had a rich history of philanthropic giving alongside his lifelong friend and business partner, Apollo Boys Choir founder **Coleman Cooper '34**, a graduate of Birmingham-Southern. Locally, Hallock championed Palm Beach Opera from its earliest days, serving over the years as a full-time volunteer and treasurer, and donating the building in which their offices are housed. He helped establish and fund the Olive Bryan Cooper Vocal Scholarship for aspiring singers and served for nearly 20 years as chair of the Palm Beach Opera Vocal Competition, annually contributing the first prize for the senior division. He was a member of the Society of the Four Arts, the American Guild of Organists, and the Flagler Museum.

Beyond Palm Beach, much of Hallock's charitable giving was focused on Birmingham-Southern and the Birmingham Museum of Art. Together with his partner, Cooper, he commissioned and had installed at the college a recital organ from Casavant Frères of Montreal, established the Olive Bryan Cooper Organ Scholarship and the Coleman Cooper Endowed Scholarship in Fine and Performing Arts, and made significant contributions to the Hugh Thomas Endowed Professorship. Hallock and Cooper also made generous gifts of invaluable performance opportunities to BSC students, including the "St. John Passion" and the "Lord Nelson Mass."

They also made generous donations to the Birmingham Museum of Art. "It was always a pleasure to have Bert drive up from Florida to attend a meeting or event at either the Museum or his much beloved Birmingham-Southern," said Gail Andrews, the R. Hugh Daniel Director at the Birmingham Museum of Art. "He was a kind and gentle man who made friends wherever he went and remained loyal and devoted to those friends throughout his lifetime. A love of art and music filled his life with joy and contributed to his vitality and love of learning."

Hallock also made a personal impression on BSC president Dr. David Pollick. "Beyond the facts and accomplishments of our lives, it is left to time to mark the achievements. Bert Hallock understood what it meant to be fully human and what was expected of such an achievement." A former choir member, Dr. Bob Walker of Atlanta, remembered what struck him most about Hallock. "Bert simply wished that everyone could know the joy he received from giving."

Dr. Lewis C. Branscomb '33 of Columbus, Ohio, died in October 2005.

Harvelle Benjamin "Vic"

Goodwin Sr. '33 of Hoover died Aug. 21, 2007. After attending BSC, he graduated from Howard College (now Samford). Retiring from a career in the post office in 1947, he began a business that became Goodwin Oil and Tire Co.

Rosamond A. "Rosy" Shaw '37 of Trussville died Aug. 19, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II. An insurance adjuster for General Adjustment Bureau in Orlando, he later owned Parliament Lane Adjusters in Vestavia Hills.

Mildred Bernard Watson '37 of Birmingham died Aug. 28, 2007. A graduate of Randolph-Macon Women's College, she received a master's degree in Latin from the University of North Carolina and did further graduate work at BSC and Columbia University in New York. A teacher in the Birmingham Public Schools, she was later headmistress of the Brooke Hill School in Birmingham between 1947 and 1951. She helped edit and publish two suburban newspapers, the *Shades Valley Sun* and the *East End News*.

J.B. DeLapp '38 of Milton, Ga., formerly of Birmingham, died Dec. 26, 2006. During World War II, he served in the Army Quartermasters Corps. Following the war, for more than 50 years, he managed country clubs in the Birmingham area, including Mountain Brook, Vestavia, Altadena, and the Birmingham Athletic Club. He was married to the late Faith Russell DeLapp.

James Gilbert Johnston '38 of Birmingham died Sept. 17, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Air Force with

the 340th Bombardment Group. With a master's degree in forestry management from Duke University, he was chief forester for Woodward/Mead Corp. and served on the board of directors of the Alabama Forestry Association.

Dr. William Emory Lawrence Sr. '38 of Birmingham died Sept. 21, 2007. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and the U.S. Air Force and received the WWII Victory Medal. With a medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine, he practiced medicine in the state of Alabama for more than 50 years. He was a member of the medical staff of St. Vincent's Hospital, and served as staff president in 1977. He also was past president of the Jefferson County Medical Society.

John Thomas Nixon '38 of Mountain Brook died July 24, 2007. After attending BSC, he graduated from Auburn University and later did graduate work at the School of Mortgage Banking at Northwestern and at the Senior Executives Conference of New York University. He was a veteran of World War II and received the Legion of Merit. He was vice president of Collateral Investment Co., and vice president and director of New South Federal Savings Bank. Survivors include wife **Ellen Reese Nixon '38**.

Myrtle Marie King Crowson '39 of Mexico Beach, Fla., formerly of Birmingham, died Oct. 6, 2007. She served as a science teacher at Bessemer High School, a research scientist for Southern Research Institute in Birmingham, and a microbiologist for the Alabama State Department of Health.

Robert B. Currie '40 of Scotch Plains, N.J., died Sept. 30, 2007. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the U.S. Navy as an

electronics specialist. After graduating from BSC, he pursued a graduate degree in chemistry at Purdue University. He was employed as a process chemist for Merck & Co. for 35 years.

Mae Elizabeth Van Love Maynard '40 of Hueytown died July 3, 2007. She was a loving mother and grandmother and a founding member of Garywood Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school for many years.

Florence Earle Throckmorton Daugette '41 of Gadsden, formerly of Birmingham, died in August 2007. During World War II, she taught for four years in the Birmingham school system. In 1948, she moved with her family to Gadsden, where she has since been deeply involved in civic, cultural, and church affairs. She also was a director and chair of the board of Life Insurance Co. of Alabama, founded by her husband in 1952.

Dr. David Lawson Massey Jr. '43 of Birmingham died Oct. 18, 2007. After attending BSC, he graduated from the University of Alabama and the Atlanta Southern Dental College (now part of Emory University). A veteran of World War II, he served as a dentist in the U.S. Army Air Corps. After the war, he practiced dentistry in Birmingham until his retirement in 1984.

Madelyn Rogers Poole '44 of Birmingham died Aug. 22, 2007. She attended Athens College, Birmingham-Southern, and the Birmingham Conservatory of Music. For decades, she was pianist and musical director at UAB's Town and Gown Theatre, working with Birmingham's leading performers, and also with visiting artists from the Broadway stage, television, and Hollywood.

Walter F. Cornelius '49 of Birmingham died Sept. 16, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II and was awarded the Pacific Theater Victory Medal. After graduating from the University of Alabama School of Law with honors, he practiced law in Birmingham for more than 50 years. He was active in community and church affairs and was a strong supporter for groups including the Shelby County Humane Society, the Brother Bryan Mission, and the Alabama Wildlife Center. Survivors include wife Lenora Black Cornelius.

Lent W. Stewart '49 of Birmingham and Alexander City died July 13, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II. He was employed by Mayer Electric for more than 42 years and then spent many of his retirement years at Lake Martin.

John R. "Jack" Lucas '50 of Birmingham died Aug. 22, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II. After attending Birmingham-

Southern, he graduated from Notre Dame University and had a career in insurance and financial consulting. Survivors include wife Mary Ann Lucas.

Walter Wharton "Ward" McIntyre Jr. '51 of Mountain Brook died July 20, 2007. While serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict, he wrote, produced, and announced a radio show at Fort Dix, N.J., beginning a long career in broadcasting. On his return to Birmingham, he worked extensively in radio and television and was perhaps best known for his role as "Bozo the Clown" on the popular children's show from the '60s. He retired from WBHM in the mid-'90s after almost 50 years in broadcasting.

Charles Harris Armstrong '52 of Jefferson City, Tenn., died Aug. 29, 2007. After receiving his degree from BSC, he pursued graduate studies at Emory University. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea. A geologist, he retired from U.S. Steel (now USX Corp.) after 31

years of service. He was active in both professional activities and in a wide variety of civic and community affairs, particularly in support of education, the Jefferson City Library, and scouting. Survivors include wife **Dr. Anne Collier Armstrong '59**.

William Alexander McGregor '54 of Arcadia, Calif., died June 7, 2007. Following graduation from BSC, he served in the U.S. Army as an intelligence specialist. After training in Baltimore, he completed his Army service in California. Later, he and wife **Joyce Self McGregor '53**, whom he had met when both held part-time jobs at *The Birmingham News* during their high school years, chose to make their permanent home and raise their family in California. He was a pharmaceutical sales representative for Abbott Laboratories for 30 years and enjoyed many community activities, particularly youth sports.

In Memoriam Friend



Mary Lou Hornstein Yeilding of Birmingham died July 26, 2007. After graduating from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, she served her country during World War II in the U.S. Navy WAVES Division. While serving, she met and married the late **Lewis Milton Yeilding '26**, who was then a Navy lieutenant. Following the war, the two moved to his hometown of Birmingham, where for many years, she was a vibrant member of the community, contributing to many civic and cultural organizations.

Among the groups which benefited from her involvement were the Women's Society of Christian Service at Canterbury United Methodist Church, the Birmingham Girl Scout Council, the Alabama Symphony Orchestra Board, United Way, and the Alys Stephens Center.

She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, and friend.

Survivors include son **Richard B. Yeilding '73**, president-elect of the BSC Alumni Board. In addition to her late husband, other BSC connections in her immediate family include her late son **Thomas Milton Yeilding '69**. Her extended family includes many loyal BSC alumni.

By request of the family, memorials may be made to Yeilding Chapel at Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 549050, Birmingham, AL 35254.

Gayle B. Wadsworth '54 of Arab died July 3, 2007. He was a retired supervisor for Boeing. Survivors include wife Catherine Strunk Wadsworth.

John P. Perusini '55 of Vestavia Hills died Sept. 23, 2007. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Navy in the European Theater. A businessman in the Homewood area, he was the owner of Shades Valley Real Estate for more than 50 years. Survivors include wife Beryl D. Perusini.

Gladys Weatherbee Berry '56 of Huntsville, formerly of Birmingham, died Oct. 6, 2007. She was a graduate of the University of Alabama and Birmingham-Southern, and was retired from the Birmingham Board of Education after 25 years of service.

Rev. J. Howard Marks '56 of Birmingham died Oct. 10, 2007. He was a graduate of the Emory University School of Theology and served as a pastor in the United Methodist Church for 35 years. His wife was the late **Corrine Woodall Marks '66**.

Sally Saxon Gray '57 of Indialantic, Fla., formerly of Sylacauga, died July 30, 2007. Survivors include husband **James E. Gray '57**.

Mary Jewell Taylor Reynolds '58 of Birmingham died Nov. 4, 2007. She was retired after more than 40 years of service as a teacher with South Georgia, and later, Birmingham City Schools.

Dr. Gerald L. Dickerson '59 of Santa Rosa Beach, Fla., formerly of Birmingham, died July 31, 2007. He was a graduate of the University of Alabama Dental School with a postgraduate

degree in periodontics, and enjoyed a long and successful career as a periodontist in the Birmingham area, holding various offices in the Birmingham District Dental Society. He also served in the U.S. Army as a captain in the Dental Corps. Survivors include wife **Charlene Purvis Dickerson '59**, son **Gerald Lee "Jerry" Dickerson Jr. '83**, and daughter **Kathryn Dickerson "Kathy" McDuffie '85**.

Andrew Jones Duncan '59 of Birmingham died May 3, 2007. Survivors include wife Margie Duncan.

Margaret Abercrombie Holt '60 of Leeds died April 30, 2007. She was a retired teacher at Leeds High School. Survivors include daughter **Mary Holt Williams '64** and son **Rev. William Thomas Holt '73**.

Paul Edison Hyde '69 of Alexander City died Oct. 31, 2005.

Joseph W. Shelton '79 of San Francisco died Sept. 4, 2007. After four years in the U.S. Air Force, during which he served in Texas, Germany, Iceland, Alaska, and England, he attended Jefferson State Junior College and Birmingham-Southern. He campaigned for the Birmingham City Council in 1981 on a platform of creating a mass transit system in Birmingham. More recently, he worked with the homeless and on issues of homelessness in San Francisco.

Friends

Dr. Barbara Lester of Birmingham died Aug. 13, 2007. She was a professor emeritus of sociology at Birmingham-Southern, having taught on the Hilltop for 21 years.

Alice Ragsdale Norton of Bessemer died July 6, 2007. She was educated at the University of Alabama and the New England Conservatory, majoring in organ and keyboard. One of her first jobs as a musician was playing piano background for silent movies. A piano teacher for many years, she was the pipe organist at First United Methodist Church of Bessemer for 75 years. *By request of the family, memorials may be made to the Alice Ragsdale Norton Scholarship Fund at Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 549050, Birmingham, AL 35254.*

Lester E. Potts Jr. of Aliceville died Sept. 15, 2007. Survivors include son **Dr. Danny Potts** and daughter-in-law **Ellen Woodward Potts**, both 1988 graduates of Birmingham-Southern.

Rev. Dr. Ernest Davidson Ridgeway of Montgomery died Oct. 16, 2007. He was a minister, deacon, and elder in the United Methodist Church and served in the Alabama-West Florida and Central Alabama conferences. Survivors include wife Leverta Stringer Ridgeway.

William Archibald Roberts of Mountain Brook, formerly of Eufaula, died Nov. 2, 2007. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served as the youngest bank president in the history of Alabama at First National Bank of Eufaula. He also served as president of United Alabama Bankshares, vice

chairman of First Bank Group Holding Co., and was on the board of directors for AmSouth Bank and MidSouth Bank of Eufaula. He also was CEO and owner of Roberts Enterprises, an investments/capital ventures business. Throughout his life, he served in leadership roles in a variety of civic and community organizations. Survivors include wife Lisa Roberts. *By request of the family, memorials may be made to the William Archibald Roberts Scholarship Fund at Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 549050, Birmingham, AL 35254.*

Dr. James Louis Willie of Birmingham, formerly of Dallas and Ft. Worth, died Sept. 16, 2007. He spent the largest part of his career at Booker T. Washington Insurance Co., founded in 1923 by Dr. A.G. Gaston Jr. He also served as vice president and secretary of Citizens Federal Savings Bank and as executive vice president and, later, chair of the board of Booker T. Washington Broadcasting Service. A key figure in the history of Birmingham business, he was named to both the Birmingham Business Hall of Fame and the Alabama Business Hall of Fame. His contributions to civic affairs, community service, and charity work were equally wide-ranging and significant. Among his many honors, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws from Birmingham-Southern College. Survivors include wife Yvonne C. Willie.

Keep in touch with your friends at BSC—

Your classmates and other friends in the Birmingham-Southern community are always happy to learn about the exciting events in your life—marriage, the birth of children, or advancement in your career. The passing of fellow alumni is a loss we all share as well. You can send news for the ClassNotes section of 'Southern magazine through www.bsc.edu/alumnet or, if you would like, directly to Carol Cook Hagood '70 at chagood@bsc.edu.

The *world* is *their* classroom

BSC educating students to serve their community

BY SARA DOUGHTON '04, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE BUNTING CENTER AT BSC

You may have seen the billboards around Birmingham: "452 students coming to change the world." These signs not only celebrate BSC's largest incoming class ever, but also reflect the school's continuing commitment to educate students for an ethical purpose.

Now that is a rather large goal. But as any good liberal arts student will tell you, context is everything—and our context is Birmingham. For students, faculty and staff, this is our home, our community.

Whether through exploring the history of the civil rights movement or through learning about wildlife at Ruffner Mountain, different areas of the college affirm their commitment to Birmingham in unique ways.

One of the most distinctive and apparent ways Birmingham-Southern faculty, staff, and students can engage with their city is through participation in service-learning opportunities. The Office of Service-Learning at Birmingham-Southern, now the Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action, began over 20 years ago as a way for students to encounter different cultures and life experiences. The office has evolved to include alternative spring breaks, ongoing local projects, and a small but growing number of classes that include a service component.

Now, thanks to the support of Dr. Peter and Derry Bunting, even more students will engage in course-based service-learning, allowing them to more fully integrate their work in the community with academic inquiry. In addition to furthering course objectives, service-learning in the classroom encourages BSC students to think critically about their choices and values, and how these are connected to and shaped by education. The Buntings' generous gift also reflects and facilitates the

increasing emphasis on action and engagement.

During the 2006-07 academic year, approximately 250 BSC students got involved with service-learning and volunteered more than 2,000 hours locally. This doesn't include the hundreds of additional hours these and other students gave through social groups, residence hall activities, or honors organizations.

Most of these students worked through our ongoing projects, which include partnerships with First Light Women's Shelter, Urban Kids at Urban Ministry, and Woodrow Wilson Elementary, our partner in education for the past 12 years. Students tutored in elementary and high schools, worked with neighborhood revitalization programs, and screened underserved children for vision problems. These are impressive numbers, but they don't necessarily reflect the most important gains.

At this point, two decades after the program's implementation, we have an even greater need for learning opportunities founded on relationships with people from other walks of life. Ironically, as our world grows smaller, we seem to have less time and space for truly authentic encounters with diversity. Suburbs, interstates, gated communities, and e-mail mean we have to make more of an effort to bridge divides, which is exactly the opportunity that service-learning experiences provide.

Whether through conversations with the patients they visit at Oak Knoll Skilled Nursing, or the men and women who come to learn English and transition to a new culture at International Tutoring, students have the opportunity to make connections that are revelatory, authentic, and transformative. From this encounter, students must add critical



Doughton

reflection in order to truly learn from their experiences.

Whatever the situation, the synthesis of theory and experience helps shape students' thinking about themselves, their world, and their place in the world.

This transformation of self is what I've seen and experienced, both as a student and staff member. I've watched as these students who are our future leaders, begin to consider the social and political structures that shape people's realities. As they develop and refine their values and beliefs, people who are frequently on the margins of society—the elderly, the homeless, the mentally ill, and children and adults living in poverty—become essential parts of the communal experience, and how they are treated becomes the standard by which we judge how we're doing as a society.

Combine that worldview with the knowledge and critical-thinking skills gained through their studies, and whether they're in Birmingham or Boston or Bangladesh, BSC students and graduates are poised to change their own communities—and our world.



Another prospective student?—The new Admission Welcome Center at Birmingham-Southern is so warm and inviting, that once you visit, you will not want to leave. (But that's what it's designed for, although we're sure that this visitor has more important things he needs to be doing this time of year.) The college's new 'front door' to campus is making quite an impression on prospective students, parents, and other visitors from, well, as far away as the North Pole. So, next time you are on the Hilltop, drop in and see what all the buzz is about. But when you visit, we prefer that you drop in through the front door.

Photo by Billy Brown.

BSC Birmingham-Southern College

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