

Samford University

# Seasons

Fall 2009

**Homecoming**  
Nov. 6–8

**Arts and Sciences  
Newsletter**  
Pp. 21–28

# fall features

## 4 Summer Dig at Sepphoris

Samford religion professor James Strange and six students spent a month excavating Sepphoris, the First Century capital of Galilee three miles from Nazareth. The professor and his students share a picture of life on a summer dig as they painstakingly unearth a picture of the town as it was in Roman, Byzantine and Medieval times.



## 8 Studying Western Tradition

At the heart of Samford's new University Fellows Program is a four-semester sequence on the Western intellectual tradition. "Ancient Rome sits at the foundation of that tradition, and Renaissance Rome is the pivot point," says Fellows director Chris Metress. The first group of Fellows traveled to Rome to examine the remains of these cultures firsthand.



## 10 Presidential Homes

Samford presidents have entertained students, faculty and other university friends in their homes over the years. Drs. Andy and Jeanna Westmoreland, the current First Family, especially enjoy welcoming groups to their home atop Shades Mountain, with its stunning view of the Samford campus.

## 30 Alumni of the Year

Carolyn Robinson '60 and her husband, Michael '61, will be recognized as Alumni of the Year, and Eric Motley '96 as Young Alumnus of the Year, at homecoming Nov. 6–8. Learn more about the honorees in these profiles.

2 From the President

33 Homecoming Plans

3 Samford Report

37 Religion Growing in Cuba

15 Q-and-A: Alyson Hood

38 Class Notes

16 Great Work Place

42 Births

17 Encouraging Academic Success

43 In Memoriam

18 40-Year Perspective

44 Sports

20 Bomber Boys

46 With Appreciation

21 Arts and Sciences Newsletter

47 Founders Circle

29 Adventures in Music

48 Calendar



Cover: Students arrive for an ice cream party hosted by Samford President Andy Westmoreland and his wife Jeanna (left). The annual event is part of Connections for incoming freshmen and transfer students.

The Trustees, Faculty and Students  
of  
Howard College  
request the honor of your presence  
at the Inauguration of  
Leslie Stephen Wright  
as  
Sixteenth President of the College  
Tuesday, the twenty-first of April  
Nineteen hundred fifty-nine  
at ten o'clock in the morning  
Birmingham, Alabama

Mementos from Samford's Special Collection adorn rooms of the president's home on Shades Mountain, such as this framed copy of the engraved invitation to Leslie Stephen Wright's 1959 inauguration. See story on page 10.

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# ‘A friend loveth at all times...’

Many of us first learned this text from Proverbs as early as our preschooler days; our experiences testify of the truth of this scripture as we have enjoyed relationships with men and women who have celebrated with us in good times and stood alongside us in times of trouble.

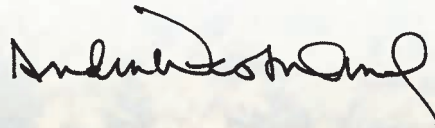
We also have lasting relationships within our Samford University family as graduates, employees, students, parents and others have allowed this institution to capture our hearts and inspire our devotion. From one generation to the next, many have supported Samford with their prayers and with generous gifts.

This fall, we are establishing the Samford Founders Circle with 62 charter members to honor individuals who have shown support for the university for at least 35 years. In every case, these are friends who have known Samford for most of their adult lives. As evidence of their commitment, they have joined together to give more than \$17 million to build and sustain

Samford’s mission. As we spoke of the Samford legacy to a new generation of students in the Opening Convocation, we highlighted these stories of steadfast support.

My sincere desire is that Samford will continue to be a community of faith and learning that inspires steadfast loyalty through enduring friendships, vigorous scholarship and faithful service.

As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.



Andy Westmoreland  
President

*Please see page 47 for coverage of the Founders Circle celebration.*



## Mike Coppage Heads Samford Public Safety

Former Birmingham Chief of Police and Alabama Director of Public Safety Mike Coppage was named Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management at Samford, and began his tenure July 29. He was Birmingham police chief during 1998–2003 and Alabama public safety director during 2003–06, and is a 37-year law enforcement veteran.

Alabama Governor Bob Riley said Coppage’s “leadership and management skills were invaluable to the State of Alabama when he served as director of the Department of Public Safety,” and added, “Samford University is blessed to have him.”



Mike Coppage

Samford Vice President for Operations and Planning Sarah C. Latham said Coppage’s appointment came following a national search to replace former Director Bobby Breed, who retired earlier this year.

“Mike Coppage was the ideal choice for our university,” said Dr. Latham. “He brings with him a wealth of experience in the fields of law enforcement and emergency management. In addition, his managerial style and leadership philosophy are a wonderful fit.”

Coppage began service with the Birmingham Police Department in 1974 and advanced steadily through the ranks to the department’s top spot. He served in the U.S. Army as a military police officer and criminal investigator during 1970–74.

Coppage holds master of public administration and bachelor of science in criminal justice degrees from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and an associate of arts degree in law enforcement from Jefferson State Community College. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., and its National Executive Institute.

He completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. ■

## Samford Gets Major Grants to Help Ease Shortage in Nursing Educators

Samford University’s Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing received two major federal grants totaling \$389,781 this summer aimed at helping to ease the national shortage in nurse educators. The school received \$183,661 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in July, and another \$206,120 from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in August.

Both grants went to the Nurse Faculty Loan Program [NFLP] at Samford. The NFLP addresses a critical shortage in qualified educators to teach in nursing schools, according to Dr. Jane S. Martin, associate dean for graduate programs in the nursing school.

Students who receive the loans for master’s or doctoral degree programs can have up to 85 percent of the loan waived in exchange for service as a full-time nursing faculty member at a school of nursing.

The loan money received this summer will enable Samford to fund 40 students in master’s or doctoral programs this year, said Martin.

“The NFLP is intended to ease the nurse faculty shortage, and we can see the results already with some of our 2009 graduates,” Martin said. “This is a very exciting opportunity for the school of nursing.”

Samford has offered master’s degrees in nursing since 1995 and added a doctor of nursing practice degree in 2006, graduating its first class this year. The school was one of the first 55 in the nation to receive NFLP funds from the Department of Health and Human Services when the program began in 2002, and its grant amount has increased each year as its nursing program has grown, Martin noted.

The nursing faculty shortage is felt even at schools such as Samford with strong academic programs, she said.

“We constantly are looking for highly qualified faculty who can enhance our graduate nursing programs,” she

said. “These grants allow many highly qualified students to pursue the graduate education they need in order to teach at accredited nursing schools.”

According to a 2007 survey by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, there was an average of 2.2 faculty vacancies per school of nursing, and about 86 percent were positions requiring or preferring a doctoral degree. The nursing educator shortages impact a school’s ability to admit qualified applicants, Martin said.

The loans also have a positive impact for Samford because many of the university’s graduates return to teach and work in underserved areas, such as Alabama’s historic Black Belt region, she noted. That fits with Samford’s commitment to community service and its Christian mission.

To date, Samford has received more than \$817,000 in federal grants to assist its graduate nursing students. ■

For more information, go to [www.samford.edu/nursing](http://www.samford.edu/nursing).



Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate Carol Ratcliffe, left, confers with nurse Debra Goswick at St. Vincent’s East Hospital.



Left: Samford student Ruthie Wilkerson wets a mosaic in Sepphoris to make the colors stand out for photography.  
Below: A mosaic of the basilica in Sepphoris depicts fish native to the region.

## Excavating the Story of Sepphoris,

The Muslim call to prayer wakes me. The voice of first one, then another, and finally a third muezzin floats through the open windows of my hotel room in downtown Nazareth. This will be my alarm clock for the next four weeks. In a few minutes, my father, the dig director, will knock on my door and all the others of our crew, as he has done every summer for nearly 40 years. I will sing out “Good morning” to let him know I’m already up.

It’s 3:55 a.m.

We start and end early to beat the heat. The afternoon temperature will be a few degrees cooler than the June weather in Birmingham, but the sun is relentless here, and the arid breezes draw moisture out of the body with such stealth that by the time our diggers feel thirsty, they’re already dehydrated.

Down in the dining room, I greet the few members of our crew who are already gathered for “first breakfast.” I greet sleepy people sipping coffee and nibbling at their food. In the old days, this meal consisted of bread and jam with bad Israeli Nescafé. This year, they really spoil us at the Hotel Galilee: those who want it get a fresh cappuccino every morning. I want it.

At 4:30 a.m., we load the vans and drive northwest of Nazareth to arrive at the dig site just as the sky begins to lighten. Atop a hill overlooking the lush

Beit Netofa Valley and a scant three miles from Nazareth sits the ancient site of Sepphoris, the capital of Galilee in the first century CE. To get here, we follow a highway that runs near the route that once connected the villagers of Nazareth to markets in the big city. During their ministry, Jesus and his followers must have gone around the hill on which Sepphoris perches, for the gospel writers never mention its gleaming walls despite that they surely were visible for miles in all directions. Nevertheless, I suspect that Sepphoris shows up in Jesus’ aphorism that a city on a hill cannot be hid, and in other teachings that feature Pharisees and Gentiles, busy street corners, market places and hypocrites (the Greek word for actors). On the other hand, the Jewish historian Josephus called Sepphoris “the ornament of all Galilee.” I believe him. We also know the names of many rabbis from Sepphoris, and one of the most famous, Judah “the Prince,” spent the final years of his life here while completing the Mishnah, the collection of legal reasoning that forms the core of Judaism’s two Talmuds.

Jesus and the rabbis will come to my mind often over the next weeks. But for now, we park, collect our gear, and trundle off to gather tools for the day’s work. It’s 5 a.m., and the dig day has begun.

This summer marked the first Samford Summer in Israel, which is affiliated with the University of South Florida Excavations at Sepphoris. Tommy Archer (political science),



# SUMMER

Shade cloths at right of photo cover a nearby area being excavated by Hebrew University.



# ‘The Ornament of All Galilee’



Above: The Samford archaeology group visits the site of Megiddo, called Armageddon in the Book of Revelation. The group includes, from left, Aaron Carr, Anna Wilgus, Caroline May, Dr. James Strange, Tommy Archer, Ruthie Wilkerson and Jack Wilgus. Left: Sunrise in Sepphoris, the start of another workday.

Aaron Carr (religion), Caroline May (sociology), Ruthie Wilkerson (classics), Anna Wilgus (religion), and Jack Wilgus (English) flew from homes in Alabama, Georgia and Texas to dig and travel for four weeks in Israel. Carr obtained an Alabama Power grant to do research at Sepphoris; he will continue to work with me back in Birmingham.

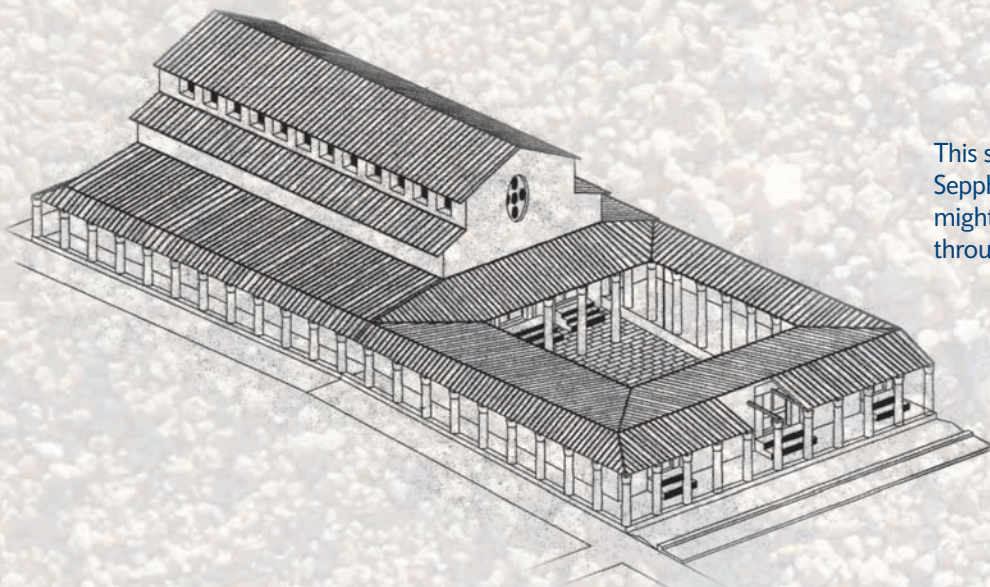
Samford students learned excavation, recording, and drawing techniques, and they became skilled at reasoning about soil layers and material culture. Many were selected to be assistant area supervisors. One wrote a weekly report for his square. Another registered pottery, and I could hear another instructing volunteers in proper excavation techniques. Banter across the balks kept spirits high, and laughter lightened the work.

Ongoing excavations at this site have reshaped the way that scholars think about the land that gave birth to two of the great world religions. Our dig has a part in that new vision, yet these four weeks, we are focused on a rather narrow set of questions.

Since 1991, we have been digging in a single city block measuring 40 by 60 meters at the intersection of Sepphoris’ two major streets. Our excavations have led us to conclude that we’re uncovering a single building that occupied the entire block. It probably went up as part of Herod Antipas’ rebuilding program after he inherited the ruined city (Sepphoris had revolted in 4 BCE after the death of Herod the Great and

# r in Israel

by James Riley Strange



This sketch shows how the basilica at Sepphoris, a municipal building, might have looked in the first through early fourth centuries.

the Legate Varrus had crushed it with typical Roman ruthlessness). In the third century, bright colored mosaics were laid in the western part of the building. In the eastern half, we find evidence that colonnaded porticoes surrounded an open courtyard.

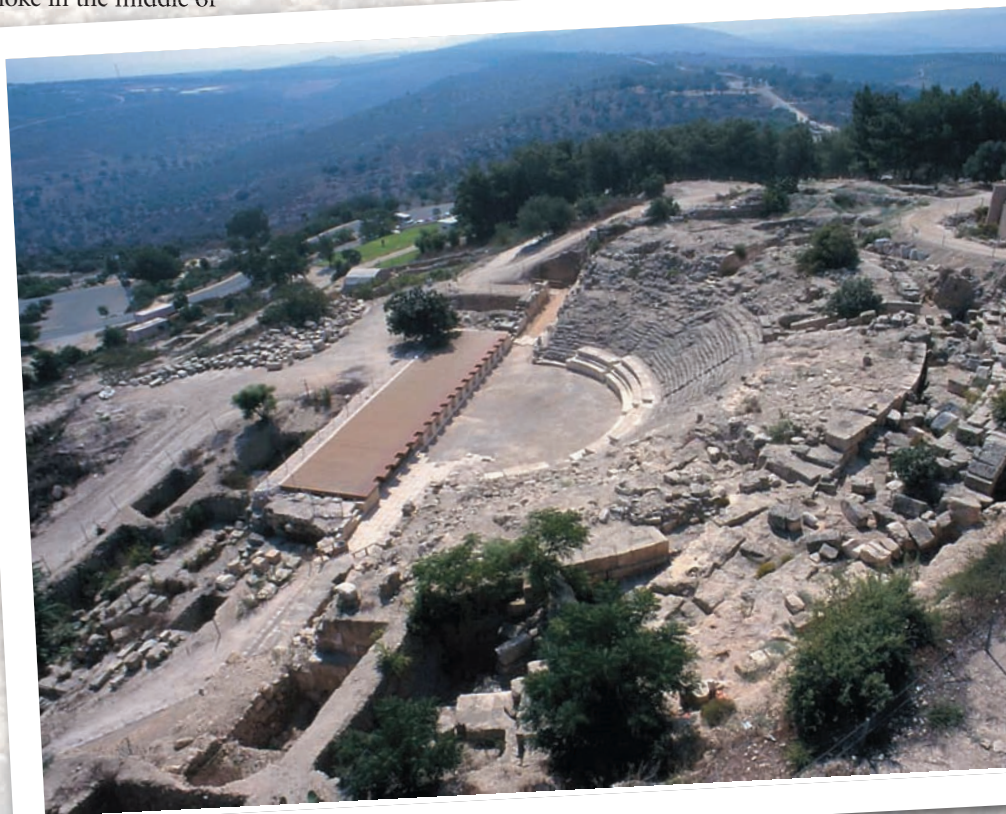
When the building was destroyed in the fourth century, people of the Early Byzantine period almost immediately dismantled this eastern courtyard right down to bedrock, and then they installed industries that required furnaces. We find evidence of glass blowing all over the place in this area: broken glass vessels, pieces of crucible, glass cullet (raw glass), ash, charcoal and the glass furnace itself. We wonder what happened to Sepphoris' municipal government that it allowed clouds of smoke in the middle of downtown.

This use and reuse of space tells us something about shifting power structures in the city, as well as changes in aesthetics. But it also frustrates our ability to prove that we're dealing with a single structure, for a piece of the southern exterior wall is missing. Did the Byzantines so thoroughly remove it that we can find no trace, or are there really two buildings here?

Among the Samford crew, Carr, Wilkerson and Anna Wilgus

worked in areas designed to get answers to this problem. Archer, May and Jack Wilgus helped clarify the picture of Roman use, and Byzantine and Arab reuse of the space. Leiser Watkins, who completed her GIS Certificate at Samford in the fall of 2008, worked on mapping the site digitally. In all areas, we reached the same conclusion: we need to come back next year.

So we will come. Some students plan to return, drawn by the archaeology and by the experiences of walking the streets of Nazareth, visiting sites in the Galilee, driving Israel's green hills, floating in the Dead Sea and praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. We will recruit a new group of students to learn about digging and to experience Israel for themselves.



Roman theatre at Sepphoris.



Far left: Samford student Jack Wilgus examines excavation site.

Left: Basilica mosaic at Sepphoris.



daily life in ancient Galilee. The best archaeology is done by all sorts of people, and we are always looking for more.

The day passes surprisingly quickly: lunch, nap, pottery reading on the roof of the hotel, dinner and lecture occupy most of the day after we knock off digging at 12:30 p.m. After the lecture, I see our students with their area supervisors working on locus sheets and tracing top plans for tomorrow. Some are calling family and friends on Skype. On Fridays, we will celebrate the beginning of the Jewish Sabbath with a brief service called kiddish, and we'll stay up a bit later.

But now it's 8:30 p.m. on a weeknight—12:30 p.m. in Birmingham—which means it's bedtime. I call my wife and daughter to hear the day's news, tell them I miss them and say goodnight. I fall asleep to the sounds of traffic rising from the street outside. Soon enough, I will hear the muezzin. ■

*Dr. James Riley Strange is assistant professor of religion at Samford University.*

*Samford Summer in Israel includes the course RELG 393 Field Methods in Archaeology (4 credit hours). For more information about Samford Summer in Israel, contact Strange at [jrstrang@samford.edu](mailto:jrstrang@samford.edu) or 205-726-4543, or go to [www.samford.edu/schools/artsci/religion](http://www.samford.edu/schools/artsci/religion).*

*The USF Excavations at Sepphoris are directed by Dr. James F. Strange, distinguished professor of religious studies at the University of South Florida: <http://religious-studies.usf.edu/faculty/jstrange>.*

*Read the Samford Summer in Israel blog at <http://samfordsummerinIsrael.blogspot.com>.*

*Visit the USF Excavations at Sepphoris at <http://usfatsepphoris.com/index.html>.*

We also hope for lay people to accompany us, for these volunteers are the bread and butter of our dig. This year, one of our area supervisors is a legal assistant, and another is a stage director and actor. In past years, our trained staff has included teachers, a technical writer for software, a real estate agent and a termite exterminator with a high school education. These are the folks who will teach archaeology to Samford students and whose meticulous work allows us to draw conclusions about



The Samford group visited the Roman theatre at Beit Shean, with the Bronze Age tell, or earthen mound, rising in the background.

# Transformed

## University Fellows Discover Rome

by Sean Flynt



University Fellows visit the Galleria Borghese in Rome. They are, back of photo, Luke Ellenburg, and counterclockwise, Mary Nelle Hall, Amanda Cherry, Christopher Bloodworth and Jess Dunn. With the camera, right rear, is Andrew Toney.

**T**he standard curriculum of Howard College in its earliest years was typical in its emphasis on Latin, Greek, philosophy and ancient history. Howard's students were few in number but immersed together in the intellectual foundations of Western civilization. Classical thoughts and values appear to have flowed freely across disciplinary and generational boundaries.

Samford's University Fellows Program, created in 2008, leads exceptional modern students on a similar intellectual adventure. "At the heart of the Fellows Program is a four-semester sequence on the Western intellectual tradition," said Chris Metress, professor of English and director of the highly selective program.

"Ancient Rome sits at the foundation of that tradition, and Renaissance Rome is the pivot point," Metress continued. "We want our students to see themselves as active participants in that

tradition, as critical thinkers engaged with the most important and challenging ideas the West has to offer."

Samford includes in the Fellows curriculum something most of Howard's first students could only have dreamed of—the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of those who so powerfully influenced their world and education.

The first class of approximately 35 University Fellows traveled as a group to Rome for two weeks in May, seeing for themselves the remains of the cultures they studied in their first year at Samford. Whether veteran international travelers or overseas for the first time, the Fellows described transformative experiences.

### Lights On

Metress, Fellows Program Assistant Director Ashley Floyd, and Rome veterans Shannon Flynt and Randy Todd of Samford's Department of Classics helped the students navigate both the

modern city and its thousands of years of culture.

"Dr. Metress and the other professors were constantly reminding us of our lessons, challenging us to apply what we had learned when discussing events we maybe hadn't studied," said Fellow Aaron Carr.

Although the students had expert academic guidance, the trip was not intended to be a formal course. "They provided enough structure to prevent us from wandering aimlessly but gave us enough freedom to feel like real people," said Carr.

Deborah Rodriguez, on her first international trip, said the students made good use of their time and freedom. "The fact that we would all wake up early and show up ready to explore, even though our feet were swollen and sore, reflected out sincere desire to know and to learn and to grow," she said. Rodriguez, already an award-winning writer, was moved to poetry by sculpture

in Rome's museums (see "Spring's Tears," below).

Other students were awed by the rich intellectual history of the city. "It was as if the words of Livy, Augustus and others had jumped off of the pages of our books and were alive right in front of our eyes," said Larry McCutcheon.

Fellows explored some of the world's most awe-inspiring museums, architecture and archaeological sites, but they also simply had fun and absorbed Roman culture.

Carr enrolled in a gladiator school with Charlie Sanford and Metress, and recalls the experience as a highlight of the trip. "For two hours, the three of us stepped back into the world of Spartacus and Maximus," Carr said. "We even duelled each other with real armor—the weapons were fake—and Dr. Metress proved to be a little more spry than we thought."

Cappuccino lover Andrew Toney cited as his own highlight a rich sensory experience. "Best thing in the world—the taste of San Eustachio's coffee underneath the columns of the Pantheon," Toney said. "It was an experience I relived every night we were there."

He probably needed the caffeine, given the intellectual and physical space covered on a typical day. "We burned up our daylight hours visiting churches filled with masterpieces or walking in the shadows of the great remains of the Roman Empire," Toney said. "It was

literally breathtaking to stand atop both the Castel San Angelo and St. Peter's Cathedral in our free time, and take in probably one of the greatest views of history I have ever seen, greater even than any classroom or textbook could ever deliver."

Such moments inspired Metress, too, but for different reasons. "As a teacher, I enjoy seeing a student's reaction when the light goes on, when a new connection has been made or an idea has finally been understood," he said. "It's one thing to see it in the classroom, but it's another thing to see it happen on the Via Sacra in the Forum or in the necropolis beneath the Vatican."

## Transformed

The second class of 40 new University Fellows came to Samford in August. They join a Samford intellectual tradition stretching back to the school's founding and will follow their modern peers to Rome at the end of their third semester. Like McCutcheon, they will find that the university offers a unique view of the city. "Discovering Rome is magnificent enough in itself," he said, "but then to experience it with the amazing family I have at Samford made the trip unforgettable!"

According to Metress, the newly arrived Fellows "turned down offers from Vanderbilt, UNC-Chapel Hill, Davidson and Furman, as well as honors programs at Alabama,

Georgia and Tennessee" to enter Samford's program, "an honors experience to rival the best schools in the Southeast." Metress said as scholarship funds increase, more students will enter the University Fellows Program and more international experiences will help them connect to their world, past and present.

Judging from the first University Fellows experience in Rome, they will be transformed. ■

For more information, go to [www.samford.edu/fellows](http://www.samford.edu/fellows).

Visiting the Coliseum in Rome are, from left, Jacob Pate, Ben Jones, Annika Cousins, Jacob Lewis, Michelle McCorkle and Kelsey Boone.



## SPRING'S TEARS

POETRY BY UNIVERSITY FELLOW DEBORAH RODRIGUEZ, INSPIRED BY BERNINI'S SCULPTURE *THE RAPE OF PROSERPINA* (1622)

Through brittle tears she listens  
For three-hundred years  
She's listened  
Unsoothed by the lullabies  
Of tourist wonder  
And hushed approval  
At her screams  
And struggles  
And cries  
Reaching for salvation  
They watch her die  
Eyes like pomegranate seeds  
Ablaze, understanding;  
Where a dying man  
Ageless in his thawing flesh  
And aching bones  
Grins at his triumph,  
Remembering the tumult  
Of an unloving Fortune  
Now conquered  
Undestined  
To subjugation

He has made her a slave  
To his ambitions  
And now  
Eyes fading  
He has found peace;  
Where a shamed beauty  
Claws against addiction  
Tearing into her  
Like marble fingers piercing her skin  
Leaving her pained  
And branded  
Choking, she wails  
A tortured lament  
Growing cold  
She weeps  
Eyes to the sky,  
Screaming for deliverance;  
Where an immigrant mother  
Naked and terrified  
Hands herself  
To a lavish king  
A country crowned in bounty

Crying her farewell  
To the smells  
And sounds  
And memories  
Of ancestral lands  
She flings herself  
Into his arms  
That her children  
The gems of her eyes  
Now turned to tears  
May live;  
And there they wait  
Ears turned to the sky  
Longing for a goddess' reply  
While Ceres storms against Olympus  
Walking on the earth  
In search of a stolen daughter  
Freezing the sea  
And spilling desert  
With every step  
As she ceaselessly wails  
Against Spring

# Presidents' Homes

## Westmorelands Continue Tradition of Hosting Students, Faculty and Friends in New Official Residence

by Philip Poole



Guests enjoy a reception in the great room of the president's home on Shades Mountain.



President's home entrance.

**B**eautiful. Breath-taking. Those are just some of the words that are being used to describe Samford University's new president's home.

Samford President Andrew Westmoreland, his wife, Jeanna, and daughter, Riley, a Samford sophomore, moved into the house in early summer. They immediately began hosting Samford students, alumni, parents and friends in what some have described as the "perfect" house for Samford's official residence.

Situated atop Shades Mountain, the house has a panoramic view of the campus. The house was built in the mid-1950s as the campus was emerging on the opposite hillside and was patterned after an antebellum home in Natchez, Miss.

The house was extensively renovated and expanded to make it more functional as an official residence, and its functionality was tested immediately. The Westmorelands moved into the house in late May and hosted a June 1 reception for guests attending the annual meeting of the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities. In the next month, more than 1,000 other guests attended various events. Additional events in the late summer and through the fall were expected to attract thousands more.

Entertaining comes naturally to the Westmorelands. Even before Andy became Ouachita Baptist University's president in the late 1990s, the Westmorelands often had students and other university guests in their home.

"Having guests in our home is consistent with our upbringing," Jeanna said. "Andy and I both grew up in Baptist church parsonages, and that helped prepare us for living in institutionally owned homes."

Jeanna credits her Ouachita predecessors, Betty Jo Grant and Betty Lou Elrod, with helping her to "see how things are done" and being part of the formative experience of being a university president and first lady.

The new Shades Mountain house is the Westmorelands' second Birmingham home.

The attractively appointed library exudes a feeling of comfort.



When they arrived in 2006, they lived in a house in the Greystone area that had been donated to the university by trustee and alumna Jenna Knox Cassese and her husband, Joseph. Although it was not originally intended as a president's home, it fit the Westmorelands' family needs and was great for entertaining. During their first year at Samford, the Westmorelands hosted more than 6,000 guests at their home. It was, however, not easily accessible to the campus, and parking often was a challenge when large groups were involved.

Samford faculty member Rosemary Fisk first suggested the Shades Mountain house to Jeanna. Fisk, associate dean of Howard College of Arts

and Sciences, lives nearby and was aware that it was going to be for sale. During a Samford Faculty Women's Club event at Fisk's house, she suggested that Jeanna "check out" the house.

A committee already had been working with the Westmorelands to find a more convenient president's home. In December 2007, Samford's board of trustees approved purchase and renovation of the house as "the official permanent residence of the president of Samford University."



The Wright residence on Lakeshore Drive is now the site of First Baptist Church of Birmingham.

The Westmorelands worked with Birmingham architect Neal Davis and general contractor Gary Wyatt to develop plans for the house. Both had been involved with other Samford projects and understood the importance of maintaining the university's architectural integrity. The group looked at how the Greystone house was being used and what the Westmorelands' personal needs might be.

"We also tried to consider future use beyond when we no longer are at Samford," Jeanna said. Each bedroom has its own bathroom and large closet, making it adaptable for a large family or for the president to host overnight guests.

Jeanna was complimentary of the Davis and Wyatt staffs, as well as "many folks on campus" who were involved in the house project. She also had assistance from Nancy Jacks Brock in decorating the house. Brock's husband, Harry B. Brock III, is Samford's vice president for business affairs and was instrumental in negotiating the purchase of the house.

Many of the house's furnishings already belonged to the Westmorelands. Other furnishings and decorations came from the university's Special Collection with assistance from Elizabeth Wells, Samford's archivist. Throughout the house are gifts to the university, photographs and mementos from other Samford presidents, and art from the university's collection.

Tying the house to previous presidents continues an interesting tradition of official residences for Samford presidents. For many years, the president lived in his own house. When Harwell G. Davis became president in 1939, he and his family already owned a house on Essex Road in the Forest Park area of Birmingham. The house quickly became a gathering place for students because the Davises had children at the college who lived at home. They often hosted official events in the house, despite its distance from the East Lake campus.

As plans materialized in the early 1950s for the college's relocation to Shades Valley, a president's house was included in the campus master plan. The most often discussed location was on the hillside where the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library ultimately was constructed.

Funds had been provided for a new president's house from the estate of John W. and Marie Smith Inzer of Sylacauga, Ala. Dr. Inzer was a well-known Baptist pastor and former college trustee. Mrs. Inzer's will stipulated that proceeds from the sale of their property be used "to provide a president's home for Howard College as a contribution to Christian education and the kingdom

of God." For a variety of reasons, however, a president's residence on the campus did not materialize.

Davis first announced his intention to retire in 1954, but the campus relocation delayed his actual retirement until 1958, when Leslie Stephen Wright became president. Wright, his wife, Lolla, and their two teenaged sons moved to Birmingham and lived in temporary housing during the early months of his presidency. The December 1958 edition of the university's alumni magazine quotes trustee board chairman Frank Park Samford as saying a committee "gave consideration to the possibility of building a house on campus, but after a study of construction estimates, the committee determined that the space required for a president's house would be more nearly met by the purchase of an existing house than by building a new one on the campus."



The Corts residence on Overton Road.



Samford's campus as seen from the president's residence.



Drs. Andrew and Jeanna Westmoreland, right, welcome Samford faculty to a reception.



Dr. Westmoreland works in his study.



Among mementos of Samford history in the president's home is a metal statue of Samuel Sterling Sherman, the first president, collecting books in a wheelbarrow for the school library.

In 1959, trustees approved the purchase of a house at 112 Shades Creek Parkway (later Lakeshore Drive) near its intersection with U.S. Highway 31. The 1959 edition of Samford's yearbook, *Entre Nous*, includes a photograph of the Wright family in their new home.

The house was described as "a stately Colonial design." The two-story home included four bedrooms, a spacious living room and a large recreation room in the basement. The seven-acre tract included a guest-

house. The Wrights often entertained students and other university guests in their home. Its location less than one-half mile from the campus also made it convenient. The property eventually was sold by the university in 1984 to Birmingham's First Baptist Church.

In 1971, Mrs. Morris W. Bush deeded her house on Old Leeds Road in Mountain Brook, Ala., to the university. Trustees were told the house "has many advantages over the [Shades Creek Parkway] house occupied by President and Mrs. Wright. It is newer and of much finer construction. The rooms are much larger and far better suited to entertaining large groups of faculty, students and others. The grounds are beautifully landscaped."

Despite its distance from the campus, the Wrights continued to entertain university groups in the home. Before Dr. Wright's retirement, the university's trustees approved sale of the Old Leeds Road house.

When Thomas E. Cortes became president

and he and his family came to Birmingham in 1983, they moved into a university-purchased house on Overton Road in Mountain Brook. The house was well-suited for a family with three teenagers. Through the years, the Cortses often had university guests in their home, but the distance from campus and lack of adequate parking made it difficult to host large groups.

As Cortes' 2006 retirement neared, the board of trustees approved sale of the Overton Road house. About that time, the Casseses gave their house to the university in fulfillment of their pledge to "The Promise for All Generations" campaign. Rather than sell the house immediately, the Westmorelands opted to use it when they first moved to Birmingham in 2006.

Now, it appears that the university's official president's residence has come full circle. The Shades Mountain house was owned for many years by a former trustee, Dr. Dan Merck, and his wife, Barbara. Over the years it had been the Mercks' desire for the university to have the house. The timing finally was right in 2007, Jeanna said, and Mrs. Merck was a guest for a Samford University Auxiliary reception that was one of the first events hosted in the house in June 2009.

"Andy and I visited with Mrs. Merck when the decision was made to buy the house," Jeanna said, "and she was thrilled that her dream had finally come to pass." ■

*To see a photo album of Samford presidents' homes, go to [www.samford.edu](http://www.samford.edu).*

*Sandra O'Brien, assistant to the president, and Elizabeth Wells, Special Collection chair, provided research assistance for this story.*

# Cumberland Pro Bono Award Winner Believes in Giving Back to the Community

by William Nunnelley

**A**lyson Hood, a second-year student at Samford's Cumberland School of Law, received the Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Student Award for outstanding commitment to providing free legal services to the poor. She was honored at the annual meeting of the Alabama State Bar Association in July.

Hood recruited 30 volunteers last year to assist lawyers in a clinic providing legal assistance to the homeless, and helped coordinate their work in legal research and other services. She also volunteered 150 hours at the weekly clinic.

Hood, from Chattanooga, Tenn., talked about the value of the student pro bono program in this question-and-answer interview.

## What prompted your interest in pro bono work?

I became a member of the Cumberland Public Interest Project the first week of law school last fall. The project helps students find a niche in the community in which we can help. We learned the Baker Donelson firm was starting a new program to provide legal aid to the homeless and underprivileged. I thought I would enjoy working in that. After learning more about it, I volunteered to Judge [John] Carroll [the law dean] that I would be willing to help lead the program for students. He said that was a great idea.

## How does the pro bono program work?

About 10 or 15 Birmingham law firms are involved. The students go to the clinic on Wednesdays for a couple of hours to help the attorneys brief each client. We filter what a client's main legal problem is, and which attorney or firm could best help. One of the main things the students help with is further research and any other detail work.

## What situations did you encounter?

We dealt with cases ranging from criminal situations (fights with law enforcement) to outstanding parking tickets. We had domestic abuse cases, family law cases and often just sorted out confusion.

## What surprised you the most?

How much you can get people to care. There are so many lawyers, judges, etc.,

that give up hours upon hours of their time to help those who cannot help themselves. It was eye-opening to see how much a first-year law student could do. Working pro bono has taught me more than any textbook or classroom ever could have in this area.

## So this was a beneficial experience in terms of legal education?

Yes. The main benefit is the hands-on experience. You learn how to interact with clients and how to work with attorneys. The students became more open and understanding after leaving their bubble at Samford and working with people with actual legal issues.

## How hard was it to recruit 30 volunteers? How did you do this?

Recruiting was difficult. But once a few students got excited, the energy radiated. When a couple of volunteers began talking about how much fun they had and how much they learned, I started having e-mail after e-mail. I also explained how important it is to get involved in the community.

## What were your duties coordinating legal research and other services?

The firms taught me what they wanted done, and I was liaison behind the scenes. I recruited the students and put them in contact with attorneys and firms. If the students were unable to do their assignment because of school or a job, I picked up what they could not do. I also coordinated the full-day clinic in Boutwell Auditorium downtown.

## What was your most gratifying experience?

The full-day legal clinic. Cumberland students really made a difference in a lot of people's lives. They acted as lawyers as well as friends to the community. We had around five shifts of students working very effectively [on] a lot of complicated issues. Our students handled them with extreme professionalism. Students were going out of their comfort zones to accommodate clients.

## The most frustrating?

Making sure that all were doing what they were supposed to do. Law students are

extremely busy. But I am proud of our work. It is hard to say anything was significantly frustrating.

## Will you continue to do pro bono work at the law school?

Of course! I love this work. I have a lot of new ideas for the next two years.

## And after graduation?

Yes. The only way to better yourself as a lawyer, law student and person is to give back to the community. One of the most gratifying experiences you can have is to know you have changed or impacted another's life.

## What else would you like to say?

The best way to figure out things about yourself is to put yourself in an uncomfortable (or difficult) situation and see how you react. I have learned a lot about myself through this program. I hope I made a difference in other people's lives. ■



Alyson Hood

# Great College To Work For

by Philip Poole

## Samford Named to *Chronicle's* List

Samford has been named to a list of the 150 Great Colleges To Work For, released in July by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. The survey was based on responses from about 41,000 administrators, faculty and staff members at 247 institutions.

Samford made the honor roll in five categories: teaching environment, overall satisfaction with benefits, connection to institution and pride, health insurance, and life insurance. The 150 schools were ranked by enrollment in 26 categories. Samford was in the middle listing of schools with 3,000–9,999 total enrollment.

According to *Chronicle* officials, the assessment process was administered by ModernThink LLC, a human resources consulting company that has conducted many Best Places to Work surveys for various groups. Questionnaires were administered online in the spring to randomly selected lists of employees in three categories: administration, faculty and professional support staff.

“At Samford University, we are fortunate to have a board of trustees that is pledged to providing the best work environment possible with the resources we have available,” said Samford President Andrew Westmoreland. “This survey merely affirms that responsibility.”

Westmoreland, who became Samford president in 2006, said that early in his interview process with the presidential search committee, he understood some of the strong benefits of working at Samford. In recent years, the university’s trustees and administrators have worked to build on that foundation.

“That our employees would still rank us highly despite some of the economic challenges that all schools are facing is a testament to their commitment to the university’s mission,” Westmoreland said.

Westmoreland and other administrators

have kept employees updated regularly throughout the past year on the university’s finances. Faculty and staff responded positively when asked to watch expenses during the year, Westmoreland said. “When we keep the communication channels open, it creates a more positive and collaborative work environment for everyone,” he added.

Leaders of Samford’s employee groups echoed Westmoreland. “It is not surprising that Samford is rated high in teaching environment,” said Faculty Senate President Robin Snyder, an assistant professor of art. “We are fortunate to have administrators who encourage the faculty to seek creative and innovative ways to teach, who foster scholarship and who recognize outstanding teaching.”

Employee benefits received high marks in the survey, which did not surprise Staff Advisory Council President Marian Carter, director of graduate student services in Samford’s nursing school.

“The fact that our survey respondents rated Samford high in overall satisfaction with benefits demonstrates an understanding that compensation is about more than just a base salary,” Carter said. “People throughout our community understand the good benefits which Samford offers to its employees, not just in tuition remission but with other key personnel benefits such as health insurance, life insurance and retirement plans.”

Samford was one of three Alabama colleges to make the list. Also included were Birmingham-Southern College and Birmingham-based Southeastern Bible College. Samford also was one of four Southern Conference institutions, including Elon University, Furman University and The Citadel, to make the list.

*The Chronicle of Higher Education* is considered a leading news and analysis publication for higher education. It publishes a daily electronic news summary and a weekly print journal. ■



# Academic Success Center Eases Transition to University life

by Mary Wimberley

A new Academic Success Center will afford Samford University students one more strong resource to enable them to make the most of their college experience.

Through an enhanced orientation process, a Success Mentoring Program and Foundations courses that help with the sometimes scary first-year transition to college life, the center will offer students a full-service nudge toward academic success.

Bridget Rose is the inaugural director of the center, which brings together some new services with others that formerly were housed in the Office of Freshman Life. Rose, who earned a master of theological studies at Samford's Beeson Divinity School in 2000 and has been curator of Beeson's Hodges Chapel since 2001, also has taught Cultural Perspectives courses and advised Samford students with undeclared majors.

Rose, who sees her new job as "assisting students in making the transition from admission to their academic home in the university," says the first step is to prepare new students for advising and registration.

All freshmen and their parents will meet with Rose during orientation.

"The office will assist with changes of major during orientation, and function as a help center for general

questions about majors, course load, the advising process and any other academic concerns," explains Rose, who works closely with the Samford admission staff and academic and professional advisers.

Available help doesn't stop with orientation.

The center's Success Mentoring Program will offer support in a variety of ways:

- Conditionally admitted students and others at risk for academic difficulty will be encouraged to meet with the director and take advantage of all available resources.

- A series of seminars will offer help with adjustment, career counseling, study skills and other needs.

- Tutoring and support sessions will allow discussion of common texts in Cultural Perspectives courses.

- Assistance is available with obtaining tutors as needed in particular academic departments.

- A student who may be struggling in the spring and placed on academic warning will be urged to connect with a success mentor for weekly meetings that will allow the mentor to provide one-on-one support.

The Foundations Program includes a first-year experience course that answers such driving questions as "Why am I here?" "Who am I?" and "How do I live responsibly?" The course, taught by faculty and staff who serve as both advocates

and mentors, covers such topics as time management, campus involvement and faculty-student relationships.

"Although the course is not required, about 70 percent of Samford freshmen enroll," said Rose, who will teach core curriculum courses in addition to her duties with the center.

The course is followed by a Foundations Peer Mentoring class designed to develop students' instructional and leadership skills.

The center will work closely with Samford's counseling and disability support services offices and the Career Development Center.

Dana Basinger, who formerly directed the Office of Freshman Life, has been appointed assistant dean in the Howard College of Arts and Sciences, where she will oversee an advising center. She will work with faculty of the school's 18 departments to ensure an effective advising experience for arts and sciences majors, with keen attention to retention. She also will oversee advising of undeclared majors throughout the university. ■

Director Bridget Rose counsels a student.



# Experiencing the Samford Story

Longtime Staffers Share Perspective of Four Decades

by Jack Brymer

Foreign languages professor Myralyn Allgood first set foot on the Samford campus as a student more than 50 years ago. “Little did I know I was destined to spend the rest of my life on this beautifully designed hillside campus,” she said recently.

Dr. Allgood, a 1961 graduate, marked her 46th anniversary on the faculty Sept. 1, having joined the Department of World Languages and Cultures as a Spanish teacher in 1963. She was department chair from 1982 until 2006.

Allgood is one of four faculty and staff members with 40-years plus of full-time service at Samford. They recently reflected on their days at the university and reasons for their lengthy tenures.

All have served under three Samford presidents—Leslie Wright, Thomas Corts and Andrew Westmoreland. Allgood well remembers a fourth, Major Harwell G. Davis, who was president when she enrolled as a freshman that rainy, muddy inaugural year on the Lakeshore campus in 1957.

“A man of great vision, ‘the Major’ was a grandfatherly figure to all of us, as he presided over those transitional days with grace and a quick smile,” she said. She was thrilled when he asked her to provide him and Mrs. Davis with Spanish lessons before their departure for a Baptist World Alliance meeting in South America.

During Allgood’s sophomore year, Dr. Leslie Wright became president. “The student body was much smaller in those days and without athletics facilities, so he and Mrs. Wright often opened their home to us, hosting pool parties and other activities,” she recalled. It was Wright who contacted her in Mexico in 1963, while she was a graduate exchange student, and invited her to “come home” to teach in the foreign language

department alongside her lifelong mentor, Dr. Grace Ezell Marquez.

Allgood remembers Dr. Thomas Corts for his “internationalization of campus programs” highlighted by the “pivotal” purchase of the London study center, Daniel House, in 1984. His presidency was a “time of intense curricular renewal,” she said. “He will be remembered fondly for his strong support for study abroad, building the faculty and strengthening the university’s academic programs.”

The trend toward curricular renewal has continued until the present day, says Allgood. She credits “the masterful leadership of Provost William Hull during the 1990s” and “untold hours of interdisciplinary collaboration on the part of the faculty” for creating the current core curriculum, and creatively redesigned major and minor programs.

Allgood describes current President Andrew Westmoreland as a joyful and welcome presence. “Stepping into the moving stream of Samford life, he quickly made his own place in our hearts,” she said. “His winsome personality and quick wit have endeared him to the entire community, as has his commitment to remain faithful to the charge of making a great place even greater.”

Students today are surely more technologically savvy and perhaps more world-wise than their predecessors, Allgood suggests, but they remain very much the same in spirit. “What attracts most, I think, are the same things that drew me here years ago . . . a nurturing environment for learning and personal growth within a Christian community.”

Why is she still at Samford after 46 years? “The moment I first set foot on the campus over 50 years ago, I fell in love with the place, its people and its mission,” she said.

For music professor James A. Jensen, employed September 1, 1968,

working at Samford has been much more than a job.

“The day-to-day working relationship that exists among my peers in the music division and the School of the Arts has always been very positive,” he said. Some institutions have an air of open competition and conflict between faculty and studios, he said, but not Samford. “Here at Samford, not only do we get along, we actually LIKE each other! This relationship rubs off on our students.”

Students are the other dynamic influencing his lengthy tenure at Samford, according to Jensen. “I have learned at least as much from my students through the years as I have been able to pass on to them,” he said. “This climate of collegiality at Samford is what has engaged me all these years. The return each fall to begin a new academic year still resonates with anticipation.”

Jensen has taught music theory and composition throughout his career, and was also director of the Jazz Ensemble for many years. A clarinetist, he also performed with the Alabama Symphony and Samford Wind Ensemble. As a chief warrant officer (now retired) in the U.S. Army, he led the 313th Army Band for a number of years.

Jensen’s compositions have been played across the United States and in Europe, and he recently had a work, “Five Pieces for Piano,” premiered by composer Libby Larsen at the Grieg Society at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. He is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and the Kansas Music Hall of Fame.

Cumberland School of Law professor Brad Bishop was employed August 1, 1967. With the exception of one year in graduate school, one year coaching high school football and four years as a speech professor and debate coach at Mississippi State University, he has spent



Staffers with 40-plus years of service are, clockwise from top, foreign languages professor Myralyn Allgood, public relations director William Nunnelley, law professor Brad Bishop and music professor James Jensen.

Director of Media and Public Relations William Nunnelley, who began working at Samford in 1964, thinks the school's "growing regional and national reputation" is one of the most memorable trends of his tenure.

"To some extent, I think this began in about 1990 when *U.S. News & World Report* started selecting Samford as one of the best universities in the South, or this certainly contributed to the trend," he said. "These polls reflected the strength and diversity of Samford's academic program, and broadened the school's appeal with prospective students and their parents. We began recruiting more out-of-state students, and that has continued."

Among many significant Samford stories he has covered, he cited Ralph W. Beeson's 1990 estate gift that ultimately reached \$54 million and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 1992 sesquicentennial visit as high moments.

Nunnelley, a 1963 graduate, said "good people and interesting work" have kept him at Samford. His responsibilities have ranged from public relations, media relations and publications to sports information and the Samford After Sundown community course program, the latter two of which he handled as part of his duties while heading the public relations office.

Telling the Samford story has been his central focus, primarily through writing and editing. Nunnelley has written literally thousands of stories about Samford people and programs, and covered hundreds of Samford speakers over the years, including such notables as Ted Turner, Gerald Ford, Thatcher, Howard K. Smith, John Major, Cherie Blair and others. He has edited *Seasons* magazine since its inception in 1984.

Along the way, he earned a master of arts in history, and his thesis evolved into the book, *Bull Connor*, published by the University of Alabama Press in 1991. He also wrote a young readers biography, *Fred Shuttlesworth: Civil Rights Actionist*, in 2003.

What keeps him coming to work year in and year out? "The writing. The people are important, and Samford is a good place to work," he said. "But the activity that has the greatest appeal is the writing. I still enjoy bumping subjects up against verbs to try and tell a story." ■

every year of his life since age 17 at Samford—a total of 46 years.

He said his only goals when he enrolled at then-Howard College in the fall of 1957 were to make the football team, graduate and become a high school football coach. During his junior year, however, speech professor and debate coach Al Yeomans "saw something in me that I did not know was there," he recalled. Yeomans encouraged Bishop to try out for the debate team, participate in theatre, and major in speech and dramatic arts. He did so, graduating in 1961, and went on to earn a master's degree at the University of Alabama.

In 1966, Bishop's MSU debate team won the sweepstakes trophy at Howard's tournament. President Wright, who had befriended him as a student, offered

Bishop a job as debate coach and speech teacher at his alma mater.

For the next five years, Bishop taught five speech classes each semester, coached the debate team and took classes when he could at Cumberland School of Law. "Those were good years," he said. "The debate team won national championships, Howard transitioned to Samford University, and I got a law degree." In 1971, law school Dean Arthur Weeks offered Bishop a job teaching on the law school faculty, and he continues today. His specialties are contracts, and municipal court practice and procedure.

"Growing up in the Baptist church, I was grounded in the doctrine that 'God calls people to preach,'" said Bishop. "In my case, God called me to teach, and I'm grateful for that."

# The Alabama Bomber Boys Tells a Story of Courage Under Fire

by William Nunnelley

**D**r. Donald Wilson first encountered the in-depth story of the Eighth Air Force and its historic role in the Allied victory over Germany in World War II as a young Air Force officer in an Air Evacuation Squadron.

Many of the pilots in his squadron were former Army Air Force pilots who had served in the Eighth, Dr. Wilson recounted. “I listened with admiration and awe to their accounts of bombing missions over Germany and heard stories of unbelievable courage that remain with me to this day,” he said in the preface to his new book, *The Alabama Bomber Boys*.

Later, he studied and taught the subject as a history professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy and at the Air Force Historical Research Center at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. Finally, he explored the subject firsthand in the East Anglia section of England, where the bombing missions originated, during his days as a Samford history professor. Wilson spent 25 years in the

Air Force and another 25 teaching at Samford, retiring in 2004.

About 350,000 young men made up the Eighth Air Force, called “The Mighty Eighth,” and the majority during World War II were about the age of entering Samford freshmen today. Some 26,000 gave their lives in service to their country. War and its grim realities taught the young men to grow up in a hurry.

Several years ago, mindful that most World War II veterans were in their eighties and that hundreds were dying every day, Wilson determined to try and record as many of the bomber boy stories as he could. He concentrated on Alabama because its members of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society represented a microcosm of what Mighty Eighth veterans across the nation had experienced.

Wilson bases his account on the recollections of about 60 former members of the Eighth, and historical records and secondary sources of the air war over Germany. What emerges is a lively, firsthand account of the struggle to cripple Hitler’s war machine during the years 1942–45.

William “Bill” Lawley of Birmingham was a young B-17 pilot for the 305th Bomb Group. On a mission to destroy the German fighter plane assembly plant at Regensburg, fighters attacked Lawley’s plane. The bomber’s copilot was killed instantly by a 20-millimeter shell and slumped over the control column, forcing the plane into a steep descent.

Lawley, wounded himself and bleeding profusely, managed to get the plane leveled off after losing 16,000 feet of altitude. But the plane’s instruments were out, one engine was on fire, and he had little visibility because the windshield was covered with blood. He gave the order to bail out.

“After one crewman exited the bomber, his bombardier informed him that eight crew

members were wounded and two could not bail out,” Wilson wrote. “Lawley had no choice but to nurse the bomber back to England.”

Near the French coast, a burst of flak set another engine on fire, and the plane began descending again. It appeared the craft would crash into the English Channel, but Lawley urged the plane over the white cliffs of Dover and spotted a British fighter landing strip. He landed the plane on its belly, and all the crew survived. Lawley was awarded the Medal of Honor.

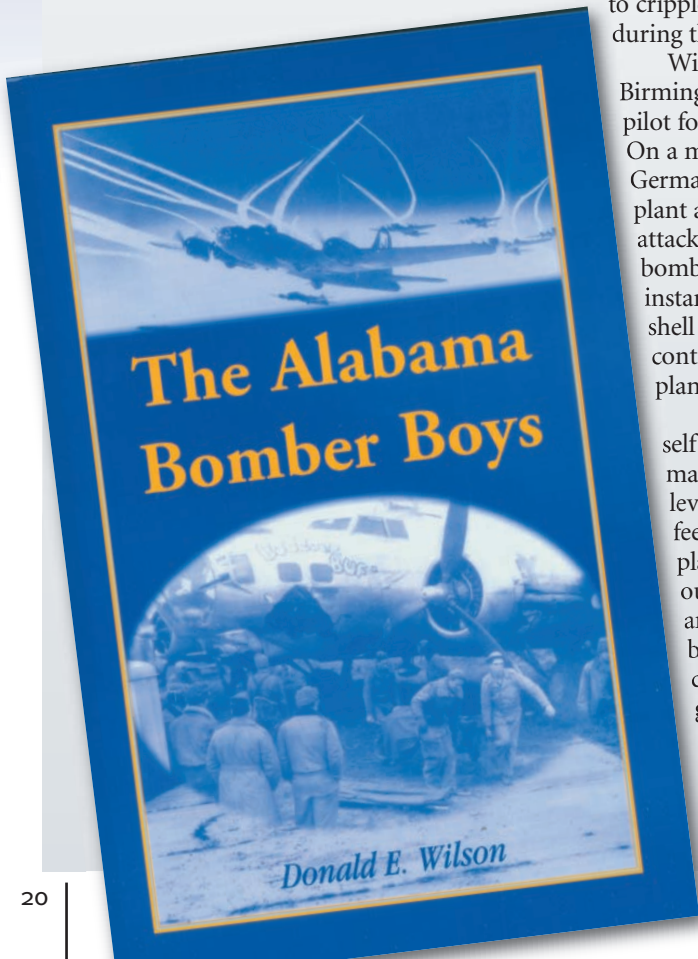
Wilson shares numerous other accounts of heroism and dangers faced, including the plight of airmen such as Lawrence Corley and Roy Davidson—also from Birmingham—who spent time in German prison camps after their planes were shot down. He also shares the story of Bill Massey, a B-17 pilot from Birmingham whose plane exploded over Bordeaux, France, after being hit by flak.

Massey was about to snap on his parachute when the explosion occurred, and he found himself hurtling through the air with the chute in his hand. He finally got into the harness and pulled the ripcord just in time to land in a field of cattle.

“Thousands of other young men from California to Rhode Island, and Minnesota to Mississippi, had experiences similar . . . and they became part of the magnificent heritage of air power” known as the Mighty Eighth, wrote Wilson.

Today, a program of Honor Flights transports veterans to visit the World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. As a salute to the veterans, Wilson is contributing all proceeds from his book to the Honor Flight program. ■

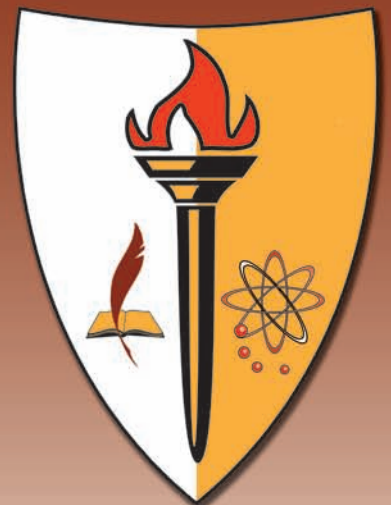
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# collegium

A Newsletter of the Howard College of Arts and Sciences



# Making the World Our Classroom



Over the past three years, I have worked with other Samford deans and administrators to develop a strategic plan for the university. Included in that plan is the goal to “promote international and intercultural understanding.” This goal met with widespread approval across campus. We are all aware that the United States will continue to be more globally interconnected and culturally diverse than the world that most of us grew up in.

We have already developed many international opportunities for our students. Since the university purchased Daniel House, our London Study Center, in 1984, thousands of Samford students have had the opportunity to experience one of the world’s great cosmopolitan cities. Students have often used London as a launching point for travels to other European destinations.

The Department of World Languages and Cultures also has been a leader in developing programs for students to study abroad in Spain, Costa Rica, Germany and France. Other faculty have taken students on trips to study the rainforest in Peru, marine life in the Caribbean, Eastern culture and religion in Burma, ecology in Africa, politics in Eastern Europe, and on the list goes. In addition, many of our students participate in summer missions opportunities that take them around the globe.

In 2005, the university took another step forward by opening an Office of International Studies to help coordinate the existing international programs on campus and to provide students with additional opportunities for programs tailored to their needs and interests. The

office also assists students in making the most of their international experiences by providing opportunities for orientation before departure, and reflective experiences during and after the travel.

Besides sending students abroad, Samford attempts to bring the world to our doorstep. Invited lecturers from around the world enrich our campus dialogue. Students have a chance to talk with visiting Spanish professors at “mesas” in the cafeteria, providing not only language practice, but an opportunity to learn more about other cultures. Faculty have traveled widely and bring that experience to the classroom. A class in Asian Studies with Will Womack (history) is certain to touch upon his time spent as a student in Burma, and Mary McCullough (French) will inevitably draw upon her experience as a Fulbright Scholar in Tunisia and Egypt. Such scholars help students move beyond stereotypes and misconceptions to a deeper understanding of the cultures being studied.

Of course, students and faculty don’t have to travel to another country to encounter different cultures. The U.S. Census Bureau reports that 45 million Hispanics now live in the United States. Birmingham has a long history of attracting immigrants for the steel industry and is much more culturally diverse than most people are aware. Service-learning programs at Samford and other community-based projects have given students an opportunity to encounter different cultures in the region.

Whether encountering other cultures at home or abroad, students often report on how life-changing these experiences are for them. Some have gone on to careers in international business or ministry. Todd Crider (international relations ’87) practices international law and has actively sought protection for indigenous cultures in Latin America. Michael Johnson, another international relations major, has used his language skills as a media officer and translator for both World Cup and Olympic soccer matches. Even those who don’t make careers in international business are often profoundly touched by their cross-cultural experiences and are more aware of the millions of people in the world

who are constantly in a battle with poverty and infectious diseases.

This brings me to my final point. International travel and intercultural experiences are enriching, liberating, invigorating, but they aren’t necessarily easy. All travel has its perils. Students may encounter pickpockets in Amsterdam and panhandlers in Peru. They may hear derogatory comments made about their country at Speakers’ Corner in London. They experience all the normal deprivations of travel—arriving jet lagged, eating strange food, constantly walking instead of driving to destinations, occasional bouts of Montezuma’s revenge.

Some programs offer students an opportunity to live in a home with a family in Spain or Costa Rica. These home stays provide a remarkable opportunity for interaction with the native culture, but some students struggle to lead a simpler lifestyle than the one they have known in the United States. The rigors of travel abroad can exact a price, but the rewards are immense.

Students also learn the importance of language in connecting with other cultures. Language acquisition is a demanding regimen, requiring extensive study of vocabulary and grammar as well as oral proficiency. You can see the sights of another country without language skills, but you can’t really engage the people until you can communicate with them.

“International and intercultural study” has a glamorous ring to it, but like most things in life, it requires patience and hard work to really benefit from such experiences. Fortunately, we are blessed with many faculty and staff members at Samford who are committed to helping students in their quest to reach across national borders and cultural boundaries. Through their efforts, we can reach the goal of making the world our classroom.

*David W. Chapman*

David W. Chapman, Dean  
Howard College of Arts and Sciences

*Collegium cover (page 21): Chemistry student Walter Turner and professor Denise Gregory examine a petri dish in lab.*

# Lincoln Scholar to Deliver Davis Lecture at Samford



Vernon Burton

present “The Age of Lincoln” at Samford’s Wright Center Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 p.m.

Cosponsored with support from the

The year 2009 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and the legacy of America’s 16th president is the subject of this fall’s J. Roderick Davis Lecture. Dr. Orville Vernon Burton will

Alabama Humanities Foundation, the lecture will be preceded by a discussion about Lincoln at 4 p.m. in Brock Forum. Joining Burton for the discussion will be Dr. Lawrence Kohl, University of Alabama; Dr. Harriett Amos Doss, University of Alabama at Birmingham; and Professor William Ross of Samford’s Cumberland School of Law.

An officer of the Congressional National Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Foundation, Burton is a prolific scholar, having authored or edited 15 books and more than 100 articles. *The Age of Lincoln*, his most recent work, won the *Chicago Tribune* Heartland

Literary Award for Nonfiction, and was selected as book of the month by the Book of the Month Club, the History Book Club and the Military Book Club.

Burton is the Burroughs Professor of Southern History and Culture at Coastal Carolina University. Before his appointment at Coastal Carolina, he was professor of history, African American studies and sociology at the University of Illinois. He was selected as the 1999 U.S. Research and Doctoral University Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

## 19th Century America Went Far Adrift from Lincoln’s Vision at Gettysburg

by John Mayfield

Book Review of *The Age of Lincoln*  
by Orville Vernon Burton

Vernon Burton’s masterful study of the era of disunion begins not with the first shot over Fort Sumter, but with a group of millennialists—the Millerites—gathering on chilly hillsides from Ohio to Maine in October 1844 to await the Second Coming. It didn’t happen, of course, and they went away frustrated. Still, their optimistic belief in the imminent redemption of humankind was emblematic of American dreams of democracy, economic success and territorial conquest.

This was an age of idealism and hope contained in a single phrase: “manifest destiny.” How sad that 50 years later, in 1894, Jacob Coxey led an “army” of dispossessed farmers, broken veterans and unemployed men on a march to Washington, D.C., to demand more earthly things: jobs, easier credit, access to their own government. They too went away disappointed. Idealism had given way to corporate greed and racism; progress had become redefined as material success; the capital was run by Robber Barons. “The City on the Hill,” writes Burton, “had become Vanity Fair.”

*The Age of Lincoln* is not a typical or predictable narrative of the Civil War. It pushes back in time to the Founders and their dreams of a “more perfect Union,” and forward through the territorial conquests of the Mexican War and the fatal question of what to do with slavery in the newly acquired lands. It tells of the

war itself, Reconstruction and the Industrial Revolution. It samples workingman’s protests, the impact of black Christianity, literary works such as *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* or *The Wizard of Oz*, Gettysburg, Indian removal, carpet-baggers, the KKK, the rise of the railroads and more. It has heroes and villains, to be sure, but it also weaves the story of common folk—white and black, Southern and Northern, native and immigrant—into a skilled narrative that would be epic if it weren’t written in such straightforward, accessible prose.

At the center of this remarkable odyssey was Lincoln, who incorporated so many of the contradictions that defined the new nation and its divisions. He was born Southern and understood the Southerner’s sense of honor and need for order, yet he was reared in Illinois, a new state where even the commonest man could work his way up the social ladder. He was both a rail-splitter and a corporate attorney—facts reflected in his respect for human dignity and the rule of law.

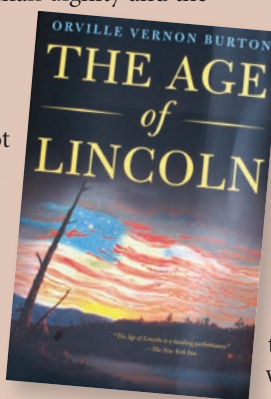
Burton makes much of Lincoln’s spirituality, which was complicated. Not a churchgoer, he still believed in a divine plan, of which the Union was a central part and he, Lincoln, a central agent. He disliked abolitionists and

secessionists with equal intensity, and his initial response to the slavery issue was to contain the institution, not outlaw it, in hopes that Southern unionism would prevail. That didn’t happen, and by 1863, he had concluded that emancipation was not only a legitimate war aim but an expression of divine intent. At Gettysburg, he called on the nation to follow this transcendent dream.

How ironic, then, that the years following the war went so far adrift of Lincoln’s vision. The battles themselves unleashed violence and mechanization alongside heroics and sacrifice. The war pulled people off farms and into new relationships of dependency and exploitation—all orchestrated by men who were, in Burton’s terms, the “worst and best agents of democratic capitalism.” Poor whites suffered alongside freedmen, and the one time they came together, in the Populist movement, their leaders hoodwinked them with racism and empty promises.

The “new birth of freedom” that Lincoln articulated at Gettysburg was put on hold.

Burton tells it all with a passion and clarity that display his own complicated roots. A proud South Carolinian who has spent most of his years in Illinois, not all that far from Lincoln’s home, he is that rare historian who gives both sides their due yet never loses sight of the overarching moral questions the war posed, nor of the fact that—150 years later—we still struggle with the consequences.



# Samford Chemistry Formula for Success: Effective Teaching through Research

by Dana Basinger

Summer in Alabama can be a slow-paced time of year, but not if you're in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. This energetic group of scientists spends its "down time" writing grants, conducting experiments, implementing a new chemistry curriculum, contributing to scholarship and supervising undergraduate students in research. The result is a dynamic department that energizes students and faculty.

Dr. Morgan Ponder, who has chaired the department for 12 years, is using computers to model the interaction between drug molecules and the biological receptors to which they bind in the body.

"I spent my sabbatical leave as a Visiting Fellow at the Cherry L. Emerson Center for Scientific Computation at Emory University," Ponder said. "It provided a wonderful opportunity to learn new tools for computational chemistry."

Dr. David Garza's research program involves the characterization of compounds with platinum-carbon and palladium-carbon bonds. The compounds serve as models for intermediates in important industrial catalytic cycles with the hope that a better understanding of the intermediates can lead to the rational design of more effective catalysts.

"One of my major projects this summer has been to write a National Science Foundation grant for a 400 MHz NMR," said Garza. "If successful, this will bring one of the most powerful tools in chemical research to the Samford campus."

Dr. Robert Cameron's research is in the area of X-ray crystallography, specifically the structural characterization of organometallic

complexes. He is especially interested in the use of high-angle X-ray data to determine experimental electron density distributions, a technique that allows chemists to "see" chemical bonds. He also is working on the application of protein crystallography to the concept of rational drug design, trying to determine the structure of the binding site on a protein that a drug might target in order to tailor a molecule to interact with this site in specific ways.

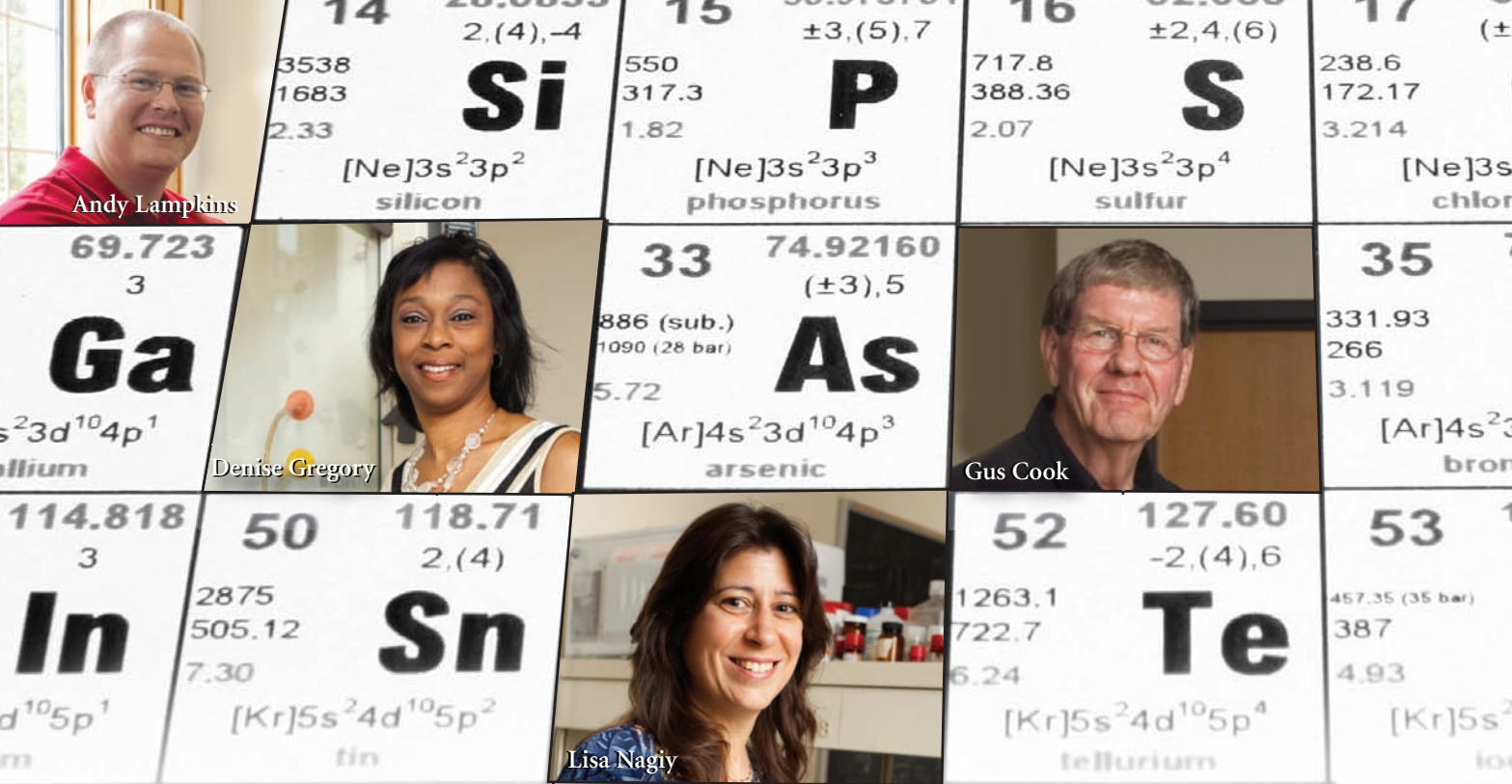
Dr. Brian Gregory was recently awarded a three-year, \$65,000 research grant from the American Chemical Society-Petroleum Research Fund for his work involving mass spectrometry studies of multicomponent, self-assembled monolayer films of alkanethiols on metal surfaces. Student Danielle Brown worked with Gregory on this project through the Undergraduate Research Program this past summer. The original funding for this project was a \$220,000 research grant from the National Science Foundation in 2006, which allowed the department to purchase a liquid-chromatograph mass spectrometer for these studies.

Dr. Andy Lampkins recently received a Cottrell College Science Award. This \$42,220 research grant from the Research Corporation for Science Advancement will support his work in the fields of drug discovery and synthetic organic chemistry, including undergraduate research funding. His current project with students Anna Worth and Jennifer Neighbors involves drug discovery aimed toward disorders of the central nervous system, specifically with the design and synthesis of novel drug therapies for Alzheimer's disease. They are in the advanced stages of synthesizing families of drug candidates that will subsequently be screened by faculty/student collaborators within the McWhorter School of Pharmacy to evaluate potency, metabolic stability and other key pharmacokinetic parameters.

Along with her colleagues, Dr. Denise Gregory submitted two

The image features a grid of periodic table elements with portraits of faculty members overlaid. The elements shown are Helium (He), Neon (Ne), Chlorine (Cl), Krypton (Kr), and Iodine (I). The portraits are of Morgan Ponder, Dave Garza, Robert Cameron, and Brian Gregory. The grid also shows parts of other elements like Hydrogen (1), Lithium (3), Boron (5), and Xenon (54).





Andy Lampkins

Denise Gregory

Gus Cook

Lisa Nagiy

National Science Foundation grants this spring, one to acquire funding for an FT-IR/FT-Raman instrument and another for curriculum advancement for the chemistry department (a joint project with Georgia Tech). She also is working with Garza on the NMR grant proposal. Gregory and Dr. Lisa Nagy are co-mentoring student Walter Turner's

research of mushrooms and how they might affect the chemical breakdown of pharmaceuticals found in waste water.

Ponder emphasizes the importance of undergraduate research in the department.

"Undergraduate research is a win-win in our department; it's good for the faculty member and good for student,"

Ponder said. "The standard for scholarship in chemistry is set by research universities where faculty members conduct research with large numbers of graduate and post graduate students. Fortunately, we don't have to choose between our research and the students—we combine research and teaching. Group work is the norm in our discipline."

## Scrivner Speaking to Packed House on Sundays

by Dana Basinger



Joseph Scriver

Joseph Scriver is speaking to packed houses this summer at Independent Presbyterian Church. In his 12-week session on the Old Testament wisdom literature—Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes—

Scriver is representing Samford as a member of the Religion Speakers Bureau, which provides speakers to interested groups and organizations.

Dr. Scriver began his relationship with Independent Presbyterian five years ago and has presented a series each summer, including "The Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith" and "How to Read the Bible."

"The members are well educated and want to know what's out there," he said.

Though churches often use lay members to teach Sunday school classes, Scriver says that sometimes the classes want a scholar to come in to let them know what the experts say.

"You can read Sunday school literature or get people who write Sunday school literature," he said. "Sometimes, people are hungry and want to dig deeper."

Each spring, Scriver meets with the class lay leader and Paul Romjue, director of Christian education, to come up with a wish list of topics for the summer session.

Scriver is a pastor's son and a minister himself, so his background and his position as a professor of religion bring his history and his current work together. He enjoys the opportunity to explain the Bible in ways that listeners find plausible. Adults are in the class voluntarily, and they consistently attend throughout the summer months. "When connecting with adults," he said, "it's about their faith, not

just about this class or that test. It makes me apply the stuff I've learned, and it's challenging and rewarding."

Romjue has high praise for Scriver's class: "I have heard nothing but good things about his class all summer. Perhaps most convincingly, the numbers speak. This year, we have three viable alternatives to the class, and each Sunday, his classroom is packed."

Scriver also has presented at Edgewood Presbyterian Church ("Hot Potatoes in Genesis") and at the Alabama Baptist Human Rights Conference in recent months.

According to Dr. James R. Strange, program director, Religion Speakers Bureau members are available for "churches, synagogues, mosques, schools, civic clubs, businesses—any group that is interested in learning about religion should not hesitate to schedule a speaker." Participants can speak on a variety of topics.

# Meet the New Arts and Sciences Faculty

Howard College of Arts and Sciences welcomes six new faculty members who will play vital roles in departments that were understaffed last year. They all bring a level of professional expertise and personal commitment to teaching that will enrich the lives of Samford students.



**Jack W. Berry** joins the Department of Psychology as an assistant professor after holding a research fellowship with the UAB Injury Control Research Center at the UAB

School of Medicine. A native of Birmingham, Dr. Berry earned his Ph.D. in psychology from Wright Institute in Berkeley, Calif. Before returning to Birmingham, he spent seven years as director of research for the Marriage Assessment, Treatment and Enrichment Center at Virginia Commonwealth University. He specializes in personality and individual differences, psychotherapy research and psychological measurement. His work often focuses on the intersections of theology and science. He has studied topics as wide ranging as injury prediction in children, psychological adjustment among adults with head injuries and personality disorders among zoo-housed chimpanzees. He has written more than 50 scientific publications. In rare moments of leisure, he claims he is a football fanatic and fan of any cooking and eating that involves barbecue sauce.



**Sonya Davis** recently received a full-time position in the core curriculum as an instructor of Communication Arts after many years as a top-ranked adjunct in

the program. A native of Tuscaloosa, Ala., she brings to her teaching a wealth of experience in many forms of written and verbal communication. She holds a B.S. in journalism from the University of Alabama, where she competed on the debate/forensics team, winning many awards in oratory and drama. She won a national title in Communication Analysis as a senior. After a brief career as a marketing associate in Charlottesville, Va., she returned to the state to earn the

M.A. in English literature, and to teach composition and literature as an adjunct instructor for several years. When Samford established the core curriculum in 1997, she became instrumental in implementing the Communication Arts program because of her experience in composition, journalism, oratory, broadcasting and public relations. When not conferencing with students or grading essays, she enjoys reading, film and photography.



**Lee Farquhar** joins the Samford faculty as an assistant professor of broadcast journalism. A native of Iowa, he earned his Ph.D. in mass communication at University of Iowa

after earning a master's degree at Kansas State University. He brings a range of broadcasting experience to the classroom. He has worked in radio broadcasting as a DJ, music director and station manager, and in television production at KWVL-TV in Waterloo, Iowa. He also spent two years as a freelance videographer. His professional interests clearly involve A/V production and broadcast news. Dr. Farquhar also enjoys outdoor sports, particularly hiking nature trails.



**Alan Hargrave** joins the Department of Physics but is already a highly respected member of the Samford community. He is originally from San Antonio, Texas, where he received

his bachelor's and master's degrees from Trinity University. He then earned a Ph.D. from Baylor University, where he spent 16 years ("Not all of them as a student," he jokes). An excellent teacher, Hargrave loves performing demonstrations that make the laws of physics come alive. His research interests are in space physics (especially small particles in space) and energy production (particularly solar energy). For the past 13 years, he has provided leadership to Samford in all areas related to technology, most recently as chief information officer. An avid runner, he has completed 12 marathons—all since turning 50. His hobbies also include amateur radio and just about any form of puzzle solving.



**Sheree Martin** brings experience from two interwoven careers to her position as assistant professor of multimedia and visual communication. A native of Russellville, Ala., she

earned her J.D. at the University of Alabama School of Law before completing a Ph.D. in mass communication on the same campus. She taught at Samford during 2002–03 as an adjunct in the core curriculum while she completed her dissertation and secured an assistant professorship with the School of Journalism and Broadcasting at Oklahoma State University. There, she taught a range of mass communication and broadcasting courses, notably in visual communication and the law of mass communication. Dr. Martin's classroom teaching also is strengthened by her years of work as an attorney in various law practices, and as a freelance writer in marketing and advertising. She admits to having a tendency to rescue stray animals and then pressuring her parents to adopt them for life on their farm in northwest Alabama.



**Delane Tew** returns to her alma mater from her most recent position as associate professor of church history and director of the Oxford Studies Program at Carson-

Newman College. She will direct the Christian Women's Leadership program and teach in the core curriculum. After Dr. Tew graduated from Samford in 1978, she earned a master's of religious education from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in history from Auburn University under Dr. Wayne Flynt. She became fluent in Japanese while completing various missions-related appointments in Tokyo and Sapporo, Japan, and later developed a comprehensive program for volunteer missions through the Woman's Missionary Union. She also has taught in the history department at Judson College. She enjoys the company of her three dachshunds, and working with stained glass pieces and oil painting.

# Samford University Research Project Profiles

by George Keller

## Growing Mushrooms for Cleaner Water

Remember when you used to walk in the woods and see a tree that had fallen years ago? There were fungi growing on the trunk, and the wood had turned as soft as cotton. The reason: the fungi were producing enzymes that degrade the lignin in the wood that is responsible for its hardness. But what if that chemical process for removing lignin could also remove unwanted contaminants in a water supply?

Walter Turner, a sophomore chemistry major from Maylene, Ala., spent the summer investigating whether fungi can produce enzymes that will remove large organic molecules from water, specifically drugs and their metabolites that enter the drinking water supply.

“Many scientists believe that providing safe, clean water will be one of the great challenges of this century,” said Turner. “I hope this project can make some small contribution to reaching that goal.”

Working with Dr. Denise Gregory of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Dr. Lisa Nagy, an adjunct chemistry professor, Turner identified two candidate fungi species, brown beech and shitake mushrooms. The first step was to grow the fungi on artificial media. Turner was able to grow

the brown beech mushroom colonies and verify that they came from his initial stock by polymerase chain reaction, a molecular technique that identifies specific genes in different species.

“I don’t think I ever imagined that I would spend one of my college summers growing mushrooms,” Turner quipped, “but I’ve learned a lot about genetics in the process.”

Next, Turner and his mentors identified some of the most common drugs found in drinking water and compared their structures to that of lignin. Prozac and birth control pill hormones met the criteria of being structurally similar and being plentiful in water.

The investigators will grow the mushrooms in the presence of the drugs and determine whether the mushroom enzymes are able to change the structure of either of the two drugs using gas chromatography-mass spectroscopy. Depending on their results, they next plan to identify the enzyme and the drug breakdown products using nuclear magnetic resonance.

Turner has taken full advantage of his summer research opportunity. He entered Samford as a University Fellow with the idea of pursuing a degree in pharmacy. His research has led him to consider a graduate program in chemistry.



Walter Turner

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry had four students conducting summer research, and Turner stated that the weekly presentations within the department have allowed him to get a feeling for several different areas of chemistry. “You go through high school thinking your teachers know all the answers,” said Turner. “In college, your professors help you find answers to new questions.”

## Looking for Clues to the Biblical World



Aaron Carr

Cinema’s favorite archeologist, Indiana Jones, has been seen battling snakes, Nazis and other enemies in quests to find valuable ancient objects. For Aaron Carr, a religion major from Cumming, Ga., the

experience was a little more mundane, though more typical of real archeology.

Working with Dr. James Strange, professor of religion, and a team of workers from the University of South Florida, Carr spent the summer excavating the dig site at Sepphoris, an ancient Galilean city (see page 4). Carr and his colleagues sifted through a 5 x 5 meter square along the south wall of an ancient basilica to confirm the general chronology for construction, refurbishing, destruction and reuse of the building that has been documented previously. Specifically, the crew sought to find clues to the use of the space in the early Roman through the Byzantine periods.

The city was established as a capital in 4 B.C.E. by Herod Antipas. Since Sepphoris is only about an hour’s walk from Nazareth, some scholars believe that Jesus and Joseph may have been involved in the construction of the new buildings and theatres. The building that Carr investigated was destroyed in 4 B.C.E., probably to make room for a different building.

The most important finding was the southern edge of the basilica wall, with pottery that dated it to the early Roman period (1st century C.E.). Also, the wall was founded on top of soft chalk stones on bedrock, a common “cheating”

*Carr continued on page 28*

# Studying Criminal Tribunals

Alex Sconfienza, an international relations senior from Silverhill, Ala., had plans to work in a library in Robertsdale this summer. Instead, she spent the summer comparing international criminal tribunals in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

Her mentor, Samford political science professor Andy Konitzer, is an authority on Eastern European politics and has done extensive research in Serbia and Croatia. Sconfienza has long had an interest in Rwanda and has been involved in Project Africa Now. This spring, she helped organize a series of lectures and films on the Rwandan genocide.

"Because countries must voluntarily cooperate with the international tribunal, we wanted to identify the factors that lead to greater cooperation," said Sconfienza. "The tribunals not only help to ensure that justice is carried out for the perpetrators of atrocities, but an effective international court can help deter future instances of such heinous acts."

In her research, Sconfienza identified several factors that affect cooperation with the tribunal. One of the key factors was the "victim status" of the people. In other words, were criminal acts carried out against the people, or were they the ones committing the crimes? In the former Yugoslavia, both Serbia and Croatia were seen as perpetrators of crimes against humanity, while Croatia was seen as the primary victim. Rwanda, however, is seen as a victim since the Tutsi government committed genocide against the minority Hutus.

"There has been much less pressure for the Rwandan government to cooperate with the tribunals, because the rest of



Alex Sconfienza

the world shares the guilt of standing by idly while thousands of Rwandans were brutally murdered," Sconfienza said.

Another important factor is the amount of leverage that other nations can apply on the people being brought to trial. Serbia and Croatia wished to join the European Union, giving European nations the ability to apply pressure to cooperate with international authorities. By contrast, Rwanda is already a member of the African Union, and the only leverage Western countries have is foreign aid.

"International cooperation to bring war criminals to trial is still a relatively new idea. Most people agree that such war criminals should be punished, but there still is not a good way of ensuring that such criminals will be brought to justice," Sconfienza said. "Hopefully, this project will shed a little more light on the process."

Sconfienza is a member of the Samford Model United Nations team and is interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in developmental economics. Her career goal is to work for the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund. Wherever she works, she wants to continue to raise awareness on issues related to Africa and the Rwanda genocide. ♣

## Carr continued from page 27

method used by the Roman architects on other sections of the wall dated to the same time period.

"We also discovered a Byzantine cross wall running perpendicular to the main wall, though we aren't entirely sure of its purpose at this time," Carr said. The group also found a significant amount of glass garbage, leading them to believe the area may have been a storage or work space for the Byzantines who were recycling glass nearby.

Once back at Samford, the work was not quite as glamorous. Carr reported that he finished creating drawings of

pottery fragments from several years ago and is now producing computer sketches of the squares themselves from the dig.

"When finished, we can combine these sketches to give us a better understanding of how the areas excavated relate to one another," Carr said.

Strange and Carr eventually plan to recreate the basilica in three dimensions using a computer-assisted design program.

Carr plans to get a doctorate in religion, teaching at a university and balancing academic pursuits with vocational ministry. ♣

# Donors Support Student Research Program

The Summer Undergraduate Research Program is sponsored by generous gifts from individuals and institutions to a variety of funds. The listed patrons have donated \$1,000 or more from June 2008 to June 2009, or have established an endowed fund of \$25,000 or more to the SURP Fund, the Chemistry Research Fund, the Nash Collier Fund (Physics and Math), the W. Mike Howell Fund (Biology) or the Ron Jenkins Research Assistantship (Biology).

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# Adventures in Music Celebrates Two Decades

by Mary Wimberley



Adventures in Music campers enjoy vocal ensemble.

was a camper himself for four years in the 1990s, when he also studied piano in Samford's preparatory department. He recalls the camaraderie that his youthful camp experience offered.

"Piano can be such a solitary activity, but being a camper gave me an opportunity to interact with other people my age who were passionate about music," he said, adding that there was a

healthy level of competition that pushed him to be his best, particularly in the ensemble classes.

"These classes could be difficult but quite fun," he said. "The challenge of learning a new piece of music in just one week, while also being able to keep up with my fellow quartet members was truly exciting to me as a young person."

Gunter went on to enroll at Samford as a piano performance major, earned a master's in piano pedagogy from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and joined the SMU music faculty.

He used the Samford camp as a template for a similar program that he started at SMU, where he is a director of the annual Young Artists Institute, which involves 77 K-12 students from throughout Texas.

"All of my experience as a student, camper and ultimately teacher at Samford has been absolutely invaluable to me at SMU," said Gunter.

Beyond the classroom, Samford's Adventures in Music campers enjoy recreational activities and scavenger hunts, which are led by another former camper and Samford

music graduate, Casey Skewes O'Dell '05, who also teaches in the preparatory department.

Each day of the camp, participants are introduced to guest performers representing different music genres such as piano, classical voice, jazz and strings.

On a summer Thursday afternoon in elegantly appointed Brock Recital Hall, campers listened attentively as jazz musicians Chad Fisher and Matt Devine demonstrated how "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" could be played in the style of a mournful dirge and also with a livelier tempo.

The next day, campers took to the recital hall stage themselves for solo and ensemble recitals.

Several years ago, preparatory faculty member Melodie King '99, who worked at her first music camp as an entering Samford music major, became Macon's codirector for the camps.

In the early 1990s, Macon, wanting to introduce music to even younger students, opened an All Aboard for Music camp for preschoolers, usually held in July.

"It has been an incredible blessing to be involved in the lives of so many students," said Macon, who is already planning for next year's 21st Adventures in Music camp. ■

For more information, go to <http://www.samford.edu/arts/music/preparatory.html>.

Adventures in Music faculty members include Melodie King, Connie Macon, Casey O'Dell and Kevin Gunter.



For 20 summers, Samford has hosted young musicians who bring their boundless energy and budding talent to campus for weeklong Adventures in Music camps.

The popular day camp for piano and voice students offers a mix of instruction and fun activities that are age appropriate for elementary and high school students.

Adventures in Music was the brainchild of Connie Hurston Macon '83 soon after she became director of Samford's music preparatory department in 1989.

"The first reactions among the prep faculty were mixed, but they soon shared the vision for starting a camp for any level of students in grades one through 12," said Macon, who enlisted her faculty to assist with the new camp.

The first camp in 1990 saw 40 campers enjoy a rather basic schedule of theory and ensemble classes, private lessons and practice time.

Over two decades, the program has grown to two sessions, one in June and one in July, with a total enrollment of about 100.

Campers now engage in courses as diverse as music literature and computer music, in which teenagers learn how to arrange tracks and sequence music into a computer using a Midi keyboard.

The computer lab instructor in the June camp was Kevin Gunter '03, who



# The Robinsons

Enjoying Their Samford  
Involvement More Than Ever

Carolyn and Mike Robinson

by Mary Wimberley

# Alumni of the Year

The Air Force took Michael '61 and Carolyn Yeager Robinson '60 to Japan and seven cities from California to Georgia during his career. After Mike's retirement, the two would have been welcome at any of their former locales. In the end, however, thanks to their alma mater, their home state won out.

"Samford drew us back to Alabama," Carolyn explained. The couple had moved from California to the Atlanta area in 2001 to be near their daughter, Michelle Adkins, and her family. From across the state line, they tightened their Samford bond that had never really loosened.

"In the years that we moved around so much, we still stayed connected to Samford by giving and by attending activities whenever we could," said Carolyn. In 2000, the couple claimed the long-distance award at homecoming when they traveled from California for Carolyn's 40th class reunion activities.

During this year's homecoming activities Nov. 6–8, the couple will collect another award as 2009 Alumni of the Year. They will be cited for their service at the homecoming banquet Friday, Nov. 6.

The Robinsons settled in Alabaster, Ala., four years ago to make it easier to attend Samford functions and support their beloved Bulldogs, who wear the red and blue uniforms of varied men's and women's sports.

Carolyn is a Life Challenge member of the Samford University Auxiliary, which she serves as publicity chair and newsletter editor. She is a class agent on the Samford Alumni Council, and both are members of the Athletics Bulldog Club's advisory council.

As one Samford administrator observed, "Together, Michael and Carolyn are just totally involved."

It is an involvement that is easily explained.

"It is because of our love for Samford and our pride in what she has become," said Carolyn. "In our retirement years it has become our hobby."

"We enjoy our relationships with those connected to the university beyond words. They have basically become our extended family," she said.

The couple underscored their familial connection to Samford several years

ago when they established a journalism and mass communication scholarship in memory of Mike's brother, Timothy Robinson '65, whose stellar career included covering Watergate for *The Washington Post*.

The scholarship program opened the door for *The Post* to collaborate with Samford to establish the Timothy Sumner Robinson Forum, which has brought nationally known Post writers David Broder, Eugene Robinson and Len Downie to campus for public lectures. Each summer, *The Post* supports a Samford student in a two-week fellowship at the newspaper.

"This has grown into much more than we could have ever envisioned. It is very rewarding to know that this program is exactly what Tim would have wanted," said Carolyn, noting that Tim mentored many young journalists during his career.

The Robinson branch on the Samford family tree also includes Mike's sister, Terah Robinson Sherer '55, and his parents, Clarence Fore Robinson and Edith Sumner Robinson, both 1956 graduates who returned to college in midlife and then taught school for many years. Mike's brothers, Nelson and Gerald, also attended.

Mike and Carolyn's Samford journey began the fall of the school's first year on the new campus after it moved to Homewood from the East Lake area of Birmingham.

"Despite the mud and treeless conditions, it was an exciting time," said Carolyn, an English major from Mobile, Ala., who transferred to Samford after her freshman year at Judson College.

She and Mike, a math major from Dora, Ala., met in Dr. George Irons' history class. "We were good friends for almost three years, and that friendship developed into a love that has lasted over 48 years," said Carolyn.

Despite working the night shift alongside other Howard College students at Bremner's Bakery, Mike found time to work on *The Crimson* and enjoy membership in Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, which one year elected Carolyn pledge class sweetheart.

Carolyn also worked on the student newspaper, and was a member of the Masquers, Press Club, Phi Mu sorority,

and many academic honor societies, including Hypatia.

After graduation, she worked a year as an editorial assistant at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., while Mike completed the Air Force's Aviation Cadet Program. They married in 1961.

Mike became an electronic warfare officer—a rated navigator who has specialized training in detection and suppression of enemy radars and is responsible for the protection of the airplane, in his case B-52s. His service included a long stint on Guam during the Viet Nam war.

Along the way, by collecting credits at schools near where they were stationed, he earned a bachelor's from Chapman University in Orange, Calif., and a master's in management from Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, Ga. The Air Force recognized his service with the Distinguished Flying Cross and Legion of Merit.

After retiring from the Air Force in 1988 as a colonel, he worked for Northrop-Grumman on the B-2 stealth bomber in southern California. He retired from that job in 2000.

Although seemingly indefatigable in their support of Samford causes, they both find time for affiliations with the Military Officers' Association of America, the Oregon-California Trails Association, Evangel Presbyterian Church and the Strategic Air Command Reunion Group. They also enjoy spoiling their granddaughters, Holly, 14, and Rachael, 11.

They credit their Samford involvement with helping them maintain a youthful outlook on life.

"Samford is keeping us young and interested in things. Getting other alumni involved has become a soapbox of ours," said Carolyn. "We wish everyone could see what a marvelous institution it has become." ■

# Outstanding Young Alumnus Samford Led Motley to Great Ideas

by Billy Ivey

Presidential assistant in the White House. Director of a program in the State Department. A doctorate from St. Andrews University in Scotland. And currently, vice president and managing director of the Henry Crown Fellowship Program at the Aspen Institute in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Eric Motley's résumé reads like a lifetime litany of accomplishments, and he's only in his mid-30s.

This fall, the 1996 Samford graduate will add another impressive point to his résumé when he becomes his alma mater's first Outstanding Young Alumnus. He will be honored during homecoming Nov. 6–8.

Born in rural Montgomery County,

Ala., and raised by his grandparents, Motley has worked his way to a place of honor among some of the most respected individuals in the world.

By any standard, his is a success story. The pages are still being written, but it is the chapter of his life spent at Samford that he recognizes as the most significant so far.

"My grandfather was no prophet," Motley said. "He had no way of knowing what the future would hold, but he had great faith in the one who holds the future. Even until the end of his time, he had this special love for Samford. He prayed for Samford, because for him, Samford was an unexpected answer to prayer."

Motley's grandparents prayed that he would one day be able to use his thirst for information, education and knowledge to provide hope to others.

"[My grandfather] prayed that I would take the materials of human spirit and make something of it . . . that I would become an educated man."

Prayer and hard work brought Motley to Samford in 1992 "with a pound of white potatoes, two Cool Whip containers of frozen collards, a couple of jars of canned tomatoes and peaches, and \$200 in a church envelope."

It was at Samford that Motley says he was led to great ideas, but even more to a greater sense of self.

"My appetite for learning increased, and I started to 'follow knowledge like a sinking star.'" He attributes his scholarly success to Samford professors who "truly loved what they were doing and forced me to press deeper through the surface, and to struggle with my own beliefs and perceptions."

To Motley, a university and learning are much

more than just books and classroom experiences. They are also about the people you meet: teachers, fellow students, staff and administrators.

"I never will forget an old man who lived in my little community telling me as a teenager—some of the best advice ever given—'Study men. You need good examples on how to live your life. Hold them up to the light and like fine paper, you will see their mark—their qualities of life'"

Motley believes there was no greater influence made on his life than that of the late Dr. Thomas E. Corts, Samford's former president.

"Over the years, I have had the good fortune of meeting and working with hundreds of the world's most capable, interesting and impressive men and women, people of every profession and every station of life. A good many of them I have held up to the light for personal examination. But of all the men I have ever met, I have not met one man that has been a finer example of how I want to live my life than Dr. Thomas Corts."

Motley believes the legacies of Corts and the many men and women who helped shape his life are still changing lives every day at Samford. He is committed, today more than ever before, to help Samford continue in its quest for excellence . . . for God, for learning, forever.

"I know that when people hold my life up to the light, they will see Samford's mark on me," said Motley. "I can only pray that I someday live up to the potential that was afforded me at this wonderful university." ■

*Billy Ivey '95 is a writer in Birmingham.*



Eric Motley





**HOMECOMING** **SAMFORD UNIVERSITY**  
**NOVEMBER 6-8**  
**2009**

Samford University will celebrate homecoming Nov. 6-8 with a full schedule of activities. The annual gathering will include reunions, banquets, a parade, athletic events and a plethora of other activities with appeal to all ages, said David B. Goodwin '03, Samford's director of alumni and parent programs.

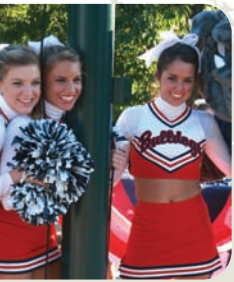
Registration is available online at [www.samford.edu/alumni](http://www.samford.edu/alumni). A registration brochure was mailed in August to all Samford alumni.

A highlight of the weekend will be recognition of the 2009 Alumni of the Year, Carolyn Robinson '60 and Michael Robinson '61, and of 2009 Young Alumnus of the Year Eric Motley '96. (See pages 30-32 for profiles of the alumni honorees.)

Other events are being added to the schedule during the fall, and Goodwin encouraged alumni, parents and friends to check the Samford website regularly for homecoming updates.

Information for this schedule is provided by departments and organizations. If there is an event not listed, please check with the sponsoring department or organization.

**Turn to page 34 for a detailed schedule.**



# FRIDAY

## NOVEMBER 6, 2009

- 3–6 p.m.**      **Registration and Check-in**, University Center
- 4–5 p.m.**      **Samford Alumni Association Annual Meeting**, Brock Recital Hall  
All alumni are invited.
- 5 p.m.**          **Evensong**, Hodges Chapel  
This worship service, modeled after the British evensong tradition, is led by Timothy P. Banks '74.
- 5:30 p.m.**      **Samford Chefs Culinary Demonstration**, location TBA  
Featuring James Briscione '01 from the Food Network show *Chopped!* and Chris Vizzina, Campus Dining head chef.
- 7 p.m.**          **Samford Homecoming Banquet**, location TBA  
Celebrate the tradition of the Candlelight Dinner honoring the Alumni of the Year and the inaugural Outstanding Young Alumnus.
- 8:30 p.m.**      **Bash/Pep Rally/Bonfire**, commuter parking lot next to Seibert Hall  
Enjoy live music, a bonfire and pep rally featuring the Samford Marching Band, cheerleaders, Spike the Bulldog, and presentation of the 2009 Homecoming Court.
- 8:30 p.m.**      **Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Rose Ball Reunion**, off campus
- 8:30 p.m.**      **Sigma Chi House Parties**, off campus



# SATURDAY

## NOVEMBER 7, 2009

- 8 a.m.–1 p.m.**    **Registration and Check-in**, University Center
- 8 a.m.–1:30 p.m.** **Samford Band Alumni Gathering**, Brock Hall  
Activities include breakfast, rehearsal, parade watch party, barbecue lunch and performing at the football game. Lunch is \$6 per person. To register: [band@samford.edu](mailto:band@samford.edu)
- 8:30–10 a.m.**    **Brock School of Business Alumni Breakfast**, Dwight Beeson Hall  
To register: [chdahlke@samford.edu](mailto:chdahlke@samford.edu) or 205-726-2364
- 8:30–11:30 a.m.** **McWhorter School of Pharmacy Continuing Education Seminar: Pediatric Medicine**, location TBA  
To register: [ijmcguir@samford.edu](mailto:ijmcguir@samford.edu) or 205-726-2722  
(free to alumni; registration required)
- 9–10:30 a.m.**    **Golden Bulldogs Brunch**, Flag Colonnade, University Center  
Alumni from the Class of 1959 and earlier are invited for brunch with friends and former classmates. To register: [sualumni@samford.edu](mailto:sualumni@samford.edu) or 205-726-4315 (free; registration required)
- 9–10:30 a.m.**    **Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing and Birmingham Baptist Hospitals School of Nursing Reunion**, Rotunda, Center for the Healing Arts  
Visit with graduates from 1922 through 2009 while enjoying coffee and pastries. To register: [sgsheffi@samford.edu](mailto:sgsheffi@samford.edu) or 205-726-4566
- 9–11:30 a.m.**    **Hot-Air Balloon**, Quadrangle (times approximate, weather permitting)





**9:30 a.m.** **Live @ the Library** featuring Carmen Acevedo Butcher  
For information: [www.samford.edu/alumni](http://www.samford.edu/alumni)

**10 a.m.–4 p.m.** **Art Alumni Reunion and Minishow**, Swearingen Hall  
Alumni artwork will be displayed informally, so bring your work to share. Computers will be available to display digital images.

**10 a.m.** **Women's Basketball Scrimmage**, Hanna Center

**11 a.m.** **Parade**

A parade of floats, the Samford Marching Band, Alabama Pipes and Drums, cheerleaders and dignitaries will wind through campus. Winning floats will be parked near Seibert Stadium. Honored homecoming queens include Martha Ann Cox '59, Suzanne Stigler Martin '84, Ashley Norton Arnold '99 and Emily Gettys '08.

**11 a.m.** **Men's Basketball Scrimmage**, Hanna Center

**11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.** **Homecoming Festival**, Quadrangle  
Reunion gatherings are hosted by affinity groups and student generations (see Affinity Groups).

**11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.** **McWhorter School of Pharmacy Health Fair and Reunion**, Quadrangle

**11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.** **All Alumni Reunion Luncheon**, Dining Hall, University Center  
Enjoy lunch and reminisce with friends, former classmates and the entire Samford family.  
Tickets: \$7 per person, adult or child

**11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.** **Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing Barbecue Lunch**, Plaza and first floor, Center for Healing Arts  
To register: 205-726-4566 or [sgsheffi@samford.edu](mailto:sgsheffi@samford.edu) (registration requested) Tickets: \$5 per person (children ages 5 and under free)

**11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.** **Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies Alumni and Friends Barbecue**, Orlean Bullard Beeson Hall  
To register: [drcarr@samford.edu](mailto:drcarr@samford.edu) or 205-726-2121

**11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.** **Samford Women's Basketball Reunion Lunch**, location TBA

**2:30 p.m.** **Samford Football vs. Georgia Southern**, Seibert Stadium

**6 p.m.** **Golden Reunion Dinner**, Dining Hall, University Center  
The classes of 1949 and 1959 are featured. Tickets: \$15 per person

**7 p.m.** **Samford Volleyball vs. Appalachian State**, Hanna Center

**7:30 p.m.** **Spanish Honor Society Program and Reception**, Bolding Studio  
"Art of the Gypsies" flamenco will be performed. For information: [ljentsc@samford.edu](mailto:ljentsc@samford.edu)

# SUNDAY

## NOVEMBER 8, 2009

**10:30 a.m.** **Worship Service**, Hodges Chapel  
Led by Dr. Bill Shiell and Dr. Kely Hatley, Samford alumni and ministers at First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

**2 p.m.** **Samford Volleyball vs. Western Carolina**, Hanna Center



# AFFINITY GROUPS GATHERINGS



Affinity groups are encouraged to participate with Saturday events across campus. You can coordinate a reunion event through the Office of Alumni Programs. We hope to have a big year! Please let us know to expect you. Events already being planned include the following groups with host contact:

## 1984 Football Team

David Goodwin  
sualumni@samford.edu

## Black Heritage Association Reunion

Jeremiah Chester  
jicheste@samford.edu

## Chemistry and Biochemistry Majors

Morgan Ponder  
mcponder@samford.edu

## Class of 1984

David Goodwin  
sualumni@samford.edu

## JMC 25th Anniversary

Jon Clemmensen  
jlclemme@samford.edu

## Residence Life Staff

Lauren Taylor  
lmtaylor@samford.edu

## Samford Cheerleaders

Candi Cole  
cggann@samford.edu

## Samford Sundays Reunion

Chris McCaghren  
cjmcagh@samford.edu

## Fraternities/Sororities

## Alpha Delta Pi Celebrates 100th year

Elizabeth Gettys  
egettys@samford.edu

## Chi Omega

Kitty Rogers Brown  
kbrown@whitearnolddowd.com

## Pi Kappa Phi from 2000 to 2009

C. G. Covey

cgcovey@samford.edu

## Phi Mu Celebrates 80th year

Kathy Curtin  
kwcurtin@bellsouth.net

## Sigma Chi 25th Anniversary

Mark Davidson  
mdavidson@csimac.com



## Answer the Call!

A Samford student will be calling soon to share with you their Samford experience, ask you to share yours in return and offer you the opportunity to continue our mission of nurturing persons for God, for learning, forever.

As always, you may go to [www.samford.edu/giving](http://www.samford.edu/giving) to make a gift online.



**SAMFORD**  
UNIVERSITY

# Religion Growing in Cuba, Grads Find

by Jack Brymer

It didn't take 2009 Samford alumnae Andrea Smith and Leah Shell long after graduation to put their newly acquired Spanish to work. They visited Cuba in July as part of a church group from Birmingham.

Smith, from Birmingham, received the Pharm.D. degree and also has a major in Spanish. Shell, of Raleigh, N.C., earned the B.S. degree in interior design with a minor in Spanish.

"I couldn't wait to travel to Cuba and discover what life is like across the forbidden waters," said Shell. "What I found were people who smile, even when life is difficult. They are able to look beyond cramped housing and bad bread to address social issues in a far more progressive way than most Americans."

Smith was impressed with how the people she met stretched their resources. "They make use of everything and take nothing for granted, as they are never sure how long it will be available to them," she said.

Samford faculty members Lynda Jentsch and Bridget Rose, M.T.S. '00, and alumnus Todd Heifner '91, M.B.A. '98, also were part of the 10-member group from Baptist Church of the Covenant [BCOC]. What they discovered was a growing religious movement in Cuba.

The group visited Iglesia Bautista Shalom (Shalom Baptist Church) in the city of Boca de Mariel, famous for the Mariel Boatlift in 1980. Shalom and BCOC have more in common than their religious faith. Both have women pastors—Coralía Teresa Blanco Elissalde at Shalom and Sarah Jackson Shelton at BCOC—and both are heavily involved in social ministries.

Shalom is a "house church" that meets in the carport of one of its 19 members. Such house churches are common in Cuba.

"We stood in the carport to worship while on the other side of the carport's wall was the Cuban Coast Guard," Shelton noted. "The church has made such concerted efforts at friendship with the men stationed there that the soldiers have actually come to the defense of the church in order to keep governmental officials from shutting it down. It reminded me of Paul's letters to the Ephesians that dividing walls of hostility must be broken down in order to be one in Christ."

The two pastors baptized members of each church in a nearby bay as an act symbolic of the unity they share in the Christian faith.

The Birmingham church has supported the Cuban church for the past few years. The primary purpose of the trip had to do with "mutual prayer support and fellowship with like believers," said Dr. Jentsch, a Spanish professor.

The two churches were introduced through the Alliance of Baptists with the Fraternity of Baptist Churches of Cuba, one of four Baptist conventions in the country. According to Jentsch, many people left the

church after the revolution in the 1950s, "some out of fear, some for convenience," she said. "There is now a resurgence of all types of religion, including mainline Protestants, charismatic, Pentecostals and Santería, an Afro-Cuban spiritist religion."

Freedom of religion is now guaranteed in the Cuban constitution, noted Jentsch. In fact, there is a Baptist member of Congress, Raúl Suárez, with whom the group met at the Martin Luther King Center in Boca de Mariel.

Freedom to worship has always existed in the Cuban constitution, according to Osvaldo Perez, executive secretary of the fraternity, but within a socialist and atheist state such as Cuba after the revolution, religion was very limited and believers did not have much room for action.

"At the beginning of the decade of the '90s, when the socialist camp disappeared, there was a religious opening in Cuba," said Perez. "Many people now go to church, which is growing at a fast pace. Currently, there is a movement of house churches at the national level to provide a place for the great number of people who want to hear about their faith and study the Bible."

Rose, director of academic success at Samford, found the trip transformative. "The people I met and the things I experienced had a profound impact on me; not only did the trip illumine my understanding of Cuban life and culture, it challenged my commitment to social justice as well as my understanding of myself and my culture of excess," she said.

She has plans to incorporate what she learned into her Cultural Perspectives classes that study the issues and concerns of the Global Village.

Heifner was equally impressed. "For me and the group from Covenant, the trip to Shalom Baptist Church was laden with hope—in every good sense of that word." ■

Cuba visitors included, from left, seated, Bridget Rose, Jill Holley, Leah Shell, Lynda Jentsch, and, standing, Sarah Shelton, Noah Hoppe-McQueen, Andrea Smith, Dan Shelton, Todd Heifner and Cindy Ponder.



# CLASSnotes

This issue includes Class Notes received through July 27, 2009.

Let us hear from you!  
1-877-SU ALUMS  
205-726-2807  
samnews@samford.edu

- '35 **Eugene Bernard Savage J.D.**, is retired and living in College Station, Texas.
- '41 **Martha Grace Green** of Winston-Salem, N.C., compiled inspirational columns she has written through the years into a book, *Pockets for My Apron*. She is a former speech teacher at Piedmont Baptist College and frequent speaker to women's groups. She and her husband, **G. Carl Green '43**, a minister, met while students at Howard College. In July, they celebrated her 90th birthday and their 67th wedding anniversary.
- '46 **Mary Pierson Montgomery** is retired and living in Fairhope, Ala.
- '49 **Robert C. Weaver** was recognized in June when a chapel was named in his honor at Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center in his hometown of Talladega, Ala. The chapel is the culmination of his work with Royal Ambassadors, deaf children and youth. His commitment to Shocco has spanned more than 70 years. His college activities included serving as editor of *The Crimson*.
- '50 **Charlotte M. Thornburg** lives in Jacksonville, Ala. A retired professor at Jacksonville State University, she travels and teaches a Sunday school class at First Baptist Church, Jacksonville.
- '51 **Donald L. Flippo, Sr.**, is retired and living in Mobile, Ala.
- '53 **Hoyt G. Harwell** of Birmingham writes a column for *Senior Living*, a monthly publication distributed in central and north Alabama. He was a writer and editor with the Associated Press for 42 years.
- Shelby A. Smith**, a missionary emeritus after 35 years with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, led six volunteer mission groups in 2008—four to Ecuador, and others to the Caribbean and Ukraine. He lives part time in Gulf Shores, Ala., and Greensboro, Ala.
- '63 **Rebecca Green McAnnally** was inducted into the Children's Hospital Nursing Hall of Fame. She retired from Children's Health System after 40 years, having served as division director of specialty care services outpatient division for 26 years. She and her husband, Joe, live in Cullman, Ala.
- '64 **Mary Jean Bridges Thomason** is retired and living in Birmingham. She was director of the Samford Library.
- '66 **Susan Keller Lockwood** of Phenix City, Ala., received her second Outstanding Faculty Award at Chattahoochee Valley Community College, where she is an English teacher and chair of the school's language and fine arts department. She begins her 44th year of continuous teaching this fall.
- Jerry and Maryann Stringer Tyler '67** recently celebrated 25 years as minister of music and music associate, respectively, at First Baptist Church of Roswell, Ga. In June, they celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary.
- '70 **Mike Shaw**, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pelham, Ala., was honored recently by the congregation for his 30 years at the church. He has been a volunteer chaplain for the Pelham police and fire departments, and is active in community and denominational activities. He is vice president of the Alabama Baptist State Convention. He and his wife, Mary, have two sons, Scotty and Jake.
- Robert Gordon Wilkerson** is pastor of Valley East Baptist Church, Pinson, Ala. He and his wife, Jane, have two children.
- '71 **Cynthia Walker Watts** of Leesburg, Ga., is quality and risk manager for Dialysis Clinic Inc., and its eight dialysis clinics in southwest Georgia. She also leads corporate training programs.
- '72 **Craig Sanderson** is a city councilman in Irondale, Ala.
- '75 **Ralph Brown** retired in July as minister of music/youth at Holly Grove Baptist Church, Bells, Tenn. He and his wife, Elaine, live in Brownsville, Tenn.
- Mike Stimpson** of Goodlettsville, Tenn., was inducted into the Cherokee County Hall of Fame in July in recognition of his success in basketball and track at Cherokee County High School in Centre, Ala., although he was seriously injured in a car wreck the spring of his high school junior year. An ordained minister, he has four children and four grandchildren.
- '76 **Rob Frederick** teaches music at Old Kings Elementary School in Palm Coast, Fla. He and his wife, Diane, have two grown children.
- Mary Nell Preston McNeese** is an associate professor in educational studies and research at University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss.
- Mary Susan Reding** is a teacher with the Department of Defense Education Activity in Brunssum, the Netherlands. She has lived overseas for 28 years, teaching in Cuba and Japan prior to her current post.
- '77 **Robert Glenn Carden** of Elrod, Ala., is an adjunct associate professor in the University of Alabama at Birmingham's School of Optometry. He is a chief examiner for the National Board of Examiners in Optometry.
- Ann Thornton Field** of Malvern, Penn., was elected chair of the board of directors of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania. Chair of the general litigation department of Philadelphia's Cozen O'Connor law firm, she has been involved with scouting for more than 25 years.
- '79 **Naomi Borders** serves on the board of directors of Hopkinsville Community College, Hopkinsville, Ky. She lives in Elkton, Ky.
- Richard "Chip" Maynard** received the Kmart 2009 Pharmacist of the Year award for the southern division and was named runner up for the national honor. He was cited for his work with the American Red Cross Bloodmobile. A Kmart pharmacy manager in Smyrna, Tenn., he is also certified to teach the immunization course to other pharmacists.
- Scott Waterhouse** is founder and president of Waterhouse Coaching Services, a personal and business development company in North Carolina.
- '81 **Rebecca Williams Wakefield, M.B.A. '83**, passed the certified research administrator's exam in May, becoming one of five individuals in Alabama to hold the CRA designation. She is an administrative associate in the microbiology department at University of Alabama at Birmingham.
- '82 **Sharon Joy Smith Knerr, M.A. '84**, and her family live in Round Rock, Texas, where she is a church volunteer and middle school tutor. She and her husband, Henry, have two children, Alyssa and Brennen.

# Marketing Graduate's Efforts Produce Hot Lunches for Needy Children

by Mary Wimberley

The training **Alicia Thrash Storbeck '89** received in her Samford marketing classes has played out in her successful personalized products business, Heartstrings Enterprises, founded in 1997. More recently, the Auburn, Ala., entrepreneur has succeeded in helping to provide hot lunches to more than 360 children in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras.

Two years ago, Storbeck and her husband, Jim, began a second company, Initial Outfitters, a direct sales/home party plan company with independent consultants in 25 states. From the outset, they partnered the venture with Charlie's Lunch, a ministry started by missionaries Sam and Janey Stewart to honor their son, Charlie, who died at age 12.

The program provides hot meals to needy children at more than 30 lunchrooms across Latin America, India and Africa.

Being realistic, the Storbecks started with a small goal: using 100 percent of the profits from the sale of Charlie's Lunchbox, an embroidered product of their own creation, they would support the opening of one lunchroom in 2008.

"Our consultants fell in love with the ministry and lit a fire under their own feet. Three months later, we had sponsored a lunchroom," said Storbeck, who was named the Samford business school's outstanding marketing student of the year in 1989. "Ten months after we started, we had funded six lunchrooms, four of which opened in Cuernavaca, Mexico, in January."

Through the six lunchrooms, about 18,720 nutritious lunches will be served in 2009 to children who might otherwise receive only a helping of beans and coffee, or nothing at all. In addition to their meal, children receive training in basic hygiene and manners. They also participate in a Bible study activity time.

All lunchrooms are operated by volunteers and are run



Alicia Thrash Storbeck

though a local church.

One lunchroom was sponsored in full by a single Initial Outfitters team of direct sellers led by Storbeck's sister, Amy Thrash Padgett of Virginia Beach, Va., who also attended Samford. Padgett's 100-member team took only eight months to meet her challenge to sell 1,137 lunchboxes, which resulted in 60 children in the Las Flores area of Cuernavaca eating hot lunches three days a week.

The sisters are the daughters of **Jane McSwain Thrash '63**, who lives in Auburn.

In July, Storbeck and her husband spent a week in Guatemala visiting four lunchrooms, participating in construction and medical work, and evangelizing with the children.

Storbeck's Christian commitment that began during her early years in church was underscored during college. "At Samford, people shared these values and encouraged us in that direction," she said.

Her next goal is for Initial Outfitters to raise funds to support the six lunchrooms for 2010 and fund two new lunchrooms.

To learn more about the ministry and how to purchase a Charlie's Lunchbox, go to [www.initialoutfitters.com](http://www.initialoutfitters.com). ■

ALUMNI

'84 **Mark Ray** of Decatur, Ala., was chosen to represent state legislative District 8 during a recent mock constitutional convention sponsored by Alabama Citizens for Constitution Reform.

'85 **Roy Durward Burton** is a history teacher in Killeen, Texas. He and his wife, Gwen, have two children, Michael and Reagan.

**Harry Chambers, Jr., M.B.A.**, is managing partner of Chambers Consulting, Ltd., in Birmingham.

**Janet Spears Reed** directs the practical nursing program at Keiser Career College in St. Petersburg, Fla. She and her husband, **Barclay Reed '88**, and their three teenage sons live in Brandon, Fla.

'86 **Angela Hobson** is a cytologist with Cytopath in Alabaster, Ala. She has three children, Alex, Anna Claire and Charlee.

'87 **Victor C. Davidson II, J.D.**, is an assistant public defender with the State of Florida in Green Cove Springs, Fla. He and his wife, Lisa V. Hoffman, live in Orange Park, Fla.

**Charles A. Douglass** of Montgomery, Ala., a colonel in the U.S. Air Force, is deployed to Iraq.

**Hallie L. Zobel, J.D.**, was recognized by the Florida Supreme Court, the Young Lawyers Division of the Florida Bar and the Florida Pro Bono Coordinators Association for her outstanding pro bono service in 2008. She is a partner in the law firm of Bailey Zobel Pilcher, PLC, in Maitland, Fla.

'88 **Andy D. Birchfield, Jr.**, was selected for inclusion on the 2009 Super Lawyers list, a designation based on peer recognition and personal achievement. He is a shareholder with Beasley Allen law firm in Montgomery, Ala.

**Roy D. Stoves** is an interior designer with Khafra in Birmingham. He and his wife, Angela, have three children, Ashley, Rachel and Ryan.

'91 **Shannon Rogers Flynt** is an assistant professor in the Department of Classics at Samford. She and her husband, **Sean Flynt '91**, who is electronic news editor at Samford, have a son, Ambrose, 2. They live in Morris, Ala.

**Tracy True Dismukes, M.B.A.**, was the keynote speaker for the National Association of Resale and Thrift Shops annual conference in Scottsdale, Ariz., in June. Owner of Collage Designer Consignment women's clothing chain in Birmingham, she also is host and executive producer of *Consignment Chic* television show and owner of ConsignmentChic.com.

'92 **Ronnie Allan Burton** is codirector of Hope Manifest in Birmingham. He and his wife, Valerie, have two children, Carter and Marshall.

**Todd Payne** is general manager of WCRV 640 AM in Memphis, Tenn., an affiliate of the Bott Radio Network.

**Jeff Roberts** was listed among the top 1,000 financial advisers in the United States in the Feb. 9, 2009, issue of *Barron's*. He is a senior private wealth adviser with Jeff Roberts & Associates in Birmingham.

'93 **Matt Cook** recently completed a Ph.D. in church history at Baylor University. He is senior pastor of Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark. He and his wife, Allyson, have two children, Nathaniel and Caroline.

**Jase Tillman** works with iQonnect.net business directory. He and his wife, Ansley, live in Franklin, Tenn.

'94 **Kristi Mangum Cerice** is a manager with Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith, P.C., in Birmingham. She and her husband, Emilio, have a son, Andrew, 1.

**Amy Cheek Fineburg, M.S.E. '00**, of Trussville, Ala., is assistant principal at Oak Mountain High School.

'95 **Amy Michele Cooper** of Richmond, Va., is employed by the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

'96 **Matthew Brewer** of Dallas, Ga., is serving a year in Afghanistan as chaplain for the 48th brigade of the Georgia National Guard. He began his tour in April. He and his wife, **Jennifer Bratton Brewer '96, M.S.E. '97**, have three children, Leah, 6, Rachael, 3, and Hannah, 1.

**Josh Cooper** is in law enforcement training with the Dallas, Texas, police department.

**Natalie Dodd** of Franklin, Tenn., is a senior sales director with Mary Kay, Inc.

**Patrick Oliver Jones** is a singer/actor based in Jersey City, N.J. He recently played Enjolras in performances of *Les Miserables* in Vermont and Florida, and was a featured singer with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

**Jessica George White** lives in Waynesville, N.C., with her husband, Jon, and their children, Walker, Georgia and Parx.

'97 **Daryl Healea** is assistant director of residence life at Boston University. He and his wife, Rosemary, have two children, Aiden Roy, 3, and Julia Rose, born in June.

**Sandra Jeanette Howard, M.S.E.M.,** of Parker, Fla., retired this year from the U.S. Air Force, which she served as a bio-environmental engineer for 20 years.

**Brad Medcalf, M.Acc. '98**, is a commercial banker with BB&T in Greenville, S.C. He and his wife, Carri, have two children, Hudson, 2, and McClellan Elizabeth, born in May.

**Anita Wallace, Pharm.D.,** is a clinical pharmacy specialist at Manchester VA Medical Center, Manchester, N.H.

'98 **Mark Stratton Damron** of Franklin, Tenn., works with PivotHealth in Brentwood, Tenn. He and his wife, Beth, have three children, Neely, 5, Stratton, 4, and Annie, 1.

**Karen Suzanne Goss Henderson, Pharm.D.,** is a pharmacist with Walmart

in Gardendale, Ala. She and her husband, Terry, have three children, Haley Elizabeth, Christian Michael and Molly Katherine.

**Brice Philip Keener** married Leigh Dennis in April. They live in Alpharetta, Ga., where he is an IT senior manager, risk control group, with McKesson Corporation.

**Heather Pinson** of Pittsburgh, Penn., is writing a book on jazz history and photography that will be published by the University Press of Mississippi. She is assistant professor of communication and media art at Robert Morris University. She earned a Ph.D. in interdisciplinary arts at Ohio University in 2007.

'99 **Christopher Andrew Price** is pastor of missions and minister to college students at Chets Creek Church in Jacksonville, Fla. He and his wife, Christy, have two children, Jaden, 2, and Cailey, born in January.

**Jennifer Duke Terpstra** is fourth and fifth grade reading teacher at Mount Pisgah Christian School in Alpharetta, Ga. She and her husband, Joseph, have four children, Noah, 9, Avery, 6, Charlie, 5, and Jonathan Andrew, born in December. They live in Roswell, Ga.

**Craig and Libby Lovett Shadinger** live in Brownsboro, Ala. He is a dentist with Monrovia Family Dentistry in Madison, Ala. She is a physician with Radiology of Huntsville. They have one child, Austin.

'00 **Jason Howell Cook** is a realtor with ERA Oxford Realty in Birmingham. He and his wife, Sarah, have two children, Gracie, 3, and James, born in May.

**Destin Jay DuBose M.Div. '03**, is a bivocational minister and accountant in Tallahassee, Fla. He and his wife, Jenny, have a son, Joshua Bradley, born in May.

**Debbie Diane Dutton Duke** of Odenville, Ala., is congregational health coordinator at Samford's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. She and her husband, Thomas, have three children.

**Jennifer Bearden Thorn** is life enrichment coordinator with Regional Inter-Faith Association. She and her husband, Richard, live in Jackson, Tenn.

**Anna Patterson Norton** was recently appointed a missionary with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. She and her husband, Tim, will be involved in evangelism and church planting in Madagascar. They have a son, Judah Elijah, 1.

**Jeffrey and Anna Lee Glover Walding '02** live in Jackson, Miss. He recently completed a general surgery residency. They have a son, River Zachariah, born in February.

'01 **Sarah Elizabeth Boy** is a teacher at Tattnell Square Academy in Macon, Ga.

**Dana A. Dews** was appointed a member of the Virginia College Fund Board of Directors. An associate at Christian & Barton, L.L.P., in Richmond, Va., she focuses her law practice on labor and employment, health care and litigation matters.

**Jessi Wardle Downing** is a senior sales representative with Amgen. She and her husband, Jeremy, live in Conroe, Texas.

**Claire Battle Hoaglund** of Alabaster, Ala., is a compliance auditor at Regions Financial Corporation. She and her husband, David, have a daughter, Abigail, 4.

**Amanda Leigh McCollum** earned a certified financial planner designation. She is a financial planning specialist with L. Paul Kassouf and Co., in Birmingham.

**Zeb and Tara Taylor Simpson '02** live in Dhaka, Bangladesh, where they work for the U.S. Agency for International Development [USAID]. He is deputy executive officer for USAID Bangladesh, and she is a foreign-service health officer. They will be posted in the south Asian nation for two years.

'02 **Michael John Clements** is a broker with Century 21 Scheetz in Carmel, Ind.

**Benjamin K. Conforti** married Lianna Marquez in March. They live in Augusta, Ga.

**Anne-Marie Gianoudis** of Birmingham was appointed a national trustee of the International Interior Design Association [IIDA] Foundation. An interior designer with Gresham, Smith and Partners, she is president of the Alabama IIDA chapter.

**Jared M. Monahan** of Bradenton, Fla., is an assistant state attorney for the 12th judicial circuit of Florida. He and his wife, Miranda, have two children, Hannah, 2, and Sarah, 1.

**James Allen Taylor, M.Div.,** is director of campus ministries at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark.

**Julie C. Taylor, Pharm.D.,** is a pharmacist at Walgreens in London, Ky. She and her husband, David, have two children, Benjamin Luke, 2, and Abigail Claire, born in April.

'03 **Sherie A. Horvath** graduated from University of South Alabama College of



Medicine in Mobile, Ala., in May. She will serve a pediatric residency at University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Ashley Stidham married Alex Seligson in November. They live in Birmingham, where she is in sales with TeleVox Software, a health-care software company.

'04 **Holly Spurlock Blankenship** graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in May. She will serve a residency in family medicine at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, Tenn.

**Amy Elizabeth Sexton Brothers** is an accountant with Sterne Agee & Leach in Birmingham. She and her husband, Walter, live in Maylene, Ala.

**Dusty O'Neil Folds** of Attalla, Ala., is user services librarian at Jefferson State Community College.

**Andrew David Housholder** graduated from University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile, Ala., in May. He will serve a residency in emergency medicine at University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham.

**Phil Johnson** recently graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine. He and his wife, **Cara Wharton Johnson '04**, live in Lookout Mountain, Tenn.

**Jill Hudgens Lee** graduated from University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile, Ala., in May. She will serve a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Greenville, S.C.

**Brandi Nichole Smith** of Gallup, N.M., is an optometrist with the Indian Health Service.

'05 **Amber K. Brown** graduated from University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile, Ala., in May. She will serve a residency in medicine/pediatrics at University of Illinois College of Medicine in Chicago.

**Matt McKinney** of Ocala, Fla., is campaign manager for U.S. Congressman Cliff Stearns of Florida.

'06 **Marlene Mann Cox** is a staff accountant with Barfield, Murphy, Shank & Smith, P.C., in Birmingham.

**Kathleen Jordan Peebles Dye, Pharm.D.**, is a staff pharmacist at Walmart in Eagle River, Alaska.

**Melanie Patrice Ervin, M.Acc. '07**, is an audit associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP, in Birmingham.

'07 **Margaret Lee "Meg" Allred** married Andrew Thomas Lake in May. They live in Madison, Miss. She works with the Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration.

**Giovanni Hernandez** is an international scouting intern with the Detroit Tigers. He recently earned a master's in sports administration at St. Thomas University in Miami, Fla.

**Laurel Matherly** married Casey Smith in July. She is a software analyst with Penta Research, Inc., in Huntsville, Ala.

**Ben Schmidt** is a financial analyst with CNL Lifestyle Company, LLC, in Orlando, Fla. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Windermere, Fla.

'08 **Brad Alsup, Pharm.D.**, is a staff pharmacist at Walgreens Pharmacy in Hendersonville, Tenn. He and his wife, Emily, live in Gallatin, Tenn.

**Tara Kilcoyne Blockley** is a registered nurse at Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women in Memphis, Tenn. She and her husband, Josh, live in Marion, Ark.

**Daniel Bowles** of Birmingham earned a master of accountancy degree from Samford's Brock School of Business in May.

**Audra Marie Clifton, Pharm.D.**, of Birmingham is a pharmacist at Walgreens Pharmacy.

**Pamila Sue Dycus, Pharm.D.**, of Moss Point, Miss., is a pharmacist at Singing River Hospital Pharmacy and Burnham's Drugs in Pascagoula, Miss. She has two children, Blake and Kelsey.

**Rebecca Lee Graham** is a reporter for WFIE 14 television news in Evansville, Ind.

**Britta Elizabeth Lindborg Hull** is a sales and service specialist with Bank of America in Kent, Wash.

**Andrew Joel Johnson and Marchelee Lynette Olds '09** married in May.

**Jackie Taylor Lee** works at Ernst & Young in Chattanooga, Tenn. She recently earned a master of accountancy degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

'09 **Stephanie Harris Robinson, Ed.D.**, of Fultondale, Ala., is social studies supervisor with the Jefferson County Board of Education.

## Chef Briscione To Conduct Culinary Demonstration at Homecoming



**Chef James Briscione**

**Chef James Briscione '01**, a chef instructor at the Institute of Culinary Education in New York City, will conduct a culinary demonstration with Samford chef Chris Vizzina during homecoming. The two will show off their cooking talents Friday, Nov. 6, at 5:30 p.m.

Briscione recently took his start on The Food Network show *Chopped*, where he walked away as champion. He moved to New York after a four-year stint at award-winning chef Frank Stitt's Birmingham restaurant

Highlands Bar and Grill. He worked first in New York at Restaurant Daniel, a private dining room catering to international elite dinner parties.

He was featured in the Great Regional Chefs of America dinner at the James Beard House in 2005.

Briscione was one of several young Samford alumni who gathered at a reception hosted by **Todd Crider '87** in New York earlier this year. In addition to Samford students attending the Model United Nations conference, the group included **Melissa Kaplan '98**, executive director of Hadassah International Medical Relief Association, which supports the work of Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Center around the world; **Amy Kirkland '00**, manager of school partnerships for Carnegie Hall; and **Cherington Shucker, '98**, director of operations for Keeling and Associates higher education consulting firm.

Crider, a Samford Alumnus of the Year in 2006, is an international corporate finance attorney with Simpson Thatcher and Bartlett, LLP. ■

*See page 33 for more 2009 Homecoming information.*

# births

'93 Brenton and **Rachel French Sadauskas** of Arlington, Va., a son, Johnas Christian, born May 19, 2009.

'94 Janica and **Scott Carter, M.Div. '97**, of Hoover, Ala., a daughter, Rebekah Lynn, born March 23, 2009.

Emilio and **Kristi Mangum Cerice** of Hoover, Ala., a son, Andrew Miguel, born Sept. 17, 2008.

'95 Chris and **Melanie Carol Chafin Bradle** of Charlotte, N.C., a son, Braxton, born March 19, 2009.

'96 **Matthew and Jennifer Bratton Brewer, M.S.E. '97**, of Dallas, Ga., a daughter, Hannah, born July 11, 2008.

**Rob and Dana DeLoach Langston** of Powder Springs, Ga., a son, Ryan Baxter, born April 27, 2009.

'97 Rosemary and **Daryl Healea** of Boston, Mass., a daughter, Julia Rose, born June 11, 2009.

Carri and **Brad Medcalf, M.Acc. '98**, of Greenville, S.C., a daughter, McClellen Elizabeth, born May 1, 2009.

'99 Neil and **Gwen Allison Burger Dishman** of Glen Ellyn, Ill., a daughter, Lily Grace, born May 15, 2009.

David and **Ashley Elaine Donaldson Downs** of Birmingham, a son, Harris David, born Feb. 26, 2009.

Christy and **Christopher Andrew Price** of Jacksonville, Fla., a daughter, Cailey Anne, born Jan. 10, 2009.

Joseph and **Jennifer Duke Terpstra** of Roswell, Ga., a son, Jonathan Andrew, born Dec. 2, 2008.

'00 Brian and **Joy Brunson, M.S.E.**, of Charleston, S.C., a son, Caleb, born Nov. 4, 2008.

Sarah and **Jason Howell Cook** of Birmingham, a son, James, born May 1, 2009.

Jennifer and **Destin Jay DuBose, M.Div. '03**, of Tallahassee, Fla., a son, Joshua Bradley, born May 9, 2009.

**Susie Carlberg Sterling and Jason L. Sterling '07** of Birmingham, a daughter, Anne Wright, born March 5, 2009.

**Jeffery and Anna Lee Glover Walding '02** of Jackson, Miss., a son, River Zachariah, born Feb. 4, 2009.

'01 **Jonathan and Lesley Taylor Howell Drescher** of Birmingham, a son, Beau Barron, born Jan. 9, 2009.

**Thomas, J.D., and Julie Coleman Kegley, J.D.**, of Atlanta, Ga., a son, Edward Riley, born April 10, 2009.

'02 **Wes and Nicole Phelps, Pharm.D. '04**, of Cary, N.C., a daughter, Claire Elizabeth, born Jan. 23, 2009.

David and **Julie C. Taylor, Pharm.D.**, of London, Ky., a daughter, Abigail Claire, born April 14, 2009.

'03 **Billy and Jodi Ellison Baker** of Louisville, Ky., a daughter, Payton Grace, born Sept. 19, 2008.

Matt and **Miller Pierce Dart** of Evanston, Ill., a son, William Pierce, born July 18, 2009.

**Matt and Amanda Ward Ennis '04** of Birmingham, a son, John Bryan, born June 16, 2009.

**Ryan and Katie Gilbert Grace '04, M.S. E. '05**, of Chelsea, Ala., a daughter, Avery Caroline, born March 10, 2009.

'04 Lindsey and **Benjamin Lawrence** of Pendleton, Ind., a daughter, Scarlett Kay, born April 28, 2009.

John Lee and **Robin Bobo Redding, J.D.**, of Moultrie, Ga., a daughter, Elizabeth McLaren, born May 1, 2009.

'05 Mike and **Jennifer Sarah Snyder Hall** of Bartow, Fla., a son, Malachi Christian, born June 12, 2009.

'07 Lilian Peter Ernest and **Stanford Ernest Mwasongwe, M.Div.** of Birmingham, a son, Makai Bryden, born May 21, 2009. ■



## For information

Stan Davis, J.D. '78  
 Director of Gift Planning  
 205-726-2807 • 1-877-782-5867  
 legacy@samford.edu  
 www.samford.edu/legacy

## Samford is what it is today because those who came before us laid a strong foundation.

Did you know that you can make a gift to Samford that costs you nothing during your lifetime? A bequest to Samford in your will builds our long-term financial strength and is easy to do. Why?

### It's simple.

One paragraph in your will can set up your gift.

### It's flexible.

You can give Samford a specific asset or a percentage of your estate. You can choose to support a particular program or allow Samford to use it for the most relevant needs at the time.

### It's revocable.

A bequest doesn't affect your current asset balance or cash flow. If your plans or circumstances change, you can revise your gift easily.

We can help you take the next steps to plan a bequest.

# inmemoriam

'34 **John Richardson Rucker, Sr., J.D.**, age 93, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., died July 10, 2009. He passed the Tennessee Bar in 1934 at age 18 and practiced law until 1990. A glider pilot in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, he retired in 1975 as a colonel in the Air Force Reserves. He was a general sessions judge, a member of the Murfreesboro City Council and a state senator.

'37 **Sara Serena Boykin Colvin**, age 94, of Jasper, Ala., died June 7, 2009. A real estate attorney and manager of a title insurance company, she was the first female president of the Walker County Bar Association. She was longtime register of the circuit court in equity.

**Mary Yandle Haon** of Birmingham died July 7, 2009. She taught typing, shorthand and business law at Woodlawn High School for 37 years, retiring as department head. She graduated from Howard College at age 18.

'38 **Lee E. McIlvaine, J.D.**, age 92, of Jacksonville, Fla., died June 10, 2009. He was an investor, financier, conservationist and philanthropist.

'41 **Lula Eloise Harris Jensen**, age 91, of Leesburg, Fla., died June 23, 2009. A teacher, civil servant, poet and writer, she was inducted into the International Poetry Hall of Fame.

'43 **Julius Garnett Mooney**, age 87, of Birmingham, died June 12, 2009. He served with the U.S. Navy's seventh fleet in the South Pacific during World War II.

**Barbara Woods Taparaukas**, age 87, of Pasadena, Texas, died May 11, 2009. A Navy WAVE during World War II, she taught airmen to fly by instruments. She was a math and history teacher in Catholic schools.

'44 **G. Frank Burns, J.D.**, age 87, of Garland, Texas, died July 14, 2009. A historian and award-winning newspaperman, he taught English at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tenn., and at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tenn. A former editor of *The Lebanon Democrat*, he was active in many aspects of the city's life.

'45 **Jessie Paul Cain Haislett**, age 85, of Opp, Ala., died Jan. 25, 2009. A retired visiting nurse, her career also included public health and occupational health settings. She was the sister of Samford graduates Merle Cain Cannon '49 and Joy Cain Morris '63.

'47 **Ferrell P. Lawrence, Sr.**, age 91, of Leeds, Ala., died July 6, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II and retired from Hayes International.

'49 **Don D. Herndon, Jr.**, age 81, of Greenville, Ala., died Dec. 1, 2008. Owner of Dunklin Herndon Funeral Home, he was president of Butler County United Way, Greenville Country Club and the Alabama Funeral Directors Association. He was a member of the Industrial Development Board. He was married to Carolyn Boyd Herndon '50.

'51 **Rosemary Lackey Powell**, age 79, of Orange, Texas, died July 7, 2009. She was a retired teacher and member of Delta Kappa Gamma education honor society.

'54 **William Gerald "Bill" Caldwell**, age 75, of Fort Worth, Texas, died March 2, 2009. He taught at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth for 30 years, retiring in 2006 as distinguished professor of administration. He also taught at Baptist Bible Institute in Graceville, Fla., worked in the church training department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, and was minister of education at churches in Texas, Missouri and Alabama. He was married for 54 years to fellow Samford student Dianne Clemm Caldwell.

**Oron Russell Ford**, age 88, of Hoover, Ala., died May 24, 2009. He was a navigator with the Fifth Bomber Command during World War II and also served with the Air Force during the Korean conflict.

'62 **Marlin Hanson**, age 72, of Albertville, Ala., died May 21, 2009, of cancer. He was administrator of Marshall South Hospital for 23 years and earlier had operated a drug store in Guntersville, Ala. He was a former president of the Boaz Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the Alabama Hospital Association, which awarded him its Gold Medal of Excellence in 2001.

'63 **Gordon E. "Gene" Jones**, age 72, of Birmingham, died June 30, 2009. He retired from BellSouth after 38 years of service and from the Alabama Army National Guard after 40 years. He also was a realtor.

**Lynn Frank Whatley**, age 68, of Double Springs, Ala., died June 12, 2009. He taught music and band in Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Louisiana, and piano lessons in Double Springs.

'64 **Marie Henninger Maile**, age 67, of Galesburg, Mich., died July 16, 2009. She was the first female biostatistician at The Upjohn Company, from which she retired after 34 years. She was a mentor in the Kalamazoo, Mich., math and science center, and was active in the American Statistical Association, receiving her chapter's outstanding member award in 1989.

'65 **Edith Tanner Broughton**, age 80, of Birmingham, died June 11, 2009. She taught in Birmingham area schools and was an accomplished gardener.

**Rebekah Vaughn Troutman, M.S.E.** '68, age 64, of Dothan, Ala., died July 15, 2009. While serving as director/teacher of Dothan's Head Start program, she helped to establish a family services center. She retired in 2008 as director of early childhood education services for Dothan schools. She was a leader at the state level in matters related to special needs children. She met her husband, the late William Wayne Troutman '64, M.B.A. '73, during her freshman year at Samford.

'67 **William I. Grubb J.D.** '70, of Eufaula, Ala., died May 20, 2009. He practiced law for 35 years, and was an assistant district attorney. He was a former president of the Barbour County Bar Association.

'68 **Rebecca Legg Liles M.S.E.**, age 68, of Plano, Texas, died July 18, 2009, of cancer. She taught elementary school in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama.

'76 **Larry Condra**, age 58, of Smyrna, Ga., died June 8, 2009. He owned Condra Pharmacy in Jasper, Tenn., for many years.

'83 **G. Neil Jefferson**, age 75, of Birmingham, died June 5, 2009. He served with the U.S. Air Force in southeast Asia, and with the U.S. Army special operations command during Operation Desert Storm.

'84 **William Rodwell Duke, Jr., J.D.**, age 74, of Birmingham, died June 22, 2009. A reconnaissance and intelligence photographer in the U.S. Navy, he was commanding officer of combat camera groups and motion picture teams in Europe, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia. After retiring from the Navy as a lieutenant commander, he taught mass communication at the University of Montevallo and enjoyed growing roses.

'96 **Mildred Crowson Nixon**, age 87, of Birmingham, died June 6, 2009. She worked full time at Bessemer Housing Authority while enrolled in Samford's evening program. ■

## Four Starters Return for Men

The Samford men's basketball team finished with a rush last season and, with 12 of 13 lettermen back, hopes to build on that success. Coach Jimmy Tillette's team won three straight road games and reached the semifinal round in its first Southern Conference [SoCon] tournament before losing to eventual champion Chattanooga.

Four starters return, including top scorer Bryan Friday (12.5 points a game) and point guard Trey Montgomery (11.6). Guard Josh Davis (10.1) and center Andy King (8.8) are the other returning starters.

Last year's team, which had only one senior, led the conference in defense, allowing only 62.2 points a game en route to a 16-16 season. The team got stronger as the season progressed.

Other returnees who saw ample playing time are guards Josh Bedwell and Jeffrey Merritt, and center Matthew Friday.

In addition to a strong SoCon schedule, this year's slate will include games against the University of Alabama at Birmingham Nov. 15 in a tournament at Kent State, and against Alabama Dec. 16 in Tuscaloosa.

Tillette enters his 13th season as Samford's winningest men's coach with a 195-161 record. ■

## Women Have 22-7 Leaders Back

Last year's women's basketball team posted a 22-7 record and the best conference mark in school history (16-4). That performance helped Coach Mike Morris win conference Coach of the Year honors for the second time in four years.

The Bulldogs made it to the semifinal round of the Southern Conference tournament, losing to eventual champion Western Carolina. With four starters and four other letterwinners returning, they seem poised to be one of the SoCon favorites again this year.

Morris has turned Samford into a winner. The team has a 45-16 mark the past two seasons and averaged 20 wins a year the past four.

First-team All-Conference guard Emily London returns after finishing third in the nation in 3-point shooting (46.4 percent) and free-throw accuracy (90.2 percent). She averaged 13.8 points a game.

Second-team All-Conference forward Savannah Hill is back after finishing second in Samford scoring (12.4 points a game), and first in rebounding (5.4 a game) and blocked shots (24).

Also returning are starting guards Monica Maxwell, a deadly 3-point shooter, and playmaker Megan Wilderotter. Forward J'Quita Babineaux, and guards Alex Crow, Paige Anderson and Jazmine Powers also return.

Morris starts his eighth season as Samford's winningest women's coach with a 114-89 record. ■

## Volleyball Young but Talented

Samford's volleyball team enjoyed by far its best record in its history last fall, posting a 28-5 mark to win the Southern Conference North Division in its first year in the league. But five seniors are gone from that team, including All-American Ashley Adams.

Although Coach Dex Schroeder will have a much younger team this fall, he is encouraged about prospects for 2009. Eight players return, and five talented freshmen will join the team.

Several of the young players gained valuable experience last year, including SoCon first-team selection Hillary Fountain, now a junior, and All-Freshman Team choice Rachel Gadberry.

Freshman signee Casey Garvey enjoyed an illustrious career at Mercy Academy in Louisville, Ky., where she helped her team win nine championships in four years. She was the Most Valuable Player in the Kentucky State Tournament.

Samford will begin its conference schedule against UNC-Greensboro Sept. 26, the first of five straight home matches. The Bulldogs tuned up for the league race with a challenging preconference schedule that included 11 straight road matches. ■

Trey Montgomery

# Soccer Hopes High in Second SoCon Season

The Samford soccer team combines talent with experience this fall. The Bulldogs return all 11 starters and 10 other players from last year's team that posted an 8-1-2 Southern Conference [SoCon] record and advanced to the league tournament semifinals in their first year of membership. Coach Todd Yelton added six talented freshmen to this year's squad.

With that mix, Coach Yelton expects "the most talented team in the history of Samford soccer in 2009." The Bulldogs return 95 percent of their goal-scoring production and 83 percent of their assist production from last year. "The future is very bright for us," Yelton said before the season.

Senior Amber Cress and sophomore Sarah Wilkinson led balanced Samford scoring with five goals each for last year's team that was 9-9-3 overall. Sophomore Alyssa Whitehead finished as the starting goalkeeper, and had a 5-3-2 record, four shutouts and 49 saves. Junior Paige Lanter is a leading defender.

Samford will open SoCon play Sept. 25 at The Citadel after completing its usual demanding preconference slate. The Bulldogs have excelled in conference play. They entered 2009 with a 46-7-9 record against conference opponents over the past six years. ■

## Women's CC to Build on Success

The women's cross country team finished second in its first run through the Southern Conference last fall, and the 2009 team hopes to build on that success. Coach Rod Tiffin's squad was close to a championship last year; he thinks it could go all the way this fall.

Junior Hillary Neal was conference Freshman of the Year two years ago, when Samford was competing in the Ohio Valley Conference. She emerged as one of Samford's top runners last year and earned All-SoCon first-team honors. Sophomore Andrea Seccafien was the SoCon Freshman of the Year and All-Conference first-team.

Jessica Van Ausdall and Lauren Pilcher are providing senior leadership on an otherwise youthful team. Freshman Holly Benson brings strong credentials as a standout junior runner in Canada, and should be one of Samford's top five. ■

## Tiffin Sees Men's CC Getting Better

Seniors Chas Keithan and Patrick Ollinger are leading the men's cross-country team as it tries to better last year's fourth-place Southern Conference finish. The men made impressive strides toward improvement during the course of last season, and Coach Rod Tiffin expects the same in 2009.

Junior Blaise Carie was one of the top three Bulldogs last fall and is expected to continue his good work in 2009. Other solid contributors are juniors Scott Cope and Will Denton, sophomores Matt Bryson and Jay Masery, and freshmen Sam Shaughnessy and Ramsey White.

"Our men lost a great group of seniors, and they will be hard to replace," Tiffin said. "But we hope the 2009 team will come together by the conference tournament, as did last year's team." ■

See [samfordsports.com](http://samfordsports.com) for schedules, results and other athletics information.



Paige Lanter

# with appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these additional tribute gifts received June 1–July 31, 2009. For further information, contact the Samford University Gift Office at 205-726-2807.

## HONORS

### **Bulldog Club Baseball Fund**

*in honor of Dr. J. T. Haywood*

Mr. & Mrs. John G. Kostakis, Indian Springs, Ala.

### **Divinity Student Emergency Fund**

*in honor of Dr. J. Norfleete Day*

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Poole, Hoover, Ala.

### **Richard Franklin Servant Leader Scholarship**

*in honor of Dr. J. Norfleete Day*

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Poole, Hoover, Ala.

### **Friends of Samford Arts**

*in honor of Dr. L. Gene Black*

Mr. & Mrs. Christopher W. Deering, Birmingham

### **History Department Fund**

*in honor of Rachel, Elizabeth and SaraBella Michael*

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Michael, Alexandria, Va.

### **Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research Fund**

*in honor of Jean Thomason*

Mr. J. E. Bloom, Chicago, Ill.

### **Nena F. Sanders Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarship**

*in honor of Dean Nena F. Sanders*

Ms. Earnest R. Agnew, Baldwin, Miss.

### **Jean and Pat Sullivan Scholarship**

*in honor of Mrs. Jean H. & Mr. Pat Sullivan*

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene W. Bluemly, Jr., Birmingham

Mr. & Mrs. Fred B. Hatfield, Jr., Gardendale, Ala.

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Poole, Hoover, Ala.

### **University Ministries**

*in honor of Dr. Fisher Humphreys*

Mr. & Mrs. William F. Smith II, Birmingham

*in honor of Mallory V. and Susan L. Mayse*

Mr. & Mrs. Jason W. Roland, Columbia, Mo.

## MEMORIALS

### **Debbi Bates Memorial Scholarship Fund**

*in memory of Ms. Debbi Bates*

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin L. Wiggins, Moultrie, Ga.

### **Beeson Divinity School Endowment Fund**

*in memory of Rev. Clarence L. Coker*

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Tinley, Arab, Ala.

### **Brock School of Business Excellence Fund**

*in memory of Mr. Joe Clanton & Mrs. Annie W. Wilson*

Mr. Matt Wilson, Birmingham

*in memory of Ms. Barbara Drummond Thorne*

Mr. & Mrs. Blake Davidson, Hoover, Ala.

### **William F. Brooks Scholarship**

*in memory of Rev. Joe R. Bancroft*

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph R. Bancroft, Richmond, Va.

### **Charles T. Carter Scholarship Fund**

*in memory of Edna Earle Hawk*

Mr. & Mrs. John H. Matthews, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

### **Thomas E. and Marla Haas Corts Fund**

*in memory of Dr. Thomas E. Corts*

Sen. & Mrs. Jack Biddle III, Gardendale, Ala.

Mr. & Mrs. Tracy C. Jessup, Shelby, N.C.

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Lloyd, Birmingham

Mrs. Donna F. Phillips, Auburn, Ala.

Drs. Bill & Earlene R. Turner, Lancaster, Ky.

### **Friends of Samford Arts**

*in memory of Dr. Betty Sue G. Shepherd*

Mr. & Mrs. J. Michael Johnson, Charlotte, N.C.

### **L. Funderburg Nurse Anesthesia Scholarship**

*in memory of Dr. Lonnie Funderburg*

Mr. Rich & Ms. Kathy S. Beasley, Tupelo, Miss.

Mr. Robert O. Lynd, Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley G. Watts, Jr., Leesburg, Ga.

Mr. & Mrs. Dale W. Wisely, Birmingham

### **James L. Hughes, Jr. Endowed Scholarship**

*in memory of Elizabeth J. Pugh*

Mrs. James L. Hughes, Jr., Lithia, Fla.

### **William R. and Fay Ireland Governor's School Endowed Fund**

*in memory of Mr. Craig Allen, Sr. and Mr. Paul John Sharbel, Jr.*

Dr. Carolyn & Mr. William Satterfield, Birmingham

### **D. Jerome King Scholarship**

*in memory of Dr. Jerome King*

Mrs. Phelia Harrison, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

### **McWhorter School of Pharmacy**

*in memory of Ms. Barbara Drummond Thorne*

Hospital Discount Pharmacies, Cullman, Ala.

### **Lizette Van Gelder Mitchell Scholarship**

*in memory of Mrs. Lizette Van Gelder Mitchell*

Dr. Rosemary M. Fisk, Birmingham

### **Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing**

*in memory of Mrs. Winnie Aldridge, Mr. Ross Bagley, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, Dr. Thomas E. Corts, Dr. Lonnie Funderburg, Dr. Myra Grady, Rev. Charles Mullins, Mr. John Parker and Dr. Betty Sue Shepherd*

Dr. & Mrs. Ray M. Atchison, Birmingham

### **Nurse Anesthetist Annual Scholarship**

*in memory of Dr. Resa Culpepper*

ALA-CRNA PAC, Birmingham

### **Resource Center for Pastoral Excellence**

*in memory of Dr. Hugh O. Chambliss*

Mr. & Mrs. Michael K. Wilson, Birmingham

### **Tea Sam Roe Pharmacy Fund**

*in memory of Mr. Herbert C. Batt*

Drs. Michael D. & Heather B. Hogue, Mt. Olive, Ala.

### **Samford Fund**

*in memory of Dr. George V. Irons*

Dr. Charlotte M. Thornburg, Jacksonville, Ala.

*in memory of Mrs. Stella Jones Smith*

Ms. Carroll Barrett, Homewood

### **Samford Auxiliary Scholarship Endowment**

*in memory of Mrs. Enid P. Whirley*

Mr. & Mrs. Billy T. Gamble, Birmingham

### **Shepherd Legacy Piano Fund**

*in memory of Dr. Betty Sue G. Shepherd*

Dr. & Mrs. James R. Wilson, Alpharetta, Ga.

### **Philip and Cynthia Wise Scholarship Fund**

*in memory of Dr. Philip D. Wise*

Ms. Sharon S. Barham, Laurel, Miss.

Drs. Bill & Earlene R. Turner, Lancaster, Ky. ■

# Westmoreland Cites Founders Circle for Continuous Giving

Samford has been sustained through the years by the generous gifts of many faithful friends, President Andrew Westmoreland told students at the opening convocation of the fall semester.

“The university we know today is far removed from the college that opened with nine students and had the president as the only teacher,” said Dr. Westmoreland, recalling that several times in the school’s history, both in the early years in Marion, Ala., and later in Birmingham, friends of the school gave special assistance to keep the doors open.

Westmoreland chose the gathering of faculty and all undergraduate students to install charter members of the Founders Circle, a new designation to honor those who have supported the university with annual financial commitments for at least 35 years.

“Altogether, these alumni and friends have contributed more than \$17 million to support the university’s mission,” said Westmoreland.

“They may have sometimes made relatively modest gifts,” he acknowledged, “but they were consistent in their support.”

Westmoreland noted that many of the new Founders Circle members are either alumni or faculty.

Students and faculty heartily applauded the new Founders Circle, which includes nine who have supported Samford for a continuous 40 years or more. They are: Walt ’56 and Kay Barnes, Carlton R. ’60 and Rhonda Dean Cook ’62, Pat Courington, Sr. ’46, Mary Louise Shirley Hodges ’43, John C. Pittman ’44, and Ruric E. and Joyce Wheeler ’57.

Each received a commemorative plate depicting the Samford campus during a luncheon at the president’s home following the convocation.

## **Founders Circle members who have given to Samford for at least 35 continuous years are:**

Cheryl J. Adams ’66  
Lee and Catherine Bryant Allen ’64  
Stephen C. and Myralyn Frizzelle Allgood ’61  
John F. ’69 and Ann Fishback Bennett, M.S. ’68  
Ruby McCullough Bissett ’44  
James E. Brake ’50  
Harry, Jr. and Jane Hollock Brock  
James A. and Martha Purser Brown ’46  
Frances H. Brown  
Sigurd F. ’46 and Sara Pate Bryan ’62

John T. and Frances T. Carter  
J. Wayne ’61 and Dorothy Smith Flynt ’60  
J. Carey ’43 and Marie Gwin  
J. Kenneth ’54 and Jackie Herlong  
James L. Holland, Jr. ’53  
Calvin M., J.D.’69, M.Div. ’94, and Vivian Harper Howard ’68  
Mary H. Hudson ’59  
William W. Ivey ’62  
Irene McCombs ’66  
Paul M. McCullough ’43  
William S. McGinnis, Sr. ’46  
Ellen W. McLaughlin  
William A. ’63, M.A. ’83, and Carol Fishburne Nunnelle ’65  
Marlene Hunt Rikard, M.A. ’71  
Carolyn and William Satterfield, J.D. ’77  
Eugene F. Schettgen  
Doyle B., Jr. and Eileen Dunn Sessions ’67  
Marjorie M. Stillwagen ’34  
James C., Jr. ’49 and Stella Stivender  
Stanley V., J.D. ’71, and Betty J. Susina  
Robert E. Taylor  
Kenneth E. ’60 and Ann Van Sise ’81, M.B.A. ’85  
David M. Vess ’48  
William J. ’49 and Caroline T. Ward  
Dorothy Westbrook, M.S.E. ’70, Ed.S. ’79 ■

President Andrew Westmoreland salutes Founders Circle donors at a luncheon.



# highlights

- Sept. 15** **Pharmacy Continuing Education Seminar**, 6 p.m.–9 p.m., Ingalls Hall, 205-726-2722
- Sept. 16** **Governance and Risk Management Seminar**, Speaker: Bruce Nichols; hosted by Brock School of Business, 8 a.m.–12 p.m., Davis Library, 205-726-2040
- Sept. 16–17** **Holley-Hull Lectures**, Speaker: Dr. Paul Fiddes, professor of systematic theology, University of Oxford; 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., 9/17, Reid Chapel and 134 Brooks Hall
- Sept. 17** **Journalism/Mass Communication High School Workshop**, 205-726-2465
- Sept. 18** **CLE Seminar**, hosted by Cumberland School of Law, 6:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Robinson Hall, 205-726-2865
- 2009 Gala**, hosted by Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, 7 p.m., Center for Healing Arts, 205-726-2861
- Sept. 19** **Preview Day**, hosted by admission office, 205-726-3673
- The Boyfriend*, presented by Music Theatre Ensemble, Bolding Studio, 5:30 p.m., 205-726-2505
- Sept. 21** **Alabama Pharmacy Association District 6 meeting**, hosted by McWhorter School of Pharmacy, 5 p.m., Ingalls Hall
- Sept. 22** **Davis Architects Guest Artist Series: eighth blackbird**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, www.samford.edu/arts/tickets
- Sept. 25, 27** **Opera Birmingham** performances, Brock Recital Hall. For performance times and ticket information: www.operabirmingham.org
- Sept. 26** **LSAT exam**, 8 a.m.–12 p.m., Robinson Hall, 205-726-2561
- Sept. 28–29** **Fall break**, no classes; university offices open
- Sept. 29** **Alabama Symphony Orchestra ConcertMaster and Friends**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, www.alabamasymphony.org
- Oct. 2** **Elementary All-state Choir Festival**, Fine Arts Complex, 205-726-2651
- Oct. 3** **School Violence Prevention Workshop**, 8 a.m., Flag Colonnade, 205-726-2433
- Oct. 6–7** **Go Global Missions Fair**, 205-726-2170
- Oct. 6** **Faculty recital: Jeffrey Flaniken, Angela Flaniken and Don Sanders**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Oct. 7** **Theological Education Day**, 205-726-2927
- Oct. 8–9** **Conference on Education Cost Reductions**, hosted by Samford and The Coyne Partnership, 205-726-2718
- Oct. 8–11** *A Happy Few*, presented by Samford Theatre. www.samford.edu/arts/tickets
- Oct. 8, 22** **Clinical Skills Competition**, hosted by McWhorter School of Pharmacy, 3–9 p.m. 205-726-2076
- Oct. 9** **Nurse anesthesia hooding ceremony**, 2 p.m., Hodges Chapel, 205-726-2863
- Oct. 9–11** **Family Weekend**, 205-726-2345
- Oct. 10** **Preview Day**, hosted by admission office, 205-726-3673
- Oct. 11** **Samford Hymn Sing**, 2 p.m., Reid Chapel
- Oct. 16** **Alabama Medical Education Consortium Residency Fair**, 1 p.m., Wright Center, 205-975-8381
- Oct. 17** **NurCE seminar, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.**, Brock Forum, Dwight Beeson Hall, 205-726-2626
- Oct. 17–18** **“Play by the Rules”** national training conference, 205-726-2433
- Oct. 18** **Continuing Education Seminar**, hosted by McWhorter School of Pharmacy, 7:30 a.m., 205-726-2722
- Oct. 20** **Samford Orchestra Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Oct. 22** **Samford Wind Ensemble Concert**, featuring Mike Roylance, tubist, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall



- Oct. 24, 25** **ACT Test**, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., 205-726-2561
- Oct. 25** **Alabama Pharmacy Law Seminar**, 1 p.m., Wright Center, 205-726-2615
- Oct. 27** **Faculty recital**: Kathryn Fouse, piano, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Oct. 30** **Samford Jazz Ensemble concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Nov. 3** **Alabama Symphony Orchestra Concert Master and Friends**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.alabamasymphony.org](http://www.alabamasymphony.org)
- Nov. 5** **Percussion Ensemble Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Nov. 6–8** **Homecoming**, [www.samford.edu/alumni](http://www.samford.edu/alumni)
- Nov. 10** **Davis Architects Guest Artist Series**: Goodwin and Thompson guitar duo, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts/tickets](http://www.samford.edu/arts/tickets)
- Nov. 12** **Samford Auxiliary meeting**, 10 a.m., Brock Hall, 205-726-4373
- Nov. 13** **CLE Seminar**, hosted by Cumberland School of Law, Robinson Hall, 205-726-2865
- Nov. 13–14** **School of the Arts auditions**, 205-726-4524
- Nov. 15** **America's Best Cheerleading Competition**, 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Hanna Center, [www.abchampionships.com](http://www.abchampionships.com)
- Nov. 16, 19, 21** **Richard III**, presented by Samford Theatre. For performance times and ticket information: [www.samford.edu/arts/tickets](http://www.samford.edu/arts/tickets)
- Nov. 17, 20** **Merry Wives of Windsor**, presented by Samford OperaWorks. For performance times and ticket information: [www.samford.edu/arts/tickets](http://www.samford.edu/arts/tickets)
- Nov. 20** **Miss Samford Scholarship Pageant**, 7 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, 205-726-2345
- Nov. 21** **Preview Day**, hosted by admission office, 205-726-3673
- Nov. 22** **SuperJazz concert**, 3 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, 205-726-2485
- Nov. 26–27** **Thanksgiving holidays**, university closed
- Dec. 1** **Bells of Buchanan Christmas concert**, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Dec. 3** **Hanging of the Green**, 6 p.m., Reid Chapel
- Lighting of the Way ceremony**, 7 p.m., University Quadrangle
- Dec. 4** **Fall semester classes end**
- Festival of Christmas Music**, 7:30 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, [www.samford.edu/arts/tickets](http://www.samford.edu/arts/tickets)
- Dec. 5** **LSAT exam**, 8 a.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-2561
- Ten-Minute Play Festival**, 7 p.m., Harrison Theatre, [www.samford.edu/arts](http://www.samford.edu/arts)
- Dec. 6** **Continuing education seminar**, hosted by McWhorter School of Pharmacy, 11:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-2722
- One-Minute Play**, 6 p.m., Harrison Theatre, 205-726-2513
- Dec. 7–10** **Fall semester final exams**
- Dec. 11–13, 18–20** **The Nutcracker**, presented by the Alabama Ballet. For ticket information and performance times: [www.alabamaballet.org](http://www.alabamaballet.org)
- Dec. 11** **Pinning ceremony**, hosted by Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing, 1 p.m., Hodges Chapel, 205-726-2707
- Dec. 12** **Fall Commencement**, 10 a.m., Wright Center
- Dec. 13** **ACT test**, 8 a.m., Brooks Hall, 205-726-2561
- Dec. 21–25** **Christmas holidays**, university closed
- Dec. 28–30** **Continuing education seminar**, hosted by Cumberland School of Law, 205-726-2865
- Dec. 31–Jan. 1** **New Year's holiday**, university closed

Information was compiled from the university calendar as of Aug. 14, 2009. Dates, times and details are subject to change.

Please go to [www.samford.edu](http://www.samford.edu) for a complete university calendar and for updated information.

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

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

For a list of Lay Academy of Theology courses, go to [www.beesondivinity.com](http://www.beesondivinity.com).

For a complete academic calendar, go to [www.samford.edu/calendars.html](http://www.samford.edu/calendars.html). ■



Samford freshmen get some heavy-lifting assistance on Move-in Day for the fall semester.