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# Magazine

for alumni and friends of the University of North Alabama

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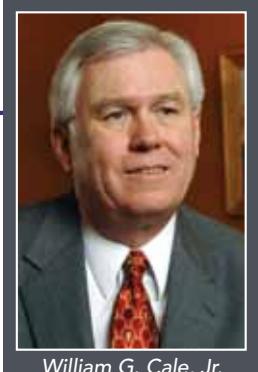
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## president's message

### William G. Cale, Jr.

Each year that I have had the pleasure to be your president I have found ample reason to be thankful for the people who create this campus community: faculty, staff, administration,

students, alumni and friends. I feel the campus pride in what we do, I feel the synergies that emerge when we come together in groups small or large to solve whatever the issues are, I feel the common trust we share in one another. We learned quite recently through a study conducted by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* that the

elements that make UNA such a fine place to be

also place us among the best universities in the country to work. So long as we continue to be a

community that shares a common vision to serve

our students well, we will continue to be the great

institution that we are today.

The year now concluding has been busy and successful. Here are a few of our accomplishments that we can point to with Lion Pride:

- Completion of the Campus Master Plan
- Completion of Keller Hall Renovation
- Completion of new air handling systems in Bibb Graves, Stevens, LaFayette, Floyd Halls
- Completion of improvements to Braly Stadium including artificial turf, a new scoreboard, and a new sound system
- Received a \$6M grant from the State for science and technology construction
- Secured \$1+M in federal support for science, nursing, and the green campus program
- Began construction on new maintenance and bus storage facilities at East Campus
- Implemented Phase II of the staff salary plan, and I am pleased to announce that we will continue that progress by implementing Phase III this year.
- Concluded agreements with Follett Higher Education Group and Sodexo

As we look to the year ahead, there is much to anticipate:

- Continuing to prepare for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- An ambitious building agenda
  - Complete architectural plans for a Science and Technology Building and a Student Commons and Academic Building
  - Wesleyan Hall and Annex renovation
  - Preliminary planning for new Student Housing
  - Preliminary planning for renovation of the Guillot University Center
- Plan for a future in Athletics that will not include the Arkansas schools as members of the Gulf South Conference
- Continue to plan for an uncertain budgetary future as the State and national economies remain troubled
- Plan for new academic programs including a Student Success Center and engineering technology

Your support to your university is vital to our continued success. I look forward to seeing you on campus this year.

Sincerely yours,  
William G. Cale, Jr., President

## SODEXO MAKES A GIFT

**Sodexo Campus Services**, UNA's food-services provider, has announced a \$1,950,000 gift to the university. The gift will go toward a new student commons and academic center as well as renovations to the Guillot University Center and the Student Recreation Center.

"We're excited about this new partnership with Sodexo and their commitment to enhancing the student experience here and providing opportunities for the community, as well," said Dr. Alan Medders, UNA vice president for advancement.

\$1.5 million of the Sodexo gift will go toward the student commons and academic center, while \$450,000 is put toward GUC and SRC renovations. The student commons will include, among other features, several new dining venues, the

One Million Nine Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars

campus bookstore as well as the new Center for Financial Literacy and The Hill, a student-operated branch of Listerhill Credit Union (see page 6). Construction for the new facility has not yet been scheduled.

The GUC renovations will bring in a Rice Box Asian restaurant and a Sub Connection, featuring fresh subs, wraps, salads and more. SRC renovations will feature a WOW Café and Wingery, offering wraps, salads, Angus burgers on Texas toast, southwestern fare and wings with a variety of sauces.

"Sodexo is very excited about our partnership with UNA and our commitment to 'Making every day a better day' for UNA students, faculty, staff and the Shoals community," said Alan Kinkead, Sodexo general manager for UNA dining services.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

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*Making ~~every~~ day a better day*  
**LEO'S**



## CASH BENEFITS

UNA, Listerhill Credit Union partner to create Center for Financial Literacy

In an age when personal financial hardship and increasing debt burdens are all too commonplace, the University of North Alabama and Listerhill Credit Union are partnering to create a first-of-its-kind Center for Financial Literacy on the UNA campus.

The student-operated center will be designed to offer a casual commons area where students and community young people can receive sound financial advice in a comfortable peer-to-peer environment. Finance, economics and education students operating the center will receive professional financial training by Listerhill management.

The Center for Financial Literacy will also include a student-operated credit union – The Hill – offering a variety of financial products and services for students, faculty, staff, alumni and the community.

"The Hill and the Center for Financial Literacy will be anything but a traditional branch," said Brad Green '91, president and CEO of Listerhill. "It will be a fun and innovative branch destination that will employ and be operated primarily by students of the university. This is definitely a concept that is unique to this partnership between UNA and Listerhill."

The Hill and the Center for Financial Literacy will both begin operation in the Guillot University Center this fall.



Dr. William G. Cale, UNA president, said the university is seeing, now more than ever, the need to equip students with an in-depth knowledge of personal finance.

"In today's economy," he said, "students are graduating from college with more debt than ever, so they're financially burdened even before their careers begin. They need to know how to wisely manage that debt, how to wisely invest their money before losing control financially."

"With resources like the ones we're offering in partnership with Listerhill,

I believe students at UNA will have a strong financial foothold by graduation."

According to the U.S. Department of Education, the average loan debt of graduating college seniors in 2008 was \$23,200. The average loan debt for UNA graduating seniors in 2008 was \$19,839.

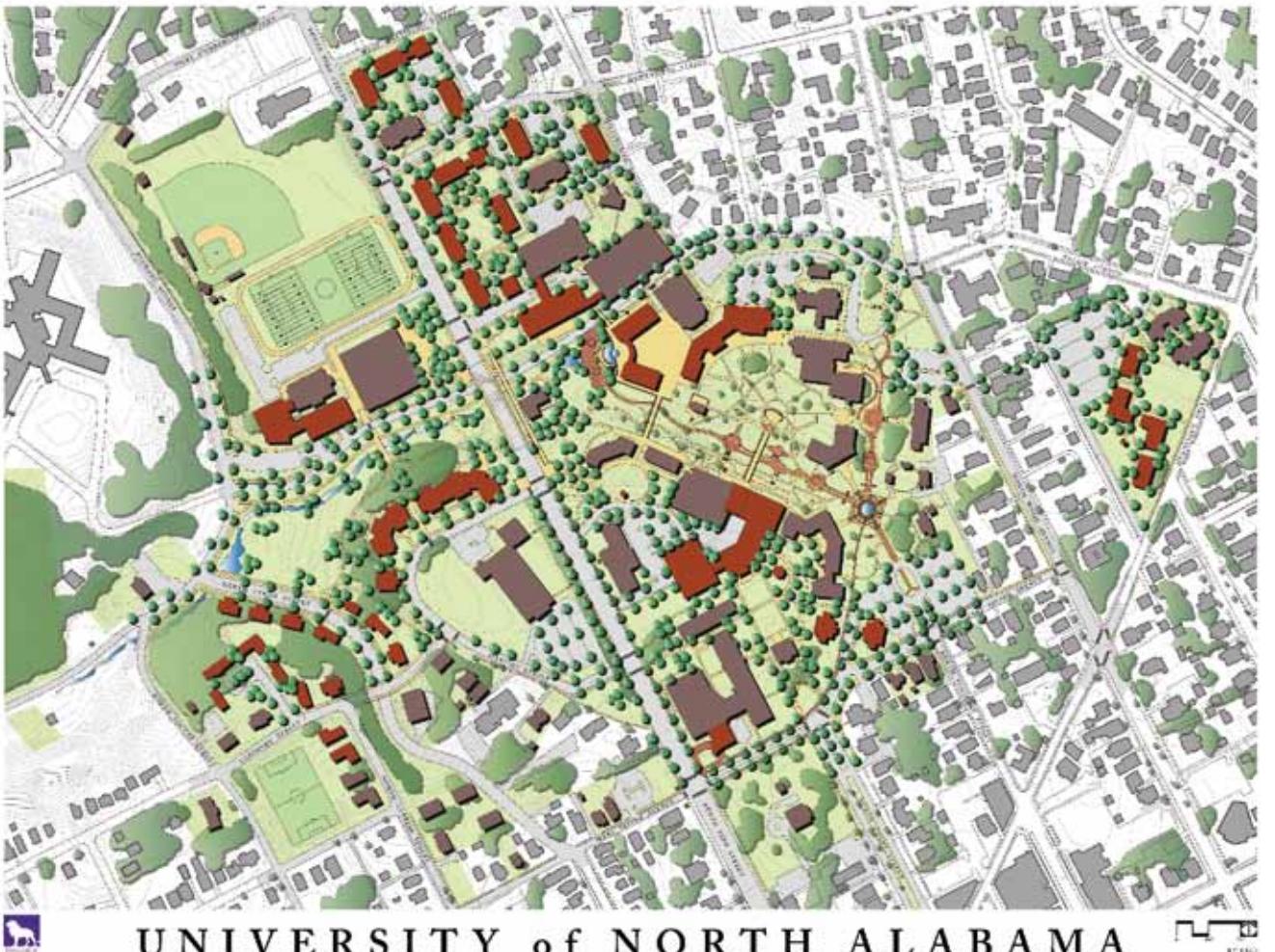
Listerhill's partnership with UNA includes a \$625,000 gift toward the university's new Academic Center and Student Commons, where the Center for Financial Literacy and The Hill will be housed upon the building's completion. The gift is the single largest corporate gift in UNA history.

## UNIVERSITY APPROVES NEW CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

The university board of trustees approved in June a new master plan projecting the campus's growth over possibly the next two decades. The plan, developed by KPS Group Inc., in Birmingham, focuses on the provision of new open space, transitions to a residential campus and more pedestrian-friendly environment, the addition of new

was to maintain or even improve the beauty, intimacy and campus feel that have been the hallmarks of the university for nearly two centuries."

The development process for the new master plan included surveys and feedback from the campus community as well as the city of Florence. The university solicited public feedback on the plan before its



academic and activity centers, and the continuous enhancement of campus beauty.

"As this plan has been developed, we've looked far into the future and envisioned a campus that is certainly different from today's, but not so different that it would not be immediately recognized as UNA," said Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president. "There were many caveats in this process, not the least of which

approval by the board.

Cale added that the plan presents "ideas, not directives, which collectively will guide us to grow in harmony with our neighbors, with our own structures, and with the value of preservation of place that is felt by everyone who has come to this campus."

The new campus master plan may be downloaded from the university home page at [www.una.edu](http://www.una.edu).

## A GREEN RENOVATION Keller Hall reopens



The College of Business, the Center for Academic Advising and Retention Services, and the Small Business Development Center moved back home to Keller Hall over the summer. They had spent nearly a year spread throughout campus as Keller underwent an extensive renovation as part of UNA's Green Campus Initiative.

Keller and other Green Campus Initiative projects are designed to promote greater efficiencies of energy usage, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and recycling of appropriate items. The

Keller renovation included, among many other features, solar panels as well as new lighting, new windows, and a new heating and air system.

The renovation was funded through a \$951,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, presented last year by Rep. Robert B. Aderholt (R-Haleyville).

Aderholt, with former Rep. Bud Cramer (D-Huntsville) and Rep. Parker Griffith (R-Huntsville), was also instrumental in securing \$984,000 for the Green Campus Initiative through the Fiscal Year 2008 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.



## THE BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK



### Online MBA Ranks Sixth in Nation for Best Value

The University of North Alabama's online MBA program was recently ranked sixth in the nation by consumer watchdog and advocacy group GetEducated.com LLC. The ranking was based on a survey of 90 regionally accredited business schools that offer 250 distance learning MBA degrees.

"This ranking is a real mark of distinction for us," said Dr. Kerry Gatlin, dean of the UNA College of Business. "It is a priority of ours not only to offer such an excellent academic degree as our MBA, but also to make it an excellent value – to deliver more than your money's worth."

According to GetEducated.com, the average cost for an online master's degree in business is \$22,924, while GetEducated.com's top 10 ranked online MBAs are all under \$14,000. The UNA online MBA is \$10,923 for both in-state and out-of-state students.

The online MBA at UNA offers concentrations in information systems, international business, healthcare management and professional. A finance concentration will also be offered soon.

## CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

### *Grant helps create new pediatric simulation lab*

Nursing students have a new pediatric simulation lab this fall, thanks to a state grant presented by Alabama State Rep. Tammy Irons '86 (D-Florence). Irons

helped secure two grants for the university from Alabama's Education Trust Fund and General Trust Fund, totaling more than \$51,000.

Among other projects, the funding enabled the College of Nursing and Allied Health to complete renovations for a lab to house its new pediatric simulator, a computerized manikin designed to mimic an actual infant patient. The college had obtained a similar adult simulator about two years ago.

"The clinical components of the UNA nursing program are greatly enhanced through the use of human simulators," said Dr. Birdie Bailey, dean of the College of Nursing. "To add a pediatric simulation lab to the program is valuable. We are greatly appreciative to Rep. Irons for her efforts to make that happen."

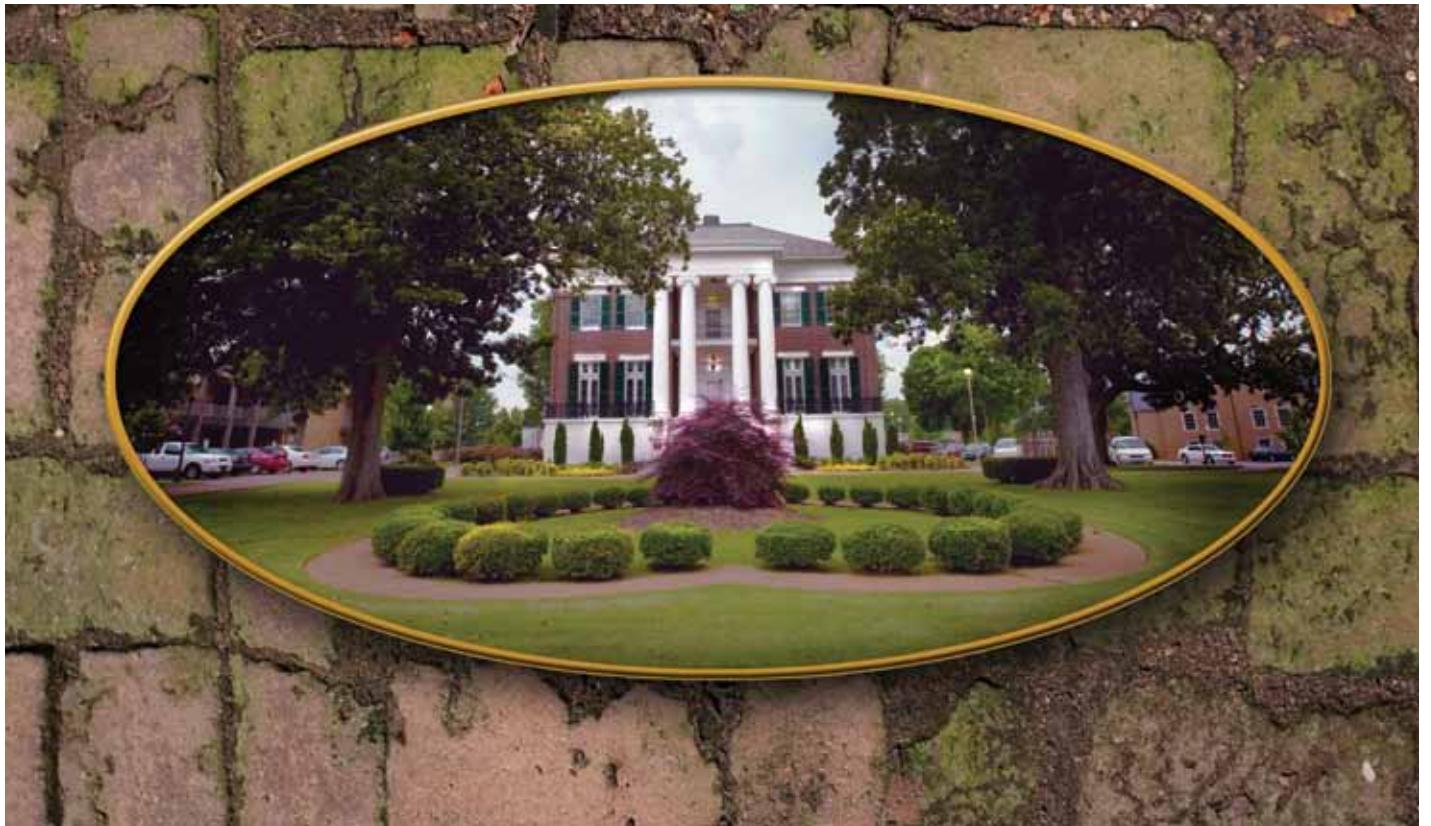
The grant for the lab renovations totaled \$5,500. The second grant, in the amount of \$45,760, was distributed to various academic departments and colleges for general educational purposes.

"Education is critical to good-paying jobs in the Shoals and in our state," Irons said. "I am always looking for opportunities to secure funds for our schools and universities and will continue to do so."



## MORE THAN A JOB

UNA ranks among top colleges to work for



Faculty and staff of UNA learned over the summer that they're employed at one of the 28 best four-year colleges in the nation to work for. The ranking is from The Chronicle of Higher Education, which surveyed 275 institutions nationwide for its third annual Great Colleges to Work For. The ranking also includes UNA on its Honor Roll as one of the top 10 nationally for schools with enrollments of 3,000-9,999.

"This ranking is a great honor for UNA and a testament to the quality of environment we offer on campus," said Dr. William G. Cale Jr., UNA president. "It's good news for our faculty and staff as well as students. What it means for students is that, when they choose UNA, they're choosing a university that is able to attract some of the very best college educators in the nation."

UNA is one of 97 institutions overall included in this year's Great Colleges to Work For and one of only 28 four-year institutions included in the Honor Roll. The Honor Roll recognizes the schools standing out in the highest number of the survey's 12 categories: Collaborative Governance; Compensation and Benefits; Confidence in Senior Leadership; Diversity; Facilities, Workspaces and Security; Job Satisfaction; Professional/Career-Development Programs; Respect and Appreciation; Supervisor or Department-Chair Relationship; Teaching Environment; Tenure Clarity and Process; and Work/Life Balance.

UNA stood out in nine of the categories: Collaborative Governance; Compensation and Benefits; Confidence in Senior Leadership; Job Satisfaction; Professional/Career-

Development Programs; Respect and Appreciation; Supervisor or Department-Chair Relationship; Teaching Environment; and Work/Life Balance.

UNA Staff Senate president Christy A. Horn said that for UNA "to be recognized in so many categories is a great reflection on our university leadership and its strong commitment to continuous improvement campus-wide. UNA is a wonderful place to work. Our entire UNA family – students, employees, alumni and the Shoals community – can all be justifiably proud of this national recognition."

The Chronicle of Higher Education's annual Great Colleges to Work For ranking is the second largest workplace-recognition program in the country, just behind Fortune Magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For.

For more information, visit [www.chronicle.com](http://www.chronicle.com).



## Alabama Ed.D. Program comes to UNA This Fall

North Alabama educators will soon be able earn their University of Alabama Doctor of Education degree without the long commute to Tuscaloosa. The UA Ed.D. program in instructional leadership will be offered on the University of North Alabama campus beginning this fall.

"Bringing the University of Alabama Ed.D. to the University of North Alabama campus has been a vision of the UNA instructional leadership faculty," said Dr. Donna Jacobs, dean of the UNA College of Education. "I want to commend the UNA leadership faculty for the hard work and dedication that has led to the exciting collaborative model with the University of Alabama."

Dr. James E. McLean, dean of the College of Education at UA, said the new partnership will help fulfill the college's statewide mission. "We are excited about

working with the University of North Alabama faculty and administration to offer students in this region a quality doctoral option close to their home," he said. "We view the UNA faculty as partners in this endeavor and appreciate the collegial collaboration that has led to this program."

Offering 100 percent of its coursework at UNA, the Ed.D. program will be designed for professionals working in or toward executive management or instructional leadership positions in preK-12 schools or school systems. Delivered through a cohort model, the Ed.D. will be a three-year degree, including 72 credit hours beyond the prerequisite master's degree. UNA and Alabama are hoping to admit the first cohort group to begin this fall, with a second cohort group starting in fall 2012.

Candidates not already holding an Education Specialist degree will be strongly encouraged to first complete the UNA Ed.S. program. While up to 18 Ed.S. credit hours from other schools may be accepted, a much higher percentage of the UNA Ed.S. credit hours will apply toward the 72 hours for the Ed.D.

"Our colleagues in Tuscaloosa have been true partners in the redesign of the UNA master's and specialist programs in instructional leadership, and we are looking forward to welcoming the first Ed.D. cohort to our campus this fall," Jacobs said.

For more information on the program, contact Dr. Peggy Campbell at 256-765-4578 or [pccampbell@una.edu](mailto:pccampbell@una.edu) or Dr. Rosemary Newton at [rnewton@bamaed.ua.edu](mailto:rnewton@bamaed.ua.edu).

# NEW CARPET

Artificial turf installed at Braly

The Lion football team has a new playing surface this fall. Over the summer, Braly Municipal Stadium was outfitted with artificial turf from Pro-Grass, the same company that installed turf at the Lions' practice field on campus a couple of years ago. This new type of surface minimizes player injuries and reduces maintenance costs. The turf will also enhance the stadium's appearance for televised UNA games and the Division II National Championship Game.

Braly is the home stadium for the Lions as well as the Florence High School Falcons. UNA also plans to replace the Braly scoreboard with an LED-lighted one. The current scoreboard was purchased by the university 15 years ago.



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### *Adam Goodman Cycles for a Cause*

# From Coast to Coast

By Josh Woods



### Adam Goodman '05

has always been an athletic guy. He played baseball in high school. He goes to the gym. You'll sometimes find him jogging or bicycling around town. But what he's done this summer – well, it's a stretch for anyone, including him.

On June 6, at a beach in San Diego, Calif., he hopped on his bike and headed east. Seven weeks, 3,100 miles and a few achy muscles later, he was putting his feet in the Atlantic Ocean.

Adam was one of 17 cyclists from across the nation to participate in the third annual Ride:Well Tour, an initiative to raise funds for AIDS victims in sub-Saharan Africa.

"I heard about the tour last summer and thought I'd like to do it, but thought there was no way to make it work because of my job," said Adam, an admissions counselor at UNA. "But Kim Mauldin '94 [admissions director] said it was an awesome thing and that we'd make it work."

A few weeks later, he was approved for a leave of absence, submitted his application, interviewed and was accepted for the tour. By June, he was out West peddling anywhere from 70 to 110 miles a day.



Nyande school in Northern Rwanda where the children no longer have to walk two hours for water.

© blood:water mission

### The Cause

As part of the Ride:Well Tour, Adam was cycling for Blood:Water Mission, a grassroots outreach group to combat the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa while providing sustainable access to clean water.

"They really wanted to focus on the AIDS crisis," Adam said, "but they noticed really quickly that there's a big connection between the spread of AIDS and the lack of sanitary water."

According to Blood:Water, 67 percent of the world's AIDS victims are in sub-Saharan Africa, and 328 million Africans – more than the population of the United States – lack access to clean water. Blood:Water's focus is to provide a sustainable solution by equipping

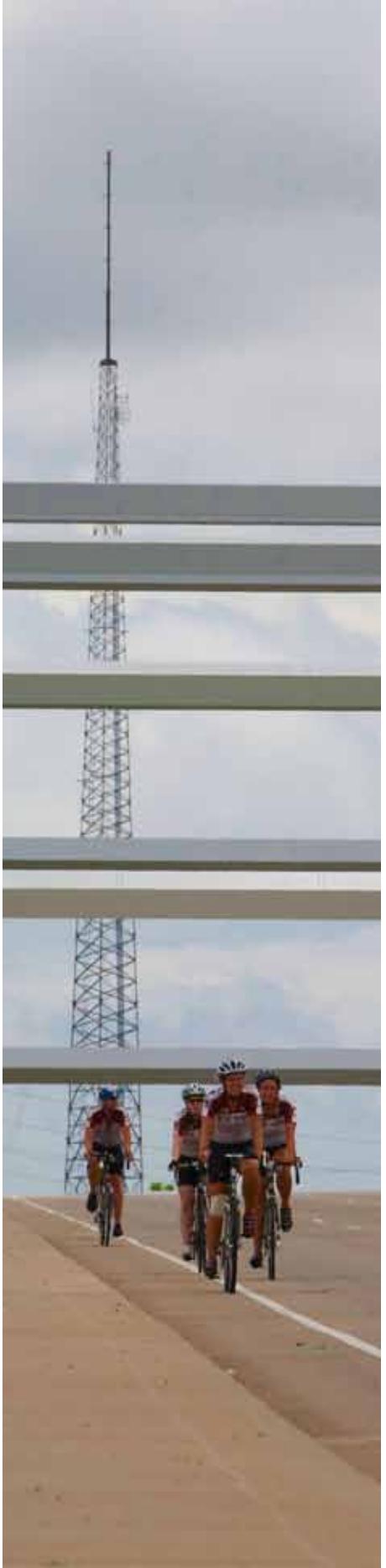
individuals with the skills, education, technology and treatment programs that will make them a healthier community.

At the beginning of its journey, the Ride:Well Tour had already raised \$17,000 for these efforts — \$1,000 raised by each cyclist before even hopping on their bikes. Along the way, they raised over \$50,000 more.

"At a lot of our stops, we'd speak to groups, and they'd take up money. We also set up a merchandise table at a lot of places to sell T-shirts and different gear," Adam said.

Then there were the more unique contributions, like the one from the 84-year-old man who approached them at a gas station in Tennessee. They gave him a brochure about their cause, he went home, read about them on the Internet,





then tracked them down on the road to give them \$20.

Gifts like his weren't uncommon, Adam said. There was also the convenience store owner in Arkansas with the six cases of water, cereal and energy bars, along with hundreds of others along the way who provided meals or a place to sleep.

"We never stayed in hotels," Adam said, "because we were trying to save money so it can go to the cause. We had host homes a couple of times, which was great, but we usually stayed in churches or in gyms. We had to pitch tents a few times."

## On the Road

On a typical day, Adam and the Ride:Well team were up by 5 a.m. and on the road by 6, cranking out 13, 14 – or

if they were really ambitious – 18 or 20 miles an hour. They'd stop every 20 or so miles to refill water bottles. Any other stops tended to be for flat tires and, a few times, injuries, with Adam being among the first for both.

In San Diego the first day of the tour, as the team was riding to the ocean, Adam had a flat, and the flat got caught in a crack in the pavement. "It threw me and the bicycle. I had blood all over me. I wasn't encouraged by that at all."

But he wasn't discouraged, either. Within a few days, he was in the best physical shape of his life, peddling eight to 10 hours a day, climbing 80 miles up steep mountain terrain, enduring 110-degree heat, pounding storms, ice-cold showers.

"Every day was a new adventure," he said. "A ton of things happened every day."



A few of those adventures, Adam admitted, may have been shared a little too freely on Twitter and Facebook.

"My mom worried about me sometimes, like one time she saw a video of me doing a back flip off a 30-foot bridge into a river. She called and said I was in trouble," he said with a laugh.

In general, though, his Tweets were the outline of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. Just a few:

June 6 – "Great day! Rode 80 miles to the Anza Borrego Desert. Ridiculous climbs but AMAZING scenery. Camping out tonight..."

June 10 – "... I've already had six flat tires – including two today. Sheesh."

June 29 – "72 miles today – a few runs with headwinds, rough roads, etc., but a good day nonetheless. Spending the night in Grandbury..."

June 30 – "Rode into Dallas today – midpoint of the Tour! 70 miles of rolling hills and mild headwinds, as well as a bit of rain (i.e. fun!..."

July 5 – "Put a dollar bill inside my rear tire to cover a hole when it caused a flat today. Worked well enough to get me through the ride..."

July 7 – "A guy threw some fireworks out his truck window at a few of us while

we were cycling to Little Rock today. Amazing."

July 17 – "Yesterday may have been the most physically taxing ride of the tour – 84 miles, including a STEEP mountain. Feeling it this morning..."

July 22 – "Riding to Myrtle Beach in the morning! Lots of energy and anticipation among the team – like a bunch of siblings on Christmas Eve..."

In Myrtle Beach, he said, he – and the entire team – was a bit overwhelmed to ride that last mile and dip his front wheel into the ocean.

"We had done this great thing as a team," he said. "It was really hard to process. That whole weekend we just had to process. Even now, I'm still trying to process it."

With one coast-to-coast trip under his belt, Adam hasn't decided yet what his next adventure will be. Another cycling tour? A mountain climb? A hike? Maybe so. It's all been discussed.

"I'm always up for an adventure," he said. "It's just the feeling of pushing yourself and accomplishing something so big and that seems so impossible. But when you can do it and use it to benefit such a great cause, that triples the satisfaction."



# UNA VOICES

By Rebecca Walker '07  
Coordinator of Student Publications

While this summer's sweltering temperatures blanketed most of the eastern U.S., three UNA students were using their voices in very different ways to work, learn and play.

Many college students learn Spanish, French or German as their foreign language of choice, but not **Allison Ray**. She fell in love with Arabic while studying it at UNA, and she loved it so much that she spent her summer months in Tunisia, Africa, deepening her understanding of the language and making lifelong connections on the foreign continent.

And **Will Hedges '10** could have taken his first summer off since high school. Instead, the May graduate, who spent his years at UNA working with the LaGrange Society, spent a few weeks in the nation's capitol during the build-up to this fall's midterm elections.

**Lauren Estes**, on the other hand, stayed closer to home and instead spoke to millions. She interned with a well-known radio show in Birmingham—one that broadcasts to at least 68 radio stations in the Southeast.

These are the stories of three students who, instead of lounging at the pool, went out and faced the world during their vacation.



## THIS IS AFRICA

When UNA student Allison Ray looks back at her summer in the north African country of Tunisia, she sums up her experience with one word: **إِنْشَاللَّهُ**, or *Insha'Allah* (pronounced "inshallah"). In Arabic, it means "God-willing."

"I feel it's fitting in that it's become a theme of my life," she said. "It's a common phrase that every Arabic speaker knows, and it's so fitting in every situation.

"Some speakers use it to mean, 'Maybe.' But how I use it...it relates everything back to God, and is very God-focused. It's so perfect, because everything I do is under the will of God."

The 20-year-old Huntsville native, who plans to graduate "لِلَّهِ إِنْشَانِي" (

in May 2012, spent her summer attending intensive Arabic classes in the capital city of Tunis, just across the gulf from Italy. She was one of 575 students selected for the U.S. State Department's prestigious Critical Language Scholarship Program. Only the top 10 percent of applicants are chosen, Ray said. Her program lasted from May 31 until August 1, according to the State Department website.

Ray says her interest in Arabic stems from an interest in Islam, and especially the sociological effects of religion. She's previously studied the language for a year at UNA, and learned about the State Department's program through Dr. Vince Brewton, director of the UNA Honors Program.

"From a research standpoint, I'm interested in world religion and comparative religions—how they affect individuals and government. I like studying how religion affects someone's individuality — how they function, and why," Ray explained.

While in Tunisia, Ray lived with a host family in the Carthage Amilcar neighborhood — a 15-minute walk from Sidi Bou Said, where her classes took place. And though she spent at least 20 hours a week in the classroom, expanding her knowledge of Arabic, she quickly learned she'd need more diverse language skills to survive on the streets.

"The various regions of Tunisia all have their own languages. They don't speak Arabic," she said. "A lot of different cultures have settled [Tunisia], and that has really shift the country's identity."

The French colonized Tunisia in the late 1800s. As such, French culture radiates throughout the African country, Ray said.

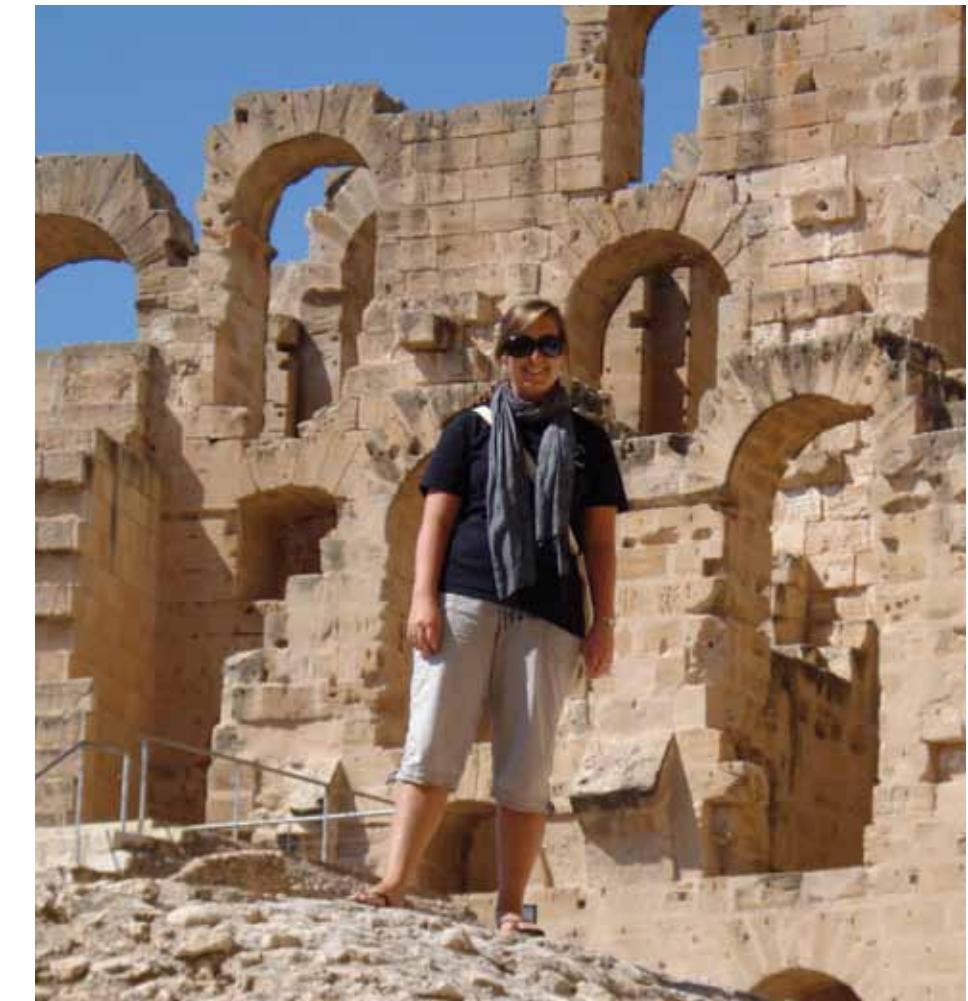
"It's very westernized, modern, liberal, progressive. Everything (in the capital city) is reminiscent of the French. French doors, French lights, coffee... before you get to the next café, there's another café," she laughed. "It's like Starbucks in the U.S.; sometimes they're 10 feet away from each other.

She said most locals speak French with Tunisian dialect, which she referred to as "street-talk."

"It's not taught in schools, but it's what everybody speaks," she explained.

So along with learning Arabic in the classroom, Ray developed even more language skill so she could converse with Tunisians about town. Were she to use her classroom training, "[i]t would be kind of like if I went and started speaking Shakespearean English to people in the U.S.," she laughed.

"I would say that Allison is now an expert of the Tunisian slang and proverbs. The funny thing about



this is that some native speakers did not know some of the phrases she was using," said Sofien Jarraya, one of Ray's teachers in the program. "She took every opportunity to learn new idioms whenever she was; in the corridor, in the restaurant, in the bus, on the beach... Even

without a notebook, she writes her expressions on her hand. She always had something written on her hand. I truly hope that we will have more students like Allison in the future. She has been a cultural ambassador for her country and an ambassador of good will."

Ray says she plans to bring her talents home to help Arabic-speaking UNA students. Having already taken a year's worth of Arabic classes at UNA prior to the program, she has worked as a language partner with international students before.

More than 30 students from Arabic-speaking or Middle Eastern countries are enrolled for UNA's fall 2010

semester, according to Joy Mallard, coordinator of international services. She said that number doesn't take into account additional Muslim students who may speak Arabic.

"I want to work closely with international students to help them adjust to American life. I've now been on the other side of things, and it's definitely opened my eyes to how it feels to be an international student and not know the language. I have a better understanding of how students feel when they come [to the U.S.] and don't know anything about our idioms and culture. Now I will be able to relate to them better," she said.

Ray said she loves the idea of returning to Tunisia.

"I would love to travel the Middle East. I really have learned a lot this summer about north Africa, in particular. I have fallen in love with this country... I consider it a little treasure in Africa. It's such a beautiful and diverse place."



## ON THE HILL

If you called Congressman Parker Griffith's D.C. office this summer, chances are good you may have found yourself talking with a UNA graduate.

With a short window between May commencement and starting a master's program in August, Will Hodges saw an opportunity to try something he'd always dreamed about — working on Capitol Hill.

While at UNA, the 23-year-old Trinity native majored in public relations and political science. As a student, he worked in the local office of Alabama's Fifth-

district Congressman Parker Griffith. There, he made connections that took him all the way to D.C.

"I've always had a fascination with government and the way it functions. I thought, 'If I don't do it now, I'll never get the opportunity to go back,'" he said. "I wanted to see how my career path would be if I were to choose to work in politics."

Hodges will begin a master's program in advertising and public relations at the University of Alabama this fall. After that, he's not sure what's next.

"I haven't ruled out working in the political realm. That was my first love, anyway. But I'm not sure whether I'd want to work from the campaign or communications standpoint."

"My job was being an extra set of eyes and ears for the staff when they couldn't be places," he said.

Constituents called to discuss everything from the health care bill, to cigarette taxes, to knowing how specific bills will affect Alabamians, Hodges said.

The initial adjustment to the big-city lifestyle was a learning experience for Hodges. Not only did he have to learn his way through the twists and turns of the halls of Congress, but he also had to traverse the vast, underground tunnels that connect each building.

"The first couple of days, they just let us wander and get acquainted with the buildings so we wouldn't get lost while running errands," he recalled. "But it was an experience like no other — such a fast-paced lifestyle and a lot of passionate people. Being around that is just contagious."

The summer was mostly uneventful on Capitol Hill, Hodges said, but the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was on everyone's mind. Also, Sen. Robert Byrd, the longest-serving member of Congress in history, died while Hodges was interning.

"D.C. is kind of like a fish bowl. It's one of the most powerful places on Earth, and decisions are made there every day that affect our country and the world. If something happens there, it's amplified that much more," he said.

Hodges said his time at UNA helped prepare him for living in the big-city atmosphere.

"My professors taught me to look at things from different perspectives, and that's one thing Washington has — more than one perspective. Probably too many in some cases. But my classes taught me that not everyone is the same, and I learned how to cope with that."

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Lauren Estes found herself this summer working among radio giants whose voices boom across Southeastern airwaves each weekday morning.

The 21-year-old from Falkville spent 180 hours interning for the Rick and Bubba Show, stationed in Birmingham.

"Rick and Bubba's show is a broadcast of two men who love Christ, who love sports, who are in tune with news and politics, who love food and who will make you laugh," Estes said, trying to pin down the show's theme. It broadcasts on 68 stations in the Southeastern region of the U.S., as well as on a satellite radio station, she said.

Estes said she has been a fan of the show for two years, ever since she first heard Rick Burgess, one of the show's headlining hosts, speak at a church event about his 2-year-old son's drowning in early 2008.

"The story of his son tragically dying spoke to me and touched my heart," Estes said. "When I started looking for internships, I started e-mailing Rick and talking about my interest in working with him. After several (e-mail) conversations, he set up an interview with me."



"I would have been so unprepared. Those classes saved me," she said. "When we got in there, a lot of the interns didn't know how to use the recording system. Luckily, I did."

Estes also got to participate in on-air discussion a few times. But mostly, she answered phones, operated a camera for the show's online streaming video, wrote about each segment recorded and took care of in-studio fans' needs.

And she's particularly proud of one accomplishment: she set a record among the show's interns for running the 40-yard dash, a tradition among Rick and Bubba Show staff and alumni. Estes ran the dash in 5.5 seconds.

"They said I looked like I was running from something in a horror movie," she said, laughing. "But it was fun to watch myself on the video and see their faces. I think I impressed them."





## HOT OFF THE GRILL

By Josh Woods

Pulled or chopped. Wet or dry. Mustard based, tomato based. Pork, chicken, brisket. Barbecue comes in a variety of forms for a variety of tastes. But Tammy Jacques, an Alabama native and barbecue aficionado, would have taken it any way she could get it during her time in Michigan.

While transplanted to the Great Lakes State for her early career as a student-life administrator, Tammy spent a lot of time talking about her favorite Southern cuisine. Her well-intentioned friends, wanting her to feel at home, would occasionally invite her over for a weekend barbecue.

"When I'd arrive, it'd be hamburgers and hotdogs on a grill," Tammy said with her trademark laugh. "That's a cookout to me,

but they called it barbecue. I don't think there's many people who eat pulled pork in Michigan."

Her soon-to-be husband, Kevin, was among those native Wolverines whose pork had always been limited to bacon and chops. But that would all change soon enough when he tied the knot and moved south to UNA, where he and Tammy are now directors in the Division of Student Affairs. The newlyweds would spend their leftover wedding money on a grill – the famous Big Green Egg – and Kevin, for the next few weeks, would experiment with everything he knew to grill, which was mostly chicken and fish.

At age 26, Kevin had tried barbecue for the first time.

"I had to get her to explain what it was." She did, and then Kevin found a recipe on ButtRub.com and copied it to a T.

"At that time, I hadn't eaten red meat for 10 years," Kevin said. So Tammy and her parents tried his barbecue while Kevin ate his chicken breast. "They were all raving about it, and it was just driving me nuts. And I was like – sigh – if it's as good as they're saying, it's worth maybe getting sick for the night. So I tried it, and it's all been downhill since then."

The physics behind these things – this isn't country-boy cooking anymore," Kevin said. "Some people might come in with a 55-gallon drum they've cut themselves, and it didn't cost them a penny. Then you'll have others who have an \$8,000, \$10,000, even a \$12,000 cooker.

"The great thing with competitive barbecue is, on any given day, anyone can

## COMPETITIVE BARBECUE

Fast-forward five years.

On a sticky, overcast Friday afternoon in June, Kevin was working frantically to beat the storm as he assembled his campsite/kitchen in a Lawrenceburg, Tenn., park, hoisting a big green tent over his twin extra-large Big Green Eggs. The outdoor cooking area adjoined his 6-foot, 12-foot green kitchen trailer, which doubled as a bedroom when the queen-size mattress was inflated.

"The rain is just for this afternoon," he said. "The heat index is supposed to be 109 by 2 p.m. tomorrow. One hundred nine. That's not pleasant. But it is the South in the summer."

Tammy, who was back at campus wrapping up a student orientation session, would join him the next morning. Meanwhile, Kevin was getting everything set for their fifth appearance at the Prichard's Sweet Lucy Tennessee State BBQ Championship.

Over the past five years, Kevin and Tammy have strung together a series of professional wins against some of the top competitive barbecue teams in the world, plus an invitation to the big daddy of all barbecue festivals, the Jack Daniel's World Championship Invitational in Lynchburg, Tenn. (The Jack invites only 50 of the top U.S. teams and a few international teams each year.)



Their two-person professional cooking team, the EGGseQuetive Council, is named for their major sponsor, Big Green Egg, and their mutual career ambitions to one day serve on a university executive council. As members of the world's largest and most

win. It's knowing how to use your cooker with the conditions you're in, and then just being consistent."

The consistency is what he and Tammy work on during the off-season of late fall and winter, when they're busy at home tweaking recipes, altering temperatures and cooking times, filling notebook after notebook with every attempted ingredient and technique, and eating more barbecue than they can sometimes stomach.

This past off-season, these test-kitchen obsessions were spent on their chicken, which had suffered in competition the previous year. By spring, they had an entirely new recipe and technique. (The technique is top-secret, but the recipe includes, among other ingredients, 12 boneless thighs and an entire family-size tub of I Can't Believe It's Not Butter.) Once they perfected their chicken for competition, they boiled it down to a process they could repeat in their sleep.

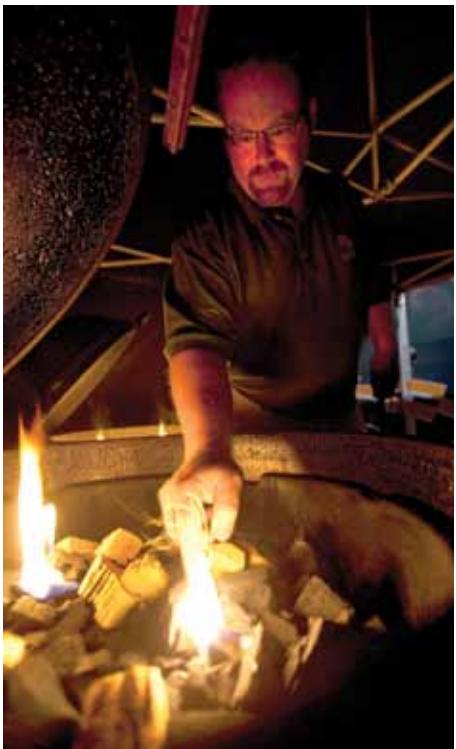
In competition, the smallest deviation from a cook's process can spell disaster come crunch time. That's why Kevin and Tammy, in their kitchen trailer, keep every spice, rub and sauce laid out in meticulous order, and inside the door of the far left-hand cabinet is a laminated down-to-the-minute schedule of every cooking step for the entire weekend.

According to the schedule, the process was to begin at 4:30 Friday afternoon with prep work for the chicken, butts and brisket; prep work for the ribs would be done early the next morning. (Chicken, butts, ribs and brisket are the four major categories of a KCBS competition.) After his walk, Kevin would spend the next couple of hours foiling meats, de-skining and re-skining chicken thighs, applying rubs, and injecting marinades through a veterinary syringe. By 7:30 p.m., prep work would be done, leaving him a couple of hours for supper before bedding down for a while.

Saturday morning would come early.



# COMPETITION DAY



that this is no walk in the park. It's a ton of work. By the time we're finished and loaded up on Saturday, I'm whupped."

He collapsed into a lawn chair and dried his soaked hair with the towel around his neck. But he could rest for only 15 minutes before time to start boxing the chicken for turn-in. Turn-ins for the blind-judging process are every half-hour starting at 11:55 a.m., and teams are given only 10 minutes to get in line. Show up a second late, and you're disqualified from that category.

By 1:15 p.m., they were down to their last turn-in – brisket. Kevin stood over both slabs with a razor-sharp knife. The kitchen trailer, by then, was a sweltering, suffocating, windowless cell. (They'd turned off the air conditioning, as it tends to dry out the cooked meat.) Kevin carved a thin slice, took a bite and handed the rest to Tammy. She popped it in her mouth.

"That's a little tough," she said. "Just a little tough."

"Nice flavor, though."

He cut a piece from the second slab, tried it and handed some to her.

"I like it. That one's more tender," she said, grabbing another bite. Then, with the second bite in her mouth: "But, I don't know – it feels like it kind of mushes in your mouth a little in the aftermath."

Kevin took another bite. "I like it."

"It's your call."



He stuffed a few more pieces in his mouth, then carved several slices from each slab.

"You ready for the box?" Tammy asked.

"Yeah, I've just got to decide which brisket we're going to use."

"It's 1:25." (Turn-ins had started. They had until 1:35.)

They each took another bite from the second slab. "It goes mushy after you eat it," Tammy said again.

Kevin thinks.

Tammy: "1:27."

Kevin gave her another bite from the first slab. "Ah, yeah, I like that one better. But it's your call."

He grabbed another bite from each.

"Make a call on it," Tammy said. "1:29."

He thinks. "I like the other one better. I'm going against you on this one."

"All right. Fine."

He cut several perfect thin strips and burnt ends, turning occasionally for Tammy to towel the pouring sweat from his eyes.

After placing the brisket in the box, he stepped aside while Tammy arranged it neatly on the bed of parsley.

"We've gotta hustle on this one, Tam," Kevin said.

"Okay," she replied, closing the box and looking up at the clock. "It's 1:31."

Kevin grabbed the box, bolted out the door and sprinted for the turn-in line.



At midnight, Kevin stumbled out of the kitchen trailer to light the Big Green Eggs before grabbing a few more winks. Four hours later, he was up again to put the butts and briskets in the cookers and prep the ribs, then it was back to bed a third time. By 7 a.m., he was up for the day and, by 7:45 a.m., applying a secret ingredient to the butts and brisket before reoilering them and putting them back in the cookers. The ribs were on by 8 a.m.

By the time Tammy arrived a few minutes later, a thick cloud of hickory/pecan/cherry/mesquite smoke was hanging over the park, and the thermometer had begun its ascent toward 109 degrees. "Usually, we can't even breathe out here it's so hot," Tammy said as she walked up.

The next two-and-a-half hours were a meticulously timed process: 9 a.m., briskets come off. 9:15 a.m., butts come off. 10 a.m., chicken goes on. 10:10 a.m., ribs are flipped and applied with "rib squirt" (peach nectar and a few secret ingredients). 10:45 a.m., chicken is turned and sprayed with pineapple juice. 10:50 a.m., more rib squirt. 11:10 a.m., ribs come off, are frosted like a cake, then foiled up and put back on the cooker. 11:30 a.m., chicken thighs are dipped piece by piece into a sweet, tomatoey, vinegary sauce and put back on the grill.

"This is where it really starts getting hot," Kevin said, a bead of sweat dripping from his nose as he immersed the last piece of chicken. "I don't think people understand

and worked his way down – ninth place, eighth, seventh ... Fourth-place chicken win for the EGGseQuetive Council. Not surprising. They had made the top 10 every competition since introducing their new chicken this season.

Next, ribs. Sixth place.

Then butts. No call. Then brisket. No call.

Kevin and Tammy were hoping to have placed 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> in each, like the time at the Athens contest when they had only a first-place brisket call and still took first place overall.

They'd find out afterward how they placed in butts and brisket. Meanwhile, it was the waiting game. Tenth place ... Ninth ... Eighth ... Seventh ... The dachshund took second. Then the Grand Champion ... Grog N Hogs, a team out of Virginia.

When the ceremony was over, Kevin disappeared toward the pavilion to grab a list of the total rankings. As he walked back, Tammy said, "We didn't do well. I can always tell."

"We got the brisket handed to us," Kevin said without looking up from the ranking sheet.

Tammy couldn't resist: "Told you so. Should've gone with the first one." She laughed and poked him. He forced a smile.

"How did we do overall?"

"Thirteenth."

Tammy folded up her chair. Kevin said he'd hang behind and say bye to a few friends/rival cooks.

On the trek back, with lawn chair under her arm, she said, "He really likes to be in the top 10 overall. If we're not, he tends to think we didn't do well. But we finished 13<sup>th</sup> out of 56. And these were 56 of the best teams in the world out here this weekend."

"That's not bad. That's not bad at all."



## THE AWARDS CEREMONY

When Kevin returned from the turn-in, he piled some brisket into a bowl, grabbed a jar of honey and dashed off to the LottaBull BBQ cooking site. That morning, LottaBull's owner and pitmaster had asked him for some Madhava Honey, one of the EGGseQuetive Council's sponsors. Kevin had refused, laughing to disguise his seriousness. ("Last time I gave you honey before turn-ins, you actually used it and took first place in ribs.")

Meanwhile, Tammy started bagging barbecue for students, friends and colleagues.

By 4 p.m., the EGGseQuetive Council cooking site was disassembled and loaded up, and Kevin and Tammy had joined the other teams at the middle of the park. The crowd of smoky, sweaty cooks – most of them freshly changed into their team polos – crowded their lawn chairs around a pavilion, where boxes of plaques, certificates and bottles of Prichard's Sweet Lucy awaited the winners. Some chattered about their next competition. The Long Dawgs' yelping dachshund tugged at his leash to reach the Pomeranian from another team. Kevin and Tammy discussed supper – either Chinese or Mexican, but no barbecue.

Finally, a large man with a loud drawl ("Sweeeet Loosaaay") grabbed the mic. He began the ceremony with winners from the children's category, then sauces, then desserts. Then on to main show: meats.

He called the 10<sup>th</sup>-place chicken winner

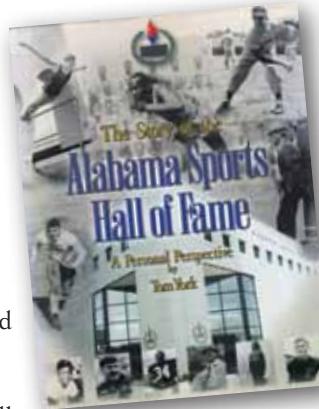


# ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

When former University of North Alabama linebacker **Ronald McKinnon '09** was inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame (ASHOF) in Birmingham in May, he not only took his place alongside the likes of Jesse Owens, Joe Louis, Hank Aaron, Willie Mays, Carl Lewis, Satchel Paige and Mia Hamm as one of the state's all-time elite athletes, but he also extended a connection between UNA and the hall that dates back to its founding in 1969.



While McKinnon became the ninth former UNA student-athlete or coach to receive the ultimate honor of induction into the state's hall of fame, the school's first connection to ASHOF goes back to its inception and continues today through UNA graduate **Tom York '50**. York enjoyed a 32-year career as sports director and talk show host at WBRC-TV in Birmingham, and for more than three decades wrote and produced the induction pieces and served as master of ceremonies for the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame induction banquets. Although York gave up his role as master of ceremonies a few years back, he continues to write and produce the induction video pieces that are shown as each honoree's official induction. He also wrote a book in 2001 entitled "The Story of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame - a Personal Perspective."



UNA's first inductee into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame was football legend **Harlon Hill '55** in 1976. Hill was Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player in the National Football League in the 1950s, and the Division II Football Player of the Year award has borne his name since its creation in 1986.

Hill was joined in 1983 by a former football teammate, **George "Goober" Lindsey**

'52. Lindsey played football for the Lions from 1950-51 before going on to television stardom. His induction came in honor of his numerous years of work and fundraising on behalf of youth sports and Special Olympics in the state.

Former UNA basketball standout **Winfrey "Wimp" Sanderson '59** was inducted into ASHOF in 1990 as he was in the middle of a remarkable coaching career that saw him take the University of Alabama's men's basketball team to 10 NCAA Tournaments in 12 seasons.

It was six more years before UNA would see its next inductee as former football coach and athletic director Hal Self joined the hall. Self was UNA's first

football coach when the program was revived in 1949 and served as head coach of the Lions through 1969.

North Alabama has added five more inductees in the 2000s, including former UNA assistant basketball coach Wendell Hudson in 2001. Hudson was an assistant at UNA from 1982-83 but also owns the distinction of being the first African-American to receive an athletic scholarship at the University of Alabama in any sport.

After a career in professional basketball and a lengthy coaching career, he is currently an assistant athletic director at Alabama.

In 2004 former UNA football coach **Bobby Wallace** was voted into the hall, followed by another former UNA head football coach Mickey Andrews in 2006.

Then in May, McKinnon was selected in just his second year on ballot. Bobby Johns, who was an assistant football coach with the Lions in 1972, was also inducted in the Class of 2010.

## the UNA connection



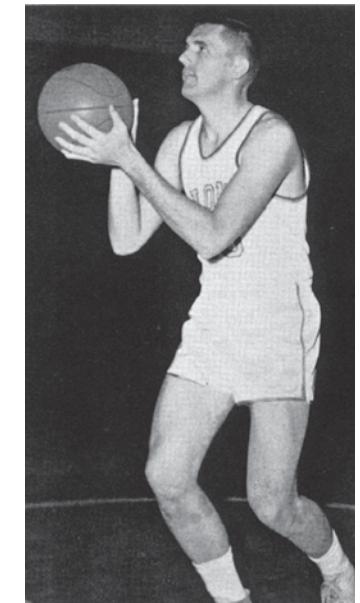
Hal Self



George "Goober" Lindsey '52



Bobby Wallace



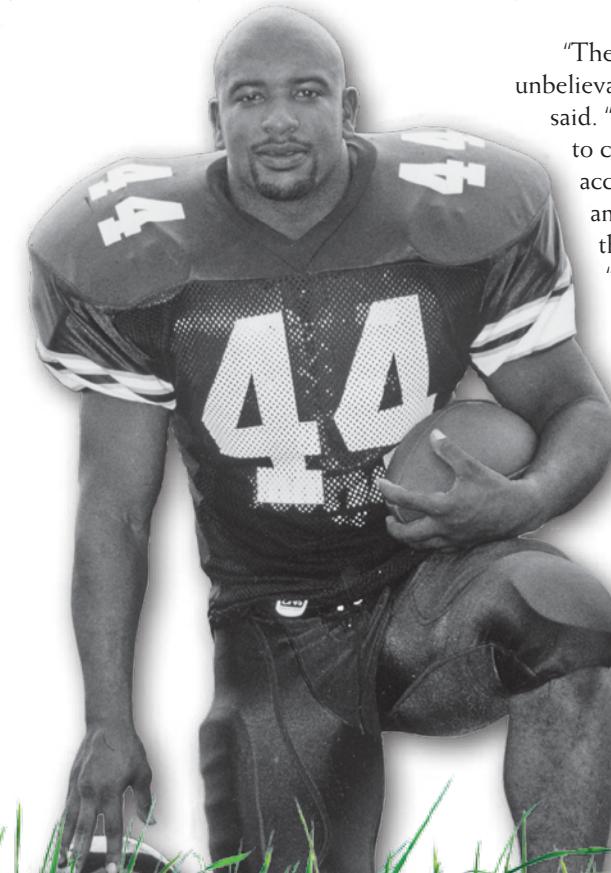
Winfrey "Wimp" Sanderson '59

In recognition of his long dedication to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, York received the Distinguished Alabama Sportsman Award in 1996.

York and each of UNA's nine inductees have their own plaque and display inside the Hall, in addition to numerous other acknowledgements to UNA's athletic tradition.

As you enter the Hall, UNA's presence is in plain sight. A replica of the Harlon Hill Trophy is on display, along with autographed footballs from the Lions' national championship football teams. There is also a wall with team photos of each of the collegiate national championship teams from the state that includes UNA's six national championship squads.

ASHOF Executive Director Scott Myers said it was one of his most enjoyable duties this year to call McKinnon and notify him of his selection.



"The athletic tradition in the state is unbelievable. It's second to none," Myers said. "And when you get the chance to call and tell someone that their accomplishments have placed them among the elite in the history of the state, it's special," he added.

"Any time that you get to share good news with others it's enjoyable, especially with someone like Ronald where you feel their humility and excitement blended together."



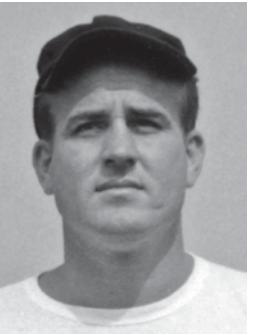
Harlon Hill  
ASHOF Class of 1976



George "Goober" Lindsey  
ASHOF Class of 1983



Winfrey "Wimp" Sanderson  
ASHOF Class of 1990



Hal Self  
ASHOF Class of 1996



Wendell Hudson  
ASHOF Class of 2001



Bobby Wallace  
ASHOF Class of 2004



Mickey Andrews  
ASHOF Class of 2006



Ronald McKinnon  
ASHOF Class of 2010



Bobby Johns  
ASHOF Class of 2010



Tom York  
Distinguished  
Alabama Sportsman 1996

# UNA'S INDUCTEES INTO THE ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

## HARLON HILL

(ASHOF Class of 1976)  
UNA Football Player 1950-53,  
Assistant Football Coach 1967-68

Born in Center Hill, Ala., Hill was a football standout for the UNA Lions from 1950-53. In 1954 he was drafted by the Chicago Bears and was the NFL Rookie of the Year in 1954 and the first recipient of the Jim Thorpe Trophy as NFL MVP in 1955. He was a four-time All-NFL selection and had 226 career receptions for 4,616 yards. His name is on the trophy that has been awarded annually since 1986 to the Division II Football Player of the Year.

## GEORGE "GOOBER" LINDSEY

(ASHOF Class of 1983)  
UNA Football Player 1950-51

Born in Jasper, Ala., Lindsey played football for the UNA Lions in 1950 and 1951. He also coached one year at Hazel Green High School before launching a show business career that included long stints on the Andy Griffith Show and Hee Haw. He initiated the George Lindsey Celebrity Golf Classic in Montgomery in 1971 and over the years he helped raise millions of dollars for youth sports and Special Olympics in the state.

## WINFREY "WIMP" SANDERSON

(ASHOF Class of 1990)  
UNA Basketball Player 1957-59

Born in Florence, Sanderson attended Coffee High School. He played three seasons on the basketball team at UNA, scoring 1,076 points and averaging 14.9 points for his career from 1957-59. After 20 years as an assistant coach at the

University of Alabama, he became head coach for the Crimson Tide in 1981. In 12 seasons he directed Alabama to 10 NCAA Tournaments, making the Sweet Sixteen six times. He also won four SEC Tournament championships. He had a 267-119 record at Alabama and a 352-177 overall collegiate record that included five seasons at Arkansas-Little Rock. He was chosen SEC Coach of the Year in 1987, 1989 and 1990 and was voted the SEC Coach of the Decade for the 1980s.

## HAL SELF

(ASHOF Class of 1996)  
UNA Head Football Coach 1949-69,  
Athletic Director 1969-73

An Anderson, Ala., native, Self was an outstanding athlete at Decatur High School before going to the University of Alabama in 1941. He quarterbacked the Tide in 1941, 1942, 1944 and 1945 and played in four major bowls: Cotton, Orange, Sugar and Rose. He scored two touchdowns in Alabama's 34-14 Rose Bowl win over Southern California. He won the Jacobs Award as the SEC's best blocker in 1945. He coached two years at Athens High School before coming to UNA in 1949. His record with the Lions was 109-81-8 over 21 years. Over an 11-year period from 1953-63, the Lions had a combined 31-0-2 record against schools from the state of Alabama.

## WENDELL HUDSON

(ASHOF Class of 2001)

UNA Assistant Men's Basketball Coach 1982-83  
A Birmingham, Ala., native, Hudson played at Parker High School and was part of the team that won the first

integrated state high school basketball tournament in 1969, going 33-1. He was the first African-American to receive an athletic scholarship at the University of Alabama in any sport. He was voted MVP in the Southeastern Conference two straight years (1972 and 1973) and was chosen All-American in 1973. Drafted in the second round of the 1973 NBA draft by the Chicago Bulls and also played for the Memphis Tams of the ABA. Following his playing days, he began a coaching career that has taken him from Alabama, to North Alabama, Rice, Mississippi, Baylor and back to Alabama. He was also Athletic Director at McClellan Community College and coached the women's golf team to a NJCAA National Championship. He is currently an assistant athletic director at the University of Alabama.

## BOBBY WALLACE

(ASHOF Class of 2004)  
UNA Head Football Coach 1988-1997

Born in Magnolia, Ark., Wallace played football at Mississippi State and later coached at East Carolina, Wyoming, Auburn and Mississippi State before coming to UNA. As head coach at North Alabama he led the Lions to three straight Gulf South Conference championships and three straight NCAA Division II National Championships from 1993-95. In doing so, UNA became the first school in the history of NCAA scholarship football to win three straight national titles. With a 41-1 record from 1993-95, UNA also became the first school in college football history to win as many as 40 games in just three years. Overall

he compiled an 82-36-1 record in his 10 seasons with the Lions and led UNA to six playoff appearances. He was named NCAA Division II Coach of the Quarter Century and Gulf South Conference Coach of the Quarter Century. He later coached at Temple University and is now the head coach at the University of West Alabama, where he led the Tigers to the NCAA playoffs last season.

## MICKEY ANDREWS

(ASHOF Class of 2006)  
UNA Head Football Coach 1973-76

A native of Daleville, Ala., Andrews played for the University of Alabama and was a second-team All-American as a receiver and defensive back. In 1964 he received the Hugo Friedman Award as the Tide's best all-around athlete. As head football coach at Livingston (now West Alabama) in 1971, he led the Tigers to an NAIA National Championship. He then was head coach at UNA from 1973-76, compiling an 18-21-1 record over four seasons. He is best known for his 22 years as defensive coordinator at Florida State under Bobby Bowden. In 1996 he received the first-ever Frank Broyles Award as the nation's top assistant coach.

## RONALD MCKINNON

(ASHOF Class of 2010)  
UNA Football Player 1992-95

A native of Elba, Ala., McKinnon was a three-time consensus All-American linebacker at North Alabama and helped lead the Lions to three straight NCAA Division II National Championships. A four-year starter at UNA from 1992-95, McKinnon was a four-time first-team

All-GSC selection and is still the only defensive player to win the Harlon Hill Trophy in the 24-year history of the award. He went on to a 10-year career in the National Football League, playing nine seasons with the Arizona Cardinals and one year with the New Orleans Saints. He made more than 1,000 tackles in the NFL and had 10 interceptions. He has been inducted into the Division II Football Hall of Fame and the College Football Hall of Fame.

## BOBBY JOHNS

(ASHOF Class of 2010)  
UNA Assistant Football Coach 1972

Johns was an assistant coach on Durell Mock's football coaching staff at UNA in 1972. A Birmingham native, he was a two-time All-American defensive back at Alabama and a three-time All-SEC pick. He then began what has become a 33-year coaching career that has included stints at South Carolina, Eastern Kentucky, Tennessee-Chattanooga, Florida State, Valdosta State and UNA. He was also head coach at West Alabama.

## TOM YORK

(Distinguished Alabama Sportsman 1996)  
UNA Graduate Tom York (born 1925

in Holland, Missouri) worked from 1957 to 1989 for WBRC-TV in Birmingham. While he served in several capacities with the station, he is best remembered for The Tom York Morning Show, which was the station's primary morning show for 32 years. York served in the United States Navy as an aviation radioman and gunner during World War II. He graduated from the University of North Alabama, then

worked in radio in north Alabama before moving to Birmingham. Now retired from television, York was a weekly columnist for his hometown newspaper, The Hoover Gazette, from 2006 until shortly before the newspaper's demise in 2007. York won a regional Emmy Award in 1995. York was the master of ceremonies for the induction ceremonies for the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame for more than a quarter century, and was himself inducted into ASHOF in 1996. He wrote a book about the ASHOF in 2001.

## OTHERS WITH ASHOF AND UNA CONNECTIONS

**Dr. Greg Risner '81**, Professor of Elementary Education at UNA, is a member of ASHOF's Modern Selection Committee.

Mickey Haddock, a Shoals National Championship Committee member and current Lauderdale County License Commissioner, is a member of ASHOF's Old Timers Selection Committee.

**Alex Nelson '73** is a former longtime member of the UNA Board of Trustees and is a Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Board of Directors Emeritus.



# ALISON WOODMAN'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

**When Alison Woodman '07** accepted a job as a production assistant at ESPN in 2007, she knew it would be a position that would give her opportunities to cover exciting major sporting events across the country, and maybe around the world.

Little did she know that just two years into her job at the sports giant in Bristol, Conn., she would get the chance of a lifetime.

Hired by ESPN just three days after her graduation from UNA with a communications degree, Woodman has already had the opportunity to cover college basketball for three seasons, the NBA Draft, the Summer

X Games, the Confederations Cup, the Chelsea tour in the summer of 2009 and the Little League World Series. But for a former standout on the UNA women's soccer team, those gigs paled in comparison to the chance to work at the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

A four-year starter and three-year team captain for the Lions during her career from 2004-07, Woodman got the chance to work 19 games at the World Cup over a five-and-a-half week period, helping bring one of the world's biggest sporting events to ESPN viewers around the globe.

"It was incredible," Woodman said. "I had to pinch myself daily and remind myself how lucky I was to be there and be getting paid! It was a lifelong dream to go to a World Cup, just as a soccer fan. So to then be living and breathing it daily in a country with such history was just amazing. To be watching 'the beautiful game' at the highest level had me in awe at every game I attended. It was definitely an experience of a lifetime."

In her role with ESPN, Woodman supports crews on the road from Bristol, sending elements and editing packages for them to run during the games. She also edits packages in the truck and does statistical graphics.

Woodman said she let it be known early on that she was interested in getting a shot at the World Cup. "It was something that I had been working to get on since I was an intern," she said. "I told them if/when I got hired I would like to work on soccer, especially gear up for the World Cup. So as time went on and the more I pushed the more I got the idea that I was going to be on it. They officially gave us our assignments in October and from that time on I was counting down the days until I headed to South Africa."

Although she worked a lot of long days during ESPN's coverage of the World Cup, Woodman said she also got a little time to see some of the sights of the country. "I was fortunate to see a lot of the country and most of the stadiums. Johannesburg was our main base but I also went to Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, Rustenburg, Nelspruit. Some were flights and others were drives. Cape Town is definitely a place I have fallen in love with and wouldn't mind visiting again on a vacation. It combines the ocean with



Alison at the Ocean with Table Mountain in background

mountains and has a lot to see and do from Table Mountain all the way out to Robben Island."

Woodman said that one of the toughest aspects of working the World Cup was just getting to South Africa. "We had major issues getting there. I was flying with a co-worker from Hartford to Atlanta and then from Atlanta to Johannesburg. On the way to Atlanta there were weather issues so they actually closed the airport and we were forced to circle from above. Then we were told if we circled much longer we would run out of fuel so we were going to make an emergency landing somewhere in South Carolina to get fuel. By the time we got there, waited for the fuel, and made it back to Atlanta the airport had re-opened, but our Johannesburg flight had departed. So we had to stay the night in Atlanta then fly the next afternoon to New York City and catch a red eye to London. Unfortunately there were delays leaving NYC and an emergency on the runway ahead of us before we took off, and we were three hours delayed leaving, making us miss another connection to Johannesburg. We had a nine-hour layover in London to catch another red eye from London to Johannesburg. We left on a Friday (June 4th) around 3 p.m. ET and were supposed to land in Johannesburg on Saturday June 5th around 5 p.m. local (11 a.m. ET).

Instead we did not arrive until Monday June 7th around 8 a.m. (2 a.m. ET)!

Once I got a shower and some sleep it was as if nothing ever happened, but during that weekend I thought I was never going to make it to Joburg!"

Woodman said that once she was on the ground in South Africa, typical days involved more than 12 hours of work—sometimes more depending on the drive and traffic. Woodman's ESPN travel party included the two game commentators, a producer, an audio person and a driver/security guard. The crew arrived at the stadium about four hours before game time. "There were media centers set up with televisions and places for us to get online

one when I was there but at the third place game in Port Elizabeth they handed them out free to all the media. So yes, one horn made it back with me."

A native of Sarasota, Fla., Woodman earned both All-Gulf South Conference and Academic All-Gulf South Conference honors during her playing career at UNA. "My memories of UNA revolve around playing soccer, my teammates who have become some of my best friends and being a part of a great athletic department," she said. "When I think about it, soccer is what brought me to UNA but I walked away with a great education, some lifelong friendships, a supportive network including many of the athletic staff and professors, and I was able to live in a beautiful area like the Shoals. After leaving I know why people always say the college years are the best years of your life!"

Woodman got her opportunity at ESPN as an intern in the summer of her senior year (2007) in Event Production, working on the College World Series, the Home Run Derby and WNBA. "As my time finished up I made sure to talk to managers and senior producers in the department to let them know I only had a semester left and I was interested in coming back for a full time position after I graduated." That October she was called for a phone interview and a week later was told that she had been hired to start December 17th.

Although still very early in her professional career, Woodman said the World Cup experience will be tough to beat. "I can't believe that I was a part of the biggest worldwide sporting event," she said. "I look back and have hundreds of memories and visual snapshots that no one can ever take from me. I know it'll be a tough trip to ever top."

So what is next for Woodman after an incredible World Cup experience? How about being part of ESPN's staff on Monday Night Football in the fall. Of course, there will also be planning for her upcoming 2011 wedding to fiancé and Avon, Conn., police officer John Schmalberger, whom she met playing in a coed soccer league during her internship at ESPN.



Alison and Tim Howard

## OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP/RESEARCH AWARD

*"Clearly, the Cold War could not have been called dead as long as Eastern Europe was not free."*  
— President George H.W. Bush in interview with Dr. Christopher Maynard

### CHRISTOPHER MAYNARD, Associate Professor of History and Chair of History and Political Science

Dr. Christopher Maynard is a native of Louisiana and joined UNA in 2005. At UNA, he served as coordinator for the B.A./B.S.-social science program and later as Director of Graduate Studies for the M.A.-history program before being appointed as department chair in 2008.

In the fall of 2008, Texas A&M University Press published *Out of the Shadow: George H.W. Bush and the End of the Cold War*. While writing the book, Dr. Maynard received two Peter and Edith O'Donnell research grants from the George Bush Presidential Library in College Station, Texas; he also received a grant to conduct research at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. In addition to the use of primary documents housed at these two presidential libraries, Dr. Maynard interviewed President George H.W. Bush, as well as numerous officials from the Reagan and Bush administrations such as Colin Powell, James Baker, and Brent Scowcroft, among others. Maynard walks the reader through the four-year paradigm-shifting period in which the Cold War came to an end, the world changed from bipolar to multipolar as the Soviet Union came apart, and new threats began to emerge.

*Out of the Shadow* has received uniformly excellent reviews and was nominated for the Stuart L. Bernath Book Prize (Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations), which recognizes and encourages "distinguished research and writing by scholars of American foreign relations."

Dr. Maynard has made numerous conference presentations, most recently presenting "George Bush and the Persian Gulf War (1990-91): An Internationalist Approach to Foreign Policy," at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, the Ohio State University. He continues to write about modern political history and has three new articles that were published this spring.

## OUTSTANDING TEACHING AWARD

*"Another exciting day at the University of North Alabama."*

### LAWRENCE J. NELSON, Professor of History

Larry Nelson liked college so much that he decided to stay for a lifetime. Unsure of his major, he stumbled into an undergraduate class with a dynamic professor and it changed his life. He says that early in his career he never developed a sophisticated teaching philosophy because from his first days as a nervous teaching assistant in 1968, students were kind and generous. Encouraged by that kindness he became a sort of "cook" without a recipe.

But the responsibility he senses towards the young men and women in his classes extends beyond the classroom as he and his wife have opened their hearts and their home for many years for what he calls "edifying gatherings" designed to build up and encourage. He urges students to become independent thinkers, to make up their own minds, and not be pushed around by the culture, the media, friends, or even university professors. History, he says, is not a bunch of facts and dates, but is actually a great liberator, allowing us to find out why things are the way they are. Nelson has also been a frequent emcee at various fundraising campus events, from Step-Sing to "Big Man on Campus," "UNA's Got Talent," and Pan-Hellenic auctions.

A native of Illinois, Nelson grew up there and in New York. But as a Yankee he considers himself fortunate to live in the South, and to be at UNA for 25 years. Teaching is his "calling" and he has found UNA to be a beautiful place to fulfill that mission, and feels very privileged to work with such outstanding students and colleagues. He plans to retire only when he stops loving what he does and those he serves, an unlikely prospect any time soon.

A recipient of teaching and faculty awards at three different institutions, including UNA's Alpha Lambda Delta's "Outstanding Teacher of the Year," Dr. Nelson has also received publishing and service awards, including the Bottimore Outstanding Academic Achievement Award for two published books. He says none of it would have happened the way it did without the support and encouragement of his wife, Verlie. He sees his work at UNA as a joint effort with her.



## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

*"Knowing and understanding geography is life-enhancing and life-changing."*



### WILLIAM R. STRONG, Professor and Chair, Department of Geography

Dr. William (Bill) R. Strong has been a member of the Department of Geography at UNA since 1972. During that time he has seen the profession of geography grow to world-wide importance, the number of geography majors increase to almost 150, and the geography faculty at UNA increase from three faculty members to seven. As chair, he was responsible for initiating courses in geospatial technologies, gaining approval of the Geographic Research Center, and writing grants to fund early research in Shoals industrial development activities using Geographic Information Systems.

Dr. Strong was a founding member of the Society of Alabama Geographers and Educators and a founding co-coordinator of the Alabama Geographic Alliance which has received more than \$500,000 in grants since its inception. While on leave of absence for two years from UNA, he served as the Geographer-in-Residence at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. For his work in geography education, he received the *Distinguished Geography Educator* award from the National Geographic Society and the *Distinguished Teaching* award from the National Council for Geographic Education. At UNA, he received the *Eleanor Gaunder Phi Kappa Phi Excellence in Teaching* award and the *President's Award of Excellence*.

Dr. Strong has been faculty sponsor of the Geography Club, the Honor Society of Omicron Delta Kappa, and the United Nations of the University of North Alabama. He is a past president of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. For almost ten years, he was an adjunct professor in HPER where he taught self-defense courses. On three occasions, he served as the geography consultant to the Social Studies Course of Study committee at the Alabama State Department of Education.

Dr. Strong conducted field research in India for both his master's and his doctorate and has more recently completed research in Costa Rica and Peru. He co-directed a summer field course for UNA students in Costa Rica. The International Rotary district 6860 selected him as the team leader for the Rotary International Group Studies Exchange with District 3132, state of Maharashtra, India.

### 2010 RECIPIENT OF ELEANOR P. GAUNDER PHI KAPPA PHI EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

*"Students need to know that teachers appreciate them for who they are and what they are trying to accomplish, and they feel this when their professors show interest in them as individuals and not just faces in the crowd or names on the class roster."*



### KEITH WILLIAM LINDLEY, Assistant Professor

Keith Lindley received the Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures from the University of Florida. His areas of expertise include French and Spanish Sociolinguistics and Second Language Acquisition theory. His dissertation, "Language Practices in the Transnational Haiti," focused on language choices and attitudes in the Haitian community of South Florida.

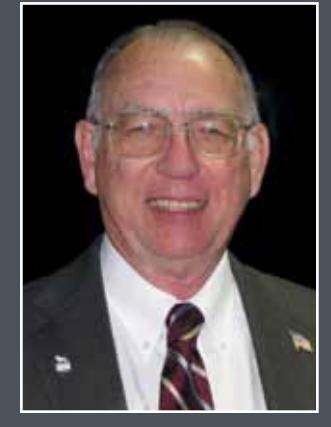
Since coming to UNA, Dr. Lindley taught the full range of courses in French language and literature as well as first-year Spanish. He organized and led numerous trips to Paris and other areas of France for students, UNA faculty and staff, and community members. He has led students to French-speaking Canada, and actively recruits and sends students for intensive French language study. In July with Dr. Claudia Vance he led a group of 16 students to San José, Costa Rica, for intensive Spanish-language coursework.

Dr. Lindley also volunteers his time as an interpreter with the Latino community of Northwest Alabama. Each month, he joins a group of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and Spanish-English interpreters who donate basic medical services to the uninsured at the "Clínica Grátis de Muscle Shoals."

In the past year, Lindley has worked to develop and implement online courses as part of the university's ongoing effort to expand its distance learning offerings.

The time he spends in the classroom with UNA students, however, is Dr. Lindley's great professional passion. He enjoys getting to know those he teaches, and believes that a successful educator conveys far more than just a set of knowledge or skills. In such an atmosphere, learning is facilitated, no matter what the subject matter might be. He believes one of the many strengths of our university is its size, which offers a relaxed atmosphere in which students and professors can interact through office visits, club activities, and extracurricular activities such as travel abroad.

John Battcher ('65)



## message from the Alumni President

I hope all of you had a safe and enjoyable summer and are now looking forward to fall weather and UNA football. This is a great time to start thinking of getting involved in fall activities at UNA. We hope you will begin by joining us on Spirit Hill, Braly Stadium, prior to all home games. Don't forget to wear your purple and gold! Also, the alumni office is planning an exciting homecoming weekend for 2010. It will be a fun-filled weekend and for all activities and register early.

This summer the alumni/advancement staff was extremely busy traveling to 12 cities throughout the Southeast for alumni gatherings in conjunction with local baseball games. These gatherings were wonderful opportunities for alumni and families to renew old acquaintances and make new contacts with other area alumni. The events also provided local alumni a chance to interact and communicate directly with the UNA alumni staff. Thanks to all of you for your tremendous support and attendance at these activities.

Our campaign for all alumni to become card-carrying members of the Alumni Pride continues. You will be receiving brochures in the mail outlining the advantages of becoming an Alumni Pride member. Make sure all your alumni friends are aware of the program and become members in order to continue receiving three copies of the *UNA Magazine* each year (March, June and September). One of the more popular sections of the alumni magazine is Class Notes. It's always exciting to find out what is happening to our classmates, so please continue providing input.

The Office of Advancement/Director of Alumni Relations has many different ongoing projects in support of the university (i.e., scholarships, care and feeding of Leo & Una, purchasing new band uniforms, and maintenance of the ROTC Commemorative Garden). We encourage you to seriously consider supporting these worthwhile projects on behalf of the university not only financially but also by your active participation. Your support is so very much appreciated. The electronic newsletter is a great source for keeping informed of all the many associated activities happening on campus.

Many of our local alumni chapters have established scholarship funds to aid local area students in attending college. The Huntsville/Madison Scholarship is fully endowed and a student will receive tuition beginning this fall. Because the fund balance reached \$25,000, the award was matched equally by the UNA Lion Match program. Additional scholarship funds have been started in Montgomery, Birmingham, and Athens. Our goal is to build endowed scholarships in all areas where we have alumni and where students want to attend UNA. We strongly solicit your support by contributing to these locally designated scholarships and sending talented worthy students to UNA.

This past year as president of the Alumni Association has been a wonderful experience for me. I sincerely thank the executive board and board-at-large members for their enthusiasm and support. They are dedicated, hard working alumni and it has been an honor to serve with them. The board accomplished so much this year through the guidance and counsel of **Carol Lyles '70**, Rhonda Derrick and Alan Medders. Thank you!

Please continue your support to the alumni association by welcoming **Brad Holmes '02** in October as your new alumni president.

GO LIONS!

**John A. Battcher '65**, President  
UNA Alumni Association  
Proud Alumnus

### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Reeda Lee ('74), Chapter Advisor  
Patricia Roden ('77), Faculty/Staff Advisor  
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Ernest Haygood ('58), Florence  
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Tommy Whitten ('77) Huntsville  
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Bryan Mitchell ('99), Geography  
Jasmine Williams, Student Alumni Association  
Stacy Childers ('01), Social Work



**UNA ALUMNI**

1. Ken Abercrombie ('64), Missy Pettus and Ann Battcher ('65)

2. Anita Belew ('65), Terry Bowden and Susan Burbank ('73)

3. Joan Jones ('58), Shirley Rinks ('57 & '67) and Peggy Lumpkin ('58)

4. Wimpy Gillespie ('56) and Tuffy Hudson ('61)

5. Bill Clark ('59), Freda Baggett ('60) and Jonathan Edwards ('83)

6. Patsy and Tom Doran ('56)

7. Aubrey and Hettie Butler Terry ('48)

8. Julian Newman ('62) and Mason Matthews ('99)

9. Melody Stewart ('06) and Cissy Holt ('89 & '91)

10. Wilson Blair, Kyle Lewter ('00) and Greg McCormick ('85)



# ON THE WARFRONT

## A LION'S PERSPECTIVE

By Captain John H. Montgomery, USAF

Bagram Airfield from the Air Traffic Control Tower's catwalk

As I write, I am at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, practicing law . . . and fighting a war. I am serving as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing. Today, Afghanistan is the focal point for the war on terror, and Bagram is proudly serving as a major hub for activity occurring throughout the country. My role in the war effort is as a lawyer (or "JAG" as we are referred to in the military).

My practice is diverse; I am a general practitioner, a jack of all trades. On any given day, issues covering the legal spectrum abound: criminal law,

civil law, contracts, fiscal law, family law, consumer protection, international law, and, unique to the military, the law of war. Many of the issues I address are mixtures of several different areas of law.

Case in point: I recently assisted an Airman from Ohio who is currently stationed in the United Kingdom. When he returns from his deployment, he will be marrying his Scottish fiancée at a ceremony in Edinburgh, Scotland. Less than one month later, the Air Force is relocating him and his new bride to Okinawa, Japan. His legal questions encompassed several areas of law, all in one session.

But such a "mesh" of legal topics is typical in an overseas environment. In addition to assisting military members with legal issues back home—divorce, landlord-tenant, taxes, and employment disputes, just to name a few—my colleagues and I here at Bagram are charged with educating Air Force leaders on the law and helping them interpret



and apply it to the mission at hand. We assist leadership in ensuring good order and discipline is maintained among the ranks at all times. We help ensure that the Air Force and its members are good stewards with the taxpayers' money. We help interpret and apply contract provisions supplying goods, services, and equipment and involving civilians and military personnel alike.

It is anything but a traditional law practice. As retired Major General Charles Dunlap, Jr., wrote, deployed JAGs practice law "not in a carefully tailored suit, but with a helmet and flak vest—and with a weapon close at hand."<sup>1</sup> That is certainly true of my current circumstances.

When I graduated from UNA less than a decade ago (Class of 2001), I would never have imagined that today I would be fighting in Afghanistan, nor would I have imagined the paths life would take me to get here. Immediately after college, I attended law school at the University of Alabama. After practicing law in the civilian world for nearly three years, I decided I wanted more excitement and a more fulfilling law practice, so I joined the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG Corps). In January, 2007, I pinned on my first lieutenant's rank and traveled to Montgomery, Alabama, for officer training school.

In the spring, my training completed, my wife (Sonia Henao Montgomery, UNA 2000) and I loaded all of our worldly possessions and traveled to Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas, a town in North Texas, fifteen miles from the Red River and the Oklahoma State line. Sheppard provided me with a wonderful introduction to military law and life in the JAG Corps. My law practice there was diverse and fulfilling, and I got more actual courtroom experience than many attorneys get in an entire career. But most importantly, I met many wonderful people that I am happy to call friends today. And our family grew. Our daughter (and future UNA alum) Addison Montgomery, was born on April 9, 2008. Sonia and I will always hold dear to our hearts the memories made while stationed at Sheppard.

In July 2009, Uncle Sam relocated me and my family to Spangdahlem Air

Base, Germany, where I will be stationed until at least July, 2012. There, I serve as an Assistant Staff Judge Advocate in the base legal office, primarily responsible for trying courts-martial, overseeing the courts-martial process, and providing assistance to my colleagues trying cases. When I return from my deployment, I will change offices and become the Area Defense Counsel for Spangdahlem, responsible for defending Airmen who are accused of wrongdoing.

Shortly after I arrived at Spangdahlem I was told that I would deploy. Having never deployed before, I was nervous and a bit apprehensive. My primary concern was the well-being of my family—making sure they would be taken care of in my absence, especially since we are stationed so far from home. Secondary to that was my own preparation for deploying—having the proper training, gear, and supplies to complete the mission. Finally, preparation complete and orders in hand, I left Spangdahlem not fully knowing what to expect. After a few stops along the way, I finally made it to Bagram.

The most striking characteristic of Bagram is the mountains. In every direction, you see tall, majestic, snow-covered mountains. And the Air Force routinely improves the skyline—it's quite a sight to see an F-15E Strike Eagle fighter jet taking off from Bagram Airfield with the mountains as their backdrop. Breathtaking. Contrary to popular belief, the weather is quite mild—the exact opposite of what my brethren in Iraq are experiencing. The winters can be bitter

cold, but the spring and summer are really quite comfortable.

Bagram was built by the Soviets in the 1970s, before their decade-long war with Afghanistan between 1979 and 1989. When the U.S. military arrived nearly ten years ago, we began making improvements to the Airfield, particularly de-mining the area and constructing new facilities. Today, construction continues. From day to day, projects in every phase of construction are underway. The base is divided into various camps where the different agencies operate. Like a fine-tuned machine, each camp operates in its own way, but all contribute to the overall mission. I live and work on Camp Cunningham,<sup>2</sup> and my office is in an old air traffic control tower built by the Soviets in 1976. It is an amazing sight to see.

While the base layout and surrounding terrain are fascinating, the people stationed here are truly remarkable. I have had the pleasure of meeting Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and civilians from every walk



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jeremy K. Cross



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Erik Cardenas

of life, representing every corner of the country. And each one of them shares a common bond—a love for their country and a sacrificial desire to give back. One in particular epitomizes these traits and will forever stand out in my mind; I'll call him Dr. G.

Dr. G was born in Afghanistan. His father was killed when Dr. G was young, and he and his mother fled Afghanistan and moved to Pakistan in the mid-1970s. A few years later, they immigrated to the United States and became U.S. citizens. Dr. G valued his education, eventually obtaining a Ph.D. in linguistics. He is fluent in Pashto and Dari, the two most commonly spoken languages in Afghanistan, as well as English. He lives in New York with his wife and six children. When the war on terror began nearly a decade ago, Dr. G knew he could contribute. Today, he is at Bagram Airfield serving as a civilian linguist for the U.S. Army, ensuring that Soldiers are able to communicate well with the Afghan people to accomplish mission objectives. He loves his native and adopted countries and is making sacrifices to aid the cause for the benefit of both.

Shortly after I arrived at Bagram, I had the pleasure of helping Dr. G file his income taxes, a process that took several meetings. Now, he stops by every few weeks to say hello in typical Dr. G fashion: "Hello, my friend. Hope you are well today." He rarely stays long, just long enough to say hello. And before he leaves, he frequently says, "God willing, I will see you again soon." I'll always remember Dr. G.

I also had the pleasure of shaking hands with the President of the United States. In late March, we learned that President Obama would be visiting Bagram. My legal office colleagues and I waited with anticipation for several hours for the opportunity to see President Obama and hear his speech. When he finally arrived, we stood about fifteen feet away from the podium and after his speech, he began to work the crowd, shaking hands, and thanking the veterans. I was able to get close enough to shake the Commander in Chief's hand. I will remember the experience for the rest of my life.

But beyond the scenery and beyond meeting the President and

getting to know Dr. G, the part of my deployment that stands out most is the way my deployment has served to foster and cultivate relationships with friends and family. My immediate and extended family has gone above and beyond with their support. My mother-in-law traveled to Germany for two months to stay with Sonia during my absence. Whether it be an uplifting email, Facebook post, or a care package full of goodies, they say and give just the right things at just the right times. And my friends (many of whom I see only occasionally due to being stationed so far from home) have showered me with support during my days here at Bagram.

And when I began to contemplate the origins of these friendships, it dawned on me: the vast majority of the family and friends I am referring to I met during my days at UNA. The bonds forged at UNA are still alive and well today; in fact, the bonds are stronger than ever. During my freshman year at UNA, I heard many alums and professors say, "The friendships you make here will last forever," and I always took it with a grain of salt. Today, I proudly agree. You know who you are: thank you from the bottom of my heart for your support and encouragement during my deployment.

There are a hundred more stories I could tell about the terrain, the base, the mission, and the people, but for me, what stands out is the role UNA still plays in my life, even though I graduated nearly a decade ago. UNA is not just brick and mortar, halls and classrooms. To me, it is a living, breathing institution that has

given me much more than a world-class education. It has given me relationships that will endure for a lifetime. I'm proud to be a part of the UNA family.

## UPDATE

I departed Bagram and arrived back in Germany. Needless to say, I'm very excited to be home with my family again. As I reflect on my deployment, it was a rewarding time for me both personally and professionally. I am happy to have directly contributed to the war effort and will continue to contribute in any way I can. The United States and our coalition partners are making great strides in Afghanistan and I know our efforts will yield great results. Afghanistan will be a self-sustaining bastion of freedom for generations to come.



Russian Tower on Camp Cunningham (where my office is located)



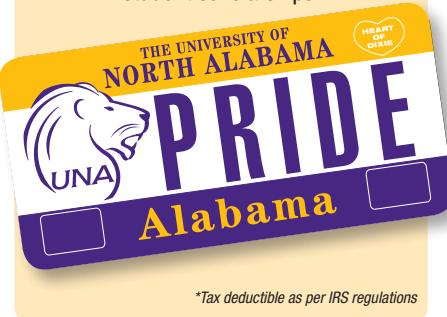
**UNA  
2010  
SUMMER THEATRE**  
**2010 Tony Award Nominee**  
**Linda Lavin**

July 9, 2010



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



\*Tax deductible as per IRS regulations





1. Derek Hill, Ronald McKinnon ('10), Cody Gross ('95), Bill Hyde, and Bobby Wallace
2. Bobby Wallace and Mark Linder
3. Alex Nelson, Ronald McKinnon ('10)
4. Rebecca and Will Hall ('04)
5. Denise Medders, Ronald McKinnon ('10), and Alan Medders

University of **NORTH ALABAMA**



**FOLLOW LION FOOTBALL ON**  
"UNA SPORTS NETWORK"



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CORINTH, MISSISSIPPI  
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## University of NORTH ALABAMA • 2010 Fall Athletic Schedules

### FOOTBALL

DATE / DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
4 Sat	HENDERSON STATE	HOME	6:00
11 Sat	Glenville State (W.V.)	Glenville, W.V.	12:00
18 Sat	* SOUTHERN ARKANSAS	HOME	6:00
25 Sat	Lambuth	Jackson, Tenn.	6:00
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
2 Sat	* ARKANSAS TECH HOME (Homecoming)	HOME	6:00
9 Sat	* West Georgia	Carrollton, Ga.	1:00
14 Thu	* VALDOSTA STATE (GSC-TV Live)	HOME	7:00
23 Sat	* Ouachita Baptist	Arkadelphia, Ark.	1:00
28 Thu	* Delta State (GSC-TV Live)	Cleveland, Miss.	7:00
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
6 Sat	* WEST ALABAMA	HOME	6:00
13 Sat	Harding	Searcy, Ark.	2:00
20 Sat	NCAA Playoff First Round		
27 Sat	NCAA Playoff Second Round		
<b>DECEMBER</b>			
4 Sat	NCAA Playoff Quarterfinal		
11 Sat	NCAA Playoff Semifinal		
18 Sat	NCAA Division II National Championship Game		

• Game dates and times may change due to television broadcasts

### VOLLEYBALL

DATE / DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
3-4	UWF COMFORT INN-VITATIONAL	Pensacola, Fla.	
3 Fri.	vs. Missouri-St. Louis	Pensacola, Fla.	2:00
4 Sat.	vs. Florida Tech	Pensacola, Fla.	9:30
4 Sat.	vs. Eckerd	Pensacola, Fla.	3:30
10-11	AASU PIRATE VOLLEYBALL CLASSIC	Savannah, Ga.	
10 Fri.	vs. Rollins	Savannah, Ga.	12:30
10 Fri.	at Armstrong Atlantic	Savannah, Ga.	7:00
11 Sat.	vs. Florida Southern	Savannah, Ga.	10:00
11 Sat.	vs. Flagler	Savannah, Ga.	2:30
17-18	NORTH ALABAMA CLASSIC	Florence, Ala.	
17 Fri.	Tampa vs. Harding	Florence, Ala.	11:00
17 Fri.	Christian Brothers vs. West Florida	Florence, Ala.	1:00
17 Fri.	HARDING	HOME	3:00
17 Fri.	West Florida vs. Tampa	Florence, Ala.	5:00
17 Fri.	CHRISTIAN BROTHERS	HOME	7:00
18 Sat.	Harding vs. West Florida	Florence, Ala.	11:00
18 Sat.	TAMPA	HOME	1:00
21 Tues.	* West Georgia	Carrollton, Ga.	6:00
25 Sat.	ECKERD	HOME	1:00
28 Tues.	* ALABAMA-HUNTSVILLE	HOME	7:00
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
3 Sat.	SOUTHERN INDIANA HOME	1:00	
5 Tues.	* West Alabama	Livingston, Ala.	7:00
8 Fri.	* WEST FLORIDA	HOME	7:00
9 Sat.	* VALDOSTA STATE	HOME	1:00

### SOCcer

DATE / DAY	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			
3 Fri	Barry (N)	Pensacola, Fla.	5:00
5 Sun	Nova Southeastern (N)	Pensacola, Fla.	11:00
10 Fri	Lynn (N)	St. Petersburg, Fla.	4:00
12 Sun	Eckerd	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Noon
15 Wed	Clayton College & State	HOME	7:00
17 Fri	Texas Women's	Denton, Texas	4:00
19 Sun	* Ouachita Baptist	Arkadelphia, Ark.	2:00
26 Sun	Florida Southern (N)	Columbus, Ga.	1:00
28 Tue	Lambuth	HOME	7:00
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
1 Fri	* Alabama-Huntsville	Huntsville, Ala.	12:30
5 Tue	* Christian Brothers	HOME	7:00
8 Fri	Spring Hill College	HOME	7:00
10 Sun	* West Georgia	HOME	6:00
12 Tue	Lambuth	Jackson, Tenn.	2:00
15 Fri	* Harding University	HOME	7:00
18 Mon	Montevallo	Montevallo, Ala.	7:00
22 Fri	* West Florida	HOME	7:00
27 Wed	* Delta State	Cleveland, Miss.	2:00
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
5 Fri.	* WEST ALABAMA	HOME	7:00
6 Sat.	* WEST GEORGIA	HOME	1:00
12-13	GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT		
	Hosted by East Division Champion		
18-20	NCAA SOUTH REGION TOURNAMENT TBA		
30-Dec. 4	NCAA DIVISION II FALL FESTIVAL		
	ELITE EIGHT Louisville, Kentucky		

All Times Are Central / \* Gulf South Conference Games



# CLASS NOTES

## 19 60s

**Kirk Minor ('61)** recently released *Journey Across the Tiber*, a religious nonfiction book that compares and contrasts Roman Catholicism and Protestantism in an effort to make clear of one's religious path in life.

**Hulond Humphries ('60)** was inducted into the Morgan County Sports Hall of Fame. He is currently working at a rock quarry.

**Fran Vest Rowe ('69)** recently opened Sweet Annie's, an antique shop at Massey Town in Massey, Ala. She enjoys her two grandchildren and spending time at the antique shop now that she's retired.

## 19 70s

**Charlotte Burcham Tabereaux ('73 & '76)** is the Education director of the Mississippi State University Riley Center for Education and the Performing Arts in Meridian, Miss.

**Frank Bush ('75)** is now a government contractor for Electronic Consulting Services (ECS). He works in Orlando, Fla., for the U.S. Army Executive Office of Simulation, Training and Instrumentation as a senior military subject matter expert for military operations in urban terrain.

**Terry Fuell ('78)** was recently inducted into the Morgan County Sports Hall of Fame. He is currently the athletics director for Liberty Middle School.

## 19 80s

**Mary Gist ('83)** is the principal of Heritage Middle School in Franklin, Tenn.

**Tina Whitfield ('84)** was awarded Beeson Divinity School's Most Distinguished Student for 2009-2010. She received the award in recognition of having outstanding and holistic achievements in scholarship, Christian spirituality, and ministry involvement.

**Dana Thrasher ('86)** was one of three Brooks and Smith attorneys honored by Alabama Super Lawyers. She was selected for Employee benefits/ERISA. She specializes in advising employers, trustees and service providers concerning qualified and non-qualified retirements plans, and other benefits.

**Gregory A. Reeves ('88)** recently opened a law office in Decatur, Ala. He majored in political science and ran for the Decatur City Council in 2008, and is now serving as President of the city council.

**Whitney Dean ('07)** was cast as the drummer on One Tree Hill's Season 7 episodes. He also

## 19 90s

started Glass Jar Photography that specializes in weddings and engagements.

**Tarina Mabry-Orr ('98)** is a Registered Nurse working for UAB Hospital. She and husband Larry are proud parents of Jeremias Tamorie.

## 20 00s

**Ryan Moore ('00)**, his wife **Melissa Holland Moore ('00)** and their three children have relocated to Murfreesboro, Tenn., where Ryan has been promoted to City President of SunTrust Bank of Rutherford County.

**Christy Jordan ('02)** has a food blog named Southern Plate that averages more than 7 million page views per month. The viewers of her site range as young as seven years to 87 years.

**Jennie Johnson Sugg ('10)** is administrative assistant/office manager of the National Office of the Beta Beta Beta Biology Honor Society on the UNA campus. She lives in Athens, Ala. with her husband **John Cullen Sugg ('10)** who works as a Medical Technician on the Behavioral Health Unit at Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital.

## Non-Graduating Alum

**Joseph Castleberry ('78-'79)** is President of Northwest University, and delivered the opening prayer at the U.S. Senate Session.

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The UNA National Alumni Association VISA® Card is the only card that rewards you while benefitting UNA.

Apply today at [alumni.una.edu/benefits](http://alumni.una.edu/benefits)

## DOLLARS for Scholars

*Be part of History in the Making*

Alumni and friends of UNA, please make your contribution to help students with scholarship dollars. To give you an idea of UNA's sticker price, the following estimated costs apply for the average in-state undergraduate, residential student taking 15 credit hours per semester in 2010-11:

Tuition and Fees: \$6,052

Room and Board: \$7,284

Total: \$13,336

Wherever you are and whatever your affinity you can help with dollars for scholars. Give to your geographic scholarship endowment or to your departmental preference. Give online or by sending your check to the UNA Foundation and memo line your scholarship of choice. For information go to [alumni.una.edu/scholarships](http://alumni.una.edu/scholarships).

### BIRMINGHAM AREA SCHOLARSHIP

*"This is a great way to give back to our community and to UNA. Students from our area can benefit from a scholarship designed specifically to help those from our community. The company I work for has a matching gift program, so my donation to the scholarship fund is matched by them. I hope others will consider donating to the scholarship program and if they work for companies with matching gift programs, they will apply for matching funds."*

**Sandra Behel '77**

### HUNTSVILLE/ MADISON COUNTY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thanks to my parents' work ethic and resourcefulness, I am able to support our 'Family' university by helping to establish a Huntsville/Madison county UNA Alumni Chapter scholarship, so others can have the opportunity to learn and thrive from all that UNA has to offer. My parents taught me by example about giving back to one's community and I believe they would be proud to be part of giving back through this scholarship endowment. I hope you will be inclined to add your support to the university, both as a student and as alum."*

**Linda Kirby Vaughan '70**

## UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA ALUMNI & FRIENDS PRESENTS...



### Discover Tuscany

March 3-12, 2011 • 10 Days, 13 Meals

**Highlights:** Rome, Assisi, Basilica of St. Francis, Montecatini Terme, Siena, San Gimignano, Winery Tour, Florence, Tuscan Feast, Pitti Palace

Steeped in history, culture and legend, the Italian countryside is where you'll relax with a six-night stay in Montecatini Terme, the famous resort and spa town. Visit Rome, Siena and Assisi. Sample delectable wines during a wine tasting in one of the Chianti region's most picturesque wineries and visit Florence's famous Academy Gallery which houses Michelangelo's monumental statue of David. See works of art by Rubens and Caravaggio at the impressive Pitti Palace. Enjoy traditional Tuscan food and wine.

### COLLETTE EXPERIENCES

- Enjoy a guided cultural tour of Florence that highlights the many priceless treasures of the "Cradle of the Italian Renaissance."
- Visit the medieval city of Assisi, birthplace of Italy's patron saint, St. Francis.
- Gaze at the vineyards and rolling hills of Tuscany from the hilltop village of San Gimignano.
- Explore the magical city of Siena on a lovely walking tour through its narrow streets lined with gothic buildings.

For more information contact the UNA Alumni Relations.  
256-765-4201 or [una.edu/alumni](http://una.edu/alumni)







# IN MEMORY

## YEARS UNIDENTIFIED

**Matthew Price Greene, Sr.** was a 1989 graduate of Hartselle High School and attended Auburn University and the University of North Alabama. He was a photojournalist for various news media and covered many important news and sports events in his career. He was nominated for an Emmy Award for his camera work with WBMG-TV 42 in Birmingham. He enjoyed flying airplanes and playing computer games with his two sons. He was a member of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Hartselle. He was married to Kimberly Watkins Greene of Florence.

**Jon Henry Killen** worked as a photojournalist for the New York Times at *TimesDaily* and *Florida Daily Commercial* and the *Gainesville Florida Sun*. He also was a photographer for a Japanese utility company and made a trip around the world.

**Mary Zura "Boots" Shaw Makima** graduated from Deshler High School and attended Florence State College before working for Dr. D. D. Cox. During World War II, she worked in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. House of Representatives and for a war agency as an intelligence analyst.

## 1940s

**Armstead Branscome ('41)** was a dentist in Colbert County for 33 years as well as a longtime deacon and Sunday school director at First Baptist Church in Tuscumbia. He served in the Navy during World War II as a pharmacist's mate, and after his deployment he earned his degree from UNA. He later

went to Baylor Dental College in Dallas, Texas, where he graduated in the top of his class.

**Helen Ruth Butler Potts ('41)** married Frank V. Potts and shortly after Frank was drafted into the U.S. Army, Ruth taught second grade at Hebron Elementary School in Marshall County, Ala. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, five children, and nine grandchildren.

## 1950s

**William C. "Buddy" Hannah ('50)** was a U.S. Navy and Army veteran. He also held a career in education serving as a classroom teacher, counselor, and principal and in administrative positions. After he retired from education he worked for TVA, and with the help of his wife owned Rogersville Florist. He served in the Alabama House of Representatives for three years, as well as holding many community positions in the town of Rogersville. He also served as a lay leader of Rogersville United Methodist Church for more than 25 years.

**William J. Walker ('51)** was a lifelong member of Tuscumbia Church of Christ and he owned and operated ACE Walker Hardware Company in Tuscumbia, Ala. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving in World War II.

## 1960s

**James Tidwell ('62)** was a member of First Baptist Church of Killen. He served in the U. S. Army and was employed by Reynolds. He retired from the Alabama State Employment Service. After his retirement he enjoyed hand making dulcimers and playing them at the St. Joe Senior Center. He is survived by his wife, Julia Rice Bliss.

**David J. Bliss ('52)** graduated from Florence State Teachers College with majors in math and chemistry. He was a chemist at Astro Film Laboratory and served as president of the IATSE Union from 1997 to 2002. He served in Naval Intelligence in the Pentagon during the Korean Conflict. He is survived by his wife, Julia Rice Bliss.

**Marjorie Dobson Norton ('55)** taught in the Sheffield and Auburn, Ala., city school systems. She was a lifelong member of First United Methodist Church and was active in many of its activities and many civic affairs. She enjoyed her part-time work at the Florence Utility Department. She is survived by her husband Bert Norton and four children.

**James C. Isbell ('57)** began his military career in the ROTC during college and served for an extended period of time in the U.S. Army in various locations. He retired from the Redstone Arsenal and began his second career at IPSCO Manufacturing in Decatur, Ala. He established Solar Resources of North Alabama, Multi Tech Leasing, and then later Southeastern Downlinks where he retired in May 2004.

**Harold "Hal" Sisson ('58)** was a native of Haleyville and a three-year letterman in UNA football from 1954-56. He was the first Lion lineman to be selected All-American and was inducted into the UNA Sports Hall of Fame in 1999. He was retired from State Farm Insurance, and served as a football and baseball coach for Huntsville High School. He is survived by his wife **Peggy Nan Jessup Sisson ('56)**.

**William F. Clos ('76)** was retired from Browns Ferry and attended Our Lady of the Shoals Catholic Church.

**Robert H. Nash ('79)** worked at Tennessee Valley Authority as an administrator specialist. He was a member of Cross Point Church of Christ. Mr. Nash is survived by his wife, **Dolores Swoopes Nash ('67)**, a daughter, two granddaughters, and a great-grandson.

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**Elizabeth I. Ross ('80)** served as moderator and clerk for the Florence Presbytery and the Alabama Synod. She served as minister for Mt. Hope Cumberland Presbytery Church in Mt. Hope, Ala. Rev. Ross was a musician for Little

**Star Cumberland Presbyterian Church AME.**

**Kevin Barr ('87)** was a member of First Baptist Church of Lexington, Ala. He was an employee of American Ordnance in Milan, Tenn. He majored in communications with a minor in marketing while at UNA.

**Betty L. Calloway ('63)** was a member of First United Methodist Church of Florence and a member of the Ferguson Sunday school class. She taught at Little Angel Kindergarten.

**Angela L. Johns ('89)** was a member for 35 years at Canaan United Methodist Church. She loved playing the piano and organ for churches across the area. She earned her master's degree from UNA working for C.S.R.S. Architectural Firm.

**Sammy G. Mann ('89)** was a certified computerized mapper for the Colbert County Revenue Commissioners Office in Tuscumbia for 18 years. He loved traveling, a cappella music and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, **Cayron J. Mann ('91)**, and a son.

**Philip Estes McIntyre ('75)** was a member of New Hope Church of Christ and a former Florence police officer. He was a truck driver for seven years with Potter and Sons and a partner in Ray McIntyre and Sons.

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**Neal M. Hughes ('99)** was a native of Lauderdale County and served six years in the U.S. Navy.

**Suzanne Thorne Mace ('00)** was a member of Macedonia Church of Christ. She earned a nursing degree while at UNA and was an R.N. for Hospice of the Shoals. She is survived by her husband J. T. and two children.

**Amy Jo Campbell ('01)** was a Battelle scientific contractor with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. She was named on two patent submissions and published six times for her discoveries in organic chemistry. She received the Siple Award at the 26th Army Science Conference in 2008.

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