



Magazine

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for alumni and friends of the University of North Alabama

Contents

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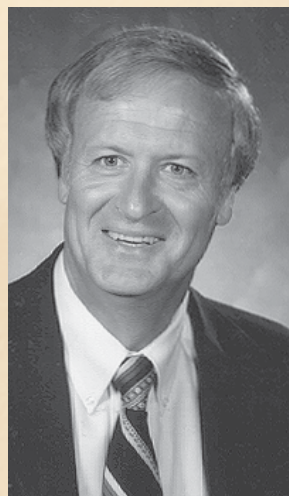
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in this Issue

I have been told over and over again that the single greatest benefit of becoming a member of Alumni Pride is to receive the *UNA Magazine*. The Magazine's mission is to "serve its readers—the card-carrying members of the **Alumni**

Pride—and UNA by acting as a comprehensive communications vehicle to provide alumni and friends with balanced and objective coverage of issues pertaining to the association and university, a means of staying in touch with their alma mater as well as one another."

I feel as if I am preaching to the choir. You who are reading this issue are financial supporters of UNA and we thank you so very much for helping to bring our alumni giving percentages up. Recently, we mailed to each of you an invitation to join **Alumni**

Pride by making a \$50 minimum donation to the Alumni Pride Giving Program that, when divided, helps provide funds by underwriting the costs of alumni publications, sponsors events in local areas, and supports operational expenses of your alumni association.

Unfortunately, many alumni will not realize that they missed their opportunity to read about 2009 Homecoming honorees, our new planned giving council, the record enrollment and graduation numbers and the 2009 athletics season with award-winning coaches and near championship teams.

Please share this magazine's content with your friends and encourage them to go online to our OnLion social networking community and join Alumni Pride. If you prefer our **Purple goes Green** initiative and would rather read your magazine online, tell us there. If you have not joined our OnLion community, don't waste any time—sign up today!

We traveled to many places last year and plan on increasing our visits to you this year. Stay alert by reading your Alumni and Friends E-Letter. If a group of alumni in a given geographical location or within an affinity group has an interest in forming a UNA Alumni Chapter, contact the Office of Alumni Relations and express those wishes. Our mission is to grow the UNA family and reach out to help others who desire to support the mission of the University. The scope of our mission is to keep up with our alumni, recognize their individual accomplishments, award their successes, recruit students, aid in job placement for our graduates, supply internships and mentoring opportunities to current students, and raise funds for the University and for scholarships. As this magazine goes to press, we are establishing a UNA China Alumni Association. Already a viable group in the Southeast, we will be visiting and locating many alumni we have not yet visited.

Get On Board and Roar Lions!

Carol Lyles ('70), Director

OFFICE of ALUMNI RELATIONS

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Carol Lyles ('70) and
Leigh Carl McElyea ('09)

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message from the Alumni President



John ('65) and Ann Battcher ('65)

On the Cover

If you've been to the University of North Alabama the past couple of years, you've probably noticed: Campus has become more populated than ever. We're not exactly stepping all over one another—not yet, anyway—but the rate at which students are coming to UNA is turning heads. We had nearly 7,300 enrolled last fall—a number surpassed only once, in 2007. Among that number was a record-breaking 1,100+ freshmen. That was punctuated in November, when the campus was populated with 2,400 prospective students and families for Preview Day.

As you'd expect, these escalating numbers are bringing larger graduation classes. On the cover of this issue, you can see last December's graduates packing the main arena floor of Flowers Hall, where commencement ceremonies have been held since the late seventies. Norton Auditorium, where many of us graduated, would hardly contain a ceremony of this size. One can only wonder: With our current growth, how much longer will even Flowers Hall contain it?

I am very much honored and look forward to serving as the president of UNA's National Alumni Association for the year 2009-2010. It is a very exciting time for the university. We have a record student enrollment (over 7,000), our football team/coach gained national attention in the Division II playoffs, and our women's soccer team reached the finals. We, as alumni, take pride in the accomplishments of this wonderful university and its students.

The alumni office staff has been particularly busy this year, travelling many miles in contacting alumni, organizing new chapters, and participating in existing chapter activities. They have visited chapters in Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, the Carolinas, and Alabama. They are taking UNA "on the road" to keep distant alumni connected to the university family. Alumni have enjoyed outings at baseball games, cultural activities, TV game watch parties, and tailgating at in- and out-of-town football games. These chapter organizations have produced a partnership and direct line of communication with the alumni office on campus. We want to continue that important partnership. Dr. Alan Medders, Office of Advancement, and Carol Lyles, Office of Alumni Relations, are readily available to answer any questions you might have and offer assistance to alumni. Give them a call or stop by for a visit in beautiful, fully restored Rogers Hall, our home on campus.

The alumni office has worked hard at establishing chapters throughout the Southeast. We are now 28 chapters strong and growing. Many of the chapters (Huntsville, Montgomery, Athens, and Birmingham) are already raising funds for scholarships—a way of giving back by providing an opportunity for a talented high school student to attend our university.

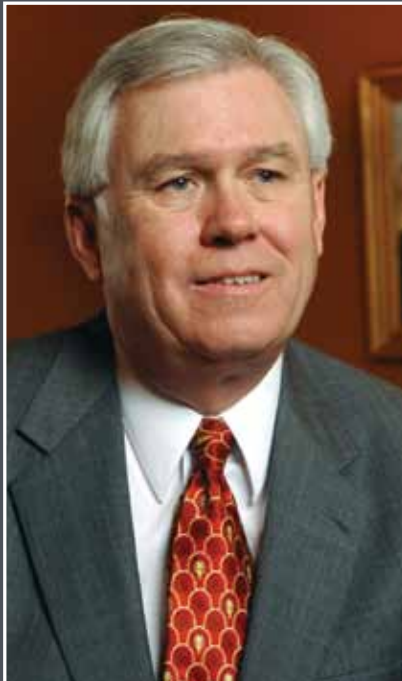
Now is a great time for all of us to become more involved in supporting the university that has given us so much. It's our turn to give back. We can do this by becoming a card-carrying Alumni Pride Member; purchasing a UNA license plate (\$47.50 goes to scholarships); joining the UNA OnLion social community to keep abreast of what the university is doing; and joining a local alumni chapter—getting involved, and, most importantly, giving back financially! Your contributions in any amount are vital in supporting the association's scholarships to deserving students. Take pride in being alumni of the University of North Alabama and give back.

There are many changes coming in the months ahead, so read all the mailings from the alumni office, the *UNA Magazine*, and information posted on our website. Stay in touch with the university and give back!

John Battcher ('65)

Proud Alumnus!

President NAA, 2009-2010



William G. Cale, Jr.

president's message **William G. Cale, Jr.**

retention improved by nearly 6 percent last fall, an enormous increase. Externally sponsored programs and research hit a new high of \$8.2 million this year, nearly \$5 million above where we were two years ago. During that same period our alumni chapters increased by 50 percent to 26, and the number of alumni events grew from 13 to 34. We are recruiting nationally renowned talent throughout the university, and these new persons are effecting positive change throughout UNA. Student life has more students engaged, more programs being offered, and more comprehensive attention to student welfare being shown, than ever before. More of our students are studying abroad with scholarship support than at any time in our history. Athletics, a key component of university life, continues to increase its presence at the national level. Coaches Graham Winkworth (women's soccer), Stephanie Radecki (women's volleyball) and Terry Bowden (football) all earned Coach of the Year recognition in the Gulf South Conference

and took their teams to NCAA postseason competition. And although I have no barometer for this last, it is my impression that optimism for the future of UNA, internally and externally, has never been higher. Remarkably, all this is unfolding in the face of unprecedented financial challenges.

None of these good things happen by chance, and much of our success links directly to our alumni and friends who support us through philanthropy, volunteerism, and the sharing of expertise. We are a beacon of opportunity for 7,300 students, and our light has never been brighter. The impact that each of you make, individually and collectively, will keep that light shining. On behalf of every UNA student, thank you for your support.

From time to time it is appropriate to step back and ask ourselves where we are headed as a university, and if we're on the right path. I know from the many conversations I have had with community members, alumni, and colleagues within UNA, that the kinds of changes we are making meet with your approval, and the consensus is that UNA is in a good place and moving forward. But moving forward toward what purpose must be clear to all. My vision for UNA is that we should work together to build a university that is held in the highest esteem, that is a first-choice destination for an increasingly talented student body, and that serves our students and our region in a multiplicity of ways. The foundation upon which that vision rests is that everything we undertake will be of the highest quality, that we accept excellence as our benchmark. Further, our commitment is like our lives, a journey. We will never one day sit back and say that we are good enough.

There is growing evidence that this vision is not a dream but an emerging reality. For the past two years we have enrolled the largest freshman classes in our history, reaching 1,131 last fall. Some 677 students transferred to UNA this year, also an all-time high. Our average entering ACT scores are increasing each year. Our freshman to sophomore student



Lunch with Legislators: Marty Abroms ('81), Bobby Denton, Mike Curtis ('77), Bob Hill, William Cale, John Battcher ('65), Tammy Irons ('86), Marcel Black, and Henry White ('71)

from the Board of Trustees



Billy Don Anderson ('62)
Sheffield



Richard H. Cater ('67)
Montgomery



Lisa Greer Ceci ('89)
Huntsville

Helen Keller once said, "What a shame to have sight and no vision."
The last decade at UNA has shown many changes. One of those changes is the beautiful improvements to our landscape—you would be hard pressed to find a more picture-perfect campus. Another is the continuous effort to advance technologies, giving our graduates a jump start on their careers by providing them with the tools to compete in the market place.

These kinds of changes do not just happen. It is a combined effort of trustees, administration, faculty and staff, plus students and alumni. Recently we hired a consultant to help with a plan for our next ten years. Since one does not operate well without the other, we will be working in tandem with the City of Florence on traffic patterns and retail development.

So what would you like to see our campus look like in the near future? What courses are needed to keep us ahead of the curve? Where do you see UNA athletics in ten years? These questions are basic but crucial. I would love to hear from you on all issues concerning our future. What is your vision?

Steve Pierce ('75)
President Pro Tempore
UNA Board of Trustees



John B. Cole
Florence



Ronnie Flippo ('65)
Florence



Rodney L. Howard ('76)
Muscle Shoals



Steve Pierce ('75)
Florence



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Tuscumbia



Libby Watts
Florence

UNA GLOBAL

INTERNATIONAL WEEK SHOWCASES UNA'S GLOBAL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE FUTURE

By Cody Wix, Student Writer



The University of North Alabama's ambition and work toward becoming a more global university was displayed during International Education Week in November. The week was sponsored by the UNA Center for International Programs.

Dr. Chunsheng Zhang, Vice Provost for International Affairs, believes the week was a success. "International Education Week was a great opportunity to highlight and showcase the diversity of the UNA campus and it helped stimulate interest from faculty, students and people in the community," Zhang said.

The week began with an address from the deans of the Colleges of Business, Arts and Sciences, Education, and Nursing and Allied Health. A subsequent event was entitled "My Country and My Culture" and included presentations from international students.

The goals for the globalization of the UNA community were laid out in a presentation entitled "UNA Internationalization: Vision, Mission and Implementation." UNA leaders President William Cale, Vice President for Academic Affairs John Thornell, and Vice Provost for International Affairs Chunsheng Zhang gave the address.

"Academic excellence in the 21st century is just one key factor in becoming successful in a global society," Zhang said. "In today's world students must also be globally prepared."

The ability of students to be "internationally mobile" was emphasized by each speaker.

Dr. Zhang says "international mobility" means that students need to be able to communicate and move within unfamiliar cultures.

One of Dr. Zhang's goals is to boost the number of UNA students studying abroad, therefore student and faculty presentations about studying and teaching abroad were included in the weeklong showcase.

"The national average of [college] students who study abroad is 2 percent," Zhang said. "Our immediate goal is for 1 percent of our student body to study abroad. We would like to raise enough funds to have the ability to buy every incoming freshman a passport. That's \$100 a passport and we have around 2,000 incoming freshmen," Dr. Zhang said. "Our long-term goal is to be able to provide funds for visas, airfare, and scholarships to qualified students who wish to study abroad."

UNA would reach that 1 percent goal if just 71 students studied abroad. Currently there are about 40 students studying abroad in a given semester.

The final event was "Passport to the World." This event was open to local K-12 students and gave students the opportunity to experience a variety of different cultures. The students were presented with a passport at the beginning and then they could collect country stamps at booths set up by UNA international students.

"I can still see so many smiling little faces of children who are willing to learn and be with people who don't look or talk like their parents," Zhang said.



My study abroad trip to Mexico in the summer of 2008 was truly a life-changing event. Since I returned, I have had the opportunity to share with a variety of groups about my experiences. After giving these presentations, I have developed a desire to make working with study abroad my career. This May I will graduate with my degree in Secondary Education and Spanish. After graduating, I plan to go to graduate school to obtain my master's degree in Higher Education so that I may work with a university study abroad program. Without the University-sponsored trip, none of this would be possible.

— Valerie Jones

CHINA Launches Chapter

各位同学：

今天是一个特殊的日子，它既是北阿拉巴马大学校庆之日，也是学校中国同学会正式成立的日子。值此母校 180 周年华诞及校友会成立之际，我谨代表校友会全体成员向母校送去最热烈的祝贺和最诚挚的祝福。

在母校的大力支持和全体同学的共同努力下，中国校友会顺利成立，并通过民主选举产生了理事会成员和主要负责人。非常感谢各位同学的信任，推选我担任理事会主席。我倍感荣幸，同时也感到责任重大。

我们这个班集体是一个充满了激情、友情和智慧的集体，中辍的每一份子都是各行各业中的精英。我为能成为其中的意愿感到骄傲，也愿意在理事会的集体领导下，为推动母校和校友会的发展、加深同学情谊、促成项目合作尽绵薄之力。

校友会初创，任务繁重。我将和理事会的同事们一道，抓紧完成校友会章程的审议，完善校友会相关注册手续，制定工作计划，建立财务管理制度，使校友会工作尽快步入正轨，使校友会真正成为一个温暖的大家庭。

祝同学们友谊长存。！

葛鹏燕

2010 年 1 月 12 日星期二

Dear all,

Today is a special day as it is the founding anniversary of the University of North Alabama (UNA) and the day for launching the China Chapter of UNA Alumni Association. On behalf of all the members of the China Chapter and in my own name, I wish to extend the warmest congratulations and sincere best wishes to the University.

Thanks to the support of UNA and the effort of all my classmates of the EMBA program, the China Chapter has been successfully established. The council and the leadership have also been elected accordingly.

I wish to thank you all for your trust by electing me as the president of the council. I feel deeply honored to undertake this task.

I believe you will all agree with me that this is a team with passion, fraternity and wisdom. All its members are the elite in different sectors, and I feel proud to be part and parcel of it and am willing to make my contribution.

There is a lot of work to do after the establishment of China Chapter. I will work with other members of the council to finalize the charter, finish due procedure of registration, set up the work plan, and establish a financial management system. We will try our best to put the Chapter on the right track and make a real home for all.

May our friendship last forever!

Ge Pengyan
President

China Chapter of
UNA Alumni Association



ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



JEFFERSON A. FLETCHER

74

By Cody Wix, student intern

Jefferson A. Fletcher, M.D., has spent his life doing one thing—saving lives.

The medical profession is one of long hours and challenging work, but it is a job that directly impacts people on a daily basis. Dr. Fletcher has become a leader in this profession throughout his 32 years of practicing medicine.

Dr. Fletcher's career began at the University of North Alabama where he earned a Bachelor of Science with Highest Honors in 1974. After graduating UNA Dr. Fletcher attended medical school at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

He then completed his residency and specialty education in cardiology and internal medicine and soon became a member of the medical staff at St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson, Miss. Additionally, Dr. Fletcher serves Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, River Oaks Hospital, Woman's Hospital, and Crossgates River Oaks Hospital. Dr. Fletcher joined the Jackson Heart Clinic while at St. Dominic's. Jackson Heart Clinic is the premiere cardiology group in the state of Mississippi. He is now the senior partner in a 21-member cardiology practice, involving primarily Clinical and Interventional Cardiology.

Dr. Fletcher currently serves on the Board of Directors of Mississippi Health Partners in central Mississippi and serves as Cardiovascular Consultant to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi.

He is active in the Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Cardiology and was nominated to serve as Governor of the Mississippi Chapter of the American College of Cardiology.

"Dr. Fletcher is not only an extraordinary, knowledgeable cardiologist; his values are exemplified by his compassionate care for the many patients and family members he serves," said Sister Mary Dorothea, O.P., Chairman of the Board of St. Dominic Hospital.

Dr. Fletcher has served the St. Dominic's medical staff as Secretary and Chief of Staff. He is currently serving on the hospital's Board of Directors as the Chairman of the Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Committee.

"His leadership is outstanding and he has made a positive impact on the quality of medical practice throughout the hospital," Sister Mary Dorothea said.

The University of North Alabama has always been a training ground for leaders and professionals. UNA was the foundation of Dr. Fletcher's success in his profession.

"Dr. Fletcher is admired by his colleagues, the hospital administrative and clinical staff as well as the civic community," Sister Mary Dorothea said.

The University of North Alabama is proud to call Dr. Fletcher one of its own.

He is married to **Kathy Walker Fletcher ('74)**. They are the parents of two children. They have three grandchildren.



NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS



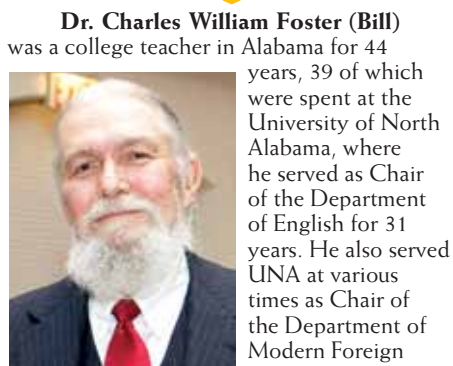
Homecoming provides a great opportunity for the University and the National Alumni Association to recognize alumni and friends who have excelled in their field. Homecoming 2009 celebrated a theme of *Leo and UNA—The Dynamic Duo—Heroes in the Making* with a full slate of activities from Sept. 28 through Oct. 3.

Congratulations from the University to the Alumni of the Year award winners. These

are the highest honors granted to graduates of this University. We are proud of the outstanding accomplishments of these alumni and the collective honors they have received in their profession. Additionally, our service awards in targeted areas applaud the best of the best. Plan your 2010 Homecoming with us, scheduled around game day on October 2.

THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD was created in 1997 to recognize and honor exemplary individuals who have left lasting impressions on this campus. As a small token of our extreme appreciation for these mentors, a brick in a permanent location in the Alumni Victory Flame and Garden is reserved for the Lifetime Achievement Award winners.

DR. CHARLES WILLIAM FOSTER



Director of the Center for English Language Learning.

Bill Foster grew up in the mountains northeast of Chattanooga in Tennessee.

He received his baccalaureate degree from the University of Chattanooga, his master's degree from East Tennessee State University, and his doctorate from the University of Alabama, specializing in Linguistics, American Literature, Elizabethan and Jacobean Drama, and American Folklore and African American Fiction.

He has written numerous articles for learned journals in Linguistics and Folklore, chapters in two books on African American Charles W. Chesnutt, and has also written an award-winning 10-week documentary series for Alabama Public Television.

From 1975 to 1995, Dr. Foster with his wife Anne and their children, Melissa and Will, traveled the United States as the Foster Family String Band, appearing on national television and on national public radio and averaging 40 weekend concerts per year. For five consecutive years the Foster Family was

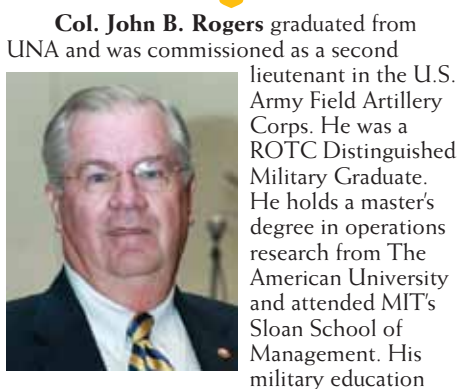
named String Band of the Year at the Bluegrass Music Award Ceremonies in Nashville. Their awards, along with one of Dr. Foster's banjos, are currently on display in the museum section of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.

In addition to his musical work, Dr. Foster has been featured on several Alabama Public Television documentaries and has appeared in several motion pictures. He has also been featured as a stand-up comic at the Festival of Appalachian Humor in Berea, Ky. The University of Illinois Press recently released a definitive work entitled *Country Music Humorists and Comedians*, which features photos and an in-depth interview with Dr. Foster.

Dr. Foster retired from the University on August 1, 2007. He is also the proud grandpa of Nicholas and Cody Foster.

THE MILITARY SERVICE AWARDS recognize the best of the best. These are the men and women from our armed services who have chosen careers dedicated to the service of our country and to the protection of each one of us. They are our American heroes!

Col. JOHN B. ROGERS



includes the Army Command and General Staff College and the US Army War College.

Col. Rogers was appointed as Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, Alabama-North, in May 2003. Mr. Rogers is active with the Association of the United States Army and is a past President of the Redstone Huntsville Chapter. Currently, he is serving as Region Three President of the association.

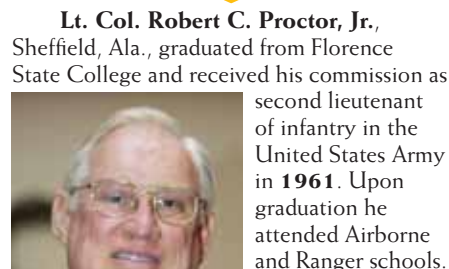
Rogers maintains part-time employment with the Northrop Grumman Corporation where he was Director of Air and Missile Defense Systems and responsible for business

development in the Huntsville market.

Mr. Rogers retired from the Army in 1991 as a colonel.

He is married to the former Cheri A. Duggar of Florence. They have two sons and three grandchildren.

Lt. Col. ROBERT C. PROCTOR, JR.



Proctor served two combat tours in South Vietnam. He was an advisor to the South Vietnamese Army and later served as Executive Officer to Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf when

Schwarzkopf commanded an infantry battalion in Vietnam.

He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Command and General Staff College, Norfolk, Va., and was an author and instructor at the CGSC, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. Proctor's military awards include the Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medals, Meritorious Service Medals, Air Medals, Army Commendation Medals, and medals for valor and service from the Republic of South Vietnam.

Lt. Col. Proctor retired with full military honors. He now resides in Beaufort, S.C., with his wife, **Janelle (Holley) ('62)**, also a graduate of the University of North Alabama. He has a son, Rob (a lieutenant colonel in the Army and a West Point graduate), and a daughter, Holley Malia, a resident of Santa Barbara, Calif.

THE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD is appropriate as the university has a long-standing reputation as an outstanding institution for teacher education and administration. Award winners run the gamut from serving as administrators (in both K-12 education and higher education) to working as educators in the classroom, making a difference every day.

DR. ANITA D. BRADFORD

Dr. Anita D. Bradford graduated from UNA in 1972 with a degree in English. Currently, she is a state-level deputy superintendent whose office oversees the school improvement interventions and federal programs throughout Georgia. In 2008, she and a co-worker wrote and received a school improvement grant that added \$20 million federal dollars to the Georgia school improvement budget.

Before moving to the Georgia State Department of Education, she worked in the Cobb County School District in Georgia as an Area Superintendent, Chief Operations Officer, and Chief Academic Officer.

She was the District Principal of the Year for the Elizabeth City/Pasquotank Public School System, Regional Principal of the Year, and a finalist as the Principal of the Year in North Carolina in 1995.

She has served as an adjunct professor at both East Carolina University and the University of North Alabama. Being an adjunct provides the opportunity for Dr. Bradford to share her knowledge of how to improve learning environments, how to budget state and federal dollars, and how to plan for facilities.



Ramsey Williams, Jeff Bowden, & Phillip W. Williams ('61)



Julian Newman ('62) & Betty Dean Newman ('62)

DR. NELDA CAMBRON-McCABE

Dr. Nelda (Hicks) Cambron-McCabe graduated from UNA in 1969. She then completed her master's and doctoral studies in Educational Administration at the University of Florida. She has been a faculty member at Miami University in Ohio since 1978. She currently holds the

rank of Professor. During her time at Miami University, she has served over 15 years as department chair in both the Department of Educational Leadership and the Department of Educational Psychology. She has taught graduate courses in School Law, School Leadership, Organization Development, and School Finance. During her career at Miami University she has directed more than 30 doctoral dissertations.

Dr. Cambron-McCabe has been published extensively. Her most recent work is "2009 Public School Law: Teachers' and Students' Rights," which is now in its sixth edition. Other widely recognized publications include "Schools That Learn" and "The Superintendents' Field Book."

She was awarded the Benjamin Harrison Medallion Award, the highest honor awarded by Miami University for Distinguished Service to Education of the Nation, in 2005. She also received the Distinguished Scholar of the Graduate Faculty for a distinguished career in graduate education in 2005.

Nelda is married to Harry McCabe.



WARREN McCORD

Warren McCord, Auburn, Ala., graduated from Florence State University in 1964 with a degree in Biology. He received his M.S., and Ph.D., from Auburn University. Upon graduation from Florence State and the completion of its ROTC program, McCord was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and, following his doctoral studies, served two years as a captain on the faculty of the U.S. Army Chemical Center and School, Ft. McClellan, Ala. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel in 1993.

McCord began his career with Auburn University in 1972. He retired from Auburn in 2003 as Emeritus Professor of Consumer Affairs, College of Human Sciences and Emeritus Assistant Director, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Auburn University. While with Auburn University, he was head of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Departments of Community and Economic Development and 4-H Youth Development.

His service to his local community includes past chairmanship of the Auburn Planning Commission, the Mayor's Advisory Committee for Community Development, and the Auburn 2000 and Auburn 2020 Strategic Planning Steering Committees. He is currently chairman of the City of Auburn Commercial Development Authority and a member of the Planning Commission.

McCord has been married for 45 years to Brenda Floyd, also a former Florence State student. They have two children and seven grandchildren.



Jefferson A. Fletcher ('74)

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



BETTY DEAN NEWMAN

62

By Cody Wix, student intern

Betty Dean Newman, Ed.D., is an educator. She has spent her career and her life developing ways to help teachers become more effective.

Dr. Newman graduated from Florence State College in 1962 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. She then earned a doctorate in Education from the University of Alabama. During a career that has spanned over 47 years, Dr. Newman has influenced the lives of countless students and future teachers. She was Limestone County Teacher of the Year and was recognized as one of the State of Alabama Teachers of the Year. She also spent 23 years as a professor of Elementary Education at Athens State University, 18 of those years as chair of the Elementary Education Department.

Dr. Newman has been published numerous times and has given presentations at local, regional, and international conferences. A leader in her field, she served as Vice President, President, and District 1 Director for the Alabama Reading Association; President of the Heritage Reading Council; and held leadership positions on accreditation committees and other various organizations.

"Dr. Newman raised the bar as President of the Alabama Reading Association," said Dr. Donna Jacobs, Dean of the College of Education at UNA. "She established the 'Reading Paradigm, a Journal of the Alabama Reading Association.'"

Dr. Newman is regarded as such an expert in the field of reading education that she is regularly consulted by the Alabama State Department of Education. Dr. Newman was part of the original team that helped to develop the instructional modules for the Alabama Reading Initiative.

Whether it is creating new ways to teach reading or consulting policy makers, Dr. Newman is always up for a challenge. She returned to UNA to aid the College of Education in a grueling accreditation process.

"With less than 18 months to solidify our accreditation documents, I needed someone who was self-motivated, who clearly understood the complex process, and who could hit the ground running—all without the luxury of time," Dean Jacobs said.

Dr. Newman jumped at the chance to return to further the success of her alma mater and serve in a consultant role as the Director of Continuous Improvement and Accreditation, using her knowledge and experiences to train faculty, staff, and students in the use of LiveText. LiveText is a web-based tool for developing, assessing, and measuring student learning and collecting data for state, regional, and national accreditation purposes.

"I was undaunted by the tremendous task ahead of me because I saw the call as a way to return, in part, a portion of a large gift of knowledge that has been sparked in me by UNA," Dr. Newman said.

Dean Jacobs summed up why her friend was chosen for the Alumni of the Year Award.

"She is the perfect mix of experience, innovation, motivation, enthusiasm, creativity, commitment, and dedication," Dean Jacobs said.

The University of North Alabama has a history of producing some of the best teachers in the country. Dr. Newman shows that tradition will continue.

She is married to **Julian Newman ('62)**. They have one daughter.

THE FACULTY/STAFF SERVICE AWARDS are presented to successful alumni among peers on this campus. These award winners possess far-reaching, long-term involvement and influence with students, organizations, and colleagues at the University. They are considered mentors who have made significant footprint.

KIMBERLY A. GREENWAY

Dr. Kimberly A. Greenway is a graduate of UNA and has served UNA in a staff position since 1993. Her time at



UNA has included supervision of student activities and organizations, Greek life, leadership development, academic and disabilities support services, summer orientation, University Events, Student Government,

student programming, the student discipline system, intramural sports, and the building and supervision of the Student Recreation Center. She is currently the Director of Judicial Affairs and Student Affairs Assessment.

Greenway received her bachelor's and master's in Education from the University of North Alabama and her doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from Azusa Pacific University.

Greenway has published work in the "Journal of College and Character" and presented at regional, state, and national conferences in her field. She also teaches Educational Research Design at the master's level, and was employed by Southern California University of Health Sciences to develop and teach a Foundations of Biostatistics and Research Design course. She is also one of only 55 individuals worldwide certified by the Gallup Organization as a Strengths Advocate trained to facilitate learning from a research-based strength approach.

JOE K. LITRELL

Joe K. Littrell graduated from Florence State University in 1972. He came to UNA in 1988 as temporary mechanic of the motor



pool. Presently Littrell is Supervisor of Grounds and Motor pool at UNA.

Under Littrell's leadership, UNA has received the Florence Beautification award every year since 1999. Each one of the 13 members of the Grounds

department at the University is dedicated to properly maintaining the campus to the highest standards and works hard to improve its overall appearance.

Visitors from all over the world have commented on how beautiful the UNA campus is. Most will compliment on how clean, well-kept, pleasant, safe, and friendly the environment is while they are here. The facilities and grounds are the first thing that visitors and prospective students see when they visit our campus and thanks to Littrell their "first impression" of the university is positive and everlasting.

DONNA YANCEY

Donna Yancey is a full-time associate professor of Marketing at UNA where she has taught for 33 years.



Yancey primarily teaches basic marketing and Retailing courses. She has been an active Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) advisor for the past 32 years. Mrs. Yancey is also the Advising Coordinator for the

College of Business.

Yancey received her bachelor's degree in Marketing from Mississippi State University, her MBA from the University of Mississippi and has completed post-graduate hours from Ole Miss.

She has been recognized as the Alabama PBL advisor of the year for five years and placed in the national PBL "Wall of Fame." Mrs. Yancey has been honored with UNA's "Outstanding Service Award" for her contributions to many UNA organizations on campus, was selected as the "Teacher of the Year" by the International Student Association and Phi Mu Sorority, and has received the Dean's Excellence in Service and Teaching Awards.

She is married to Lanny Yancey and has two children, both UNA graduates, and three grandchildren.

THE FRIEND OF THE UNIVERSITY AWARD honors those who promote the mission of the University by their donation of time, resources, and energy. Their work is a labor of love. They are patrons who seek to select deserving causes and special interests where they can share their expertise and talents . . . they are truly in a class by themselves.

VINCE J. BREWTON

Dr. Vince J. Brewton came to UNA in 2001 as assistant professor of English. In 2005 he was named founding director of the UNA Honors Program.



The goal of the Honors Program at UNA is to raise the academic profile of the institution by bringing elite students to campus each fall, and in turn

to offer those students a more individualized and challenging college experience. The

Honors Program has recruited five classes of academically exceptional students to UNA from across the southeast.

In 2009, the Honors Program graduated its first class—which included the UNA Man of the Year and the UNA Woman of the Year—while applications for fall 2009 were at an all time high.

Dr. Brewton has a bachelor's degree from Duke along with a master's and a doctorate from the University of Mississippi. His research interests and publications span American and Southern literature, Honors Administration, and Liberal Arts education in America.

He is married to Dr. Callie Plunket-Brewton, and they have two children: Merrie Margaret and Alec.

WILBURN KILLIAN

Wilburn Killian graduated from Florence State Teachers College in 1951. Wilburn



became a State Parole Officer and moved to Dothan. After excelling at his job at the state level, he applied for and was promoted to the position of Federal Parole Officer in Birmingham in 1957.

Killian established the Killian Opportunity Scholarship Endowed Fund at UNA in support of Project OPEN,

POLITICAL SERVICE AWARDS Nominated by their peers, these recipients serve their state, regional, or local government in an elected or appointed position and bring recognition to the university because of their influence and dedicated service.

BRYCE U. GRAHAM, JR.

Bryce U. Graham, Jr., Tuscumbia, Ala., graduated from UNA with a double major in



History and Political Science in **1982**. After graduation he attended Birmingham School of Law where he received his Doctor of Juris Prudence in 1988.

After law school Graham enjoyed a successful career as a private attorney with

his father, Bryce Sr., and his brother, **Robert Graham ('91)**. Graham was elected District Attorney of Colbert County in 2005.

Since taking office, Graham has continued the zealous prosecution of violent offenders, and has been very successful in his campaign against the sale and distribution of illegal drugs.

He is a member of the Cramer Children's Advocacy Center Board, Colbert County Domestic Violence Coalition, VOCAL, and the Shoals Democratic Club. Graham also serves as the Project Director of the Colbert County Drug Task Force.

He is married to Cassandra and is the father of Bryce III, a UNA student, and Anna Beth.

MICHAEL K. CURTIS

Michael K. Curtis graduated from UNA in **1977** with a bachelor of science in secondary education.



He is currently working as an associate agent at Nationwide Insurance and is a member of the Alabama State House of Representatives serving Lauderdale County. As a member of the Alabama House

of Representatives he was one of six public officials on the Public Park Authority which brought the Robert Trent Jones golf trail to the state. At the Alabama statehouse he serves on Public Safety, Homeland Security, County and Municipal Government, Human Services and Welfare committees.

Curtis serves on the NCAA National Championship Committee and has served as player host of the Harlon Hill committee since 1992.

Curtis served as a Lauderdale County Commissioner from 1996-2006 and was a member of the Board of Directors of the association of county commissioners in Alabama.

He is married to Janice Curtis. They have three children, twin daughters and a son, and three grandchildren. Curtis is a member of Atlas Church of Christ.

RALPH GRIDER

Judge Ralph Grider, Scottsboro, Ala., graduated from UNA in **1976** with a double



major in History and Political Science.

After graduating from UNA, Grider attended Samford University's Cumberland School of Law. In 1980 he graduated from Cumberland, was admitted to the Alabama State Bar and established his

general law practice in Scottsboro.

Grider was elected District Judge of Jackson County in 1986. He is currently serving his fourth term in office.

He is a past president of the Alabama District Judges Association and has served on numerous judicial committees working to improve the judicial branch of government in the State of Alabama. He is a graduate of the National Judicial College and has served on the faculty of the Alabama Judicial College.

Grider was awarded the Governor's Conservation Achievement Award as Judicial Conservationist of the Year by the Alabama Wildlife Federation in 1997. Grider is a member and past president of the Scottsboro Kiwanis Club. He has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America for 47 years and is an Eagle Scout.

He is a member of Randall's Chapel United Methodist Church where he serves as the lay leader. He is a certified lay speaker in the United Methodist Church and serves on the board of directors of the New Covenant Emmaus Community.

Judge Grider is married to the former Dianne Owens of Stevenson. They have two sons, **Clayton ('08)** and Brett.

which is funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health. Killian has a passion for teaching nursing students in the area of geriatrics.

Killian is a longtime member and volunteer at First United Methodist Church in Birmingham. He and his late wife Martha have two children, Kathy and Ron.

FRANCES NUNNELLY

Frances Nunnelly is chairman of the Coffee High School Alumni Endowed Scholarship



Committee that has raised over \$100,000 for scholarships. The committee is made up of graduates of what was Coffee High School. They provide scholarships each year to graduates of Florence High School who attend UNA. The

endowment is included in UNA's Lion Match Program that doubles the scholarship award.

While Nunnelly did not attend UNA, her late husband, two sons, two daughters-in-law, and grandson are all UNA graduates. She spent 35 years of her career in the field of personnel at National Pool Equipment Company, Union Carbide Corporation, and Bank Independent.

Nunnelly was a longtime member and officer of the Florence Business and Professional Women's Club. She currently serves as chairman of the Florence Civil Service Board and president of the Muscle Shoals Chapter of Union Carbide Retiree Corp. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Florence, and continues to hold quarterly meetings of the Coffee High School Alumni Endowed Scholarship Committee, always searching for ways to grow their fund.

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR



PHILLIP W. WILLIAMS

61

By Cody Wix, student intern

Leadership and service are two words that define the career of **Phillip W. Williams, Ph.D.** After graduating from Florence State College in 1961 with a double major in Physics and Mathematics, Dr. Williams began his career as an Army Officer in 1961 when he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. His army career included one tour in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. During his second tour in Vietnam Dr. Williams served in ground operations such as the 1968 Tet Offensive.

Dr. Williams obtained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was honored many times during his 22-year military career. Dr. Williams has been awarded the Legion of Merit, six Bronze Stars with Valor, seven Air Medals with Valor, four Commendation Medals with Valor, three Meritorious Service Medals, VN Gallantry Cross for Valor, and VN Honor Medal 1st class.

Dr. Williams has also had a very successful academic career. He is a graduate of numerous U.S. Army and Defense schools including the National Defense College and the Defense Systems Management College. He also holds two master's degrees and a doctorate in Management and Public Administration.

Even after serving his country for 22 years in the military, Dr. Williams chose to continue serving others. He is a past president of the Huntsville Rotary Club and also served as the District Governor

for that organization. The Rotarians also named Dr. Williams a Paul Harris Fellow. He served as the Finance Director for the State of Alabama and was a Republican candidate for Governor of Alabama in 1998.

Dr. Williams is serving as the president of VETS, Inc., which provides consulting and professional services to government and commercial clients. He is president of Joint Capitol Services, a consulting firm providing services to small businesses for financial and management issues. He also works as a consultant to defense industries regarding military research and development.

Dr. Williams is active in the University of North Alabama community.

"Dr. Williams is constantly engaged in service to UNA through his former service on the Board of Trustees and as Director of the UNA Foundation," said Dr. Barry Morris, Director of Planned Giving for UNA.

Dr. Williams has demonstrated through his extensive service and leadership that the quality of a UNA education is second-to-none.

He is married to Ramsey Williams. They are the parents of five sons.

THE SERVICE AWARDS for extraordinary service to their community, we recognize model citizens who have given long-term involvement professionally and as volunteers to the community in which they live. Already applauded locally, we take great pride in thanking them from the University of North Alabama. You, as alumni, are our greatest assets.

JERRY GROCE

Jerry Groce, Russellville, Ala., graduated from UNA in **1978** with a double major in



History and Political Science. He then earned a master's in Social Work and an MBA. He is the County Director of Franklin County Department of Human Resources, and Adult Education Instructor at Northwest Shoals

Community College.

Groce was a Russellville City Council Member from 1988 to 2004.

Groce is president of the Alabama Association of County Directors. He is an Advisory Board Member of Bank Independent and a board member of Franklin County Children's Policy Council. He also serves in the Franklin County Foster Grandparent Program and is the Education Committee Chairman of the Governor's Alabama Rural Action Commission. He also sits on the Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments (NACOLG).

He is married to the former **Benetia Buckner ('81)** and they are the parents of two children, Evan and Alayna.

GERALD "TUFFY" HUDSON

Gerald "Tuffy" Hudson graduated from Florence State College in **1961**.



He serves in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, the Florence Police Department as a VIPS (Volunteer in Police Service), the American Red Cross, and the UNA Sportsman's Club.

Hudson has spearheaded the Jack Karnes Memorial Homecoming Golf Tournament, raising more than \$60,000 for fifth-year athletes at UNA. He has assisted with other golf tournaments including the Heart Association, Florence Golf and Country Club's Laura Franks Ladies' Invitational, Men's Invitational, Member/Guest, Father-Son-Daughter, Ladies' and Men's Club Championship, Sportsman Club Tournament, YMCA Tournament, Matthew Conley Memorial Tournament, Alabama Sports Hall Fame, Make-A-Wish, and the Healing Place.

Hudson is retired from the Alabama Army National Guard after 40 years of service.

Hudson is a former president of UNA's National Alumni Association.

He is an honored member of the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame, the Colbert County Hall of Fame, a member of the Decade of Year Team and the First 50 Years Team.

Married to **Brenda Sailors Hudson**, a **1962** graduate, they are the parents of two sons, Blake and Benjamin. They have four grandchildren.

HARRY WALLACE

Harry Wallace graduated from Florence State University in **1970** with a double major



in History and Political Science. Wallace retired in 2002 from teaching at Coffee High School after 30 years of exemplary service. Wallace teaches Continuing Education Classes in local history at UNA. He developed the curriculum for

the local history classes taught at the high school level as well as a curriculum for the continuing education classes in local history for UNA.

He researched and wrote local history articles for the *TimesDaily* newspaper in February, 1999: "The Indians," "White Migration and Settlement," "Town Building," "Antebellum Period," "Civil War," "Reconstruction," "The Industrial Revolution," and "The New Century."

Wallace routinely gives tours of the Florence Cemetery, the Forks of Cypress Plantation and Cemetery, other local plantations, and historical places of interest in the Shoals. He is considered the resident expert.

He is active in the Men's Garden Club of the Shoals, Alabama Wildflower Society, Muscle Shoals Chapter of the Alabama Wildflower Society, Huntsville Botanical Gardens, Tennessee Valley Historical Society and the Alabama Historical Association.

He and his wife **Linda ('70)** founded the Little Cypress Natives Nursery and Landscape business in 1995.

THE PROMISING ALUMNI AWARDS are selected by UNA faculty and staff who nominate seniors excelling in leadership, scholastics, character, service, and potential. We are extremely proud of their undergraduate service to the University and believe they will be outstanding alumni leaders in the future!.



PROMISING ALUMNI

Will Batson, Byron "Tripp" Bower, Luke Chenault, Grace Ann Coburn, Montrell Craft, Antonia "Toni" Crutcher, Leah Beth Downs, Scotty Rainwater, Samuel Thigpen, and Sherri Hester, not in order.



1



2



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6



7



8

UNA ALUMNI

1. UNA Pride of Dixie Alumni Band
2. Jeff Fletcher ('74), Leo, Una, and Kathy Fletcher ('74)
3. Juan Santiago, Jr. ('01) and Michelle with Matthew ('00), Wilson and Amy Schmitz
4. Phillip Williams ('61) and Bobby Irons ('65)
5. Greek Leo Phi Mus on homecoming float
6. Homecoming King Samuel Thigpen and Queen Leah Beth Downs
7. UNA cheerleaders at pep rally
8. Former Leos Paul Smith ('66), Carl Mathis ('66), and Jeff Edwards ('64)
9. Denisha Blackwell ('75 & '77) and Melanie LeMay ('75)
10. Caroline ('85), AnnaLee and Robert Moore
11. Former Leos Chris Smith ('06) and Pete Nelson ('98)
12. Tim ('85) and Susie Ray ('80)
13. Sara ('01), Jim ('01) and Elle Page
14. The band Heartland plays for Homecoming



9



10



11



12



13



14

UNA ALUMNI NEWS



John Paul White ('99)



Mac McAnally

UNA Music Award Winners

UNA and Muscle Shoals music were well represented at the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Awards show in Nashville last fall. Alumni **Mark Hall ('85)** and **Clay Myers ('86)** received publisher awards and **John Paul White ('99)** received a songwriter award. Sheffield resident **Mac McAnally**, who performed at a UNA music scholarship benefit concert on Nov. 12 (as a part of the 2009-10 Distinguished Events Series), won a publisher and songwriter award for his duet with Kenny Chesney, "Down the Road."

SHOALS BUSINESS FORUM *features* UNA ALUMNI

Two University of North Alabama College of Business alumni were among the speakers at the fall Shoals Business Forum at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center. Speakers included James Bennett, chairman of the board for ProTom International, Inc.; Bill Carter, a management consultant with Business Consultations; and Joel Kimbrough, former chief financial officer of Accredo Health Systems. The Shoals Business Forum is sponsored by the UNA College of Business and Division of Continuing Education, the Muscle Shoals Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants, the Shoals Chamber of Commerce, and the North Alabama Chapter of the Alabama Society of CPAs.

James Bennett ('79) graduated from UNA having majored in marketing and accounting. He is a founder and member of B&W LLC, a private investment group, which is a founding stockholder of ProTom International, Inc. Bennett is an experienced healthcare executive with more than 30 years of financial and operational experience with publicly traded and privately held healthcare institutions.



Since 1987, he has served in executive and board capacities of the following companies: privately held Whitby Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (formerly Russ Pharmaceuticals Inc.) as chief financial officer and board member; publicly held HealthSouth Corporation as president, chief operating officer and board member; privately held Pathology Partners, Inc. (now Caris Diagnostics) as founding board member and chairman; privately held Medical Properties Trust LLC (predecessor and founding company of publicly held Medical Properties Trust, Inc.) as founder and chairman; and privately held Sensys Medical, Inc., as board member.

From 1979 until 1987, Bennett was a practicing Certified Public Accountant in the audit division of Ernst and Young

advising individual hospitals, hospital chains and other healthcare entities on financial, organizational, reimbursement and tax matters. He spoke on "STARTing/Refinancing Your Business: Avoiding the #1 Reason New Ventures Fail."

Following college where he was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, **Joel R. Kimbrough ('80)** spent nine years at Ernst and Young as a senior audit



manager before joining the management team that would form and grow Accredo Health Group, Inc. (the nation's largest specialty pharmacy provider) as chief financial officer.

Accredo became a public company in 1999 and grew to 2,500 employees and about \$2 billion in annual revenue before being sold to Medco Health Solutions in 2005 for \$2.3 billion.

Kimbrough is currently a partner in The Barnett Group, a benefits consulting group. He is also chairman of the board of Trust One Bank in Memphis; lead director for Bostwick Laboratories; and chairman of the Audit Committee for Aldagen, Inc. He also serves as chairman of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of the Mid-South and is chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee for The Regional Medical Center at Memphis.

Kimbrough spoke on "SELLing a Successful Business: Doing It Right."



The National Association of Federal Education Program Administrators presented an Alabama Leadership of Federal Programs Award to **Dr. Randy J. Pettus ('78 & '81)**, Florence City Schools, Florence, Alabama for Outstanding Leadership and Dedication in Federal Programs Administration.

UNA THEATRE ALUMNUS

*lands role on hit
TV series "Heroes"*



Daryl Crittenden ('03)

recently landed a recurring role on the NBC hit drama "Heroes." He graduated from UNA's theatre program in 2003 and is also a graduate of Muscle Shoals High School. Crittenden is cast as a carnival worker on episodes of "Heroes" currently in production. "I am playing a 'carny,'" he said, "but that's all I can tell you right now."

Crittenden said it was his role as a French doctor in the UNA production of Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor" that made him realize he wanted to be an actor. "I played a crazy French doctor. He was scary and hilarious," Crittenden said. "I remember having the best time."

Crittenden's mentor and professor during his time at UNA was Dr. David Ruebhausen. "I only let him play an American once. I gave him a lot of challenges, and it was good for his training," Ruebhausen said. Ruebhausen remembered Crittenden as a college student with a lot of potential. "I always knew Daryl was going to do well because he had a great deal of talent and energy," he said. "But it takes more than talent to make it in the acting world. Daryl always seemed ready for anything, and he never complained. That's what it takes to make it."

Crittenden's unique resume includes a background in martial arts, acrobatics, and juggling. Crittenden has also had acting roles in "Nip/Tuck," "Wizards of Waverly Place," "Kokonuts," and a long-running Domino's commercial.

UNA ALUM *travels to* SOUTH AFRICA

Alex DeJarnett ('94) had the privilege of travelling to South Africa with the International Program in the College of Engineering, Science, Technology and Agriculture (CESTA) at Florida A&M University. The program works with local farmers in South Africa to empower black and colored farm workers, some of whose families have worked on the same farms for generations.

"Colored" is a term used in some African nations, including South Africa, for people of mixed racial heritage.

The journey to Cape Town is not an easy one. He traveled from Tallahassee to Atlanta, took a flight to Dakar, Senegal, and then to Cape Town—overall a 22-hour flight.

DeJarnett said, "The beauty and reality of the country was both breathtaking and heartbreaking. The view of the different mountain ranges was amazing, making you appreciate nature's strength and grace. However, the reality of the extreme poverty and the number of shantytowns, even right outside of the Cape's international airport, allowed me to view the consequences of apartheid."

DeJarnett was stationed in De Doorns in a guesthouse. For three weeks, he trained adult farm workers in conflict management and leadership development. He was provided transportation and a driver to the training farm. The farm was a wine grape-producing farm that participated in the empowerment program. The program allowed some of the black and colored workers to share in the management and profits of the farm.

He said, "The six adults in the training were eager to learn and very open to instruction. We all quickly found a bond and began to grow closer outside the training. They questioned me about the States and I questioned them about South Africa and Africa in general. Because of the success of adult training, I offered to train youth in leadership development. For four days in the afternoon, I trained youth in leadership, responsibility, education, and some conflict resolution."

The fabric of South African society is constantly changing, creating not only new challenges, but also greater stability and peace, and laying the foundation for a society in which the individual and human potential of a nation can come to fruition. In the evening and on weekends, he walked the streets of the town, absorbing the culture and flavor.

DeJarnett said, "The town people were friendly and willing to talk to a stranger in a strange, but oddly familiar, land. There were discussions of politics brought on with then Senator Barack Obama winning the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. The question of 'Can a black man win the most powerful office in the world?' was constantly asked. Ironically, there would be times when I was just taking a walk and shouts of 'Obama' would be yelled from passing automobiles. The connection to the human condition was always present."

He kept a journal to record thoughts every day and talked to loved ones back home in the States. He said, "As I strolled, my venture took me farther and farther. From the nice homes with the huge spiked-tipped partitions and armed security signs to the multiple shanty houses across the railroad tracks, along street level and at the base of the mountain, I saw the division and suffering of South Africa's politics and poverty that separates us as mankind." The sights he saw touched DeJarnett deeply. "I returned to the guesthouse with those images burned in my spirit, vowing to seek a solution for society's ills."

"On the last day, the adults planned a social for the trainers. There was an atmosphere of fellowship and appreciation that was unmatched. The smell of wood grilling of fresh meat and the sound of laughter resonated against the setting of the South African sun. The feast was not about saying goodbye, but about giving thanks for the bond of friendship that was created. Tears flowed as farewells were spoken, knowing that we all have changed for the better. I thought of my new family and our time in De Doorns. I am not the same person that left and I know that I am a better person for my journey."

DeJarnett is hopeful for the future of South Africa. "Regardless of its past deeds, South Africa is constantly changing, addressing not only the government, political and social challenges, but forging a new path into the future. With a future of stability and peace, they are laying a foundation for a society in which South Africa's national, individual, and collective potential can come to fruition."

Alex DeJarnett is Coordinator of Greek Life and Community Involvement at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee. He will earn a Master of Applied Social Science in Public Administration in 2010. His wife, Torshi, is a full time mom. They have one daughter.



AROUND *the* CAMPUS

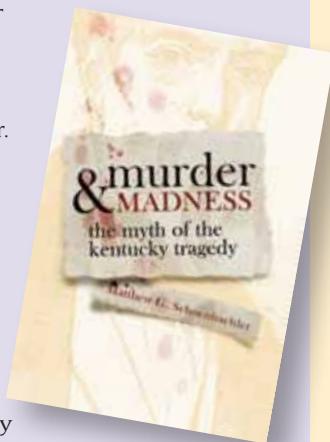
SCHOENBACHLER'S BOOK

Unearths the Lost Tale of the Kentucky Tragedy

Murder, love affairs and politics are just a few of the themes readers have found in "Murder and Madness: The Myth of the Kentucky Tragedy." Written by UNA's Dr. Matthew Schoenbachler, associate professor of history, the book hit shelves in November.

Before his execution for murder, Jereboam Beauchamp, with his wife, had written a confession that – while filled with falsehoods – later dazzled Americans with a tale of seduction and bold revenge. Schoenbachler analyzes the murder, the trial and the later romanticizing with a critical and historical perspective.

"Murder and Madness" is published by The University Press of Kentucky.



GARNER Spins Tales About Life in the South

Since its publication in November, Anita Garner's new book, "Undeniable Truths," has offered readers a glimpse into life in the South. The book is a compilation of 12 stories that Garner has written throughout different periods of life.

While "Undeniable Truths" is Garner's first book, she has written short fiction and literary criticism since the 1970s.

As an associate professor of English, Garner teaches creative writing and literature at UNA. She had previously taught at Virginia Commonwealth University.



PROFESSORS LEAD U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT RESEARCH

on Crime After Hurricanes

The university has received a \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to research patterns of crime during disaster and disaster-recovery periods. The research is for Community Orientation Policing Services, or COPS, and involves the UNA departments of geography, criminal justice and sociology. There are eight students working on the project as well.

The initial goal of the research is to find how crime patterns are associated with disaster and how they change through time in the recovery phase. The long-term goal is to develop a model that will help police organizations make decisions about law-enforcement effort by location.

STUDENT/FACULTY FOOTBALL GAMES

Benefit Make-A-Wish

With the excitement generated by Terry Bowden and the Lions, the faculty and staff decided to generate a little gridiron buzz of their own. The faculty and staff accepted a student challenge to a flag-football showdown one November evening, with two faculty/staff teams facing off against two student teams. The students won four games, and the faculty and staff won two.

Each team paid \$30 to play, and spectators paid \$1 each to watch. The event raised \$329 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



WIX WINS BEST ATTORNEY AWARD

at Mock-Trials Tournament

Move over, Denny Crane.

Cody Wix, a junior journalism major from Muscle Shoals, was recently one of only five students named a Best Attorney for his defense work at the 19th annual Mid-South Invitational Tournament, a mock-trial competition at Middle Tennessee State University. The tournament showcased about 500 pre-law students from more than 60 different universities throughout the nation.

At the tournament, Wix and 12 other UNA students argued a murder case four times – twice for the defense and twice for the prosecution. As a defense attorney, Wix won a perfect 20 out of a possible 20 points from the judges.

STUDENTS USE FALL BREAK

to Help the Needy

Fall break was more than a lazy three-day weekend for 20 students last October. This group, organized by the UNA Alternative Break Board, dedicated their time off to a variety of community projects through Lincoln Village Ministries in Huntsville. The students helped with yard work, refurbishing houses, after-school programs, cleaning and other similar needs.

The group also put together comfort packages through a non-profit group called Project Night Night. The comfort packages included children's books, blankets and stuffed animals for children who are victims of domestic violence and are seeking the services of Safeplace.

UNA SUMMER THEATRE will present BROADWAY and TV star LINDA LAVIN

TV's beloved "Alice," Golden Globe, Tony and Emmy Award-winning actress Linda Lavin will serve up a heaping plate full of great music and fun reminiscences in her autobiographical concert, "Songs and Confessions of a One-Time Waitress," as part of a three-day guest artist residency during the UNA 2010 Summer Theatre.



Lavin's performance will be Friday, July 9, at 7:30 p.m., in Norton Auditorium and features a three-man jazz combo led by famed jazz pianist and musical director, Billy Stritch.

Lavin and her husband, musician Steven Bakunas, will also conduct a special seminar on "downtown arts revitalization" which they have accomplished in their home city, Wilmington, N.C. Ms. Lavin will also conduct a very special master class in acting for UNA Summer Theatre students.

Lavin will come to UNA directly from her forthcoming Broadway run in "Collected Stories," which closes at the end of June.

NEW ADDITIONS to ARCHIVE COLLECTION HONOR LEGENDARY SCREENWRITER and ACTOR

The latest additions to the UNA archive recognize two legendary Hollywood names: screenwriter George Clayton Johnson and actor Claude Rains. Johnson presented a collection of scripts, photos and other memorabilia during an October visit to campus, and Rains' daughter, actress Jessica Rains, presented a special collection in November.

Johnson is one of the original writers of the classic "Twilight Zone" series and the first episode of the original "Star Trek" series, among other films and programs. Rains, who died in 1967, appeared in such classics as "Casablanca," "Notorious" and "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," among many other films.

STUDENT PERFORMS NATIONAL ANTHEM for Cincinnati Reds

Sophomore Dillon Hodges, one of the world's leading flat-picking guitarists, performed the National Anthem at Great American Ballpark in Cincinnati Aug. 20, when the Reds took on the San Francisco Giants. Hodges, an entertainment industry major from Florence, performed the anthem with friends Tim May and Gretchen Priest-May, of Nashville, as part of an acoustic instrumental trio.

The opportunity to perform the anthem came about as part of Hodges' position as a national spokesman for DHR Music Experience, a Cincinnati-based premier guitar retailer and distributor.



GREEN CAMPUS Initiative

The campus of the University of North Alabama got a little greener last August, when Rep. Robert B. Aderholt (R-Haleyville) visited. The congressman presented a U.S. Department of Energy check of \$951,000 for phase two of the university's Green Campus Initiative.

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

UNA's Green Campus Initiative projects are designed to promote greater efficiencies of energy usage, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and recycling of appropriate items. Phase one of the initiative includes the current renovation of Keller Hall.



UNA Chosen by NASA to Unveil New Milky Way Images

The UNA Planetarium was one of the only three planetariums in the state selected by NASA last fall to unveil a series of new mural-sized images of the center of Milky Way Galaxy. The new images offer a view of the galaxy as seen by all three of NASA's Great Observatories: the Hubble Space Telescope, Spitzer Space Telescope and Chandra X-ray Observatory.

Among the items unveiled was a 6 feet by 3 feet combined image carefully assembled from mosaic photo surveys of the galaxy's core by each telescope.



THE BSN ACCELERATED: College of Nursing Gets Students Into the Workplace Faster

With nursing consistently ranked as one of the top 10 most secure jobs in the country, students at UNA will soon be able to enter that career even faster. Beginning in May, the College of Nursing and Allied Health will offer an accelerated BSN track, enabling students to complete the degree in only 15 months.

The program will accept eight students for this first class. Applicants must already hold a bachelor's degree in any academic field.

With the growing demand for nurses, accelerated BSN programs have become a growing trend, with more than 200 such programs nationwide.

COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM Receives CACREP Accreditation

The university's graduate program in counselor education received a national mark of distinction recently when it received accreditation from CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs). CACREP is an independent agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation to accredit graduate programs in a variety of counseling and counseling-related fields.

As a reflection of superior quality achieved by the program, the accreditation puts counselor education graduates at a distinct advantage as they apply to doctoral programs and seek national certification.

SPORT MANAGEMENT CONCENTRATION Offered by HPER DEPARTMENT

The business side of athletics is the focus of a new concentration offered in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER). The concentration, sport management, is designed to prepare students for careers in athletics management, communications or marketing.

The sport management communication track prepares students for careers in sports information, public relations, journalism and sports broadcasting, while the marketing track is geared more toward promotions and tickets sales. The management track gives insight into the administrative and financial operations of an athletic program or organization.

FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA Concentration Offered by COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

The Department of Communication unveiled a new option for aspiring filmmakers in 2009. The department now offers its communication arts major with a concentration in film and digital media production.

The program, utilizing the latest tools for HD production, emphasizes the entire filmmaking process, from

script to screen. Students receive artistic as well as commercial training in pre-production, production and post-production processes, and are also exposed to documentary, narrative and experimental technique filmmaking.



UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS Join Fight Against CHILDHOOD OBESITY

UNA joined an effort last fall to locally combat one of the nation's leading healthcare concerns, childhood obesity. The university partnered with the Lauderdale County Children's Policy Council and the Florence-based Infants and Children's Clinic to conduct a six-month pilot program, No PANE (Physical Activity and Nutrition Education).

The program included instruction from the UNA Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER), which taught families in the program exercises they can do in their own homes. The UNA culinary arts programs provided healthy meals for participating families while instructing them on how to prepare their own healthy meals.

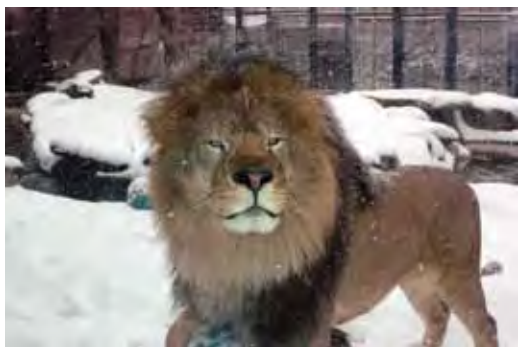




Let It SNOW, Let It SNOW, Let It SNOW!

Recent months at UNA have brought several blankets of snow as well as (on page 26) new Leo III and Una mascots, Step Sing, a newly crowned Miss UNA, a Martin Luther King Jr. Day march and a serenade by CMA Musician of the Year Mac McAnally. For more photos of what's been happening at UNA, visit us at ...

www.una.edu/photos







SPATS TO HATS

After eight years of constant wear and tear, the University's band uniforms are ready for retirement. The University has experienced record enrollment the past several years, and so has the Pride of Dixie—right now, there are not even enough uniforms for the entire band! As the band continues to grow and perform at numerous University events and statewide exhibitions, we have a dire need to purchase new band uniforms, and we're asking for everyone's support in our efforts. The Pride of Dixie needs 250 uniforms at \$350 per uniform, from SPATS TO HATS. Any gift is appreciated and we have outlined a few giving options below. If you have any questions, please contact Melody A. Stewart, Director of Annual Giving, mastewart@una.edu, 256.765.5080.

Ways to Give:

- A one-time \$350 donation to purchase one uniform
- A pledge of \$87.50 per month for four months to purchase one uniform
- A \$500 donation with \$350 for one uniform, \$75 for the Band Travel Fund, and \$75 for the Band Scholarship fund.

Support the Pride of Dixie and our Purple Goes Green effort by giving online at <http://www.una.edu/home/2009/10/spats-to-hats.html>.

We can't let them go naked!
DRESS THE P.O.D. PLEASE!



NOW AVAILABLE

BRIGHTEN your days in 2010 with the new UNA Auxiliary Calendar featuring our lovely Majorettes, Lionettes, and Flag Corps.

Only \$20 while supplies last
Call 256-765-4362

Proceeds help purchase uniforms for the Auxiliary.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



MAKING *an* IMPACT

THE PLANNED GIVING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dr. Barry K. Morris, Director of Planned Giving

It goes without saying that the University of North Alabama plays a vital role in the lives of thousands of students. Furthermore, UNA's influence and impact extend far beyond the walls of its classroom buildings. The research of our faculty in the sciences and in the humanities reaches a national and international audience and influences attitudes as well as public policy. The talents of our faculty and staff are on constant display, not just on campus, but throughout the cultural life of the community in the arts, music, and theatre.

As you are well aware, the economic recession has resulted in significant reductions in the revenue we receive from the state. So far Dr. Cale and his administrative team have been able to manage these reductions in state appropriations without negatively impacting our personnel or programs. The problem is that even if the economy were not in recession, state appropriations would still have declined as a percent of our overall revenues. Furthermore, this decline is a national trend, not just the misfortune experienced only by UNA.

As a result of these trends, donor contributions—from corporations, from foundations, from individuals—will play an increasingly important role in the health of the university and its impact on our students and on the cultural and economic life of the Shoals. We have made a commitment to creating the most effective advancement

program possible to ensure that UNA continues to be the vital engine of cultural and economic development it has always been.

As one part of this commitment to excellence, the University of North Alabama Planned Giving Advisory Council was established last fall and had its organizational meeting on Oct. 9, 2009. The Council is a group of professional advisors who volunteer their assistance to the University of North Alabama in establishing major and planned gifts. Council members have expertise in the area of estate planning, including the fields of accounting, law, real estate, financial planning, trusts, insurance, and investments. Members serve as advocates in their community educating friends, clients and colleagues about UNA's accomplishments, programs, and priorities. All these individuals love the university, clearly understand its importance to the quality of life in the Shoals, and are committed to maintaining UNA's excellence in academics, athletics, and economic development.

As experts in one or more of the aspects of financial and estate planning, they all understand the importance of philanthropy in estate planning. These Council members will provide critical feedback on technical, marketing, and client issues, and will be a sounding board for policy and procedure review as well as for program strategy.

THEY WILL:

Offer insights and expertise on the impact of current and future trends in economics and tax law on charitable giving

Serve as a resource for various opportunities to educate staff, faculty, alumni, and fellow professionals on relevant topics

Review particular proposed gifts

Assist in developing marketing plans

In addition, we have plans to conduct seminars periodically for the community on a variety of topics such as:

Issues in elder care planning

Passing values from generation to generation

Ten things you need to know before you visit your estate planner

Creative ideas for retirement planning

Financial planning for women

Oh no! the market has crashed **Now What?**

We hope you will find one or more of these seminars interesting and useful.

At its February meeting, the Council reviewed the Foundation's portfolio investment policies and previewed UNA's master plan for future infrastructure development which includes a new science building, a black-box theater, and new residential housing.

I am happy to introduce these individuals to you and hope you will thank them for their willingness to serve your alma mater and will contact them if you have questions about the role philanthropy can play in your estate planning.



Contact: Dr. Barry K. Morris,
Director of Planned Giving,
bkmorris@una.edu; 256-765-4861

Planned Giving Advisory Council

Name	Class Of
Charles H. Adams.....	1969
Terry J. Bagwell	1983
Matthew C. Davis	2006
Frank D. Dean	
Nicole Dill	
Jeff M. Edwards.....	1964
Tammy L. Irons.....	1986
Bradford A. Lynch.....	1980
Bethany Ellis Malone	1999
J. Michael McCrary.....	1990
Charles E. Moore	
Glenda A. O'Connor	
John P. O'Connor	1969
Peter L. Paine	
Randall W. Paseur.....	1999
Lisa D. Patterson.....	1982
Steven F. Pierce	1975
Thomas T. Ross.....	1980
Troy A. Skipworth	2002
Van L. Stack	1974
David L. Taylor.....	1983
Kin Taylor.....	1994



From Behind the Arc

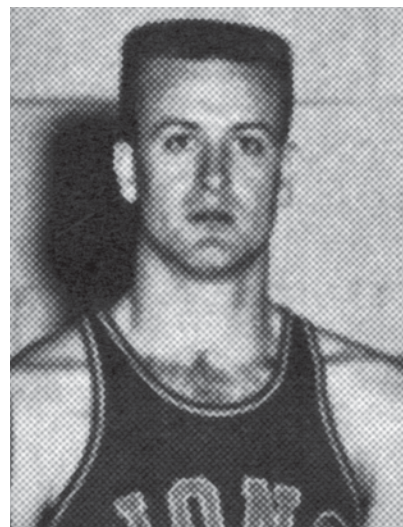
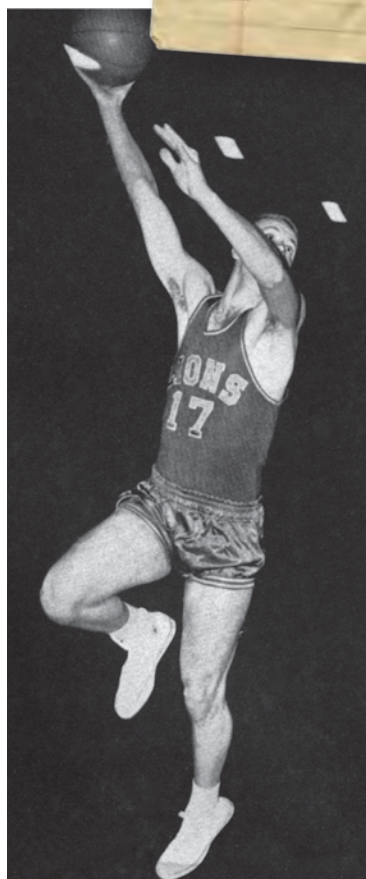
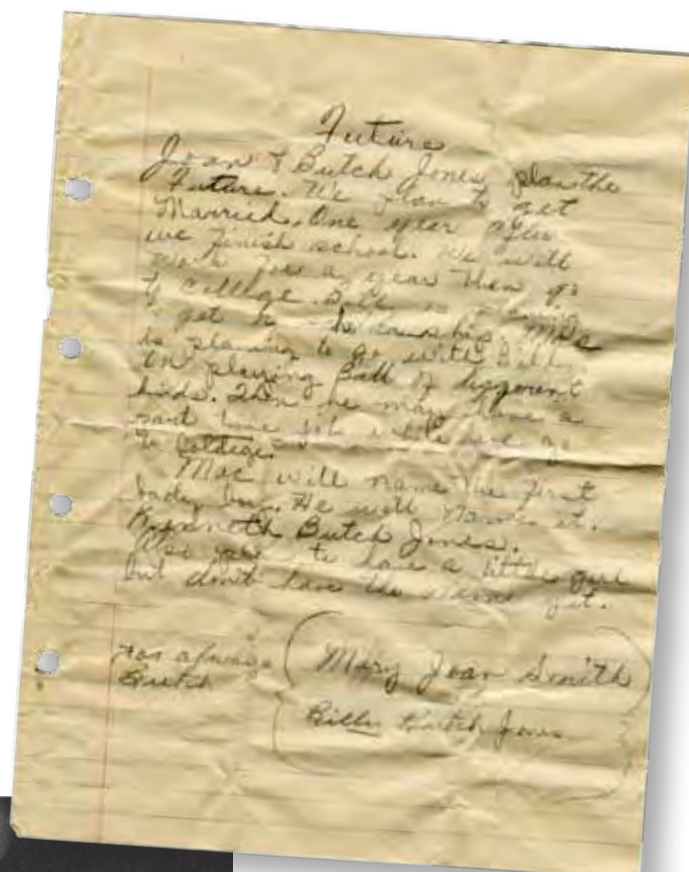
FAMILY SCORES BIG WITH SCHOLARSHIP HONORING UNA LEGEND

The Jones Family Honors a UNA Legend

Joan Jones still has the note after all these years. It was scribbled down in study hall when she and Bill Jones were only in the ninth grade – two years before they even had their first date. Nevertheless, it was a strikingly accurate glimpse into the future they would share together. Among the note's predictions were Bill and Joan's marriage, their college education and their children. It even foretold Bill's college scholarship.

Three years later, Bill received that scholarship, and he and Joan were off to Florence State Teachers College, now the University of North Alabama, where they would graduate in 1958 and where Bill would later become a legendary basketball coach and athletic director. They were married after three years at UNA, and then went on to have two sons, **Kembrel ('83)** and Rex, and a daughter, Pam.

Bill and Joan would share 51 years of marriage together.





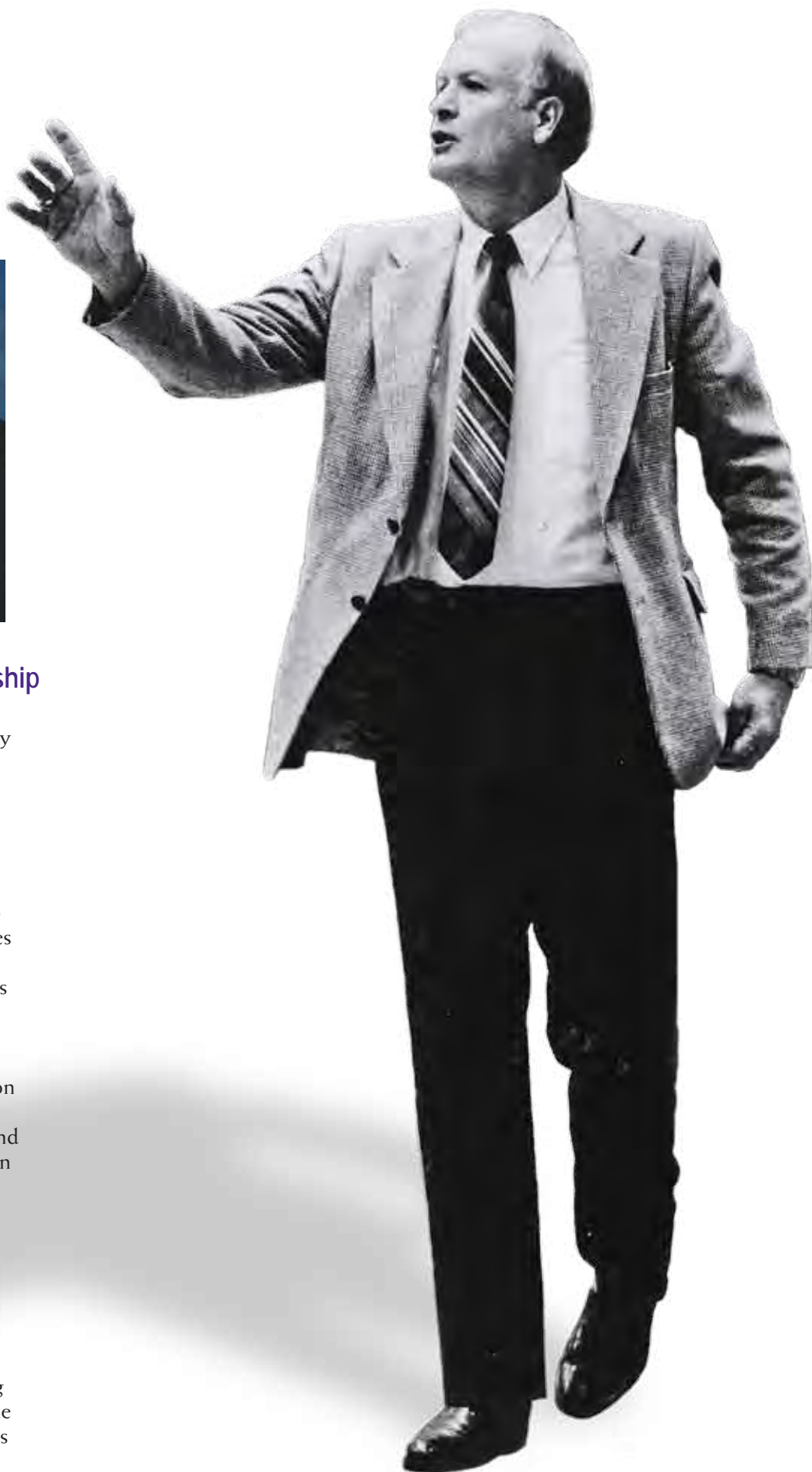
The Bill and Joan Jones Family Endowed Scholarship

Not long after Bill's death in August 2008, Joan and her family established a UNA endowed scholarship to honor Bill, his legendary coaching career, and the life they shared with him.

"As a student, Bill got a scholarship offer to come to UNA, so I hope this scholarship will make a difference in the lives of other students the way it did Bill's. I want it to make their lives better," Joan said.

The Bill and Joan Jones Family Endowed Scholarship is available to students of Lexington High School in Lexington, Ala., where Bill and Joan graduated and where Bill was a star athlete. Joan said she hopes the scholarship will benefit deserving students who have a financial need.

"Bill grew up a farm boy, but he certainly didn't want to continue being a farm boy," she said. "With his scholarship, he was able to go to college and start fulfilling his dream of being a coach, and I don't know that he could have done that without his scholarship."



A Legendary Career

Bill Jones' career at UNA spanned 20 years, 1974 to 1994, including roles as head basketball coach, assistant athletic director, associate athletic director and athletic director.

As a UNA coach, from 1974 to 1988, he posted a 259-141 record that included three GSC championships, three GSC tournament titles, four Final Four appearances and the 1979 NCAA Division II National Championship. His was the first collegiate team from Alabama to win a national basketball championship.

Bill was named GSC Coach of the Year and Kodak District Coach of the Year in 1980 and 1984.

He posted a remarkable 165-37 record on UNA's

home floor at Flowers Hall for an 81.7 winning percentage and was inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame in 1992.

After earning his bachelor's degree from UNA, Bill earned a master's degree from Peabody College and an AA certificate from the University of Alabama.

Bill's coaching and athletic administrative career spanned 36 years, beginning at the high school level for schools in Colorado and Alabama. His collegiate career included positions at Marion Institute, the University of Montevallo and UNA.

He played for the UNA Lions under Ed Billingham, earning letters from 1955 to 1957.





Establishing Your Own **UNA Endowed Scholarship**

For information on how you can establish a UNA endowed scholarship, contact Missy Pettus at 256-765-4757 or rmpettus@una.edu.

YOUR PART *in* UNA'S TIPPING POINT



Dr. Alan G. Medders,
Vice President for
University Advancement

I have always been fascinated by how institutions and organizations change in their life cycles, both for the positive and the negative. Two books which chronicle the positive impact of change are Malcolm Gladwell's "The Tipping Point" (2000) and Jim Collins' "Good To Great" (2001).

Both books describe

individuals who make conscious and sometimes even unconscious decisions which ultimately and fundamentally change an institution or organization. The books describe how these monumental and positive changes can be initiated by individuals from within or from outside the institution or organization. However when all the stories Gladwell and Collins highlight are boiled down to one common denominator, the result is an individual or group of individuals that chose to be active participants in examining and implementing strategies to provide radical and successful change in their circumstances.

You as an alumnus or friend of the University of North Alabama have this same opportunity. Now more than ever you are needed to be an active participant. You are needed to make financial contributions for scholarships, programs, and facilities; to recruit students; to employ fellow alumni and recent graduates; to provide internships for current students; to attend cultural and athletic events on and off campus; to become

involved in or even start an alumni chapter in your area. You do not have to do them all: just pick one or two and do them to the best of your ability. As evident from the alumni events we have hosted over the past two years, more and more alumni and friends are reconnecting with UNA. However if our over 40,000 alumni throughout Alabama, the Southeast, across the nation and around the world would do that, the University of North Alabama would be a radically different institution than it is today. I hope that one day, someone will record something that you did that helped transform UNA. However, this is the starting point: that the words "alumni" and "friend" must stop being nouns and must become verbs.

In the coming months the University will be outlining some specific ways and opportunities for you to make a difference in the life and future of UNA. For those of you who have and continue to make a difference at UNA, I say "thank you" for your active role. (During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, over 2,000 donors helped secure \$1.7 million in contributions that have made a significant difference.) This spring and summer I look forward to seeing you at one or more of our alumni and friend events around the country and sharing the exciting things that are happening at UNA!

*I'm **ELIZABETH BLAIR**, an OB/GYN
at ST. VINCENT'S EAST HOSPITAL
in Birmingham, and this is my history.*



University of
NORTH
ALABAMA

1830

*I wanted to be a doctor since childhood.
I found that the preparation at UNA helped
me accomplish that goal. Not only did I
graduate second in my class at UAB Medical
School, but now I'm living my dream.
Every day, I serve the needs of women's
health and experience the joy of
bringing life into the world.*



University of
NORTH
ALABAMA
1830

How will you
make history?



LION TALK

FALL AWARDS GALORE

UNA student-athletes received a flood of awards after the fall seasons, including eight All-American selections, two Academic All-America picks, three GSC Player of the Year awards and two GSC Freshman of the Year awards. One Lion also claimed a national player of the year award and two others were finalist for national awards.

ALL-AMERICA

UNA had eight student-athletes earn All-America recognition in the fall, including the school's first-ever All-America picks in women's soccer. North Alabama football players Michael Johnson of Panama City, Fla.; Montrell Craft of Memphis, Tenn.; Will Batson of Florence; and Calvin Wilson of Hattiesburg, Miss., were all first-team All-America picks by Daktronics and the Division II sports information directors and were also chosen for the Associated Press All-America team. UNA freshmen Chloe Roberts of Plymouth, England, and Nikki Brown of Bognor Regis, England, were named to the Daktronics Division II All-America team in women's soccer, becoming the first All-Americans in the program's 13-year history. Roberts scored a school-record 32 goals in 2009 and Brown set the single-season assist record with 16. The duo helped lead UNA to a record-setting 19-4-1 record that included the school's first NCAA Tournament appearance. Alison Jacobs of Elkhorn, Neb., was a third-team All-America selection by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. She recorded 1,215 assists for a 9.59 per-set average on the year. Junior volleyball player Sarah Roberts was an honorable mention All-America pick by the AVCA. She led the GSC East Division with 3.64 kills per set.

ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

UNA football punter Will Batson and women's soccer forward Tassia Augusto of Sao Paulo, Brazil, were named to their respective 2009 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America® Teams, as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). A Health, Physical Education and

Recreation major, Augusto had a cumulative 3.67 grade point average and was named first-team Academic All-America.

The leading scorer in North Alabama history with 64 goals and 20 assists, Augusto scored 29 goals with six assists in 2009 while leading the Lions to the best season in school history. Batson has a cumulative 3.61 grade point average and was named second-team Academic All-America. An All-Gulf South Conference, All-Super Regional 2 and All-American pick for the Lions in 2008 and 2009, Batson averaged 41.6 yards per punt.

THREE UNA COACHES EARN GSC HONORS FOR THE FALL

A trio of University of North Alabama head coaches received Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year honors this Fall.

Graham Winkworth was selected GSC Women's Soccer Coach of the Year after leading the Lions to a remarkable turnaround in 2009. The Lions went 19-4-1, earning the first national ranking in school history. UNA also earned its first GSC Tournament appearance since 1999 and finished second in the league. The Lions then played in their first NCAA Tournament in school history and picked up a playoff win over perennial Division II power Florida Southern. Along the way the Lions broke numerous school records and received an unprecedented number of post-season awards.

Terry Bowden was named GSC

Football Co-Coach of the Year after leading the Lions to an 11-2 record and a GSC championship in his first season at the school. Having to replace the loss of 21 seniors, including 10 starters on offense, Bowden led the Lions to 10 straight wins to open the season and a No. 1 national ranking in the NCAA Division II for three weeks. UNA advanced to the quarterfinals of the Division II playoffs.

Stephanie Radecki was named GSC Volleyball Co-Coach of the Year after leading the Lions to a 20-15 record that included an appearance in the Division II South Regional. It was UNA's 17th NCAA post-season appearance. The honor marked the third time that Radecki had been honored as GSC Coach of the Year.



Graham Winkworth



Alison Jacobs



Chloe Roberts



Michael Johnson



Terry Bowden



Sarah Roberts



Nikki Brown



Montrell Craft



Stephanie Radecki



Cara Gregg



Tassia Augusto



Will Batson



Harrison Beck



Calvin Wilson

Football.....	11-2	GSC Champions, NCAA Division II Playoff Quarterfinals
Volleyball	20-15	3rd in GSC East Division, NCAA Tournament Participant
Women's Soccer	19-4-1	2nd in GSC, NCAA Tournament Participant
Men's Cross Country.....	8-44	10th in GSC
Women's Cross Country..	16-45	9th in GSC

THREE LIONS EARN GSC PLAYER OF THE YEAR HONORS

The University of North Alabama had student-athletes honored as Gulf South Conference Player of the Year in football, volleyball and women's soccer this fall. Senior linebacker Michael Johnson was named GSC Defensive Player of the Year in football. Freshman Chloe Roberts was the women's soccer GSC Player of the Year, and junior Alison Jacobs was the GSC East Division Player of the Year in volleyball.

TWO LIONS EARN GSC FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR HONORS

Gulf South Conference Freshman of the Year awards were given to UNA student-athletes in volleyball and women's soccer this fall. Chloe Roberts was the GSC Freshman of the Year, in addition to Player of the Year, in women's soccer.

FOOTBALL LIONS IN NATIONAL AWARDS HUNT

UNA senior quarterback Harrison Beck of Clearwater, Fla., finished sixth in the voting for the Harlon Hill Trophy as the Division II College Football Player of the Year. Beck threw for 3,823 yards and 31 touchdowns in leading the Lions to an 11-2 record.

Senior linebacker Michael Johnson was named National Defensive Player of the Year by Daktronics after making 113 tackles, including 17 tackles for loss in 2009. Senior defensive lineman Montrell Craft was a finalist for the Gene Upshaw Division II Lineman of the Year award after making 69 tackles, including 15.5 tackles for loss.

UNA'S MCKINNON ELECTED TO ALABAMA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Former University of North Alabama football standout **Ronald McKinnon** ('09) is among nine distinguished Alabamians who have been selected to be inducted as part of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2010.

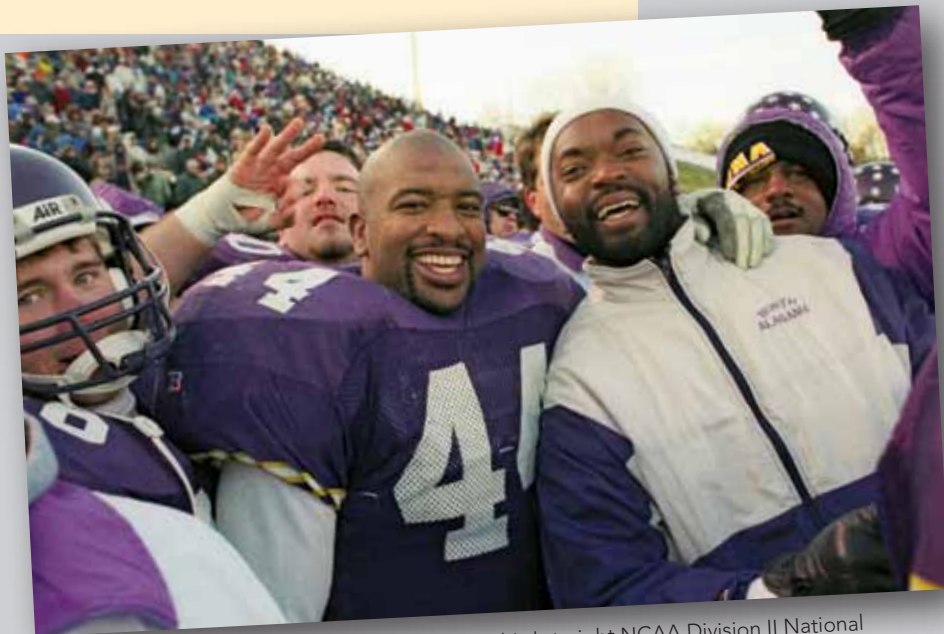
The official induction ceremony is scheduled for May 22 in Birmingham.

McKinnon, a native of Elba, Ala., was a four-year starter on Lion football teams from 1992-95 and is one of the most honored athletes in college football history. In 2007 he was elected to the Division II Football Hall of Fame and in the summer of 2008 he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. A four-time, first-team All-GSC selection, McKinnon is one of just a handful of three-time consensus All-Americans in NCAA Division II history. He was selected the winner of the 1995 Harlon Hill Trophy as NCAA Division II National Player of the Year, becoming the first—and so far only—defensive player to win the award. He helped lead UNA to a combined 48-5-1 record that included three straight GSC championships and three straight NCAA Division II National Championships. He closed his career as the leading tackler in school and GSC history with 621 total stops and 407 primary stops.

He was named to the Gulf South Conference "Team of the Quarter Century" for 1971-95, was selected the "GSC Defensive Player of the Quarter Century" for 1971-95 and was named to the NCAA Division II "Team of the Quarter Century" for 1973-97. He was selected for the 50th Anniversary UNA Football Team for 1949-98, the Gulf South Conference Team of the 1990s and was named Alabama Sports Writers Association State Professional Athlete of the Year for 1998. He signed a free agent contract with the Arizona Cardinals of the National Football League following his senior season and spent the next 10 seasons in professional football. McKinnon played in 157 NFL games, spending nine seasons with the Cardinals and one with the New Orleans Saints. He finished his professional career with more than 1,000 tackles, 12 sacks and 10 pass interceptions.

McKinnon becomes the fourth former UNA student-athlete and seventh person overall with connections to North Alabama to be elected to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame. Former Lion football players Harlon Hill and George "Goober" Lindsey and former UNA basketball player Winfrey "Wimp" Sanderson hold Hall of Fame membership, as do former Lion football coaches Hal Self, Mickey Andrews, and Bobby Wallace.

Other members of the Class of 2010 are Reita Clanton (handball) of Auburn University, Howard Cross (football) of the University of Alabama, Robert Horry (basketball) of the University of Alabama, Bobby Johns (football) of the University of Alabama, Ben Tamburello (football) of Auburn University, Ed Salem (old-timers) of the University of Alabama, George "Mule" Suttles (old-timers) of the Birmingham Black Barons, and Rick Woodward (Distinguished American Sportsman).



As the final seconds tick off the clock on UNA's third straight NCAA Division II National Championship in 1995, McKinnon (44) celebrates on the sidelines with coaches Derek Hill (center) and Alvin Briggs (right).



HISTORY *in the* MAKING

Mark Linder, Director of Athletics



Wow—what a fantastic start to the 2009-10 academic year! Our fall sports programs have all experienced tremendous success. For the first time in school history, all five programs qualified for NCAA and GSC post-season tournaments. Our football program won the GSC Championship, advanced to the NCAA Quarterfinals, and finished No. 6 in the nation. Our soccer program went 19-4, finished No. 2 in the GSC, and qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time in UNA history. Our volleyball team finished No. 3 in the East and qualified for both the GSC and NCAA post-season tournament.

We also experienced an unprecedented number of individuals who were honored for their efforts this fall. The fall sports' honor roll includes:

- 28 All-Gulf South Conference selections**
- 15 All-Region selections**
- 7 All-America selections**
- 2 Academic All-America selections**
- 1 National Player of the Year (Football)**
- 3 Gulf South "Coach of the Year" award winners**
- 3 Gulf South "Player of the Year" award winners**
- 2 Gulf South "Freshmen of the Year" award winners**

We hope you are proud of your university and your athletics' department!

How does UNA Athletics experience so much success?

The simple answer is resources.

The athletic department receives tremendous support from the university, the UNA Foundation, the Sportsman's Club, and our Lion Alliance Corporate Partners. As many of you are aware, the UNA Foundation and the Sportsman's Club are both 501c(3) organizations set up to receive donations from those individuals wanting to support UNA Athletics. We certainly appreciate all those individuals who have committed their time, talent, and resources to assist UNA athletics in becoming a nationally respected program.

The Lion Alliance Corporate Partners is a flexible, comprehensive and integrated

corporate partnership between national, regional, and local businesses and UNA Athletics. These partnerships allow the businesses to utilize UNA athletics to market to our regional consumers, and to increase traffic flow to their businesses. In return, we use those dollars to give our coaches the resources needed to recruit the best and brightest student-athletes in the nation.

During this academic year (considering both cash and trade), our corporate partners will contribute approximately \$400,000 to our athletics program. As you can imagine, this has an incredible impact on our ability to compete for championships.

How to make a huge impact without spending any extra!

It's simple . . . patronize our corporate partners and shop locally! Obviously, our corporate partners want a return on their investment and prospective corporate partners want to

know that the UNA Lion Nation spends their money in the Shoals Area. We have listed our corporate partners—whenever you have the chance, make sure to visit these loyal businesses.



*Thanks again for all your support
and as always, Roar Lions!*

FINANCIAL

Bank Independent
CB&S Bank
Listerhill
SunTrust
TVA Credit Union

GROCERIES

Coca-Cola (Powerade, Vitamin Water, etc.)
Sara Lee (bread and meats)
Tortillas Blancos
Big Star

MEDICAL/INSURANCE

Bone and Joint Clinic
Blue Cross and Blue Shield
State Farm

RESTAURANTS

Bojangles'
Domino's Pizza
Honey Baked Ham
Lenny's Sub Shop
Papa John's Pizza
Ricatoni's
Rosie's Restaurants, Inc.
Subway
Zaxby's
Legends Steakhouse
Logan's Roadhouse
Texas Roadhouse
Sidelines

CAR SALES/SERVICE

Family Ford
Jim Bishop
Ray Miller
Humphries Tire Center

SERVICE

Verizon Wireless
Cintas
Printers & Stationers, Inc. (PSI)
Simpson's Collision Repair
Dixie Signs
Off-Campus Bookstore
Wesson's Signs
TVA
RSC
US ARMY
Grades First
MEDIA
Comcast
TimesDaily
Courier Journal
Yellowbook

RECREATIONAL

Marriott Shoals
Robert Trent Jones
TNT
Courthouse Racquet Club
Nike
Tan City

REALTY

Weichert Realtors - ProSouth

GAMBLE

RETIRES AS GOLF COACH AT UNA



Billy Gamble, who in 21 years as the men's golf coach at the University of North Alabama helped establish the Lions' program as a national power in the NCAA Division II, retired from his position at UNA in the fall.

Gamble came to UNA in 1988 as assistant men's basketball coach and took over additional duties as head golf coach in 1989. During his tenure as golf coach, Gamble not only led UNA to its first-ever team NCAA Tournament appearance in golf, but his 11 overall NCAA trips are more than any coach in any sport in UNA history.

Volunteer assistant coach **Stuart Clark ('99)**, who has been working with the UNA golfers for the last year, will direct the program on an interim basis. Clark, a three-year letterman in the UNA program, was a two-time All-GSC honoree and 1996 GSC individual champion.

After taking over as head golf coach at UNA in 1989, Gamble coached 25 All-GSC performers, 14 All-Americans, and helped UNA remain among the most consistent performers in the conference. In all, Gamble led UNA to eleven NCAA regional appearances (1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009) and nine national championship tournaments (1996, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009).

The Lions also won their first-ever golf regional title in 2002, repeated in 2003, won a third in 2007 and a fourth last spring. He also led UNA to its first Gulf South Conference golf title in school history in 2009.

In the summer of 2007, Gamble was inducted into the Wiregrass Hall of Fame as one of the most notable sports figures to emerge from the Dothan area of south Alabama. He was also named NCAA Division II South Region Coach of the Year in 2007 and 2009.

Gamble served as a basketball assistant at West Georgia for eight seasons prior to coming to UNA and was instrumental in helping put the

UNA basketball program back in the national spotlight.

In 15 years as an assistant to Gary Elliott, Gamble helped the basketball Lions post an impressive 270-150 record that included four NCAA Tournament appearances and the 1991 Division II National Championship.

A native of Dothan, Ala., Gamble helped West Georgia compile a 162-67

basketball record during his tenure with the Braves, including two Gulf South Conference championships and five NCAA regional appearances. He also coached the WGC golf team.

Gamble graduated from Chipola (Fla.) Junior College. He then attended Troy State University, where he played baseball and earned a physical education degree in 1967.

Following a brief professional career as a pitcher in the St. Louis Cardinals organization, Gamble went to work as a coach at Malone (Fla.) High School and George High School in Atlanta, before settling at Sprayberry High School near Atlanta.

For nine and a half years before going to West Georgia, Gamble served as athletic director and head coach at Sprayberry, where he produced several outstanding teams and players, including Chuck Nevitt of the Detroit Pistons.

While at West Georgia, Gamble also led the Braves golf team. The 64-year-old Gamble is married to the former June Passan of New Britain, Conn.



Former UNA All-American and GSC champion Stuart Clark has returned to lead the Lions' nationally prominent golf program.



Stuart Clark ('99)



UNA ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

ADDS SIX INDUCTEES IN 2009

The 20th class of honorees was inducted into the University of North Alabama Athletic Hall of Fame as part of Homecoming activities and included former Lion football players **Robert Douthitt ('61)** and **Bennie Jennings ('90)**; baseball All-American **Sam Lee ('00)** and his wife volleyball All-American **Mariela Fasce Lee ('00)**; former baseball coach **Mike Lane**; and longtime UNA instructor, facility coordinator, and coach, **Don McBrayer ('74)**.

Following its creation in 1990, the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame inducted four members each year through 2005. Beginning in 2006, that number was expanded to six, and this year's inductions brought the total number of inductees to 88.

Robert Douthitt, a Florence native, was a three-year letterman in football for the Lions from 1958-60. He was selected as the team MVP in 1960 after rushing for 1,023 yards on 199 carries. He also scored nine touchdowns and completed 18 passes for 294 yards.

He became the second player in school history to rush for 1,000 yards in a season and his 1,023 total stood as the school's single season record for 26 years until it was broken in 1986 by Marvin Marsh. Some 48 seasons later, that 1,023 yards still ranks as the eighth best single season rushing total in UNA history.

Douthitt led the Lions in rushing in 1959 and 1960 and he led the team in passing yards in 1960. He rushed for over 100 yards in a game in five games and he is one of only two players in UNA history to rush for more than 200 yards in two games. He rushed for 137 yards against Murray State in 1959 and had four 100-plus yard games in 1960. He gained 225 yards on 24 carries against Tennessee-Martin, 200 yards on 35 carries against Jacksonville State, 135 yards on 21 carries against Austin Peay, and 106 yards on 25 carries against West Alabama. His 225 yards against UT-Martin in 1960 still ranks fourth best all-time in UNA history.

He was selected All-Alabama Collegiate Conference in 1960 and helped lead the school to an ACC title, which was the first conference championship by a Lion football team.

Douthitt served three years in the United States Marine Corps prior to coming to UNA.

He was selected as a member of the UNA All-Decade Team for 1959-1968.

Douthitt graduated with a B.S. degree in accounting. A cancer survivor, he worked with the Internal Revenue Service until his

retirement in 1996. He resides in Florence.

Mariela Fasce was a two-year starting setter on the UNA volleyball team from 1997-98. She was a two-time All-American, being named second-team by the American Volleyball Coaches Association in 1997 and first-team in 1998. UNA went 77-11 in her two seasons at the school, winning two Gulf South Conference championships, making two NCAA Tournament appearances and winning one NCAA South Central Regional crown. She had 3,264 assists in two seasons and averaged 12.1 assists per game. She was first-team All-GSC in 1997 and 1998 and was GSC Most Valuable Player as a senior. She was also two-time All-GSC Tournament and Tournament MVP as a senior.

Fasce won two GSC Player of the Week honors, was first-team AVCA All-South Central Region as a junior and senior and a 1998 All-South Central Region Tournament pick. She finished second in the NCAA Division II in assists per game in 1998 at 13.06 (1,776 in 136 games). UNA went 39-5 in 1997 and 38-6 in 1998—making the school's first trip to the Division II Elite Eight.

A native of Boca Raton, Fla., she is married to former Lion baseball player Sam Lee, who is also being inducted in this year's class. She received her BSED degree from UNA and works as a third grade teacher. The Lees reside in Royal Palm Beach, Fla.

Bennie Jennings was a four-year letterman on UNA football teams from 1987-90. He was named first-team All-American as a senior after making 29 catches for 456 yards and four touchdowns. He was a three-time All-Gulf South Conference pick during his sophomore, junior, and senior years. He was first-team All-GSC in 1988 and 1990 and was second-team in 1989. He finished his career at UNA with 61 catches for 980 yards. He was a four-year starter for the Lions and played defense for most of his junior season after being projected as a pre-season All-American tight end. In 1990 he switched back to offense and lived up to his All-America billing. He helped take UNA to an 8-3 record and an NCAA playoff berth as a senior. He was named UNA's Most Valuable Player as a sophomore in 1988 and was Most Valuable Offensive Player as a senior in 1990.

He was selected as a permanent team captain in 1990.

Jennings finished with 61 career catches for 980 yards. He is a member of the UNA Team of the Decade for 1989-98 and was

selected for the 50th Anniversary UNA Football Team in 1998. Following the 1990 season he signed a free agent contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers of the National Football League. He was drafted by the Sacramento Surge of the World League of American Football in 1991. He graduated from UNA with a BS degree in marketing.

A native of Fayetteville, Tenn., he has spent the last 16 years in law enforcement. Currently a Tennessee State Trooper, he resides in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Mike Lane spent 25 years as head baseball coach at the University of North Alabama and transformed the program into one of the nation's most consistent winners. Lane came to UNA in 1983 and took over a baseball program that had produced only one winning season in the six years prior to his arrival. In his 25 years at UNA, Lane had 25 straight winning seasons, won 908 games, averaged 36 wins per season, won 40 games or more six times, won five Gulf South Conference championships and took the Lions to ten NCAA regionals and one World Series. He ranks among the winningest coaches in Division II history in both wins and winning percentage.

In all he led UNA to 10 Gulf South Conference division titles and to GSC Tournament titles in 1984, 1989, 1993, 1997 and 1999. In 1999, UNA went all the way to its first Division II Baseball World Series in Montgomery after the Lions won the GSC and Division II South Central Regional championships. UNA finished fifth in the nation with a 45-12 overall record.

The Lions had a remarkable 571-156-4 record at home in Lane's 25 years at the school, with a record 32 home wins in 1999. Under Lane, numerous Lion baseball players went on to play professional baseball, including Cedric Landrum who debuted in the major leagues with the Chicago Cubs and played in 1993 with the New York Mets; Jim Czajkowski, who reached the majors with Colorado Rockies in 1994; Terry Jones, who debuted with the Rockies in 1996 and also played with the Expos and Dodgers; and Josh Willingham who made his major league debut with the Florida Marlins in 2004 and earned a starting position in 2006.

Lane was also responsible for the continued improvements to University Field and was honored with a fund-raising roast in 2007 that raised the money for the stadium's renovation. The stadium was renamed in his

honor as Mike D. Lane Field during the 2008 season.

Sam Lee, a native of Maryville, Tenn., was a two-year starter at second base for the Lions and was the first Lion baseball player ever to be selected first-team All-American. UNA had a combined record of 78-27-1 in his two seasons at the school, winning the 1997 Gulf South Conference Championship and advancing to the NCAA Regional Tournament. He hit an incredible .521 as a senior and finished second in Division II in batting average. He was 87-of-167 at the plate. His 68 runs batted in that season ranked 30th nationally. He was selected first-team All-GSC and All-South Central Region in 1997 and 1998. He also won two GSC Player of the Week awards.

Lee still holds school records for hits in a game (5) and highest batting average in a season (.521). His .449 career batting average (151-of-336) is also a school record. He has the highest career on-base percentage in school history at .579, and his single season and career batting totals are the best in Gulf South Conference baseball history as well.

A 2000 UNA graduate, Lee played two years of minor league baseball after his graduation. He is currently employed as a fire fighter and resides in Royal Palm Beach, Fla., with his wife Mariela, who is also being inducted as part of this year's UNA Hall of Fame class.

Don McBrayer has been a key fixture in and around the UNA athletic department for more than three decades. He coached the UNA volleyball team to a 24-8 record and to an AIAW State Championship in 1975.

That was the first championship won by any Lion squad in women's athletics and was also the first title of any kind for the school in 12 years, dating back to a pair of Alabama Collegiate Conference titles in 1963. He also served as UNA men's tennis coach in 1980.

McBrayer served as facility coordinator for Flowers Hall, UNA's multi-purpose athletics building, for more than 20 years. An instructor in the Department of Physical Education, he assisted the athletic department in every way imaginable, including serving as interview room coordinator for the NCAA Division II Football Championship Game since 1986, and as banquet coordinator for the Harlon Hill Banquet. He also was selected to serve as Interview Room Coordinator at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

A Birmingham, Ala., native, he resides in Florence and still serves as an adjunct instructor at UNA.



ROBERT DOUTHITT ('61)



BENNIE JENNINGS ('90)



MARIELA FASCE LEE ('00)



SAM LEE ('00)



MIKE LANE



DON McBRAYER ('74)



CLASS NOTES

1960s

Warren "Casey" Jones ('62) is retired as technical director of Quest Chemical Corporation in Houston, Tex. He and wife Brenda have three children and four grandchildren. They are now living in Coppell, Tex.

Linda Jo Creel ('63) retired after teaching 25 years in Cullman County Schools. She was a librarian and first grade teacher. She lived in Jacksonville, Fla., for ten years when her husband Robert was transferred. She eventually moved back to Cullman County, Ala. She enjoys spending time with her two sons, two daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.

Vivian Maxine Hall ('63) is now living in Hartselle, Ala., with her husband Ronald. He retired from teaching in 1997 from Morgan County Schools.

Kathryn W. Maddox ('64) retired from teaching. She and her husband, Joe Maddox, now live in Cullman, Ala.

Wanda Little ('64) is a retired Title I teacher. She taught in DeKalb County for over six years and moved to Marietta, Ga., where she retired after 32 years of teaching. She has one son.

Dana Ruth Schrimsher ('64) is married to Max Schrimsher and retired from teaching in Morgan County Schools. They now live in Falkville, Ala.

Sandra Jo Schultz ('64) retired from teaching fourth and fifth grade in Starkville, Miss. She is involved in the Baptist Union choir and is a member at First Baptist Church of Hanceville, Ala. Sandra and husband Douglas are very proud to be involved in the lives of their eight nephews and nieces.

Meredith Kathleen Smallwood ('64) is married to Harold and lives in Cullman, Ala. She is retired from the Cullman County Schools after teaching Home Economics. She has two teenage grandsons, a son Hal and daughter-in-law Tia.

Elizabeth Geraldine "Gerri" Smith ('64) has been involved in real estate for the past five years. She retired in 2000 from teaching and has a daughter, Katherine.

Peggy Jean Doss ('65) retired from Cullman County Board of Education. She taught for 19 years and worked in the central office for 21 years. She is currently teaching at Wallace State Community College.

Bobby King ('65) is a children's author and has recently published his fourth book, a collection of children's poetry. He lives in Savannah, Tenn., with his wife, Donna, who is Elementary Education Supervisor with Hardin County Schools.

Linda Nell Schgier ('65) is a member of St. John's Church where she is the pianist and organist. She enjoys camping, traveling, knitting, cruising, as well as crossword puzzles. She uses her signing abilities for various groups. Linda and her husband William reside in Cullman, Ala.

Marjorie Hamm ('65) retired after serving 44 years as the Russellville High School librarian. She had been working at RHS since her graduation from UNA.

Judith "Judy" Woodcock ('65) retired from Delta Community College and has been married for fourteen years to Dearn. She has eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She volunteers at FBC and is a member of the Senior Adult choir and the Ladies Handbells.

Virginia Joyce Holladay ('66) is retired as teacher from Hartselle High School and lives in Danville, Ala. with her husband Paul. She enjoys teaching piano, as well as RV camping with her family and friends and gardening.

Alton "Butch" Emmons ('67) is the owner of both Decorative Concrete, Inc., and Decorative Awnings in Huntsville, Ala. He earned his master's degree from UAH in 1980. His wife Wanda has worked 32 years for NASA. They are members of Whitesburg Baptist Church in Huntsville and have four children and two grandchildren.

Mary Frances Turney ('67) is a retired kindergarten teacher. She and husband **Norris Turney ('63)** have been married for 43 years. They have a daughter, Leslie Ellen, who works with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Patsy Lee Givens ('68) is a member of the Lawrence County Board of Education. She also received a degree in elementary education from Athens State. Patsy and her husband Larry Givens ('64) live in Cullman, Ala. and have three children and two grandchildren.

Douglas A. Sledge ('68) is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), a Certified Management Accountant (CMA), and a Certified QuickBooks Pro-Advisor. He has been employed professionally as a CFO, Treasurer, VP Finance, Cost Analyst, President, Executive Director of Business, and CEO of startup, turnaround and continuing operations for a diverse mix of employers ranging from local shops to a major school system to national corporations. He is qualified as a Robert Half Contract Consultant and an Avalera Sales Tax Systems provider.

Sledge lives in Farmers Branch, Tex. He currently is a member of the Dallas Chapter of the IMA, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Alabama Society of Public Accountants (ASCPA).

1970s

Linda N. Walker ('70) retired after teaching Business Education for 30 years at Holly Pond School in Vinemont, Ala.

Cara Dawn Byford ('73) is the Campus Events Advisor at Georgia State University.

Robbie Briggs Roepstorff ('73) The Board of Governors of Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) has announced that Sanibel resident Robbie Roepstorff has been selected to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Roepstorff was one of 21 individuals unanimously appointed to be members of the Boards of Trustees at the 11 institutions of the State University System of Florida. She is the president and a founder of Edison National Bank, Lee County's oldest community bank. The bank has two Edison offices in Fort Myers and a third Bank of the Islands office on Sanibel. She serves on several local non-profit boards, including the Good Neighbor Community Foundation of Sanibel/Captiva, the Horizon Council, the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, Lee County's Industrial Development Authority, and the Uncommon Friends Foundation. She is the current Paulette Burton Citizen of the Year for Lee County.

Judy Shannon Sizemore ('75) is the director of the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area (first one in Alabama; 1 of 49 in the country). The Muscle Shoals National

Heritage Area covers six counties, including Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan and Limestone. It was named for the Shoals (or rapids) in the Tennessee River. She was in Washington D.C., for the unveiling of the Helen Keller Statue in Statuary Hall. This is the first statue of a disabled person and the first statue of a child to be honored.

Randy Pettus ('78) was presented the Alabama Leadership of Federal Programs Award in outstanding leadership and dedication in Federal Programs Administration for Florence City Schools.

Anthony P. Underwood ('77) lives in St. Louis, Mo., after relocating from Denver, Colo., accepting a position as Senior Director, Contract Administration with Express Scripts, Inc. He is leading a ten-person team who will be administering a three billion dollar contract awarded from the Department of Defense. The contract involves military pharmacy benefit and distribution, for those active, reserve, and retirees worldwide.

James "Sonny" Sarratt ('78) began training last fall to become a financial advisor at Edward Jones in Huntsville.

Cindy Page Earle ('79) earned her bachelor's degree in Nursing at UNA, and later received her master's at Union University in 2008. She works as a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP-BC) at AM Diabetes and Endocrinology Center in Memphis, Tenn.

1980s

Matthew Schoenbachler ('89) is an associate professor of history at UNA. He just recently finished the book "Murder and Madness: The Myth of the Kentucky Tragedy," after spending nine years on the political history of Kentucky in the 1820s.

1990s

Leah Hoover ('92) is serving as the Director of the Office of Disability Services at Kentucky Wesleyan College, in Owensboro, Ky. She graduated from UNA with a Bachelor of Arts in Education, and later earned her Ph.D., in Special Education from the University of Alabama. In 2007, she started the new Teacher Education Dual Certification Program for learning and behavior disorders in elementary and middle grades education at Kentucky Wesleyan. She received the Thomas Russell Award for Outstanding Academic Service and Excellence in Doctorial Studies from the University of Alabama, and was named the Advisor of the Year at Kentucky Wesleyan. She is also the mother of three daughters.

Robert L. Newberry ('93) retired from his position at the Redstone Arsenal, as the Reserve command officer of the Garrison's Headquarters Company. He served many years in the military before his work at the Arsenal, including travel overseas and in Hawaii.

Robin Williams Isherwood ('95) has overcome many obstacles just to be able to teach, but her hard work has paid off as her colleagues at Robertsedale High School voted her as Teacher of the Year for the 2009-2010 school year.

Isherwood, who serves with Neal Sasser as one of the Golden Bear Marching and Concert Band's directors said, "This is a great honor that I've been given, and one I truly appreciate."

Alicia Moore ('98) is working as the senior accountant for a private military company. Her company flew "drones" which helped provide surveillance for the safe rescue of the American ship captain from the Somali pirates. She enjoys spending time with her husband and two daughters who all love the outdoors.

Jason Roberts ('98) earned his bachelor's degree at UNA with a Political Science major and History minor. He earned his master's degree from Purdue University and his Ph.D., from Washington University in St. Louis. He is currently a political science professor and lives in North Carolina with his wife Sarah.

2000s

Frank Ranaudo ('00) has recently founded the North Alabama Spay Neuter Assistance Association, which is the fourth low-cost spay/neuter clinic in the State of Alabama. He graduated with a degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology and is currently living in Florence, Ala., with his wife and 13 cats.

Terry James ('01) started his own family practice in Addison, Ala. After he received his degree at UNA as a Chemistry major and Biology minor, he continued his education at the University of Alabama. There he became the first recipient of the Alfa Rural Medical Scholarship Award. He was recently married to **Amber Morgan ('05)**. Amber received her marketing degree from UNA, and is currently working at Listerhill Credit Union as the Director of Business Development.

Jim Page ('01) is Vice President of Public Policy and Business for the Decatur Morgan County Chamber of Commerce. He received a national honor from the American Chamber of Commerce Executives. He was recognized in the fall edition of a "40 under 40" article in the Chamber Executive magazine. This award honors outstanding young chamber executives. Jim is married to **Sara Owen Page ('01)**. They are the parents of a daughter. Jim is the president of the UNA Alumni Chapter in Decatur, Ala.

Jacob Yancy Grissom ('02) is working as a Mounted Patrol Officer for the City of Mobile, Ala., Police Department. Grissom and his police mount "Deuce" were recognized as Champions of Southeastern Law Enforcement Mounted Competition in 2009.

Christy Jordan ('02) is creating a name for herself after designing a cookbook titled, "Southern Plate: Cherished Recipes from Below the Mason Dixon Line." Her cookbook has been so successful there is a website about it. She and her husband reside in Madison, Ala., with their two children.

Marcus M. Maples ('02) is one of two Sirote & Permutt, P.C., attorney's serving on the Defense Research Institute Young Lawyers Committee in Birmingham, Ala. He is serving as Vice Chair of

the Diversity Subcommittee. His practice consists of general business and commercial litigation matters. More specifically he represents life, health, disability and long-term care insurance companies in bad faith and ERISA related issues. He earned his JD from the University of Alabama School Of Law.

Daryl Crittenden ('03) recently landed a recurring role on the NBC hit drama "Heroes." Crittenden is being cast as a carnival worker on upcoming episodes of "Heroes."

Victoria Antoine ('06) recently created a nationally recognized art piece named, "No Smoking" with the help of artist David Messer. The art piece was feature on the Ovation TV network. Since earning her fine arts degree from UNA, she has designed posters for both the W.C. Handy Music Festival and the Alabama Renaissance Faire.

Julia Beth Truitt Holden ('06) was recently named Deposit Product Specialist for First Southern Bank, Florence. Her husband, **Chad Holden ('02)**, is an American history teacher at Muscle Shoals High School. They reside in Greenhill and have a son, Conner.

Joseph "Skip" Nichols ('06) received a license by the State of Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling as a Licensed Professional Counselor and certification from the National Board for Certified Counselors as a National Certified Counselor. He was also appointed Director of Outpatient Services for Mission of Mercy Shoals (MOMS), Inc. He opened Nichols Counseling Services, Inc. located in Florence, Ala.

Katie Uithoven Baugh ('07) is teaching first grade at Albertville Primary School. She is living in Albertville with her husband **Tyler ('07)** who is a poultry farmer.

Goran Secerovic ('07) is an international sales representative for Jennifer-Nelson company. He received his Masters in Business Administration and was a member of the Delta Mu Delta National Business Honor Society. He served as UNA's International Student Coordinator from August '05 through May '06. He also served as the Graduate Assistant Coach for the Men's Varsity Basketball team. **Lori Colby-Secerovic ('08)** is currently employed at Citrus

RETIRED NFL PLAYER *and* 79-YEAR-OLD STUDENT

AMONG UNA'S DECEMBER 2009 GRADUATES

Just days after his election to the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, former UNA star and retired NFL player **Ronald McKinnon ('09)** walked the stage in Flowers Hall to receive his college degree.

Glenn French ('09), a 79-year-old student who took a nearly 60-year detour from his UNA studies in the early 1950s, joined McKinnon as the first two graduates of the university's new degree-completion program, offered through the UNA Department of Continuing Studies and Outreach.

"This new program is for adults whose college education has been interrupted through military service, family or other major life events," said Dr. Kerry Gatlin, dean of the UNA College of Business, who advised French in his degree completion. "For some, this degree will benefit their careers, and for others, like Mr. French, it's for personal fulfillment."

The degree program in general studies offers courses on campus as well as online.

McKinnon, of Birmingham, was a four-year starter on the UNA football team from 1992 to 1995 before his career with the NFL, which included nine years with the Arizona Cardinals and one year with the New Orleans Saints. Four years ago, he established McKinnon Enterprises, through which he operates Decatur Door Company and a property rental management service.

"I think that once you start something, you've got to be able to finish," McKinnon said of his degree completion. "When you have that degree, it makes you a better person in every aspect of life."

For his accomplishments in NCAA Division II football, McKinnon has been elected to the Division II Football Hall of Fame, the College Football Hall of Fame and, most recently, the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

He was a four-time, first-team All-GSC selection and one of just a handful of three-time consensus All-Americans in Division II history. He won the Harlon Hill Trophy in 1995 as NCAA Division II National Player of the Year, becoming the first – and so far the only – defensive player to win the award. He has also been named the GSC's Player of the Quarter Century.

French, of Florence, had begun his UNA studies through the Army ROTC program in 1949 and was only three hours from completion in 1952, when he was assigned to Tokyo, Japan, during the Korean conflict.

"I never left UNA really," French said. "For my own self-satisfaction, I was determined to someday, somehow finish my UNA degree."

French, who had enrolled in several classes in the mid-1980s, called about UNA's new degree-completion program last year after seeing an ad for it in the university's Continuing Studies and Outreach newsletter.

French, a member of UNA's original marching band, has led a successful business career of more than 50 years. He was with H.T. Ferguson Tom's Sales Inc., a peanut company, for nearly 30 years, eventually becoming owner and president of the business. He has also worked with Hasler Postage Meters and Shoals Cellular Telephones, the first cellular telephone business in the Shoals area. He has most recently worked as an independent insurance agent.



"I think that once you start something, you've got to be able to finish," McKinnon said of his degree completion. "When you have that degree, it makes you a better person in every aspect of life."

– Ronald McKinnon ('09)



"I never left UNA really," French said. "For my own self-satisfaction, I was determined to someday, somehow finish my UNA degree."

– Glenn French ('09)

For more information on the UNA degree-completion program, contact the College of Arts and Sciences at 256-765-4288 or vkhanen@una.edu, or the College of Business at 256-765-4401 or kpgatlin@una.edu.

CLASS NOTES



Memorial Hospital in Inverness, Fla., working as a Critical Care nurse. She received her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing and was a member of the '06 and '07 Women's Varsity Tennis team while at UNA.

Stanley D. Hand ('08) is a physical science teacher at Oak Park Middle School. He and his wife **Erica Murray Hand ('09)** live in Decatur. Erica is a choir teacher at Hazel Green High School.

Valerie Hope Goode ('08) is training with the Social Security Administration to be a Benefit Authorizer. She received this job after the UNA Career Fair that was held in October of 2008. She is required to stay in the BA position for at least two years, since she was hired under the Federal Career Intern Program.

Mary Day Smith ('08) was the featured speaker at the UNA Veterans Day program on November 11. Smith serves as Adjutant for the 997 members of American Legion & Auxiliary, Post #11, Florence. She also serves as volunteer District Commander of the American Legion for District #1, as Volunteer Commander

of Veterans of Foreign Wars of Post #5140 for Florence and Lauderdale County, and as a junior leadership member of the Florence Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association and the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Unit 11 of Lauderdale County. Additionally, she is a member of Department of Alabama American Legion Executive Committee, Children and Youth Committee, American Legion Boys' State Committee, and Boy Scout Committee.

Her military experience includes service with both the Alabama National Guard and the United States Army. From 1997 to 2004, she was a Staff Sergeant with the Active Alabama Army National Guard, Florence, where she served as Battalion Administration Human Resources Officer. From 1986 to 1992 she was a Battalion Human Resource Manager in the United States Army, serving overseas and in the United States.

She has been a resident of Florence for the past 12 years and is the proud parent of Kaleb and Micah Smith, who currently attend Wilson Elementary School.

Nathan Strickland ('08) is working for the *Franklin County Times* as a general assignment reporter. He earned his bachelor's degree from UNA in Broadcast Journalism. He is married to Amy Rackard of Red Bay.

Winn Brewer ('09) is a production assistant with Cypress Moon Productions Inc., in Sheffield, Ala. He is assisting in the pre-production for Cypress Moon's latest film, "The Story of Bonnie and Clyde." It stars Hilary Duff and several other leading actors. He is currently taking online classes in order to pursue his master's degree in either communications or geography. Brewer is living and working in the Shoals area now, but he does see himself exploring elsewhere in the near future.

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Name (include maiden name if applicable) _____

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home telephone _____ E-mail address _____

Business telephone _____ Position _____

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic Events | <input type="checkbox"/> NAA Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Recruit Students | <input type="checkbox"/> Reunions |

Have you won an award, changed jobs, earned a promotion, or completed another degree? Your UNA classmates would like to know more about it! Send us your news and we will publish it in a subsequent issue of the UNA Alumni Magazine. Please complete the form and send it to the Office of Alumni Relations, UNA Box 5047, Florence, AL 35632-0001 or e-mail to alumni1@una.edu.

UPDATE YOUR RECORDS



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UNA ALUMNI

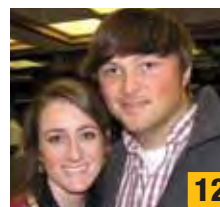
1. Jeff ('64) and Pam ('65) Edwards with Marguerite ('65) and Jim Appleton ('66)
2. Mary Day Smith ('08) speaks at Veterans Day event
3. Josh Willingham auctions off UNA baseball shirt
4. John Battcher ('65) and Fan Club inductee Don Basenberg ('65)
5. SGA President Sam Thigpen with Henry White ('71)
6. Janice ('83) , Leo, Brodie, and Mike Curtis ('77) with Una
7. Alan Medders with Chuck Barrett, American Legion Scholarship presenter
8. Joel Kimbrough ('80) with Lisa Witt ('87)
9. Dean Kerry Gatlin with retiring professor Dr. Rick Lester ('77)
10. Robin Williams Isherwood ('95)
11. Robbie Briggs Roepstorff ('73)
12. Sarah Deegan ('09) and Beau Cooper ('07)
13. Troy Skipworth ('02)
14. Melody Stewart ('06), Eric Kirkman ('97 & '00)) and Pat Stegall ('79 & '89)
15. UNA Basketball fans and family surround Joan Jones ('58)



10



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IN MEMORY

NON-GRADUATE/STAFF

Lamar James was the head football coach for Independence Community College in Mound Bayou, Miss. He started his football coaching career at UNA in 2003, where the Lions won the Gulf South Conference championship and reached the Division II NCAA semifinals. During his years at UNA he coached the current Baltimore Ravens player Evan Ogblesby as well as Blake Farris. James is survived by his wife, Cindy, and two small children.

1930s

Joseph A. Matthews, Sr. ('37) was a native of Vernon, Alabama. He retired from the Navy in 1968 (having joined in 1941) and went to work at Walker College, where he was a faculty member until 1983. He was Cub Master of Boy Scout Cub Pack 117 and Scout Master of Boy Scout Troup 117 in Jasper, Ala. Commander Matthews was president of the Men's Club of First United Methodist Church in Jasper, and was a member of the choir. He is survived by his children, 15 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

1940s

Willie Frances Hardie Oppenheim ('40) is survived by her husband "Opp" and her family. She received her degree from UNA in education. Her heart's desire was to reach out to the little children and youth by sharing the Gospel. She and her husband hosted Campus Crusade meetings in their home, and she continued to start her own ministry, the Scripture Pictures. She encouraged by her gift of edifying and exhorting in the faith of everyone she encountered.

Laura Jane Wright ('41) taught for 32 years, most of them as a fifth grade teacher at Blake School in Colbert County, Ala. After earning her bachelor's degree in education at Florence State Teachers College (UNA) she went on to earn her master's degree from the University of Alabama. After her retirement in 1980, she spent time with friends exploring the country. She was a devoted Alabama fan and an avid reader. She enjoyed going to every sporting event and school function for her children and grandchildren.

Dorothy M. Hite ('45) was an active member of the First Methodist Church of Florence. She retired from Reynolds Metals Alloy Plant. She worked 30 years as a stenographer and accounting technician, and during the Korean conflict with the

Industrial Relations Department of the U.S. Navy in Bainbridge, Md.

Clinton D. Powell ('48) retired from Overnight Transportation and was a member of Associated Transportation Club. He was a member and active deacon at Second Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn. and was a teacher of Berean-Gideon Sunday school class. He volunteered 40 years at St. Jude's Golf Tournament. He was also a member of the Normal Masonic Lodge. He is survived by his wife of over 60 years, Mary Sue.

1950s

Rachel Johnson Hollis ('51) was a lifetime quilter and enjoyed her membership in the Batting Brigade Quilt Guild of the Shoals and the YMCA. She and her husband moved from West Point, Tenn., in order for her to attend Florence State Teachers College. She was a devoted mother of Frazier and Joe and worked in Florence with the General Adjustment Bureau through the 1980s.

Sam Hardy ('53) was a retired technical director of the Army Missile Command Advanced Systems Concept Office. He served in the Army Air Corps, and was named part of the All-Tournament Team for basketball while stationed in Japan. He later received a basketball scholarship that helped him lead Florence State Teachers College, (now UNA) basketball team in scoring points for 1952, 1951, and 1952. He was selected as Mr. FSTC in 1952 and was later inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame in 1995. He is still ranked sixth for all-time scored points.

James A. Wagstaff ('54) was a graduate of Sheffield High School, and attended Vanderbilt University prior to his graduation from Florence State Teachers College. He was a member of Kappa Alpha and he later served in the Army during the Korean War. He retired from a business he operated in Birmingham, Ala., and spent time working for Giattina Fisher Aycock and Mullins Building Products. He was a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church where he served as Junior Warden on the Vestry. He also served on the staff at the Episcopal Church Camp McDowell in Nauvoo, Ala. He was an avid outdoorsman and was a longtime member of Duck's Unlimited. He lived in Birmingham with his wife Kathy.

Ottie V. Ledgewood ('57) retired from the Northwest Alabama Regional Airport after 39 years. He also retired from the Alabama-Tennessee Natural Gas Company. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Waterloo, Ala. He was also a volunteer at the Habitat ReStore in North Florence, as well as a past president of the North Florence Kiwanis Club, and a member of Free and Accepted Masons. He enjoyed ballroom dancing and genealogy.

1960s

Mary Elizabeth "Mert" Mullins ('61) was a member of Highland Baptist Church and was committed to mission work. She was an advocate for the elderly and handicapped and used her talent for helping those in need. She worked with Women's Missionary Union, Recreation Ministry, and Girls in Action. She taught first grade in the Muscle Shoals school system for 37 years.

Wanda Phillips Sparkman ('64 & '69) was retired after a long career as a public educator. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degree in education from UNA and an Education Specialist degree from the University of South Carolina. She is survived by her husband, **Brandon ('52)**, and children and grandchildren.

Suzanne R. Hunter ('65) retired from TVA's Environmental Research Center. She lived in Florence, Ala., with her husband Brad and family.

Earline Horton ('68) retired from Florence City Schools after many years of teaching and nourishing the minds and hearts of young students. She was an advocate of education and earned her bachelor's degree from Alabama A&M and her master's degree from UNA.

Walter C. Raney, Jr. ('69) was a retired teacher and coach who also devoted his time working with the Campus for Human Development in Nashville. He received his bachelor's degree in both Social Science/Secondary Education and Physical Education.

1970s

Gary Childs ('70) the former commander of the East Precinct, joined the Birmingham Police Department in 1977 and retired in January. He was paralyzed as the result of a July 2007 motorcycle accident in Springville. He was killed in an automobile accident.

David R. Downing ('72) was commissioned second lieutenant upon his graduation at UNA. He was a Distinguished Military Graduate as well as Most Outstanding Executive Branch Member. He took medical retirement from the U.S. Army in 1984, after serving tours with the 11th ACR and 101st Airborne Division. He worked as a cost accountant for Motorola, was plant comptroller's staff for Reynolds Metals, and later retired after serving as ARP controller for Wise.

Nathan Clyde Hughes ('72) recently retired from TVA as a unit operator at the Colbert County Steam Plant. He is survived by his wife Patricia of Florence. He was a member of the Methodist church, as well as a member of the I.B.E.W. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War.

Judy L. (Freeze) Williams ('72) is survived by her husband Presley Williams and a number of family

members. She taught math at Rogers High School and in the Muscle Shoals school system. She served as principal at McBride Elementary until her retirement in 2008. She was a member of Highland Park Baptist Church in Muscle Shoals, as well as a member of the Cypress Lakes Country Club.

Michael T. Nix ('74) also known as "Mr. Nix," to many, served 32 years as an elementary school music teacher in the Lauderdale County school system. He had a fun-loving and unique approach in sharing his love of music and his students and those around him appreciated it. He was an accomplished pianist and earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNA. He was recognized by the Alabama Music Educators Association in appreciation of his career and impact on music education, with the Outstanding Music Educator Award (2009-10). He was also an active member of Lexington Church of Christ, where he led singing and taught Sunday school class.

Stephen Wayne Streeter ('74) was a church pastor in his community in Maryville, Tenn. He is survived by his wife **Shirley Smith Streeter ('75)**, son T.J., daughter Susie and granddaughter Charley. Steve played basketball for UNA in 1970.

Judy K. Parker ('75) was an elementary guidance counselor with the Florence City Schools. She received her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, and later earned her master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from UNA. She was also a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

Vernon Dewees Crockett ('77) was a Colbert County farmer as well as a professional photographer and businessman. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, the Rotary Club, and was a leader in professional photography associations at state and national levels. He retired and lived on Lake Martin. He is survived by his wife, Mary Linda.

1980s

Timothy Francis Thompson ('85) a business management graduate from UNA was an active member of Our Lady of the Shoals Catholic Church. Tim was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He was also a member in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. He lived in Tuscumbia, Ala., with his family.

Sarah G. Weatherly ('85) was a retired teacher and earned her master's in both arts and science.

1990s

Julie Drake Cooper ('98) was a member of Beltline Church of Christ. She was a graduate of Austin High School and earned her degree in Social Sciences from UNA. She resided in the Decatur area.



UNA ALUMNI *review*

Brushing Away The Tears

Bellissima Publishing, LLC, announces the release of "Brushing Away The Tears," compiled and written by UNA alumnae **Debbie Wilson ('83)**, executive director of Florence-Lauderdale Tourism. The book is composed of entries from the journals of her artist brother Christopher Colt

and her mother, and footnoted in her own words. The book chronicles the struggle of her brother with AIDS, a disease that ultimately consumed him and took his life in 1992.

"This is a sensitive book that is timeless," says Bellissima CEO and attorney, Penny D. Weigand. "I believe this book will help a lot of people and families struggling with the issues of death on many different levels. It also speaks to the heart of what a family is or should be, something society today seems to have forgotten."

The cover of this book displays Christopher's final self portrait.

"I think Christopher also shows us the struggles any artist feels, the struggle to leave a mark in the world, and maybe that's a basic human instinct," Weigand added.

"The journals were something he wanted to do, because he wanted to tell people how he felt. He wanted to say the things he couldn't bring himself to say aloud, things he knew he had to say. I think a lot of people are like that, especially when they are facing death, and Christopher speaks for all of those people in this book."



Billy Benson

Doug James ('56) grew up and was educated in Florence, Ala. He completed his bachelor's degree at Florence State College (now the University of North Alabama), where he majored in biology. He taught in the public schools of north Alabama before attending Auburn University for a master's degree in speech communication.

He taught at Auburn prior to taking up residence in Mobile, Ala., to teach at Spring Hill College.

Upon retiring in 1992, James returned to Spring Hill as an adjunct professor of communication arts, where he is currently employed. He also teaches classes at the Aviation College in Mobile.

The seeds for the books "Flights of Angels" and "Billy Benson" were planted over fifty years ago, on September 1, 1945. On the last day of World War II, the author's neighbor, Navy pilot Lt. Marcy Darnall, was killed in the Philippine Islands. James was only nine years old but the event was permanently etched in his brain. Earlier another neighbor, Lynwood Glazier (who flew for the Army), was declared missing in the Pacific. James didn't know Glazier, but the news of his disappearance and death hung over his close-knit neighborhood like a dark cloud.

A half-century later, James began sketching out a basic plot for "Flights of Angels" and "Billy Benson" and commenced his research—three years of it—to commemorate the lives of Darnall and Glazier.

"What we owe all those young men is absolutely beyond our grasp," James said. "Every day, ordinary, hometown boys volunteered to serve. Their service to their country was selfless, and too often, terminal."

James has dedicated his novel "Flights of Angels" to Glazier and Darnall and their comrades-in-arms. "Billy Benson" is dedicated to Florence, Ala., the hometown of these two brave heroes.



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