



SUMMER 2013 • VOL 21 • NUMBER 2

# Magazine

*For the Alumni and Friends of the University of North Alabama*







Grammy Award-winning recording artist and UNA alumnus John Paul White '99 moderates a question-and-answer session with cinematographer Anthony Arendt, Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section bassist David Hood, producer and publisher Rick Hall, Muscle Shoals Rhythm Section guitarist Jimmy Johnson and songwriter and keyboardist Spooner Oldham following the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival screening of *Muscle Shoals*. The festival presented a special showing of the new music documentary *March 1* at Norton Auditorium on the UNA campus.

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William G. Cale, Jr.

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

A moment of great significance is upon us as we begin construction of our new Science and Technology Building.

There have been many moments leading to this point, but one I remember well is a conversation I had not long after I joined UNA. I had the opportunity to meet Dr. Frank Franz, President of the University of Alabama in Huntsville, at the time when he was opening a new science building on his campus. I asked him how long he'd been working on that project, and he said 10 years.

When it comes to science buildings, there would seem to be a long lag between identifying the need and seeing it happen. As those years unfolded at UNA, I had the good fortune to find support from many. A few of those are Gov. Bob Riley, Sens. Roger Bedford and **Tammy Irons '86**, Congressman Parker Griffith, Speaker of the Alabama House Mike Hubbard, the Florence City Council, our entire local delegation of State Representatives, our UNA Board of Trustees, private citizens and the UNA community.

At the heart of this process, though, and largely unheralded, are the students of UNA. They voted in 2005 to create a facilities fee to assist primarily with creating a new science building, and secondarily to meet other critical campus needs. Those who took that step are long graduated, but their dream now becomes real.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the \$39.7 million building of 160,000 square feet was held May 6, and was attended by many from the campus, community and state. We still have some fundraising to do, but we are very close to meeting all our

costs. The Board of Trustees fully embraced moving ahead, and that is certainly what I recommended and what is best for UNA. Completion is anticipated in 20 months.

As work progresses on another major project, the Academic and Student Commons Building, work likewise progresses on coordination of the academic functions that will be housed there to create the University Success Center. These include the Writing Center, a new center for mathematics education support, advising and testing, learning communities, our Quality Enhancement Plan (Building Success Through Discovery), financial literacy and student financial services. Vice President for Enrollment Management Dr. Thomas Calhoun, who will oversee these functions, will also relocate to the new building, scheduled for completion toward the end of this year.

Three UNA students this year achieved recognition at the highest levels of accomplishment. Two of these you met in the previous *UNA Magazine*: Ms. Mary McDaniel and Ms. Kaitlin Ashley. Most recently, Mr. Alexander Edwards was chosen to present his mathematical research done with Dr. Jessica Stovall at Posters on the Hill in Washington, D.C. His work was one of 60 chosen from among 800 submissions. Our students are worth cheering for!

It has been another fine year at UNA. As plans take shape for your summer, I wish you time with family and friends, time for reflection and time to make plans to visit us.

All my best,  
Bill Cale



# UNA TAKES 'GIANT LEAP FORWARD' IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

By Terry Pace '85, '04, UNA Communications and Marketing

The University of North Alabama broke ground May 6 on a long-envisioned, \$39.7 million Science and Technology Building designed to carry the university's science-based academic programs into a competitive new arena.

President William G. Cale – who called the project “another giant leap forward” for the university – and other UNA officials were joined at the ceremony by State Sens. Roger Bedford and **Tammy Irons '86**, Reps. Lynn Greer, **Greg Burdine '82**, Johnny Mack Morrow and **Mac Buttram '62**, Florence Mayor Mickey Haddock, Florence City Council President Dick Jordan and Shoals Chamber of Commerce President Steve Holt.

“This is an affirmation that collectively we can accomplish great things, that we are committed to the

future of this region, and most important of all, that we will always provide the best education possible for our students,” Dr. Cale told more than 200 campus leaders and UNA supporters who gathered at the future home of the five-story, 160,000-square-foot facility.

“I don't know that a day has gone by over the last eight years that this project has not entered my mind,” added Cale, who made the project a high priority when he was named president of UNA in 2005. “I can tell you that I have been hopeful, I have felt despair, I have experienced frustration and confusion and, from time to time, a bit of optimism. Today I think we all feel relief and happiness, in roughly equal measure.”

The UNA Board of Trustees officially approved the project on April 3, accepting a low bid from the

Birmingham-based construction company B.L. Harbert International. The new facility – to be built between Kilby Laboratory School and Flowers Hall, on the site of the old tennis courts on Pine Street – will provide a state-of-the-art home for the biology, chemistry and industrial hygiene, physics and earth science departments now located in the 51-year-old Floyd Science Building.

“A future department of engineering technology also will be housed in this new building,” Cale explained. “Construction of the building will take about 600 days, so we can gather again in the late fall of 2014 to have a grand opening.”

UNA has \$31.7 million currently in place to cover most construction costs. The Florence City Council has committed \$3 million for the project, while the Alabama Legislature has included a \$500,000 allocation for the facility in its 2013-14 state budget. The rest will be secured through an aggressive UNA fundraising campaign.

“This building benefits science majors as well as non-science majors,” according to Dr. John Thornell, UNA's vice president for academic affairs and provost. “We already have strong science programs and quality faculty teaching in those programs, but no matter how good a teacher you are, you have to have laboratories and equipment to be successful. With this new building, we can meet that benchmark.”







## Students Learn What It Takes To Create A TV Program

By Siobhan Gehrs, *Student Writer*

Broadcast journalism student Kaitlin Chappell knew in her freshman year that she wanted to create either a news channel or talk show to gain experience in her field. It wasn't until the summer before her junior year that Chappell began taking steps necessary to make her dream a reality.

As a member of UNA's chapter of the National Broadcasting Society (NBS), Chappell talked with the organization's adviser, **Dr. Pat Sanders '82 & '94**, to get other students involved. After the idea for Good Day UNA was pitched to several classes, students began volunteering their time to work on the show.

The program's crew consists of a number of individuals, including on-air anchors, directors, producers, cameramen and editors. Episodes, featuring topics ranging from fashion to campus athletes, are filmed before a live audience and then edited to be placed on several of their websites, including a channel on YouTube.

Sophomore Kelsey White said she joined NBS because she thought it would help her in her future career in broadcast journalism.

"I was surprised that UNA did not have a broadcast news show when I first came here," she said. "We could be writing a piece of UNA history."

As associate producer, White works with the executive producer, Taelor Hopewood, to check that everything is in order for the show to be taped.



Jasmine Redus and Kaitlin Chappell

Hopewood said her career plans include working for a news station, making her way to the executive producer position. Two aspects of the job she wants to learn are how to film and edit episodes of Good Day UNA.

For the first episode, Film and Digital Media Productions professor Jason Flynn recorded the show and then opened the opportunity to his students, including senior Trent Myers. Myers works with at least two other students recording and editing each episode. Myers said working on the set shows the prime example of team work. "I'm glad to be a part of Good Day UNA," Myers said. "It's all about to blow up and be big."

Radio-television and interactive media student Jasmine Redus has served many roles on the show, but she enjoys being on-air the

best. "It allows me to express myself to viewers and just be me," she said.

The program also allows public relations students to exercise their skills. Junior Katie Dansby has served as on-air anchor and floor director, and she has worked on promotion and advertising for different episodes.

Each member of the Good Day UNA crew said they hope to see the program grow in the next few years. Chappell said her ultimate goal is to live-stream the episodes, eliminating the time spent on editing footage. She is also working toward having a channel to broadcast the episodes.

"I don't want Good Day UNA to die," she said. "There's someone out there that will love the broadcasting field as much or even more than I do."

## UNA STUDENTS RECEIVE TOP HONORS AT STATE SCIENCE COMPETITION

By Siobhan Gehrs, *Student Writer*

UNA junior Taylor Garber and sophomore Christian Bayens placed first with presentations of their individual research projects at the Alabama Academy of Sciences at Samford University in Birmingham. The three-day competition, which took place March 20-22, was open to physics, biology, social sciences, chemistry and mathematics research.

Garber gave an oral presentation and Bayens gave a poster presentation to a group of judges who accessed the communications and validity of the presentations. UNA Physics and Astronomy Assistant Professor Dr. Mel Blake said the judges focus on the presenters' understanding of objectives and make sure the students are not just robots relaying information.

Garber's project, "A Spectroscopic Look at Be Stars," focused on using the spectroscope to find the different emission lines of H Alpha Regions, the brightest wavelength of visible light. She said the stars are unique because when they die, they become supernova explosions. She chose to expand on this project after having collected data two years earlier at the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute in North Carolina.

Bayens' project, "A Photometric Investigation of cD Galaxies," helped him discover that stars are becoming lost after working on an analysis of Central



Christian Bayens

Dominant (cD) galaxies.

"Once galaxies have enough mass," Bayens said, "they begin to absorb each other."

To conduct his study, Bayens used image reduction software, selecting the image of the galaxy that was absorbed. From the research he found that from the center, light drops faster and stars are being stripped away from the outer boundaries of the companion galaxies.

Garber participated in the same competition last year, placing second. She said placing first this year made all the sleepless nights worth it.

"I've been at a university where students didn't work together and it was very cut throat," Blake said, "but here students were helping each other the night before."

Blake was also named vice chair of the physics section and vice chair of

the education section for the Alabama Academy of Sciences during the March event.

"I'm proud and lucky that I had the opportunity to present," Bayens said. "I'm proud that I attend a university that fosters undergraduate research and that we're a competing source within the country."



# STUDENTS PRESENT FINDINGS

By Siobhan Gehrs, Student Writer



at given temperatures in aqueous and organic media via UV."

Achard's study was based on the help she contributed toward the project of a previous student who studied a similar molecule, but with a different chain. First Achard had to create the molecule, and then she tested its solubility. Achard found the molecule to be soluble in organic solutions, but not in water at lower temperatures.

Research studies from UNA's chemistry and industrial hygiene department are often presented at the Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society (SERMACS) in Raleigh, N.C.

Geography graduate student Stephen Yancey was able to explain the various research that other graduate students work on prior to receiving their degrees. Yancey said all master's students are required to create a thesis, and some students receive grants after presenting their research.

One of the projects Yancey was able to tell inquiring students about was, "An Analysis of Mobile, Ala., After Hurricane Ivan," by Xiaorong Guo, Justin Shelton and **Dr. Lisa Keys-Mathews '85**. Through their research, the team had looked at crime mapping and the effects a hurricane can have on local crime. They looked through three phases of the hurricane aftermath, including the emergency response, restoration and reconstruction. Yancey said the team received its data from the city of Mobile and found that hurricanes do have an effect on an increase of crime.

LTC Wayne Bergeron, a UNA instructor of criminal justice, explained his class's study, "Anatomy of a Terrorist

Attack." The project had students "join" a terrorist group and plan an attack. The attack would not be carried out, but Bergeron assigned the project to give his students the ability to learn how to counterattack terrorist plans in case they would need to in their future professions.

Criminal justice student Calvin Liles recalled that while meeting with his group in the library to discuss what all they would need to plan out their "attack," a student at a desk near them started giving them strange looks until Liles tried to explain they were discussing a class assignment. To prevent his plan from foiling, Liles said he wants to cut out all variables and avoid leaving a paper trail. As Bergeron said, "You have to think like a terrorist to defeat a terrorist."

Psychology student Jordan Sparks presented in the GUC Loft on the last day of Research Day with "An Investigative Study of Public Response to Severe Weather Warnings." She was interested in finding out why people ignore tornado warnings and determining whether they are passive or active decision-makers. For the study, Sparks created a game to test the level of risks UNA student participants would take in investing in their properties when warnings occurred. She found that those who are more willing to take risks were more likely to invest.

## ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PANEL RESEARCH

*Education Students  
Share Conclusions from Weeden  
Elementary Studies*

By Siobhan Gehrs, Student Writer

A panel of elementary education majors presented three research studies April 9-10 during UNA Research Day 2013 at the Guillot University Center. The research conducted took place at Weeden Elementary School in Florence and involved students in kindergarten through second grade.

UNA students Olivia Prince and Katie Michael worked with a kindergarten student on rhyme production after testing his letter and sound identification. Michael said the student was able to identify words such as "fish," but he was unable to name a word that rhymed with "fish."

To help the kindergartner learn the relationship between rhyming words, Prince and Michael created a lesson plan with pictures and asked the student to match the word they said aloud to a rhyming word on their folder, with a series of pictures indicating their choices. Prince said they read Dr. Seuss books and chose images that were discussed within the book. As she tested the child's rhyming abilities, Michael would mark the assessments.

With a first-grader, UNA students Beth Ann Pope and Whitney Nichols focused on digraphs. Nichols defined digraphs as the two consonants that, when placed beside each other in combinations such as "ch," "sh" and "th," form new sounds that do not express the consonant's individual sounds.



Front row: KATIE BROOKE MICHAEL Back row: OLIVIA PRINCE, WHITNEY NICHOLS, BETH ANN POPE, CASSIE MURDOCK, SARA GREGORY.

The pair presented a life-size game board they used to help teach the first-grader the sounds the digraphs make. When learning words, the student would stand on the board and take a step forward each time he got an answer right. Both UNA researchers said keeping the first-grader active, rather than teaching only through worksheet assignments, helped keep him engaged in the exercise.

The final group to present for the panel included UNA students Sara Gregory and Cassie Murdock. For their project, the students worked with second-grade sight-reading. In their research, they concluded that sight-reading words were the ones that pop out when reading. Murdock said the students were quick to read their words and able to read a 220-word passage. However, they did not show any expression when they read.

To help them read the story with more expression, the pair used two tactics. For the first tactic, Gregory said they had created numbered dice for the students to roll. After the student rolled the dice, they were asked to read the sentence that was numbered with the corresponding number on the dice.

The second tactic used was to have students randomly draw from a pile of wooden sticks that had different characteristics written on them, including "dinosaur," "monster" and "whisper." When students drew sticks, they were asked to read in the voice that matched the characteristic. Gregory said some of the students were embarrassed at first, but it was fun to hear them read in the sound they thought a dinosaur would make.



## SENIORS REFLECT ON THEIR TIME IN LAGRANGE SOCIETY

By Siobhan Gehrs, *Student Writer*

EACH APRIL, at least 50 UNA students interview to become university ambassadors, filling 30-32 available positions. These ambassadors are members of the LaGrange Society, with campus duties that range from providing tours to potential students to collecting donations for Leo III and Una at home football games.

"The LaGrange Society offered me the chance to tell students about this wonderful university and help decide if UNA held the joy for them that it held for me," 2012-13 LaGrange Society Commander James Cochran said.

Cochran is a senior majoring in communication arts, with a concentration in public communication. He has served the organization for three years, holding leadership positions for two years.

Cochran said people generally apply for the organization for two reasons: the people in the organization and the chance to have a positive impact on people outside of the organization.

LaGrange Society members are required to work one "on-call" hour each week. During this time they meet prospective students and their families, leading them from Coby Hall on tours throughout campus. If a tour is not scheduled during this time, the ambassador will help the UNA Office of Admissions with daily tasks when needed.



The ambassadors are also given the opportunity to join an admissions counselor at recruiting events, whether at community colleges or high schools throughout the state. Senior Ethan Cagle is a professional chemistry major who has served with the LaGrange Society for four years. He said his favorite moments of sharing his love for the university usually occur while recruiting at college fairs.

At one fair, Cagle said he had been talking with a student who was concerned about how he would financially be able to study at UNA. Cagle said he began talking about academic scholarships offered and asked the student what he made on the ACT. The student was able to have his tuition paid because of the high score he had earned.

"The look on his face – he couldn't believe what I had just told

him," Cagle said. "Moments like that really stand out for me and make me thankful I got to serve with LGS."

Over the course of his time in the organization, Cagle said he has been honored to serve with the four different groups of individuals that volunteer their time to be part of the LaGrange Society.

"I've had ties to the university for most of my life, and I've enjoyed every moment that I've been here," he said. "I love UNA, and I enjoy getting to share that with others."

Cochran added, "The LaGrange Society has helped mold me into a better leader and a better man. Serving as commander of this beautiful organization has been an incredibly humbling experience. Each member has the potential to do amazing things for UNA and for the world itself."



## LaGrange Tradition Maintains Sense of Community, Heart of Service

By Siobhan Gehrs, *Student Writer*



At the spring football game in April 1974, two university employees decided to have students pass KFC buckets throughout the stands to raise money for the Leo Fund. Within the following week, the employees wrote a letter to the university president requesting creation of an organization that would focus on raising money for the live mascot. By the fall, the Golden Girls organization was in motion, adding additional responsibilities such as recruiting and working presidential events.

The Golden Girls grew to include men in following years, taking on the name Golden Girls and Ambassadors. Current Director of Admissions **Kim Mauldin '94** took over the group in 1990. Shortly afterward they began a campaign through The Flor-Ala, the Student Government Association and several other organizations to seek out ideas for a name change for the organization. Mauldin knew she

wanted "Society" to be a part of the title, since the organization is highly selective. The name "LaGrange" was suggested and became the namesake for the organization in fall 1993.

"You trace our roots back to LaGrange," Mauldin said, referring to the university's first name, LaGrange College.

Mauldin served as the adviser for the organization for 13 years, and she said the students are the reason she chose to work with the group.

"These students have a sense of community and a heart of service," she said.

As an admissions counselor, current LaGrange Society adviser **Adam Goodman '05 & '11** said he gets to watch the students grow from the early stages when he's recruiting them to attend UNA, to the time students begin taking leadership positions through the organization, and finally to their graduation day.

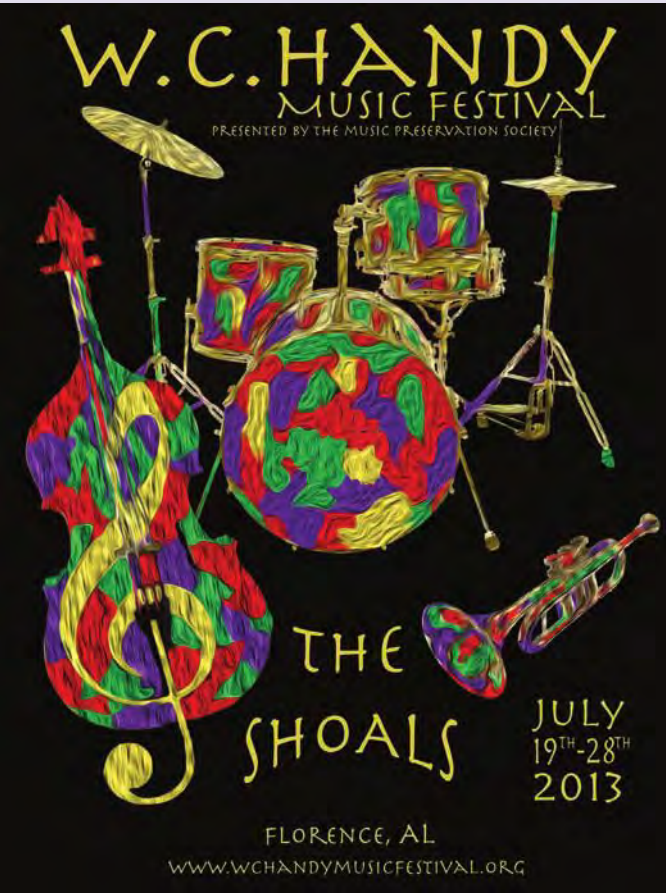




# Happy Birthday, Leo & Una!



MORE THAN 400 PEOPLE – young and old alike, from visiting elementary school groups and UNA students to local business leaders and campus faculty, staff and administrators -- attended the fun-filled annual birthday celebration for UNA's live lion mascots, Leo III and Una, on the sunny morning of April 12. The twin brother-and-sister lions actually turned 10 on Nov. 18 of last year, but their public birthday party is held each April in honor of the birthdate of the original Leo, who was adopted by the UNA family in 1974. Leo III and Una see hundreds of visitors weekly and make popular public appearances at home football games, the annual UNA homecoming parade and other special events.



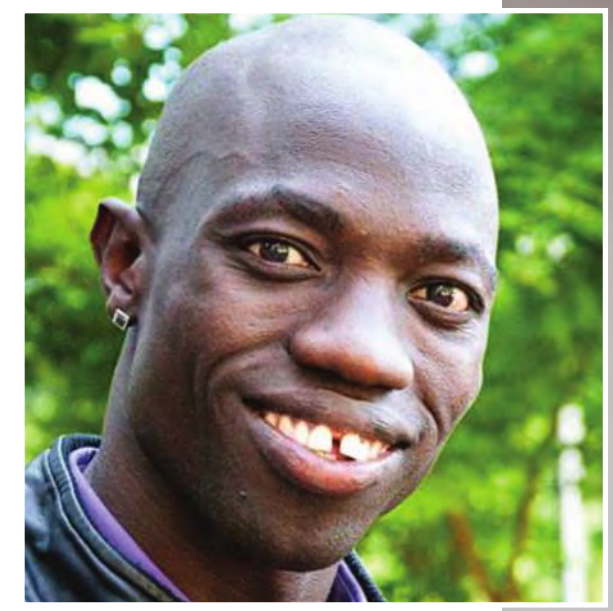
Two University of North Alabama undergraduate students – sophomore Mackenzie Kimbrough of Tuscumbia and freshman Maurice Mull of Tanner – submitted the winning entry for the 2013 W.C. Handy Music Festival design competition. The collaboration between Kimbrough and Mull will serve as the official visual image for the 32nd annual Handy festival, to be presented by the Music Preservation Society from July 19-28. Mull is a human-resource management major and a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Kimbrough is a marketing major with a minor in family studies. Both students are members of the UNA Honors Program.



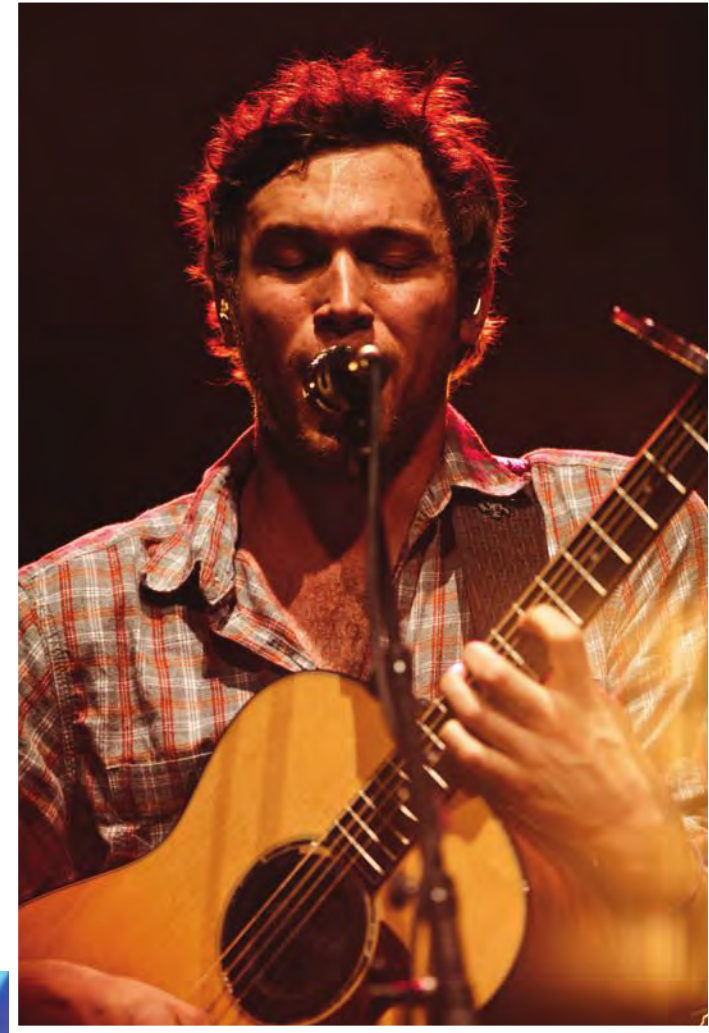
# UNA WRITERS SERIES

Renowned poet, activist, educator, commentator and children's author Nikki Giovanni (*Love Poems, Blues: For All the Changes, The Grasshopper's Song: An Aesop's Fable*) was the special guest for the 2013 UNA Writers' Series, presented by the UNA Department of English.

Giovanni was joined by eminent scholar Dr. Trudier Harris and several members of the UNA English faculty for a series of panels, readings, lectures and book-signings March 13-14 at the Guillot University Center.



Olympic track-and-field athlete Lopez Lomong – one of the so-called "Lost Boys of Sudan" – shared his inspiring story with UNA's graduating seniors during spring commencement ceremonies at Flowers Hall on May 11.



The University Program Council (UPC) presented a sold-out spring concert by *American Idol* winner Phillip Phillips and five-time Top 20 hit recording artist Mat Kearney on May 1 at Norton Auditorium on the UNA campus. Phillips was the Season 11 champion on Fox's long-running, top-rated music-based reality series. Kearney's hits include "Nothing Left to Lose," "Undeniable," "Breathe In, Breathe Out," "Closer to Love" and "Hey, Mama." The evening also featured New Zealand singer-songwriter Gin Wigmore.



Photos by **Tate Higgs**  
Student Photographer





Jacquie Segars Behrens '65 and Forrest Behrens

# COLLECTIBLES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

By Elise Cofield, *Student Writer*

Give **Jacquie Segars Behrens '65** an hour, and she will fill it with three hours' worth of stories, from her memories of being a young girl mesmerized by overhead planes to the fulfillment of her dreams of overseas travel, eating dinner on the desert and riding elephants in India.

Her first overseas destination was the American consulate in Fukuoka, Japan, where she taught English as a Second Language (ESL). During this time, she remembers her first experience with cultural exchange: in return for teaching English to a high school principal there, he taught her Japanese calligraphy. Today, her second most prized possession is a scroll she made, written in calligraphy, that reads: "I am the light of the world."

Behrens has hung onto her lust for travel ever since, and she has now set foot in 40 countries (and counting).

It would be safe to say she is a collector. The inside of her home on Cypress Creek in Florence – where she lives with her husband of 30 years, Forrest – is lined wall-to-wall with priceless treasures from the places she has visited and people whose paths she has crossed.

It would also be safe to say that making friends is what she does best. Many of her most treasured pieces in her home are hospitality items: among them, a Japanese hibachi dated at approximately 120 years old and coffee pots from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

Behrens and her husband wish to donate their international collection to the UNA Foundation. She wants her pieces to be put on display to educate UNA students and the surrounding community about global culture. She dreams of having



Cloisonné Dragon from Beijing, China



Jacquie with Japanese Kimono designed for a girl who is single.

an International Culture Center at UNA – an original idea which she saw realized elsewhere during the 27 years spent as director of International Programs at Texas Tech University.



150-years-old Hibachi from Japan.

Behrens wants to dispel what she calls a "myth" that students on a modest budget cannot travel. She attended Florence State College (now UNA) on a National Defense Student Loan, and she said it was purely hard work that got her overseas.

"Education literally gave me the world," she said.

Jacquie said she is currently working on her memoir. With a little reluctance, she disclosed that the title she is mulling over is *From the Outhouse to the World*.



Oil refinery from Far East Russia



Fence piece and peace bell from North and South Korea.





# THE CATS WHO BECAME LIONS

By Elise Cofield, Student Writer

What do you get when you cross one house with 75-plus ladies who haven't seen each other in 50 years?

Stories. Well, stories and a pile of chicken salad sandwiches.

The ladies who lived in Willingham Hall when it was a dormitory (when UNA was still Florence State College) had their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion celebration April 17 at the home of **Jacque Segars Behrens '65** on Cypress Creek in Florence.

Willingham Hall was a dormitory for women from 1948 until 1968. The Willy Cats, as they call themselves, formed a bond during their residency in Willingham that has survived today.

In fact, calling the Willy Cats a sisterhood would be no stretch.

"There was just a closeness," said **Janet Robinson '64**. "We were family."

The women reminisced about college days, having to endure daily room checks, no air conditioning and the occasional "panty raid."

A few ladies even confessed to some of the shenanigans they got into as a Willy Cat.

**Shirley Simchik '64** was one of them.

"We all got together one morning and were listening to the weather report," she said. "They were predicting snow.



Mitzi Chandler Smallwood '64, Betty Motes French and Lynda Freeman Lamon '64

Well, we all got the idea to call in as an administrative assistant saying that school had been cancelled.

"For some reason, they thought I was the only person who could do it without laughing."

So, she made the call. Not only did she make the call, she got away with it.

"Half of the school went home," she said, straight-faced.

Other stories harkened to a UNA of the forgotten past, from a time when rules were stricter, especially with the dress code. Jeans and shorts were forbidden, they said.

The ladies also had a curfew (for freshmen, 9:30 p.m. on weeknights and 11 p.m. on weekends), which was a topic of conversation.

Robinson, who now lives out of town, said she enjoyed the chance to come back to the college site and retrace her steps on UNA's campus earlier that day.

She said the biggest change was Keller Hall no longer being a men's dormitory where, during her time there, women were strictly forbidden. With a proud smile, she said she had gotten her picture taken with one foot on the lawn of Keller Hall.

A few stories, laughs and chicken salad sandwiches later, the Willy Cats parted ways again. During that afternoon, though, they proved that they shared far more than a dormitory building and a cramped bathroom.



Peggy Odem Wallace '64 and Margene Bonds Trimble '64



Brenda Aldridge Lee '66



Julia Bass Vess, Betty Hamilton Duncan and Linda Edwards Sledge '67





# THROW BACK: A CENTURY OF YEARBOOKS

By Siobhan Gehrs, Student Writer

Throw back. Two words captured 100 years in only 224 pages. That was the theme for the 2013 *Diorama*, Volume 65. Although it was only the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the *Diorama*, the pages were dedicated to the birth of the university's first yearbook publication in 1913, *Purple and Gold*.

Even though *Purple and Gold* only lasted one year, it was the groundbreaking moment for future editors and the campus, with several name changes along the way. With the *Panorama* published in 1937 and the first *Diorama* in 1949, editors for the current yearbook were sent on a mission to capture the events from March 2012-February 2013 while showcasing each previous yearbook at least once throughout the pages.

"Looking back over the past 100 years of yearbooks was very overwhelming because it is a lot of hard work," said managing editor Ashley Richardson, who worked closely with volunteers and created most of the

Student Life pages. "We searched through every yearbook, ransacked the library archives and even had faculty and staff submit photos."

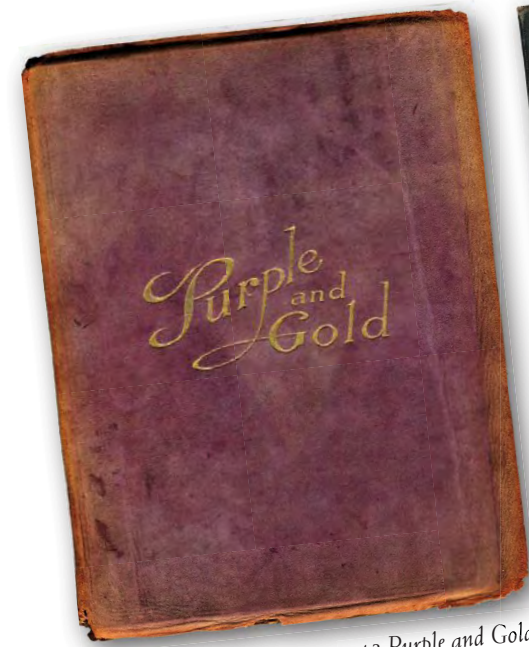
*Diorama* sports editor Paige Pack said the publications were a challenge to research.

"I enjoyed comparing spreads from the past and present," she said. "I enjoyed learning nifty facts about student life, Greek Life and athletics. I feel more knowledgeable about the university from working on the 'Throw Back' edition."

When the yearbook arrived on campus, the staff continued the tradition of presenting President William G. Cale with the first edition.

"This year the editors presented their favorite spread to President Cale, and I chose two spreads," Pack said. "I was proud to present them to President Cale."

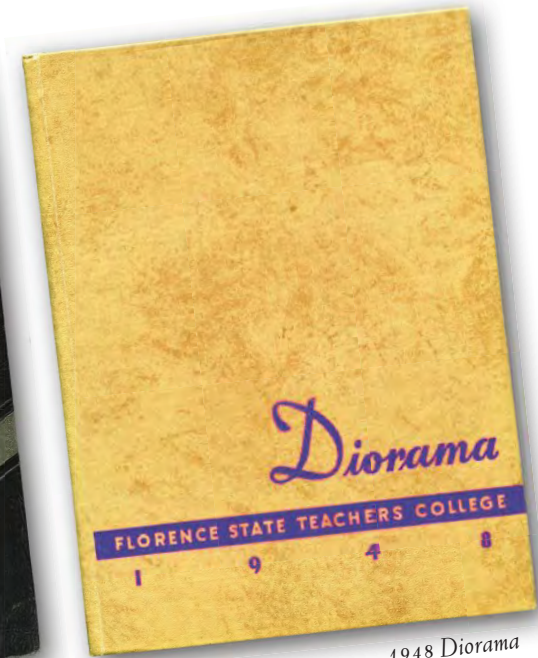
To kick start campus-wide distribution in April, the staff partnered with **Cem Demir '04** of Sodexo Student Services to host a UNA Trivia Night in



1913 Purple and Gold



1937 Panorama



1948 Diorama

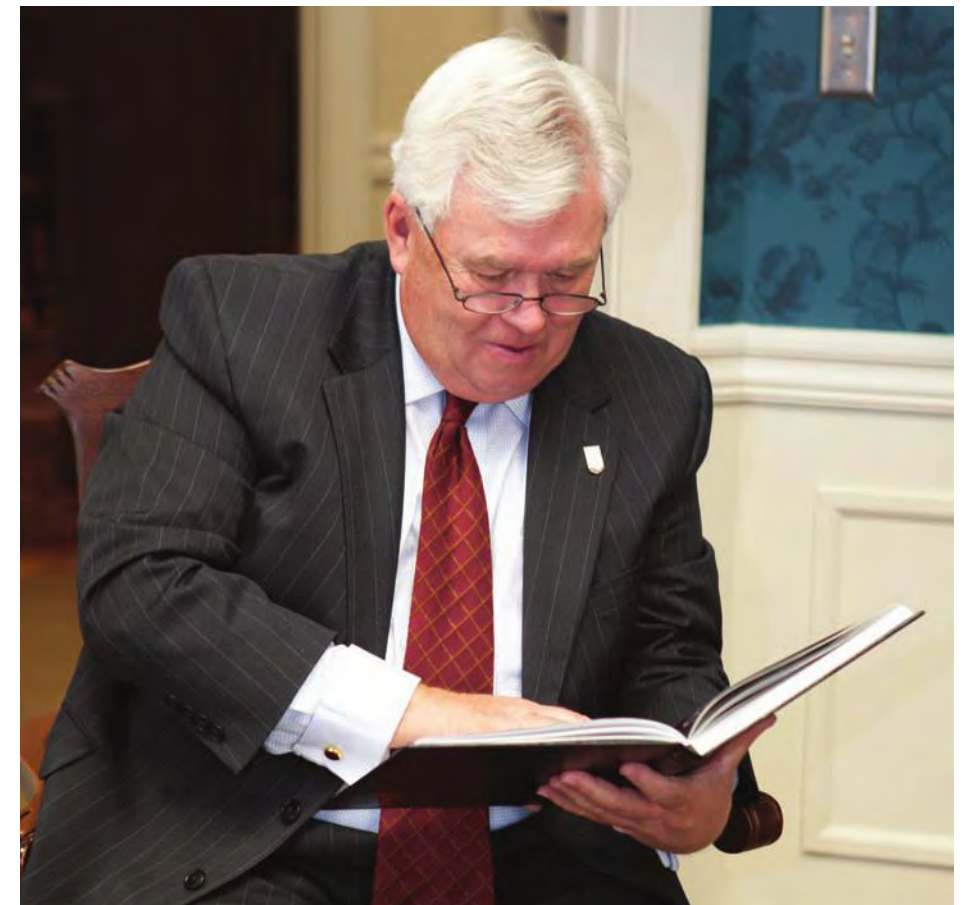
Towers Dining Hall. Teams were asked questions based on information from the yearbook, including the name of the university's president when *Purple and Gold* was released, which individual founded the entire athletic department and what position actor and UNA alumnus George Lindsey played in football.

Pack will continue working with the publication in the fall, serving as the new executive editor. Richardson will spend her senior year focusing on her studies and volunteering for the staff when needed.

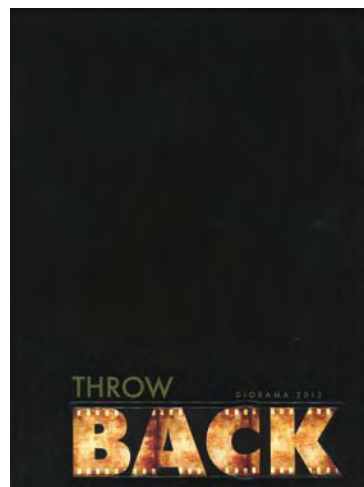
"My experience has been great these past two years," Richardson said. "I have enjoyed working with such different personalities and getting to do what I love. At times it could be difficult and very stressful, but all the hard work pays off in the end when you get to see the final product."

The book opens with enrollment numbers, followed by an introduction displaying the cover design for each yearbook publication. The staff kept the book in chronological order by seasons, with each section divided by Student Life, Greek Life and Athletics. At the end of each section is a "Throw Back" that recognizes student or departmental achievements and regional and national news. The book then transitions to senior, faculty and staff headshots; honor society group photos; index; and editorial staff

pages. The final page of the book is taken from the final page of the *Purple and Gold*, listing student-to-teacher ratio and degrees offered.



William G. Cale Jr.



2013 Diorama





Ron Wright '70 &amp; '73

## FORMER *DIORAMA* EDITORS

By Siobhan Gehrs, *Student Writer*

As the most recent *Diorama* celebrates 100 years of publication, two men reflect on their time as yearbook editors for the university.

"I was the very first editor to go through two years in a row," recalls 1968 and 1969 *Diorama* editor **Ron Wright '70 & '73**.

Wright became involved with the publication because a student living across the hall in his dormitory had an interest in photography. Prior to meeting his friend, Wright had only taken family snapshots, but he grew to learn more about the field, becoming one of two photographers for the 1967 *Diorama*.

As photographer and later editor of the *Diorama*, Wright worked closely with the publication's adviser, Nelson Van Pelt, who served as a photography professor and yearbook sponsor for parts of five decades at the university.

"Mr. Van Pelt was one of the finest people I've ever met," Wright said, adding that if Van Pelt saw students working hard, he would do anything he could to help those students advance in their photography skills.

"His assistance made all the difference in the world," Wright said. "It's very important, especially then, to have the support from a faculty member."

When Wright progressed to his position as editor of the yearbook, student **Mac Brown '72 & '75** served as the chief photographer before he became editor for the 1970 and 1971 editions. When deciding what to cover in the book, Brown said the staff tried to look at everything that was happening on campus and in the community.

"It was a time of real change," he said, "and there were a lot of different opinions."



Nelson Van Pelt

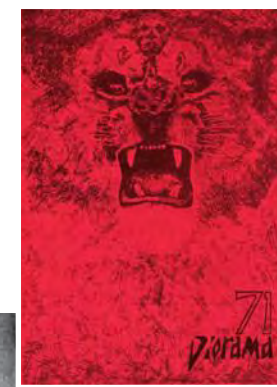
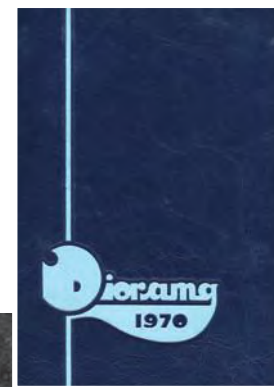
During Brown's time as editor, the United States was still involved with the Vietnam War, so the university's ROTC program was extremely strong while a new generation of individuals was also emerging, including the so-called "hippies" who represented the counterculture movement.

Brown said his proudest moment in working on the *Diorama* was submitting the final deadline to print. Each spread was created by hand, with editors drawing boxes on carbon paper to illustrate the placement of photos and body copy. Wright said sending off deadlines relieved a lot of stress, but his proudest moment was calling the entire staff into the office to look over the finished product before it was released to the campus.

"My biggest error was in 1969, when Dr. (E.B.) Norton was president," Wright said.

The two-page spread of the president managed to get lost in the process, eliminating the president's presence in the book. Wright then had to present the president with a copy of the book.

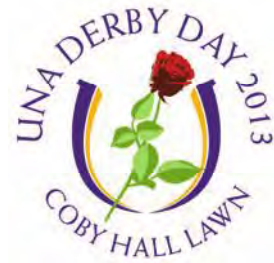
"Dr. Norton was very generous and he said he knew it didn't happen on purpose," Wright said. "He told me to never think about it again."



Mac Brown '72 &amp; '75







# UNA LAUNCHES DERBY DAY

By Elise Cofield, Student Writer



Men and women of all ages dressed themselves to the nines on the first Saturday in May, on a warm, sunny spring afternoon, to celebrate a particularly legendary horse race.

UNA Derby Day 2013 was the talk of the town. The event, hosted by President and Mrs. William Cale, was a fundraiser for the UNA Foundation and a social event second only to the real deal, the Kentucky Derby itself.

From 3-6 p.m. on May 4, ladies donning their favorite hats entered the hat parade and best all-around hat contest. Meanwhile, guests enjoyed games, prizes and had the opportunity to place "Derby Dollars" (just for fun) on the thoroughbred they thought most promising. Everyone enjoyed viewing the high-stakes race, television at the designated hour on the beg screen.

"We wanted to keep that same



feeling of Southern tradition and Southern charm, with ladies in their splendor and men in their finest," said **Alisha Haataja '03**, volunteer chair and decorations coordinator of the event.

Needless to say, the "Roaring Julep" (UNAs take on the signature drink of the Derby, the Mint Julep) was a hit, said **JoAnn Thomas '69**, chair of the food and drink committee. Sodexo also catered a lavish buffet of Derby-themed refreshments.

When it came to attire, guests had no trouble getting into character.

Seventy-three-year-old Shirley Neese had a story behind each of the accessories she was wearing.

"The feathers on my hat are from my brother, who I had a bone marrow transplant with," she said. "My flowers are from my sister, who is a gardener. It's fun



to just put on a hat and go out."

Due to the threat of rain, the event was relocated from its originally planned location, on the lawn of Coby Hall, to the atrium of the Guillot University Center.

"We hated to come inside," Thomas said, "but I think it's a big success."

Pleasant chatter filled the atrium throughout the festivities.

"This is a very festive event, and it's great to have something different and new that brings new life to our city," said Florence Mayor Mickey Haddock, who was there in a red seersucker topcoat, plaid pants and coordinated plaid pocket square.

Bonnie Blue McDaniel grew up watching the Derby and hearing firsthand stories about the race from her grandfather.

"Everybody here was so into it, all dressed up and looking very, very Southern," she said. "That had to be more bow ties than I've ever seen in the city of Florence."

Based on this year's success of the first-ever UNA Derby Day, President Cale said he hopes to celebrate "the most exciting two minutes in racing" this way every year by making Derby Day an annual event.







JoAnn Thomas '69 and Kay Davis '73 & '00



Rodney Howard '76



Rachel Strong '75 & '80 and B. J. Cale



Terri '04 and Terry Brown



Dixie Carter and Robert Hill



Barb Hendricks and Shirley Neese



Mike and Marianne Snyder



Cem Demir '04



Stephanie Radecki, Johnette Davis, Anna Katherine Davis and Melody Stewart '06



Katherine Anderson, Stephanie Mullins, Kaitlin Chappell and Martha Truitt



Pat Burney '88, Claudia Vance '90 and Tom Ross '80



Gloria Aday '70 and Macon Jones





Ronda Price Brinley '00 and Rachel Price Bell '00

## UNA's **PRICE SISTERS** HONORED as PART of NCAA 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of DIVISION II

By Jeff Hodges '82,  
*Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Communication*

Former University of North Alabama volleyball All-Americans **Rachel Price Bell '00** and **Ronda Price Brinley '00** have been selected among 49 student-athletes that the NCAA will honor throughout 2013 as part of the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of NCAA Division II.

Developed through a partnership with the Division II Conference Commissioners Association, the 40th Anniversary Tribute Team highlights one male and one female from each of the division's 23 current conferences, plus two at-large nominees. The Gulf South Conference is the only league with three

honorees, with the Price sisters sharing the league's female honoree award. Both earned All-American and Academic All-America honors at UNA and have gone to successful careers in the medical field.

UNA is one of just three schools in the nation to have two honorees, with St. Edwards of the Heartland Conference at Pittsburgh at Johnstown of the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference receiving both the male and female awards from their leagues.

"This group of former student-athletes is meant to reflect the core values of Division II athletics," said

Josh Looney, associate director of Division II. "Commissioners have helped identify a diverse group of championship individuals from Division II's 40-year history. Not only did these former student-athletes act as champions in athletics and in the classroom, they've gone on to live championship lives as well.

"This group is a true representation of Division II's commitment to providing its student-athletes a 'Life in the Balance' that extends beyond athletics."

Division II gained its own unique intercollegiate athletics identity when Divisions I, II and III were formalized in 1973 during a special NCAA Convention. Prior to 1973, the NCAA was organized into two divisions – "University" and "College."

The year-long 40th anniversary celebration will feature a number of initiatives branded by Division II's tradition, history and community influence. A special 40th anniversary highlight video was unveiled to Division II membership during the 2013 NCAA Convention, officially kicking off the celebration.

Each member of the Division II 40th Anniversary Tribute Team will receive a commemorative 40th anniversary gift and is slated to have his/her accomplishments profiled through Division II media channels.

Conferences were asked to submit a list of nominees representative of Division II's ideals. The only requirement was that nominees exhausted their athletics eligibility within the past 40 years and attended a college or university active in Division II.

Rachel Price Bell was a four-year starter on UNA volleyball teams from 1996-99 that had a combined 156-22 record. The Lions won four straight Gulf South Conference championships, made four straight NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and won two NCAA regional championships. She played in a school record 593 games and 178 matches and had 1,539 kills. She and her sister Ronda are two of only eight UNA student-athletes of all time to have earned both All-American and Academic All-America honors. She was a second-team AVCA All-American pick in 1998 and 1999 and was a CoSIDA Academic All-America selection in 1998 (third-team) and 1999 (first-team). She was also a CoSIDA Academic All-District IV pick in 1997, 1998 and 1999 and an Academic All-GSC honoree in 1997, 1998 and 1999. She received the GSC Commissioner's Trophy as the premier female student-athlete in the league in 1999 and 2000. She was also named NCAA Division II Conference Commissioner's Association National Female Scholar Athlete of the Year in 2000.

An All-Gulf South Conference and All-Gulf South Conference Tournament pick in 1998 and 1999, she also received two GSC Player of the Week honors. She was an All-South Central Region selection in 1997, 1998 and 1999 and also received All-South Central Region Tournament honors in 1998 and 1999. She was named South Central Region MVP in 1999. An AVCA National Player of the Week on Oct. 10, 1999, she was UNA's Female Athlete of the Year in 2000 and was awarded an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship in 2000.



Rachel Price Bell '00



Ronda Price Brinley '00

Following her graduation from UNA, Bell earned a PhD in biomedical engineering from Purdue University and is currently employed as a clinical project manager in West Lafayette, Ind.

She was inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011 in her first year of eligibility.

Ronda Price Brinley was also a four-year starter on UNA volleyball teams from 1996-99 that had a combined 156-22 record and won four straight GSC championships. She made four straight NCAA Division II Tournament appearances and won two NCAA regional championships. Her 2,550 career kills ranked second in Division II history when she ended her career, and she set 15 individual school records.

She is one of just eight UNA student-athletes all-time to have earned both All-American and Academic All-America honors. An AVCA All-American pick in 1997 (second-team), she earned CoSIDA Academic All-America honors in 1997 (second-team) and 1999 (third-team).





Ronda Price Brinley '00

She was the recipient of the Gulf South Conference Commissioner's Trophy as the premier female student-athlete in the league in 1998 and was the Alabama Sports Writers Association State Small College Athlete of the Year in 1997.

Brinley was an All-Gulf South Conference and All-Gulf South Conference Tournament pick in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 and was an Academic All-GSC honoree in 1997, 1998 and 1999. She was selected CoSIDA Academic All-District IV in 1997 and 1999 and received eight GSC Player of the Week honors during her career. The GSC East Division Freshman of the Year in 1996, she was the GSC Tournament MVP in 1997 and GSC Co-Player of the Year in 1997.

Brinley received first-team All-South Central Region and All-South Central Region Tournament honors in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999. She was AVCA National Player of the Week on Oct. 5, 1997, and set an NCAA Division II record for career kill attempts (6,091) and attempts in a four-game match (81). She also set six school records and five GSC records. She was named UNA's Female Athlete

of the Year in 1998 and 2000, and she was awarded an NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship in 2000.

Brinley was inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011 in her first year of eligibility.

Following her graduation from UNA, she graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine and also did her residency at the Indiana University School of Medicine. She is employed as an anesthesiologist in Fort Wayne, Ind.



Rachel Price Bell '00, Coach Matt Peck and Ronda Price Brinley '00



## HISTORY IN THE MAKING . . . CYR and BOUGHNER RE-WRITE UNA BASEBALL RECORD BOOK as SENIORS

By Jeff Hodges '82,  
Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Communication

When future generations of UNA baseball fans look through the Lions' record books, they won't have to look far to find the names Chad Boughner and Josh Cyr. The two senior members of UNA's 2013 squad combined to break 17 school and conference records and placed their names among the all-time greats in the history of the program, the league and the NCAA Division II. They also played key roles in helping return the UNA baseball program to national prominence, leading the Lions to back-to-back NCAA regional appearances in 2011 and 2012, after a 12-year absence from NCAA post-season play.

A Florence native, Boughner spent six years in the UNA program, including a freshman red-shirt season and a medical red-shirt season. He earned a bachelor of science degree in geography in 2012 and played his senior season as a graduate student, working toward a master's of business administration.

Along the way he became the winningest pitcher in the more than 70-year history of the UNA baseball program. His 31 wins rank sixth best in the 40-year history of the Gulf South Conference.

Boughner's UNA records include most strikeouts in a game (16), most strikeouts in a season (115), most innings pitched in a season (114.2), most starts in a season (16), most wins in a career (31), most strikeouts in a career (280), most innings pitched in a career (331.0) and most starts in a career (52). His 331 innings pitched is seventh best in GSC history.

Cyr, from Huntsville, came in and started as a true freshman at first base for the Lions and would go on to start all but two games in his four-year career at UNA. He played in a school-record 210 games with 208 starts.

Cyr's offensive numbers are at or near the top of virtually every offensive category, but his performance defensively has been even more impressive. He not only set school and Gulf South Conference records for most putouts ever, at 1,457, but that number also ranks fourth best in Division II history. He broke the GSC fielding mark that had stood since 1988.

His UNA records include most times hit by pitch in a season (28), most games played in a career (210), most games started in a career (208), most bases on balls in a career (127), most times hit by pitch in a career (71), most putouts in a career (1,457) and most total fielding chances in a career (1,594).

Cyr's final career numbers of 198 hits, 158 runs scored, 166 runs batted in, 24 home runs and 48 doubles rank him among the elite in UNA baseball history.

This season Cyr hit .337, reached base in the final 25 consecutive games of his career and was named All-GSC for the third straight year.



Josh Cyr



Chad Boughner





Bobby Wallace and Grady Liles



Grady Liles and Harlon Hill '55 & '69



A. J. Milwee '09 and Harlon Hill '55 & '69

# Gone, But Not Forgotten ... LILES and HILL LEAVE LEGACY AT UNA

By Jeff Hodges '82,  
*Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Communication*

The University of North Alabama family lost two of its most prominent members this past spring with the passing of **Grady Liles** and **Harlon Hill '55 & '69**.

A long-time Lion fan and supporter, Liles – who died Feb. 26 at the age of 81 – served as president of the UNA Sportsman's Club for almost 30 years, taking the lead in building a strong support organization for the UNA athletic program. For his support, he was inducted into the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 1998.

Hill was a football All-American at UNA, a National Football League Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player with the Chicago Bears and the namesake for the Division II College Football Player of the Year award. He died March 21 at the age of 80.

Liles was the driving force behind bringing the NCAA Division II Football National Championship Game to the Shoals area in 1985 and served

as chairman of the Shoals National Championship Committee for a quarter century. He was also the creator of the Harlon Hill Trophy, the NCAA Division II College Football Player of the Year award named for the former Lion star. The trophy has been presented for each of the past 27 years in conjunction with the national championship game celebration.

"Grady was a great man, that's for sure," said Steve Pierce, a UNA Board of Trustees member who worked closely with Liles on the Shoals National Championship Committee. "You see a lot of people who have vision and don't carry through with it, but Grady had vision and worked hard to have it happen. He found sponsors and volunteers. It was a 24/7 job for him. That just shows you how much he loved the community."

Former UNA football coach Bill Hyde said, "He was one of a kind, very easygoing and outgoing, but he could be tough when he needed to. And he loved UNA. There was nothing that happened

there that he wasn't there for. He was the most civic-minded man I have ever known."

Florence Mayor Mickey Haddock added, "We all lost a good friend. He was a giver."

Liles was selected 1987 Shoals Citizen of the Year and was involved in numerous civic activities and organizations in the Shoals. He was also a member of the Lauderdale County Sports Hall of Fame.

A native of Killen, Hill was born on May 4, 1932, and graduated from Lauderdale County High School and UNA (then Florence State Teachers College) with a bachelor of science degree in education in 1955. He also earned a master's degree in education from UNA in 1969.

Hill was drafted by the Chicago Bears in the 15th round (174th overall) of the 1954 NFL Draft and earned Rookie of the Year honors that year after catching 45 passes for 1,124 yards and 12 touchdowns. In 1955, he became the first recipient of the Jim Thorpe Trophy as the NFL Most Valuable Player. In all, Hill played nine seasons in the National Football League (1954-62) with the Chicago Bears, Pittsburgh Steelers and Detroit Lions.

Following his professional football career, Hill became a public school teacher and coach at Brooks High School in Killen, eventually becoming the school's principal.

In 1986, the NCAA named its Division II College Football Player of the Year award the Harlon Hill Trophy in his honor. The trophy has been presented each December – on the eve of the Division II Football Championship Game in Florence – for the past 27 years.

Hill was inducted into the Lauderdale County Sports Hall of Fame, the UNA Athletic Hall of Fame, the Helms Athletic Foundation Hall of Fame and the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

"Harlon was just so involved in the community," Haddock said. "He set the bar so high with his athletic achievements, but he also raised the bar in his time as an administrator. He demanded that his students do the right things and taught them that if they made the right choices they would be successful in life."

UNA Athletic Hall of Famer Gerald "Tuffy" Hudson added, "Harlon really

put UNA on the front page. He was an outstanding man and is a huge part of Florence State and UNA history."

Hill's son Jerry also went on to become a UNA graduate and Lions football player.

"He was a very humble person and didn't really talk much about his playing days," Jerry Hill said. "He was proud of his roots and proud to have played at UNA. When he finished playing, he came back here to live in the community he loved."

More than 50 years after his playing career ended in Chicago, Hill's 4,616 receiving yards still rank second best

in Bears history, as do his 40 career-touchdown receptions. His 19 career 100-yard receiving games are still the most by any Bears receiver. His four receiving touchdowns in a game against the San Francisco 49ers on Oct. 31, 1954, is tied for the Bears record with Mike Dikta, and his 214 receiving yards in that game is still a Bears record.



Harlon Hill '55 & '69



Grady Liles



#### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Pat Burney '88, *President*  
 Rod Sheppard '98, '04 & '07, *President Elect*  
 Larry Softley '89, *Vice President*  
 Douglas Hargett '02, *2nd Vice President*  
 Linda Vaughan '70, *Secretary*  
 Lucy Trousdale '89, *Treasurer*  
 Heath Trousdale '88, *Legal Counsel*  
 Reeda Lee '74, *Club Advisor*  
 Pat Roden '77, *Faculty Advisor*  
 William Smith '89, *Presidents Advisor*  
 Jan Ingle '85, *Public Relations*  
 Sarah Beth Alexander '04, *Past President*  
 Carol Lyles '70, *Director of Alumni Relations*

#### UNA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bucky Beaver '64  
 Andy Betterton '75  
 Derrick Chatman '08  
 Kay Davis '73  
 Debra Dombrowski '02  
 Pam ('65) and Jeff Edwards '64  
 Janie '57 and Ernest Haygood '58  
 Brad Holmes '02  
 Levon Humphrey '93  
 Aaron Irons '99  
 Gregory Law '92  
 Andy Mann '92  
 Jean McIntyre '65  
 Jonathan McKinney '02  
 Joey Mecke '88  
 Christa Raney '97  
 Shannon '04 and Bart Rickard '96  
 Karen Beaver Ritter '86  
 Elaine Softley '88  
 Kin Taylor '94  
 Amanda Terry '00  
 Ron Tyler '96  
 Maria and Brad Warren '00  
 Cheron White '98

#### UNA ALUMNI CLUB LEADERS

**Alabama**  
 Holly Hollman '96, *Athens*  
 Elaine Witt '76, *Colbert County*  
 Eve Rhea '02, *Greater Birmingham Area*  
 Patrick Johnson '99, *Decatur*  
 Ryan '01 and Lisa '00 Clayton, *Florence*  
 Tom Greenhaw '60, *Gadsden*  
 Charles Winters '86, *Huntsville*  
 Nicky Ray '96, *Marion County*  
 Lindsay Ronilo '06, *Greater Montgomery Area*  
 Stan Mannon '85, *Mountain Lakes*  
 Jim Page '01, *Tuscaloosa*

#### D.C. Area

Will Hodges '10

#### Florida

Maury Shipper '78, *Jacksonville*  
 Lawrence Davis '80, *Orlando*

#### Georgia

Carnette Johnson '83, *Atlanta*  
 Toby Davis '80, *South Georgia*

#### Mississippi

Amanda Everett '74, *Jackson*  
 Leigh '03 & John Prince '00, *Tupelo*

#### Tennessee

John Haeger '99, *Greater Nashville*  
 Mac Brown '72, *South Central Tennessee*  
 Bobby Clemons '70, *Knoxville/East Tennessee*

#### Texas

Charles Inman '71, *West Texas*  
 Paul Smith '66, *Dallas Metroplex*  
 Tom McNeill '69, *Houston*

#### International

Ge Pengyan '09, *China*  
 Aygul Ozer '00, *Turkey*

#### Departmental

Jeff McCrary '83, *UNA Band*  
 Laura Suber '04, *Geography*  
 Stacy Dison '01, *Social Work*

## message from the Alumni President



May 3-4, 2013, was an exciting time for the UNA Alumni Board as we gathered on the beautiful UNA campus for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Alumni Leadership Summit. Friday afternoon was filled with great tours of the UNA Satellite Campuses, including the East Campus, Integrative Health, and Entertainment Industry. If you have not had an opportunity to visit these campuses, I would encourage you to make that a priority when you visit the Shoals or you come home for Homecoming 2013 on Oct. 12, 2013.

Saturday morning we reconvened for a great presentation from **Joe "Bubba" Gibson '78**, entitled "What is My Legacy?" Dr. Thomas Calhoun, UNA's vice president enrollment management, inspired us with his comments regarding "Giving Back – Time, Talent, and Treasure." Both of these presentations reminded us that we should give back to our university.

At the Leadership Summit in 2012, the board worked hard to update the Strategic Plan for our UNA Alumni Association, but we did not complete the Plan. After the 2012 Summit, **Reeda Lee '74** and **Rod Sheppard '98, '04 & '07** took the ideas generated, refined and aligned them with the university's strategic plan and presented the final document to the UNA Alumni Board for approval on Saturday.

See below for the Mission Statement, Vision Statement and our Strategic Goals for 2013-2018:

#### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STRATEGIC PLANS (2013-2018)

##### MISSION STATEMENT

The University of North Alabama Alumni Association will provide opportunities for alumni, parents and friends, individually and collectively, to support and serve the university, its programs, activities and alumni.

##### VISION STATEMENT

The University of North Alabama Alumni Association is committed to becoming the best alumni association among regional public universities.

##### STRATEGIC GOALS

- Endorse diversity in all aspects of the alumni association, including membership, activities and recruitment of potential students.
- Support the university's commitment to academic excellence
- Build mutually beneficial partnerships with the university and global community

The alumni website as well as the local club Facebook pages provide great sources of information for locating events on campus and in the communities to network with other UNA alumni. There are so many fun events in the Shoals during the late spring and summer, and we hope to see you at several of these events.

Spring is the time that scholarships and donors are recognized at a special dinner on campus. I was honored to represent your UNA Alumni Association at this year's scholarship dinner and had the opportunity to visit with four scholarship recipients. Two are graduating seniors and two will be returning for two more years at UNA because they have scholarships.

I encourage you to get involved, give back and support UNA in any way you can. As alumni, we all share a duty to see that the young people that follow us have opportunities to achieve their goals.

#### ROAR LIONS!

Pat Burney '88, *UNA Alumni Association President*



Judy Jackson '91 & '02, "Bubba" Gibson '78, LuCile Lawley Gibson '78 and John Battcher '65



Jimmy Shaw '01, '06 & '08, Rod Sheppard '98, '04 & '07, Melody Stewart '06 and Dan Hendricks



Lindsay Choat Ronilo '06 and Steve Pirkle '79



Linda Kirby Vaughan '70, Pat Burney '88 and Elaine Witt '76



Lisa Holley Clayton '00 & '02 and Cheron Pitts White '98





# WHAT IS MY LEGACY?

## We Can't See the Future Without Understanding the Past

**Joe "Bubba" Gibson '76** – senior manager of sales execution capability with Coca-Cola Refreshments – returned to campus as the keynote speaker for the Alumni Leadership Summit III. He delivered a timely message to alumni attendees about the effect the past has on their future. Gibson brought his wife, LuCile, back for the summit. Even though they knew each other before they came to UNA as students, they solidified that relationship visiting each other back and forth between Powers Hall (then the Athletics Dorm, now International Student Services) and LaGrange Hall.

In November 2009, Gibson's outlook on life changed – he had a heart-health scare. As a result of this ordeal, relationships mean far more to him now than ever before. As the football team leader, Gibson pulled together a group of about 150 people and celebrated their time together at UNA. *It was very special.* Gibson emphasized the importance of getting people back on campus; it is not the same campus as it was in 1958, 1975 or 1990. Pleasant memories are rekindled, and stories are told. That

group of football players from 1973-1976, who played for Coach Mickey Andrews, came back for a memorable reunion in the fall of 2010, reconnected and continuously chatter through today's instant communication.

"All of us have a circle of influence," Gibson said. "In my circle of influence, many have made a great mark in life. We laugh amongst ourselves, what were the odds that [these people] would become a principal, author, four doctors, police chief, director of HR, owner, president, colonel, pastor, engineer, curriculum director, PGA tournament director, dean of students? What were the odds?"

He told the alumni in the summit audience, "I have had a great run in life professionally and personally ... I've been very blessed: I don't say that arrogantly, but I do say it pridefully. The key to why we are here today – this was not in spite of UNA, but to a large extent *because of UNA*. With the perspective of the rear-view mirror, we are able to understand that the opportunities we get are based on the opportunities we got. It is a mistake for any of us to think we just

pulled ourselves up by our boot straps and overcame the odds on sheer tenacity and hard work. That may be true, but think of all the doors that were opened to us along the way. And think of who opened all of those doors, and who set the table. Who gave us a chance, who believed in us, who mentored us?"

According to Gibson, because of UNA, we establish lifelong friendships; the university has influenced who we married and where we worked, and therefore where we have lived. How many other decisions in your life have shaped us to that degree? Most of the important matters of our adult life were profoundly shaped by that one decision.

UNA is embedded in the fiber of the Shoals area and vice versa. But UNA is not a household name throughout the Southeast. Gibson challenged summit attendees to become the window to this university by being its ambassadors. We should be loud and proud about that, he said. And spreading that message to others is one way we can enhance the lives of others as well as the institution itself. There are many other types of commitment besides money. What can we do in Decatur, north Georgia, Florida, Birmingham or Mississippi?

Giving back, Gibson says, is not always in the form of writing a check. Very few people can shape the brick-and-mortar landscape simply by contributing financially. Gibson encouraged our alumni leadership to become involved relative to the technology sector: to encourage students to compete in 2020, 2030, 2040 and beyond. Do we just need a few more microscopes in the biology lab, or do we need to train educators to integrate technology into the 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom? Will our nursing students be literate in all of the latest medical resources? Is our business school preparing students for the complexities of a global economy?

How does the level of the "good ship UNA" get lifted in the harbor? President Cale, the UNA Board of Trustees and others who represent the senior leadership of our institution cannot be transformational leaders without the ground troops. We need their vision, but they need our help in the field.

As students, we stood on the shoulders of others when we passed



Luther Bivens '80, Maurice Brawley '78, Terry Witherspoon '79 and Joe "Bubba" Gibson '76

through this campus. Today, we provide the shoulders. How can I help? How can I make a difference? What are the untapped opportunities within our reach? Can you represent UNA in a local setting? Can you have an impact on someone's decision to attend UNA? Can you influence a legislator to support our cause in Montgomery or nationally? Is there an untapped opportunity that we see in the mirror every day?

Gibson quoted President William G. Cale from a *UNA Magazine*: "The concern all of us in Alabama's Higher Education community have is the uncertainty of stable state financial support and the risks to educational opportunity that declining support poses for all students." He also quoted Dr. Cale from a recent President's Report: "The importance of alumni and friends like you to UNA becomes more valued each year. Because of you, students are receiving scholarships, earning a quality education, and preparing for careers that are dreams fulfilled."

In the words of Andrew Jackson, "In a group of people, a majority is one man with courage."



Joe "Bubba" Gibson '76





Charlotte Dean '66,'69, & '75 and Jerry Dean

## UNA IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: WHAT A DELIGHTFUL EXPERIENCE

By Charlotte Dean '66,'69 & '75

When UNA announced sponsorship of a Mediterranean cruise for the fall of 2012, the itinerary sounded interesting. It was a bit of a review through the history of the Mediterranean region, starting in Barcelona, Spain, and ending in Athens, Greece. Oceania, a cruise line that employs smaller luxury ships, was the company managing the cruise.

Small-ship cruising has real advantages, beginning with a great deal of individualized attention to each passenger. There were only about 600 passengers on board, with more than half that many in staff. The food was excellent and the service was beyond compare. You can literally spend your entire day eating if you desire. The food was not only enticing, but varied and fresh.

The cruise line had arranged for many off-ship excursions in each port of call. The most expensive of the tours had carefully organized tours of such places as the Sistine Chapel in Rome, St. Peter's Basilica and the catacombs. More experienced travelers chose to tour the cities without guides.

We were most impressed with Sicily, a place not so frequently visited. The mountaintop town of Taormina was exquisite – a real step back in time with

its narrow streets and many steps. Flowers hung in baskets over the streets and steps. Sidewalk cafes welcomed everyone to sit and enjoy the street performers.

Everyone's favorite island, Santorini, was a photographer's delight with its whitewashed buildings topped with blue domes. The vistas over the Aegean – where once a volcano had soared into the sky – were magical. From the heights of the mountain, our ship looked like a toy floating in a bathtub.

Seeing the ruins at Ephesus and knowing that the Apostle Paul once preached in the streets was a real affirmation of the Book of Acts. We could imagine what life had been in the days of Paul. The massive amphitheatre, a masterpiece of acoustics and design, really illustrated to all travelers that public performances and oratory had been part of the shaping of our civilization.

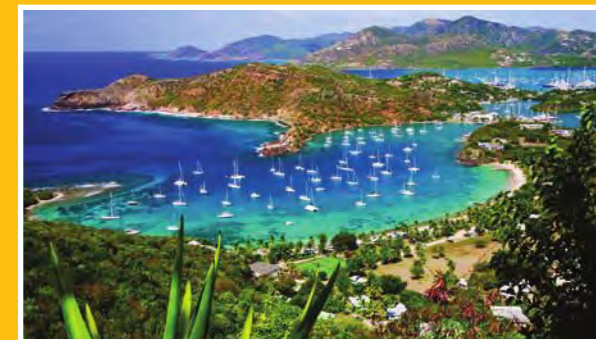
A trip such as this was a delightful, educational experience that is relived many times over in happy memories.

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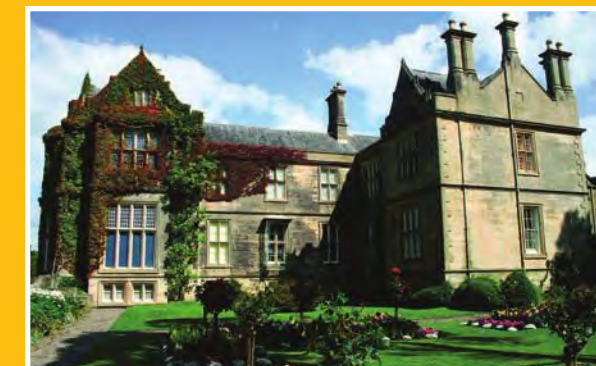
TAHITIAN JEWELS  
January 25 - February 4, aboard the Marina



CARIBBEAN DISCOVERY  
February 12 - 22, aboard the Riviera



CANADA AND NEW ENGLAND  
September 16 - 28, aboard the Regatta



IRELAND  
September 19 - 27



## WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO NEXT?

By Siobhan Gehrs, Student Writer

Looking for a relaxing, captivating vacation in the future? Search no further than the UNA Alumni Association's partnership with Go Next.

Go Next was developed to design unique travel programs for organizations such as alumni associations. With several programs setting sail in Europe, Go Next has expanded to regions within the United States and the rest of the Western Hemisphere.

Of the trips offered this year, you may still schedule a trip aboard Oceania Cruises' Regatta to explore Alaskan Adventures from Aug. 5-12. The trip to America's Last Frontier will begin in Seattle, Washington, passing along Canada's coast to one of the oldest towns in Alaska, Wrangell. Voyagers will experience viewing "icy-blue tidewater glaciers and soaring granite cliffs." The trip will take individuals along the state's coast, wrapping up the trip in Vancouver.

Also this year, Go Next has programmed an Italian Inspiration aboard the Oceania Cruise ship Riviera. The trip takes place Oct. 17-25, traveling from Rome to Venice. Sailing out of the Roman port Civitavecchia, travelers will take on the Mediterranean Sea, viewing not only Italy but also Greece and Croatia. With several historical landmarks and cities scheduled for visits along the way, the Riviera will travel to the ruins of Pompeii and the beautiful island of Capri.

UNA alumna **Deborah Shaw '82** recently took a trip through the Go Next programming. She compared her stay aboard the Riviera to that of a stay in a five-star hotel.

"Prepare yourself to be pampered, from luxurious bedding to specialty restaurants with the best chefs anywhere," she said. "The excursions offered at each port stop were numerous, educational and exciting. I would go again in a heartbeat."





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# ALUMNI PRIDE



Jordan Gray receiving the Chad Barber Award as top UNA ROTC Cadet with Col. Mike Snyder.



William G. Cale Jr., and Phil Rivers, Governmental Affairs



Liz '99 and Chris Anderson '98



Bobby Wallace, Athens Club President Holly Hollman '96, Athens Mayor Ronnie Marks '71, Miss UNA Emily Winkler, Mason Matthews '99



President William G. Cale Jr., Kamala Kanuru and Dr. Das Kanuru

## HELEN KELLER HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

During the fall of 2012, Dr. Das Kanuru endowed a scholarship that will benefit the employees of Helen Keller Hospital. His vision for providing scholarship support is admirable, and his generosity is incredible. Dr. Kanuru provided a heritage for the Helen Keller Hospital staff that will extend into perpetuity. The Helen Keller Hospital Employee Endowed Scholarship was made in honor of his wife, Kamala Kanuru.

Scholarships will be awarded to students who accept the scholarship with the intent of fulfilling the guidelines of the scholarship during the academic year for which the funds are awarded. The awards will be made in scholarship amounts based on funds available and number of students selected.

It is the donor's intent to maximize the number of scholarship recipients for this endowment. Recipients of the scholarship must be employed by Helen Keller Hospital for a minimum of two years, or have a parent employed by Helen Keller Hospital for a minimum of five years, and must have declared a major of nursing or allied health

and demonstrated financial need based on the current and future need-based guidelines of UNA. The scholarship/s may be renewable for up to four years of a recipient's undergraduate education, provided the recipient meets or maintains the above-mentioned criteria.

Dr. Kanuru's legacy to the Shoals community as an involved citizen and as a philanthropist will continue to benefit many generations. The University of North Alabama thanks Dr. Kanuru for his dedication to the Shoals area and encourages others interested in giving back in the form of a scholarship to contact:



Melissa Pettus

Director of Endowed Scholarships & Stewardship  
UNA Box 5113 • Florence, AL 35632  
256-765-4757 • [rmpettus@una.edu](mailto:rmpettus@una.edu)







Dr. Santanu Borah



## SHOALS INDIA SCHOLARSHIPS: CHANGING LIVES, CHANGING FUTURES

University of North Alabama students, faculty and staff and local business leaders came together on the UNA campus Sept. 14 for the Shoals India Endowed Scholarships Appreciation Dinner at the Guillot University Center Banquet Halls.

The event was made possible by the partnership of the Shoals India and Southeast Asian Association (SISAA) and the UNA Foundation. Together, the two groups have formed and now fund an endowed scholarship for UNA students.

At the SISAA dinner, individuals from all walks of life shared lighthearted conversation over dinner, a cultural marriage of traditional Indian dishes and down-home Southern cooking. Together participants celebrated the rich cultural diversity in the community.

The goal was to appreciate donors, to recognize the scholarship recipients and perhaps inspire other potential donors to give, said Dr. Santanu Borah, president of SISAA and a management and marketing professor at UNA.

Borah introduced the mantra for the evening:

"Education," he said, "is the gateway to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

SISAA is a non-profit organization formed in the mid-1990s, when a group of original donors started a fund of about \$77,000 with a purpose that remains intact to this day: to allow the Indian community in the Shoals to give back while enhancing awareness about the rich traditions of India and its surrounding countries.

"We really wanted that money to be in the hands of our students," said Joy Borah, coordinator of Shoals India Endowed

Scholarships and chair of the UNA Department of Social Work. "We really want to help students not only come to college, but we want them to be graduates. We want to put a degree in their hands so they can take it to the next step. Changing futures, changing lives – that's our goal."

Santanu Borah said the university is in sound financial health, but he emphasized the importance of the future of education.

"The challenges of education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century put an enormous burden to the system, and that is why it is more important than ever for everyone to play an active role in educating the younger generation," he said.

**Dr. Judy Jackson '91 & '02**, UNA's associate vice president for university advancement, said, "This fund allows us to attract and retain students who would not otherwise be able to attend UNA."

The Shoals India Merit Endowed Scholarship, based on academic excellence, was awarded to Katie Swann, a junior studying professional management and entertainment industry management.

The Shoals India Endowed Scholarship, based on financial need, was awarded to Amanda Chadwell, a senior studying social work.

The Shoals India International Endowed Scholarship, granted to a student of Indian or Southeast Asian heritage, was awarded to junior nursing student Shreeta Maharjan.

"I think our goal was accomplished," Santanu Borah said. "People have given. Financial crisis eventually affects education. We must be proactive."



Weldon Cole '60

UNA freshman Alex Kelley and alumnus **Weldon Cole '60** spoke at the Endowed Scholarship Recipient Dinner held April 18 in the Guillot University Center Banquet Halls. The banquet honors not only the recipients of scholarships but also the donors.

"Life's successes come more from helping others," Cole said, "than what we have achieved for ourselves."

Cole and his wife established the Delores and Weldon Cole Honors Scholarship, awarded to students in UNA's Honors Program who demonstrate the highest level of achievement.

Cole had received a scholarship to complete his MBA at University of Alabama, making it obvious to him that he wanted to help young men and women at UNA pursue their hopes and dreams.

One of the reasons Cole believes alumni should consider creating a scholarship or donating is because those who receive scholarships have a debt to pay. They received help while they were in school, and that support should be paid forward.

"Life's not about us," he said. "It's about helping others."

Cole believes the true spirit of giving combines "time, treasure and talent."

"Don't give until it hurts," he said. "Give until it feels good."

The scholarship dinner was the first time Kelley had spoken in front of a large crowd.

"I was kind of nervous," she said.

Kelley chose not to prewrite a speech because she didn't want to focus on her notes. Instead, she chose to speak to the audience like they were her friends. She said she was honored to have the opportunity to speak and be awarded a UNA Memorial Scholarship.

"I couldn't stop saying, 'Thank you,'" she said.

Kelley is an exercise science major who plans to get her doctorate from University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in the future.

"I will definitely be a donor," she said.

Kelley said she would like to create an endowed scholarship for her academic department to help it grow, and to allow students to experience new opportunities with financial assistance.

## ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

*Time, Treasure and Talent:  
Success Through Helping Others*

By Siobhan Gehrs, Student Writer



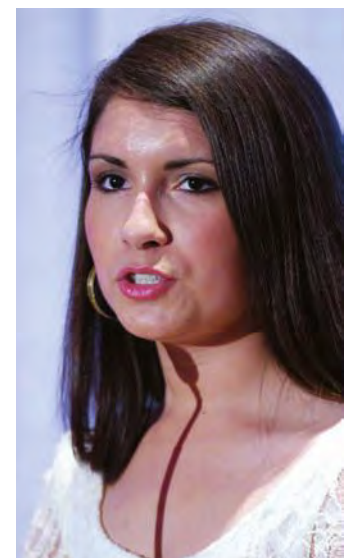
Katie Swann



Amanda Chadwell



Shreeta Maharjan



Alex Kelley





George and Anne Petty

## "WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET; WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE."

— Winston Churchill

By Barry Morris, *UNA Professor Emeritus of Economics and Retired Director of Planned Giving in the UNA Office of Advancement*

Some time ago, George and Anne Petty decided to include the University of North Alabama in their wills. Recently, they began to think that in today's low-interest-rate environment, it was possible to make their gift do double duty.

With a charitable gift annuity (CGA), George and Anne could enjoy the satisfaction of supporting the institution that adds so much to the quality of life in Florence while currently earning a higher rate of return on their gift assets at the same time. Not only will the CGA pay them a higher quarterly return than the bank, but almost 80 percent of their annuity payments will be tax-free, and they will receive a generous tax deduction to use this tax year. The Petties structured their CGA as a two-life annuity, in which payments are made to George and Anne for their joint lifetimes

and then, upon the death of the first annuitant, the payments continue for the lifetime of the survivor.

After graduating Phi Beta Kappa from William and Mary, George spent two years as an officer in the U.S. Army Infantry. He earned his MBA from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia and is also a Certified Public Accountant. Anne also graduated from William and Mary and taught high school French. They first met at the telephone company in Richmond, where George had an internship and Anne a summer job. When George joined Touche Ross & Co., in Dayton, Ohio, they continued their relationship long-distance for three years. Then, according to George, "after a bad 'fender-bender' between Richmond and Dayton," they decided to get married.



Dinner party at East Campus for Culinary Department and Shoals Symphony at UNA.

George has audited eight university courses and they both attend UNA's Institute for Learning and Retirement seminars. And although neither George nor Anne is musically trained, they both enjoy music, especially the Shoals Symphony at UNA. In fact, George was a member of the Board of Directors of the Symphony for fifteen years and was involved in moving the Symphony to UNA.

George and Anne know their gift would be appreciated if given to their alma maters. But, as George says, it is far more important for UNA. And, since they actively participate in the many academic and cultural programs at UNA and understand UNA's contribution to the quality of life in Florence, it was only natural for them to offer their support. They did not have to think long about which program they wanted their gift to support. With their CGA, the Anne and George Petty Endowed Fund was established for the benefit of the Shoals Symphony at UNA.

Using a CGA to make a gift to UNA is a good example of a win-win scenario. George and Anne will enjoy a guaranteed income for the rest of their lives and the Shoals Symphony will be the beneficiary of their endowment when it is funded.

The way George puts it, "Four-and-half to 5 percent versus 2 percent for long-term CDs; it's a no-brainer."

During his career, George and Anne have enjoyed living in many places, from Virginia, to Ohio, to Albuquerque, to Houston, to Idaho. In Idaho, George remembers "driving 100 miles a day, in snow!" His last career move was to Florence to assume the duties of vice president-finance for Ala-Tenn Resources. Even though they had traveled extensively during George's career, George and Anne chose to live in Florence when he retired.

"It's easy to live here," says Anne.

The Petties both agree that Florence is a safe, clean, friendly city and has a low cost of living index, but UNA was a major factor in their decision to remain in Florence.

The Petties take full advantage of UNA.







# CLASS NOTES

## 1960s

**Richard Allen ('63)**, former chief deputy attorney general, has been hired by Alabama Lt. Gov. Kay Ivey as the parliamentarian of the State Senate. Allen has had a long career in government. He was chief deputy under Attorneys General Jeff Sessions, Bill Pryor and Troy King until he retired in 2005. Allen served as acting attorney general in February 2004. Gov. Bob Riley appointed Allen commissioner of the Alabama Department of Corrections in 2006. In 2011, he returned as chief deputy attorney general under Luther Strange. He retired again in January 2012.

## 1970s

**Natalie Gordon ('76)** recently retired from Riverbend Center for Mental Health after more than 35 years of service. While she was employed she received numerous recognitions, including the Alabama State Council of Mental Health Board's Clinician of the Year Award and the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Award; Alpha Phi Chi Sorority-Soror of the Year; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Community Service Award; NAACP William Little Memorial Humanitarian Award; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Award; and 2001 Respect Award/Alabama State Advocacy Respect Award.

## 1980s

**Denise Ainsworth ('81)** has been inducted into the 23<sup>rd</sup> class of the Alabama High School Sports Hall of

Fame. After five years at Sacred Heart Junior High in Hattiesburg, Miss., Ainsworth started a long, successful tenure at Montgomery's Alabama Christian Academy in 1986 as a softball and volleyball coach, later serving as athletic director. In 2012, she became an assistant director with the AHSAA. She was the NFHS State Softball Coach of the Year in 2000 and the NFHS Section III Coach of Year in 2006. She was named the National Christian School Coach of the Year and the Alabama Sports Writers Association Class 3A Coach of the Year. In 2012, Alabama Christian named its softball field in her honor. She graduated from UNA and earned her master's at Southern Mississippi.

**James Davis ('82)** returned to Alabama in 1995 as a professor at the University of South Alabama (USA), where he remains. He is one of the founding researchers in the field of "ionic liquids" and has published and lectured extensively on the topic in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Australia. In April of this year he gave a lecture on his research at the 5<sup>th</sup> Congress on Ionic Liquids in Faro, Portugal.

**Frankie Tidmore ('84)** is recognized by Continental Who's Who as a Pinnacle Professional in the field of consulting. Frankie is the owner and senior HRIS consultant with Frankie Pollard Consulting. She and her husband, Nickie, live in Union Grove.

**Terry Pace ('85, '04)** has been appointed temporary director of communications and marketing at UNA, a

position he previously held for eight months in 2007. Terry is an adjunct instructor in the UNA Department of English and was recently named runner-up for Best Magazine Article of 2012 in the national Rondo Hatton Classic Horror Awards, honoring research, scholarship and preservation work in the fields of science-fiction, fantasy and horror. He was nominated for his 2012 article "Ray Bradbury's Earliest Influences," published in the genre journal *Monsters from the Vault*. Terry was one of the eulogists for Bradbury's memorial service in Los Angeles in June 2012.

**Charles Winters ('86)** is an executive vice president with the Huntsville/Madison County Convention & Visitors Bureau. He is the president of the UNA Alumni Club in the Huntsville area.

## 1990s

**Rick Chen ('94)** has been appointed independent director at Noah Education Holdings Ltd., a leading provider of education services in China. Chen brings with him extensive management experience in China's education services and information technology sectors. He was previously senior vice president of 99Bill Corporation, an integrated payment provider in China. Chen served as executive vice president of Noah, responsible for accounting and finance, legal, information technology, new business initiatives as well as strategic investments. He is currently the chairman and CEO of AndPay Corporation and the chairman of Yurong Corporation. Chen received his master of science in finance degree from Boston College and a bachelor of science degree from the UNA.

**Shawn Doughty ('95)** works for the Tennessee Valley

Authority and lives in Athens with his wife and son. Working in colored pencil and ink, he began doing state drawings in 2005, filling their borders with scenes representative of their various regions.

**Carrie Sanders ('95)** has been named Alabama PTA Support Staff of the Year for all middle and junior high schools in the state. She is a clerical aide at Discovery Middle School in Madison.

**James Brumley ('98)** has been hired as the Colbert County School System's new chief school financial officer. Brumley has a bachelor's degree from UNA in management and accounting.

**Patrick Johnson ('99)** is a State Farm agent in Decatur. He is president of the UNA Alumni Club in Decatur/Morgan County.

## 2000s

**Marcus Maples ('02)** is a partner with the law firm of Sirote & Permutt, P.C. He and his wife, Kwoya, are the parents of twin daughters. Maples is actively involved with the Greater Birmingham Area UNA Alumni Club.

**Cord Wright ('05)** is the men's basketball coach at Northeast Mississippi Community College.

**Melody Stewart ('06)** has been named the Major Gift Officer for the School of Health Professions at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In her successful career at the University of North Alabama she was Director of Annual Giving and is currently the Athletics Annual Fund and Major Gifts Officer.

**Brooks Dampeer ('07)** was named interim head coach of the Pell City Panthers football

team. This is Dampeer's first head coaching job, and he says he is very grateful for the opportunity. Dampeer played and began his coaching career at UNA.

**Luis Fisher ('08)** was hired in 2012 as director of bands at Pueblo Magnet High School in Tucson, Ariz. In February, he began pursuing a doctor of education degree in organizational leadership with an emphasis in higher education administration.

**Cherie Sibley ('08)** was named chief executive officer of the Clark Regional Medical Center in Kentucky. Sibley has previously held executive roles at three other LifePoint hospitals. She holds a bachelor of nursing degree from UNA and an MBA with an emphasis in health-care administration from South University in Montgomery.

## 2010s

**Chelsea Daniel ('10)** graduated with her master of science degree in environmental toxicology in 2012 from the University of South Alabama in Mobile.

**Britney Saleena Calton ('11)**, along with eleven first-grade teachers, received a \$1,000 grant for classrooms and supplies from the Alabama Power Foundation. Grant candidates were submitted by the state's public-teacher colleges. Winners were selected by a committee that included education school deans. Each winner graduated from a state-approved teacher program at an Alabama public four-year college or university.

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**UNA BOARD of TRUSTEES**





# IN MEMORY

## FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**Jean Rogers** was an active member of the First United Methodist Church and Circle No. 2. She was a member of the Muscle Shoals District Service League, Florence Discussion Club, National Society of the Colonial Dames of America and UNA President's Council.

## NON-GRAD

**Dorothy Posey Bailey** attended UNA and later graduated from Auburn University. Bailey and her family lived in Brentwood, Tenn., before moving to Fort Worth in 1974. In Texas, she was regent of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Fort Worth Chapter. She was a longtime volunteer for hospice and chose to donate her body to science.

**William "Billy" Bradford** was retired from the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta and Synovus Financial. He was a member of First Baptist Church of Jasper.

**Elizabeth Reed Denman** taught school in Athens and Gadsden. Denman became affiliated with the Girl Scouts of America in Birmingham. She then joined the American Red Cross as a recreational supervisor, serving in that capacity for 18 years.

**Gale Allyn "John" Love** was a master Mason and a member of the Sheffield Masonic Lodge, the Cahaba Shriners of Huntsville and the Muscle Shoals Shrine Club. He was a lifetime member of the American Disabled Veterans. Love served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam

era and was stationed with the White House Communications Agency, where he was attached to the Secret Service Detail. His service to Presidents Johnson and Nixon included extensive worldwide travel as special courier for the presidents. He received the Presidential Service Certificate and a letter of commendation for his service.

**Bettye Sibley Murphree** of Decatur attended Florence State University. She worked as administrative assistant to District Judge Newton Powell and legal assistant to Judge David Breland in Decatur until she retired in 1998.

**Evie Louise Robinson** attended Florence State Teachers College before she began teaching at Trinity School. She was a Sunday school teacher, member of the Baptist Church and community concert sponsor.

**Audrey Townsend** attended Florence State Teachers College and graduated from Larimore Business College. She worked at the Coca-Cola plant for more than 40 years.

**Dorothy Trousdale** attended Florence State College and was employed for 41 years by the City of Florence, where she was a board member of Florence Municipal Credit Union before retiring in 1992.

**Kathryn Johnson Welborn** attended Florence State College and Larimore School of Business. Upon graduation, she became secretary to Col. L.E. Willson. She was later employed by the Alabama State Employment Office, from which she retired in 1983. During her retirement, Welborn assisted with Ritz

Theater sales supporting the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art.

## FACULTY/ STAFF

**Walter Urben** earned a bachelor of music degree (with a major in public school music) from College of the Pacific, a bachelor of music in piano from the University of Illinois, a master of music in piano from Indiana University and an advanced certificate in music education from the University of Illinois. At Juilliard School of Music in New York City, he studied under Karl Friedburg. He spent two years in the U.S. Army and played with the Sixth Army Band at the Presidio in San Francisco. He played clarinet with the Huntsville Civic Symphony and taught 33 years before retiring from the University of North Alabama as professor of music in 1992.

**Jane Annette Whitlock** loved being a nurse and had a long and successful career in nursing, first working as an R.N. in a clinic, then a hospital, and for many years as an anesthesiologist. Later she taught others about nursing at Northwest Alabama Community College before becoming an associate professor of nursing at UNA.

## 1940s

**Marcella Eckl ('40)** was employed by the Lauderdale County Board of Education, teaching elementary school at Anderson and Greenhill. She left her teaching position to become custodian of funds for the Board of Education. Later, she worked as a teller at Central Bank (now Compass) and was the clerk for the Town of St. Florian for 25 years.

**Helen Hooker ('44)** taught 37 years in the Huntsville City School system, retiring from Blossomwood Elementary. She was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church and a founder of Trinity United Methodist Church. She was a member and past president of the Study Circle, a member of the Junior Welfare League and the Buttercup Garden Club.

**Ruth E. Crowson ('49)** was a retired school teacher and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Heflin.

## 1950s

**Betty Collins ('51)** attended Florence State Teachers College, earning a degree in education. She then had a successful 30-year teaching career in Bridgeport.

**Annie Godfrey ('52)** had a career in education that spanned about 47 years. Born and raised in Courtland, Godfrey taught in the Lawrence County School System in Courtland and Town Creek before going to work for Decatur City Schools. She retired at Walter Jackson Elementary School in the late 1980s.

**Dallas Yeager ('52)** was on the Battleship Texas when it was the flagship to Admiral Ernest King and was at the invasion of Salerno. He served as a telegrapher in the European theater and later in the Pacific theater. He was accepted into Naval Electronics School. After the war he attended college at Florence State. Yeager began his own business, Ridge Instrument Company, a dealer and manufacturer's representative for test and

measuring instruments. He later became a contractor for the government.

**Lola Ayers ('53)** attended Jacksonville State University and Florence State College and dedicated her life to young people as a fourth-grade teacher at Harlan School for 40 years. She was a member of ADK and active in First United Methodist Church of Florence.

**Vivian Clark ('54)** was chosen Miss Florence State Teacher's College. She is survived by her husband, Denzel.

**Mayme McAlister ('54)** taught school in Franklin County and Russellville for more than 30 years, until her retirement in 1983. She was a member of First Baptist Church and was active in school, community and church groups throughout her life.

**Elbert "Ebb" Deason ('55)** spent 54 years in education in Alabama and Tennessee. He was a member of the Winston County Sports Hall of Fame and a longtime member of the Church of Christ.

**Dr. Eley Bert Goodwin Jr. ('57)** was a World War II veteran who served in Italy. A highlight of his life was his participation in an Honor Flight to the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C. Following the war and a brief time in business, he answered a call to the ministry in 1953 and was ordained deacon. Goodwin was appointed director of Camp Sumatanga. In 1985, he was appointed District Superintendent of the Gadsden District, where he served until his retirement in 1991. He was a pioneer in the establishment of the Alabama Emmaus Community and

was instrumental in creating the Academy for Spiritual Formation.

**Margaret Addington ('59)** graduated from Florence State Teachers College, received a Master's Degree from the UNA and taught school for 27 years. She retired from the Sheffield City School System.

## 1960s

**Dr. Phillip Williams Sr. ('61)** died due to health complications from exposure to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam. He was actively involved in Whitesburg Baptist Church, Rotary International, his family and the community. Williams served as a member of the UNA Board of Trustees and was a member of the UNA President's Cabinet.

**Richard "Rick" Jones ('69)** of Murfreesboro, Tenn., was a member of the 1965-1969 basketball teams at Florence State University. Before retiring in 2012, he was employed by Goodyear and its affiliate, Veyance Technologies, for more than 35 years, working in Akron, Ohio; Lincoln, Nebraska; and Lakeland, Fla. He worked in field sales and marketing, and as head of corporate training.

## 1970s

**Freddie Ann Miller ('70)** of Rogersville graduated from UNA, where she obtained bachelor of science, master of arts and education specialist degrees, and was a proud member of Delta Kappa Gamma and St. Michael Catholic Church. She was a retired history teacher of 34 years at Central High School and was involved in many community affairs.

**William Powell Peck Jr. ('76)** of Richmond, Va., attended Rhodes College and earned degrees from UNA and Virginia Commonwealth University. Peck served his country in the U.S. Army for four years. Finding his passion in technology, his career spanned 30 years with the Commonwealth of Virginia, where he retired as senior systems analyst from the department of corrections. An active, valued, longtime member of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, he participated and volunteered on various committees.

## 1980s

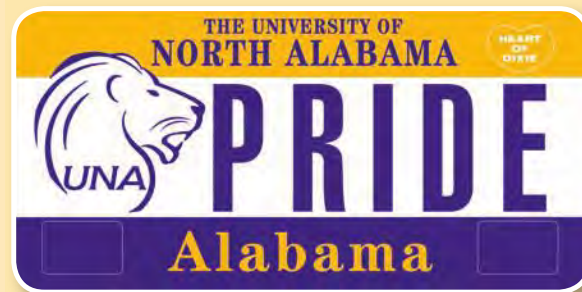
**Susan Hayes Caldwell Wheat ('88)** worked as a social worker for Volunteers of America of North Alabama

in Huntsville; Association for Retarded Citizens in Fayette; Hospice of Fayette Medical Center; DCH Hospice Medical Center of Tuscaloosa; and Walker County Department of Human Resources. She dedicated her life to serving others.

## 1990s

**Julie Askew Thompson ('99)** received a degree in commercial music from the University of North Alabama. Julie loved her church and her family and served the Lord faithfully. She was a key part of the Sheffield Swim team, where she spent a lot of her time supporting her three oldest children.

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## ALUMNI INFORMATION UPDATE

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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University of NORTH ALABAMA

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*College Development Officer, University Advancement*

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