

THE

FALL 2010

Mercerian

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Fielding NCAA Lacrosse



**Students and Faculty
Meeting Needs in Haiti**

Celebrating Mercer Traditions

**University Launches
Be The Bear Campaign**

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A group of seven people, including four young men and three children, are posing for a photo in a rural Kenyan village. In the foreground, a young man with sunglasses and a white t-shirt is crouching on the left. Behind him, a woman in an orange t-shirt and a cap stands. To her right, a young boy in a grey button-down shirt stands. In the center, a young man in a brown shirt is kneeling, holding a small object. To his right, another young man in a patterned shirt stands. In front of the kneeling man, a young child in a yellow shirt is sitting. In the foreground, another young child in a dark shirt is sitting. They are all smiling or looking towards the camera. The background features a traditional hut with a thatched roof made of dried grass, surrounded by lush green vegetation and trees. The ground is rocky and uneven.

In Our Lens

Mercer On Mission in Kenya

The School of Engineering's Dr. Philip McCreanor and Christopher Driver (kneeling) and Kari Chambers and Brittani Howell (standing) were among the faculty and students participating in Mercer On Mission's Kenya program this past summer. The Mercer team built a water delivery and filtration system in the remote Kenyan village of Sisit, which eliminated the need for women and girls to hand-carry water every day from the Wei Wei River 400 feet below the village. More than 120 Mercer scientists, doctors, nurses, engineers, teachers and students contributed over 9,000 hours of volunteer work at eight international locations through Mercer On Mission this past summer. For an overview of their projects, visit www.mercer.edu/mom.

One of Mercer's enduring traditions is for new students on the Macon campus to climb the tower of the Godsey Administration Building and sign their names on the posts. For more on Mercer traditions, see Pages 18-29.

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Mercerians Expand Support in Haiti

Long after the media spotlight faded from the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti, Mercer students and faculty continue to provide support to the ravaged nation. The Mercer community began by sending money and supplies, and now a number of Mercer teams have begun to travel the country to work on projects to heal victims and survivors of the tragedy.

In the spring, aided by \$80,000 in grants from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, teams traveled to Haiti to assess and start programs to help provide low-cost prosthetics to the amputees who lost legs in the quake, and trauma counseling training for teachers and pastors. The counseling team returned in July to implement its program and will return again in the fall and winter, while the prosthetics team plans for a return over fall break. In addition, Mercer On Mission will send a team of students and faculty next summer.

This summer, four teams traveled to Haiti to help. In addition to the counseling team, three mission teams went to help minister to and heal children. A team led by students from the School of Medicine set up and operated a mobile medical clinic at several orphanages in Haiti. The team traveled to the city of Les Cayes to set up the clinic.

The team included four Medical School faculty members (including three physicians), a Mercer Medical School parent who is a doctor, four nurses, 12 medical students and eight non-medical personnel, who coordinated a children's ministry, worked with orphans, and

assisted in non-clinical duties helping patients and care providers.

Second-year medical student Amy Mason led the trip and said medical students often organize a summer mission trip and last fall students picked Haiti for their mission. Their travel plans were confirmed on Jan. 12, the day of the quake. The team was in part organized through the Medical School's Christian Medical Association. The team felt called to go, Mason said, and continued with the trip to help those suffering from the quake's effects. Les Cayes is four hours west of the capital, Port-au-Prince, where the earthquake hit, but thousands of refugees have fled the city to the outlying areas. The team worked with both children and adults from the community, focusing on primary care.

"I learned a lot about leadership and the importance of unity while we were there. It's amazing how people, when they're in this setting, will set themselves aside and work together for the betterment of the people of Haiti," Mason said.

To see photos and blog updates from the trip, visit micahovermon.com/haiti.

The counseling team from the College of

Continuing and Professional Studies was led by Dr. David Lane, counseling program coordinator and professor of counseling, and Dr. Kenyon Knapp, assistant dean for graduate programs and associate professor of counseling. The team also included three Mercerians of Haitian descent, including two from Atlanta: Bloodine Bobb-Semple, a counseling Ph.D. student whose parents are Haitian, and Rose Donatien, a Haitian native and 2010 human services graduate. A student from Mercer's Macon campus, Olivier Clermont, a Master of Public Health student and Haitian native, served as translator for the team.

"We were there to train people, but we were also able to help those we trained," Dr. Lane said. "As we worked through our trauma demonstrations, the stories we heard just blew us away. It really seemed to help them and also appeared to show that our model worked."

The CCPS team traveled to Haiti from July 12-24 and worked with teachers and pastors through a series of courses aimed at combating psychological trauma and post-traumatic stress disorder. The team also helped schools prepare for future disasters.

In addition to the medical missions, Chris Fuller, head of Mercer's Baptist Collegiate Ministries, led a team of seven students to minister to children in Port-au-Prince, July 7-13. Mercer students on the team included Alissa McGee, Kacie Niemann, Lauren Spradley and Erin Patterson. Over the course of seven days, the group ministered to more than 700 children, coordinating such activities as games, Bible stories, crafts and soccer.

In August, a group of Mercerians returned to Port-au-Prince to continue the ministry. Led by Mark Law, Mercer's campus ministry intern, the team performed similar work with the children in Port-au-Prince from Aug. 4-10. Mercer students Brooke Schermerhorn and Kelly Ferrill also participated in the trip.



Mercer counseling team members (right to left) Rose Donatien, CCPS '10, Olivier Clermont, MED '10, Bloodine Bobb-Semple, a Ph.D. student in counselor education and supervision, and Dr. David Lane, professor of counseling and head of Mercer's counseling program, teach Haitian teachers about trauma counseling in Haiti.

New Deans Assume Leadership in CLA, Nursing, Law

Three deans began their roles on July 1, including two new arrivals and a long-time associate dean. Dr. Linda A. Streit, who served as a faculty member and associate dean in the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing for 20 years, is now dean at the College. Dr. Lake Lambert, formerly of Wartburg College in Iowa, now leads the College of Liberal Arts, and Gary J. Simson, formerly of Case Western Reserve School of Law, is now dean at the Walter F. George School of Law.

Linda A. Streit —

Dr. Streit served as interim dean for one year before her appointment as dean, succeeding Dr. Susan S. Gunby, who returned to a professorship within the College upon her retirement as dean.



Dr. Linda Streit

“Dr. Streit has proven that she is an effective, capable leader, but even more than that, she has a fresh and creative vision and an entrepreneurial approach that will serve the College well as higher education faces major challenges in the next several years,” said Provost Wallace L. Daniel. “While maintaining the College of Nursing’s commitment to teaching, she will enhance its research profile and implement its innovative new programs in the field of nursing.”

Dr. Streit came to the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing in 1990 as an assistant professor to teach in the newly established Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. She was named professor in 1996 and assistant dean for graduate programs in 2001. Named associate dean in 2003, she has overseen the Master of Science in Nursing program and served as chair of the College’s planning committee to design its new Ph.D. in nursing, which launched in the fall of 2009. Dr. Streit has twice earned the College’s Faculty of the Year Award.

Dr. Streit’s current research initiatives focus on osteoporosis, evidence-based practice, innovative teaching and learning trends, workforce civility, classroom technology and ethical decision-making. She has earned numerous professional distinctions and awards. Dr. Streit has presented her research around the globe, in Greece, Taiwan, Russia and Canada and has received a number of external grants to fund her research.

Dr. Streit earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana State University, a Master of Science in Nursing from Old Dominion Uni-

versity and a Doctor of Science in Nursing from The University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Lake Lambert —

Prior to his appointment as dean of the College of Liberal Arts, Dr. Lake Lambert served as a professor and administrator at Wartburg College in Iowa. He succeeds Dr. Richard Fallis, who announced his retirement as dean following nearly 10 years at the helm of Mercer’s oldest academic unit and his intention to return to full-time teaching.



Dr. Lake Lambert

“Dr. Lambert is a person whose skills and experiences match those of highly effective academic leaders,” Dr. Daniel said. “He is a person of vision with a strong commitment to the liberal arts and sciences and a collaborative leader who will also be an innovative dean. His experience in strategic planning will benefit the College, both in building on its distinctive heritage and in developing a culture of discovery.”

Dr. Lambert served as professor of religion and Board of Regents Chair in Ethics at Wartburg, where he has been on the faculty since 1996. He also served as executive director of the college’s Commission on Mission, an initiative to engage faculty, staff, students, alumni and trustees in strategic planning while maintaining its distinctive mission. He also served as assistant dean for academic planning, working to foster collaboration among faculty leaders and administrators for effective program assessment and budgeting in coordination with the college’s long-range plan and fundraising priorities.

In addition to his teaching and administrative duties, Dr. Lambert has also maintained an active role in the scholarship of his field, religion and ethics. He published a book in 2009, *Spirituality Inc.: Religion in the American Workplace*, and has published articles and book reviews in scholarly journals, religious publications and the popular press, including *USA Today*.

From 2003-2008, Dr. Lambert served as director of the Center for Community Engagement and The Callings Initiative at Wartburg, a program funded by a \$2 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc., which helped the college to further professional development and programs for student vocational discovery, as well as support and expand experiential learning and external partnerships.

Dr. Lambert earned his Doctor of Philosophy in social ethics from Princeton Theological

Seminary and his Master of Theological Studies from Emory University’s Candler School of Theology. He also completed his undergraduate studies at Emory, earning his Bachelor of Arts, majoring in economics and history.

Gary J. Simson —

A renowned legal scholar, Simson was formerly the Joseph C. Hostetler-Baker and Hostetler Professor of Law at Case Western Reserve University. He was announced May 26 as dean of the Walter F. George School of Law.



Dr. Gary Simson

At Mercer, Simson holds the endowed Macon Chair of Law and succeeds Daisy Hurst Floyd, who served as dean of Mercer’s Law School since 2004. She announced last year her intention to return to full-time teaching as University Professor of Law and Ethical Formation. In her new position, she will lead the University in collaborations between undergraduate and professional education to prepare students for lives of purpose and responsibility.

Simson, who was dean of Case Western Reserve’s Law School from 2006-2008, served as professor of law for many years at Cornell Law School. From 1997-2004 he was associate dean for faculty development and then associate dean for academic affairs at Cornell. A Phi Beta Kappa and *summa cum laude* graduate of Yale College, Simson earned his J.D. from Yale Law School and was an editor of the *Yale Law Journal*.

After graduating from Yale Law School in 1974, Simson clerked for Judge J. Joseph Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He joined the University of Texas law faculty in 1975 as assistant professor of law and was promoted to professor of law in 1977. In 1980 he became professor of law at Cornell. He is admitted to the Bar in Connecticut and New York.

“Professor Simson will be an outstanding addition to the leadership of the Walter F. George School of Law. He brings a high level of scholarship to the position of dean, and he is an accomplished leader both in the academic and legal communities,” Dr. Daniel said. “His energy, national prominence, strong commitment to legal education, and leadership skills are outstanding qualities, and he will build on the solid foundation that his predecessors have created.”

Simson has taught, and written on, constitutional law, conflict of laws, and freedom of religion. He is the author of numerous articles in those fields, as well as a leading conflict of laws casebook now in its fourth edition.

Harris First Recipient of Hendricks Award

Dr. John Colin Harris, professor of religious studies in the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, was named the first recipient of the Joe and Jean Hendricks Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 2010 Macon Commencement. In nominating Harris for the inaugural award, his students, former students, and colleagues praised his challenging, engaging, open style in the classroom, tireless support for students' aspirations and genuine caring about them.

He is seen by students and colleagues alike as a mentor with great patience and tact, often continuing the relationship with students long after they have graduated. He is recognized as someone who teaches as much by his example as by his words. In this, he is highly respected as a moral leader and faithful servant, in his church, in the classroom, and with his colleagues.

Dr. Harris entered Mercer as a freshman in 1960, shortly after Joe Hendricks had been named dean of men at his alma mater. Dr. Harris was a student in the first psychology class that Dr. Jean Hendricks ever taught at Mercer in 1964.

He graduated from Mercer with a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1965. He continued his education with a Master of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1968 and a Ph.D. in religion from Duke University in 1974.

In 1977, after a 10-year career in the pastorate, Dr. Harris was hired by Dean Jean Hendricks to teach religion in the College of Arts and Sciences on the Atlanta campus. His 34-year career at Mercer has also included teaching in University College, Tift College of Education, and — since 2003 — in the College of Continuing and Professional Studies, where he has previously been recognized for Excellence in Teaching.



Dr. John Colin Harris, left, was presented the first Joe and Jean Hendricks Award for Excellence in Teaching by President Underwood.

New Administrators Appointed

President William D. Underwood announced the appointments of three senior administrators to new responsibilities in the University, effective Sept. 1.

After serving for the last two years as Mercer's chief advancement officer, Dr. Richard V. Swindle will assume the position of senior vice president — Atlanta. Dr. Swindle has held a dual appointment for the past two years, serving as both senior vice president—Atlanta, and senior vice president for University advancement.



Dr. Richard Swindle

John A. Patterson, who has served as vice president for development since October 2008, will assume responsibility as senior vice president for University advancement and will be based in Macon.

Dr. Penny Elkins, vice president—Atlanta, associate dean of the Tift College of Education, and the Fred L. Miles Chair of Educational Leadership, moves into the new role of senior vice provost for strategic academic initiatives and will be based on the Atlanta campus.

"This reorganization will allow Dr. Swindle to focus his time and energy on providing leadership for Mercer's growing Atlanta campus and its Regional Academic Centers, position John Patterson to effectively direct the University's fund-raising and alumni efforts, and enable Dr. Elkins to further expand our undergraduate and graduate degree programs for working adult students across the state," Underwood said. "All three individuals are talented and energetic administrators who are committed to the University's growth and development. I am grateful to each one of them for taking on these critical responsibilities."

"I am especially grateful to Dr. Swindle for assuming the advancement responsibilities in addition to his work in Atlanta over the past two years while we searched for permanent leadership in advancement. He played a central role in identifying, recruiting and cultivating John Patterson for leadership of the University's advancement operations."

Dr. Swindle joined the University in 1979 and served in a variety of administrative positions until 1996, when he left Mercer to serve as senior vice president for institutional advancement at Franklin College in Indiana, where he was responsible for development, public affairs, corporate and foundation rela-

tions, alumni services and church relations. He returned to Mercer in 2003 as senior vice president in charge of the University's Atlanta campus operations and was named senior vice president for University advancement in July 2008. He holds a doctorate from Emory University, a master's degree from the University of Montevallo and a bachelor's degree from Samford University.

Patterson served as executive director of development at Mercer from 1992-1996, when he joined his alma mater, Oklahoma Baptist University, to serve as senior vice president for development. He held that position for 12 years before returning to Mercer in 2008.



John Patterson

At OBU, he was responsible for the university's major gifts programs, the annual fund, capital campaigns, foundation/corporation and special gifts, the Bison Athletic Association, Friends of the Arts, Shawnee Advisory Board, and the National Board of Development, as well as alumni and development records, special events and development communications. He also has supervised OBU's alumni programming and public relations operations.

Dr. Elkins has 20 years of experience in leadership, curriculum design and development, educational leadership, program planning, teaching and program evaluation. Over the last 11 years at Mercer, she has served as department chair for both teacher education and educational leadership in the Tift College of Education and was appointed to the Fred L. Miles Endowed Chair of Educational Leadership in 2007. She earned a bachelor's degree in Christianity and early childhood education and a master's degree in early childhood education from Mercer, as well as an education specialist degree in education, administration and supervision from Georgia College and State University. Her Ph.D. is in educational leadership from Georgia State University. She currently serves as one of two education faculty representatives on the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, the organization that oversees all educator certification for the state, as well as the approval of all professional education programs in Georgia.



Dr. Penny Elkins

Three University Programs Reach Milestones

While two University entities have recorded significant milestones in recent months, a third is just on the horizon. The School of Business and The Executive Forum, presented by BB&T, observed anniversaries in March and April, while the School of Engineering looks forward to acknowledging its anniversary at Homecoming.

Engineering — The School of Engineering will celebrate its founding with two events tied to Homecoming 2010. The School will hold a reception on Nov. 19 for engineering alumni, faculty, friends, retired faculty and National Engineering Advisory Board members.

On Nov. 20, the School will hold an open house from 10 a.m.-Noon for alumni and friends to tour the School of Engineering Building and Science and Engineering Building and learn more about how the School is educating the next generation of engineers.

Since the first students began classes in 1985, the School has had a strong impact on the state of Georgia and the world. The School, through the University's partnership with the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, is the largest provider of entry-level engineers to Robins

Air Force Base. It is also ranked among the top three undergraduate-focused engineering programs in the Southeast, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. In addition, students and faculty are traveling around the world sharing inventions and knowledge to help better the lives of people around the world, providing low-cost prosthetics to amputees in developing nations, as well as clean water and wind power in Africa.

Stetson School of Business and Economics — The School hosted a reception and book signing to commemorate its 25th anniversary on April 24. The event included an open house at Stetson Hall and the Eugene W. Stetson Room and a special recognition of the Stetson-Hatcher family. The event highlighted the School's creation in 1984 and its rise to prominence over the past 25 years. It also included a book-signing by James L. Hunt, a Mercer business professor and author of *Relationship Banker*, a biography of the School's namesake and Mercer alumnus Eugene W. Stetson, published by Mercer University Press.

Since its founding, the School has added four graduate programs and earned accredita-

tion by the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. The School has more than 800 students in programs on the University's Macon, Savannah and Atlanta campuses. The School has recently won acclaim for its Master of Business Administration program from *Entrepreneur* magazine for placing among the top 15 in the nation in two categories of The Princeton Review's "Student Opinion Honors for Business Schools." The MBA students cited Mercer's preparation as superior in the categories of marketing and accounting, putting the University in the same company as Duke, Harvard, Indiana, Michigan and Northwestern.

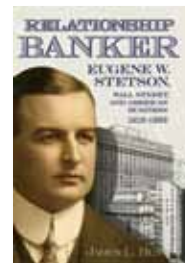
Among those in attendance from Stetson's family were grandsons Robert F. Hatcher, a Macon businessman and long-time member of the Mercer Board of Trustees, and Eugene "Gene" Stetson Hatcher, a Macon attorney and a 1981 graduate of the Walter F. George School of Law.

The Executive Forum, presented by BB&T — As part of the celebration of the Forum's 30th anniversary, the University honored the program's founders on March 23 at the Macon dinner event. The evening featured CNBC senior analyst and financial expert Ron Insana, who also gave a presentation to the Forum membership in Atlanta at lunch.

Prior to Insana's Macon presentation, President Underwood honored the founders of the Executive Forum — Macon businessman, Mercer alumnus and trustee Billy Anderson, and Mercer alumnus, professor emeritus and founding dean of the Stetson School of Business and Economics Dr. Charles Andrews.

In 1979, Anderson and Andrews believed that Middle Georgia needed a program to better link the local business community to the University and the School of Business and Economics. The two worked closely with then-Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey on the concept and developed what has become Georgia's premier business enrichment program.

Over the years, the Forum has hosted speakers from a diverse array of backgrounds and experiences, including Rick Pitino, Lou Holtz, Truett Cathy, Cokie Roberts, Greg Gumbel, Lou Dobbs, Catherine Crier, Tim Russert, Bill Kristol, Bob Woodward, George Will and Clarence Page.



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

Trustee and alumnus Billy Anderson, center, surrounded by family members, was honored by the University in March as one of the founders of The Executive Forum.

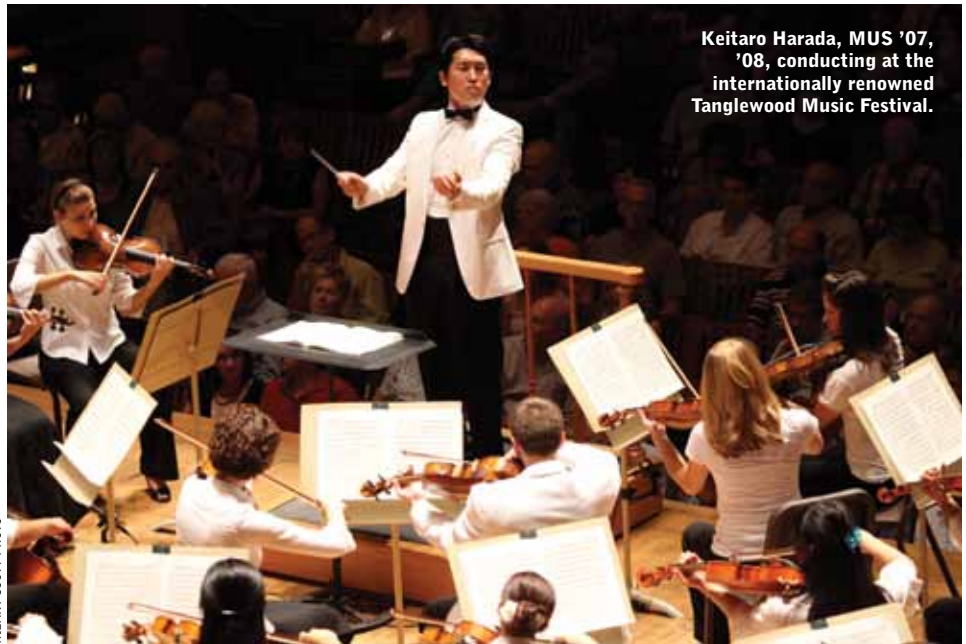
Alumnus Featured on NPR's 'From the Top'

Keitaro Harada, Mercer graduate and former conductor of the Mercer/Macon Symphony Youth Orchestra, was a featured guest on National Public Radio's "From the Top" on June 17 and June 20. "From the Top" is the hit NPR radio program featuring America's best young classical musicians and hosted by acclaimed pianist Christopher O'Riley.

Now celebrating its 10th anniversary season, "From the Top" is heard on nearly 250 stations nationwide and taped before live audiences around the country. Broadcast from Ames, Iowa, the show aired nationally the week of June 14 and on participating stations and on www.FromtheTop.org. The episode was taped before a live audience at the Fisher Theatre on May 18. On the broadcast, Harada performs *Adios Nonino* by Astor Piazzolla, accompanied by Christopher O'Riley on piano.

Harada, who earned a Bachelor of Music in Performance degree from Mercer in 2007 and a Master of Music in Conducting in 2008, was first featured on the radio show in 2003 when he was a student at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan.

The 24-year-old conductor is currently the inaugural recipient of the James E. Rogers Institute for Orchestral and Opera Conducting



Keitaro Harada, MUS '07, '08, conducting at the internationally renowned Tanglewood Music Festival.

HILARY SCOTT PHOTO

Fellowship at the University of Arizona. His appointments include working with Arizona Opera, Tucson Symphony, Arizona Symphony and University Philharmonic Orchestras.

He recently served three seasons as assistant conductor of the Macon Symphony

Orchestra and was the conductor and founder of the Mercer/Macon Symphony Youth Orchestra. This summer, Harada was invited to be a Conducting Fellow at the Boston Symphony Orchestra Tanglewood Music Center at the invitation of James Levine.

College of Continuing and Professional Studies Welcomes First Ph.D. Students

The College of Continuing and Professional Studies welcomed its first class of Ph.D. students in August. The Atlanta-based program will include 12 students in the Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision. The program is only the second of its kind in the state of Georgia and is intended to produce counseling professors, researchers and leaders.

Dr. W. David Lane, professor of counseling and director of the program, said the first group of students is eager to begin coursework and research that will lead to their dissertations. Among the areas students may begin to research are the acculturation processes of second-generation immigrants and work with army veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We have a really good group of students — many of them licensed professional counselors with many years of experience, some of whom have held leadership positions in various organizations — so we're very excited about this class," Dr. Lane said.

The students will each serve as either research as-

sistants or teaching assistants as part of their program and the additional research capacity is exciting for the faculty, Dr. Lane said.

"We're hoping to get an active research agenda developed quickly," Dr. Lane said. "As the program matures, we'll be able to start bringing master's students into the research as well."

The Ph.D. program is designed for licensed professional counselors or school counselors who want to become professors and researchers in the field of counseling. The curriculum allows students to develop their professional areas of interest and will launch graduates on a path to leadership roles in counseling, as well as research and teaching opportunities in colleges and universities. The Ph.D. will be the University's fifth. The other Ph.D. programs include Pharmaceutical Sciences, Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Instruction, and Nursing Education.

The Ph.D. fills a need in the state and across the country by providing highly trained counselors for the

profession. The 84-semester-hour program will meet the advanced accreditation standards that will, beginning in 2013, require this specific degree for faculty in counseling programs across the country. The curriculum is also designed to help graduates develop advanced expertise in the application of theories and conceptual models to counselor education, supervision, practice and research; learn to conduct research that advances the field of counseling; evaluate the influences of ethical, social, political, demographic and economic issues on mental health care and counseling; and assume leadership roles in education, supervision, training, practice and research to improve mental health care and counseling.

The doctoral program is a professional extension of the Department of Counseling and Human Sciences core curriculum, which offers more specialized master's and educational specialist degrees. The master's and educational specialist degrees are practitioner-oriented and prepare students for the majority of problems which they may encounter in the field. The Ph.D. will educate students to become researchers in the field of counseling, as well as professors and supervisors.



New Center for Theology and Public Life Launched

Mercer has launched a new center to provide a venue for theologically based discussions on current issues and controversies. The Center for Theology and Public Life, led by Dr. David Gushee, Distinguished University Professor of Christian Ethics, will hold events on the Macon and Atlanta campuses each year focused on discussing current controversies from a sound theological and ethical perspective.

The Center will hold two major public events each year — one in Macon and one in Atlanta — along with other smaller, student-focused events throughout the year, with the goal of holding frank, and theologically informed, discussions on major issues facing society. The events will be similar to those that Dr. Gushee has already led in recent years — including a conference on torture and the Atlanta Caring for Creation conference, which was part of a campus-wide ethics initiative. That event sparked a similar conference in Macon the following fall.

“This will help enhance something that is

very distinctive about Mercer, and that is the exploration of all perspectives in the context of freedom of inquiry,” Dr. Gushee said. “We don’t have the constraints of either a strictly secular environment or rigidly conservative environment, and in that sense, we’re an ideal host for this.

There is so much about the issues of the day that is missed by those environments. In a strictly secular environment, the idea is that religion doesn’t matter and, in the rigidly conservative environment, there is the idea that only our view matters. But, in fact, we know that religion matters and that there are many significant perspectives from many different viewpoints.”

The Center’s first program was held Oct. 11-12 on the Atlanta campus. The Rev. Salguero, director of the Hispanic Leadership Program at Princeton Theological Seminary and a New York City pastor, addressed themes related to Latino Protestant Christianity and its public engagement

in the United States. Rev. Salguero is a leader of the Latino Leadership Circle and is heavily engaged in the current immigration debate, among other public policy issues.

As part of its mission, the Center will promote public dialogue, research and constructive solu-

tions related to important public issues in which theology and ethical reflection can make a significant contribution. Though Christian thought will be central to the work of the Center, Dr.

Gushee said, its programs will also feature perspectives from other faith traditions as well.

“The Center fits in with one of the primary purposes of the University: to engage the community in exploration, from diverse perspectives, of the most important, often most contentious, issues of our times,” said University Provost Dr. Wallace Daniel. “Hopefully, Mercer can play an important — and much-needed — role in elevating the level of conversation and reflection on such matters.”

CENTER FOR THEOLOGY & PUBLIC LIFE MERCER UNIVERSITY

Physician Returns after 50 Years to Collect Degree, Deliver Macon Commencement Address

Dr. Drayton Sanders, CLA '10, has always been one to finish what he started, which is why he returned to

Mercer to finally receive his bachelor’s degree more than 50 years after he left the University.

He left Mercer in 1958 — a captain of the

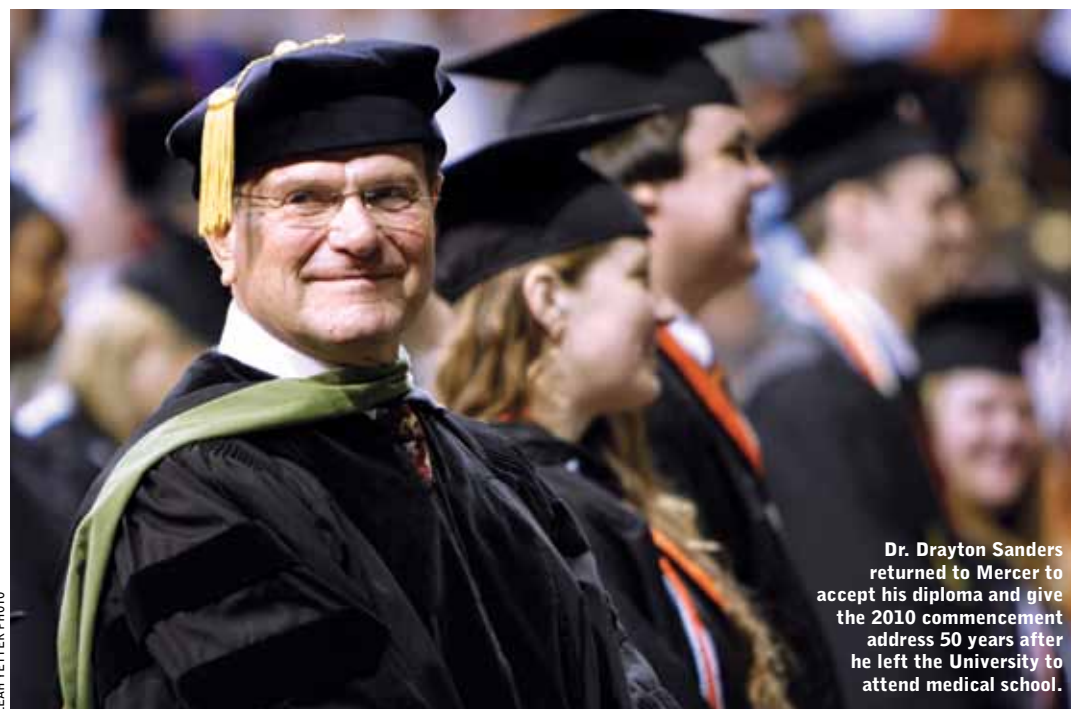
baseball team and just two courses shy of earning his bachelor’s degree — to attend the Medical College of Georgia. Dr. Sanders, now a

retired physician, went on to have a distinguished medical career in Dalton and is now a medical missionary, but he always felt compelled to earn his bachelor’s degree.

More than 50 years after he left the University, he re-enrolled at Mercer to complete his final two courses in religion and Russian history through independent studies.

Dr. Sanders took the podium at the May 15 Macon commencement ceremony to address the crowd of eager graduates and their friends and family members.

“From this experience, I learned that misfortunes and unanticipated redirections again, looking back, reveal God’s hand,” he said. “Adverse circumstances often lead to unexpected blessings. In these serendipities of life, I see God’s grace. My heart, my roots, are in this University and the Baptist principles of religious freedom I came to appreciate here.”



Dr. Drayton Sanders returned to Mercer to accept his diploma and give the 2010 commencement address 50 years after he left the University to attend medical school.

LEAH YETTER PHOTO

Mercer Mourns Loss of Longtime Administrator Johnny Mitchell

John Thomas (Johnny) Mitchell Sr., who served in Mercer's senior administration for nearly four decades and was associated with several defining moments in the University's history, died on April 8. He was 80.

While serving as a vice president and director of admissions at Tift College in Forsyth, Mitchell was recruited to Mercer by President Rufus Harris in 1961 to serve as director of admissions. He logged over 12,000 hours in his private plane travelling throughout the Southeast recruiting students to the University. During his tenure at Mercer, Mitchell also served as athletic director and helped organize the Trans America Athletic Conference, which today is known as the Atlantic Sun Conference.

Mitchell was director of admissions in 1962 when Mercer's Board of Trustees voted to accept the application of Sam Oni, Mercer's first black student. In October of 2007, Mitchell was recognized with the Act of Courage Award by the Harriet Tubman Museum in recognition of his role in Mercer's integration.

In 1974, working with Dr. Harris, Mitchell helped develop a plan for a school of medicine at Mercer, which in 1981 accepted its first class under then-President R. Kirby Godsey. Dr. Godsey subsequently appointed Mitchell as senior vice president for public and governmental affairs and the two worked together to build statewide support for a medical school to provide primary care physicians for rural and underserved areas of Georgia. As lobbyist for Mercer, he worked closely with leaders of the Georgia State Legislature and worked successfully with governors George Busbee, Joe Frank Harris, Zell Miller, Roy Barnes, and Sonny Perdue. In 1998, Mitchell was honored with the Lobbyist Lifetime Achievement Award. He retired from Mercer in 2000.

Mitchell was also active in the Macon community. He served as chairman of the Airport Advisory Committee for the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce and traveled to Okmulgee, Okla., with community leaders to reverse the Trail of Tears to the Trail of Cheers, helping secure scholarships to Mercer for Creek Indians. He was a charter member and served as chairman of the Bibb County Hospital Authority from 1968-1976 and served on the Medcen Foundation Board of the Medical Center of Central Georgia. He was a member of the Macon Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow and a member of the Rotary Club Board of Directors. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity and the Georgia Gridiron Secret Society. He served on the boards of Central Bank of Georgia, First Union Bank



MERCER UNIVERSITY PHOTOS

Longtime Mercer administrator Johnny T. Mitchell was a passionate promoter of the University, even piloting his own airplane around the Southeast to recruit students.

of Macon and the Capital City Bank of Macon.

Mitchell coached football and baseball with the Macon Recreation Department and Vine Ingle and served on the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame board, helping secure funding for construction of the Sports Hall of Fame in Macon. He also served on the Honors Court for nomination and selection of Hall of Fame inductees.

His other service to the state included being appointed by U.S. Sen. Zell Miller to the commission for nominees and appointments to the United States service academies. His educational contributions outside of Mercer included serving on the Macon State College Foundation Board and the Erskine College Board of Trustees.

Born in Blythdale, Mo., Mitchell attended high school and junior college at Gordon Military College in Barnesville before earning a Bachelor of Arts degree at Erskine College, where he played football. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served as a platoon leader on the front line of the Korean War. He retired as a major. While in the Marines he coached the Marine Corps football team in the Far East Rice Bowl. After the Korean War he returned to Barnesville to teach English and history at Gordon Military College and served as head football coach. He also was recreation director for the City of Barnesville.



A longtime member of Ingleside Baptist Church in Macon, Mitchell is survived by his wife, Lillian Mary Terrell Mitchell; sons John T. Mitchell Jr. (Lisa) and Render Terrell "Tee" Mitchell (Kea); daughter, Mary Eva Tredway (Craig); eight grandchildren; and a sister, Rosamond Mitchell Harden.

Mercer's First Fulbright Scholars, Kathryn Doornbos and Hannah Vann, Continue Studies in Asia

Two Mercer alumnae were named the University's first-ever Fulbright Scholars. The May 2010 graduates, Hannah F. Vann and Kathryn S. Doornbos, are continuing their studies in Asia. Vann, a women's and gender studies major from Rome, and Kathryn Doornbos, a biology major from Brasstown, N.C., both earned grants from the highly competitive program to extend their interests beyond graduation. Doornbos is studying tick-borne illness in northern Thailand and Vann is conducting research on the women's movement in Indonesia.

Vann was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship and is teaching English 20 hours each week and plans to devote the remainder of her time to researching Muslim

women's rights activists in Indonesia, the women's movement, and Indonesian non-governmental organizations that focus on women's issues. She left in August for the year-long assignment.

"The more I learned about the country, the culture, and the people, the more excited I got. I have no ties to Southeast Asia, either experiential or academic, so I don't know what to expect. But I am confident that, because of my Mercer experience, my classes here, and the outstanding professors who have invested in me and trained me well, I am prepared to handle whatever comes — even a six-month monsoon season," Vann said.

Vann has had a distinguished track record as an activist and student while at

Mercer. She co-founded the Sex Trafficking Opposition Project and helped to organize a conference at Mercer against sex trafficking. For those efforts, Vann was awarded the Gulf South Summit Award for Outstanding Student Contributions in Service Learning at a regional summit in March. Vann began as an advocate by successfully persuading the Mercer administration to institute provisions for women's health services in the Mercer Student Health Center. She also volunteered with Crisis Line and Safe House of Middle Georgia and participated in a Mercer On Mission program in Kenya. On campus, Vann was equally involved, having served her peers as a resident adviser, an English tutor and undergraduate teaching assistant.

Doornbos was awarded a Fulbright Research Grant to work in association with Mahidol University in Bangkok and is conducting research in cooperation with the tropical disease faculty at the university. Doornbos is collecting and analyzing tick samples in the forests of northern Thailand, with the hope of finding ways to combat Rickettsia bacterial disease.

Doornbos has also had a distinguished career at Mercer, founding the Mercer Empty Bowls project in Macon, an annual event raising money for local hunger-fighting agencies. Doornbos served on the executive committee for Mercer's Caring for Creation conference in Macon, working to promote the event and to coordinate the conference's service day.

In addition to maintaining a stellar academic record, Doornbos was a research assistant for Mercer biology professor Dr. Alan Smith. "Having been introduced to Thailand through a Mercer On Mission trip in 2009, I am beyond elated to return as a Fulbright," Doornbos said. "I never, in my wildest dreams, imagined when I first enrolled at Mercer in 2006 that I would be leaving with the opportunities that I have before me today. I firmly believe that the experience and education I have gained at Mercer through service-learning, undergraduate research and the liberal arts curriculum have enabled me to pursue whatever I choose. I would especially like to thank Dr. Smith, my research mentor, for inspiring my Fulbright proposal and supporting my interest in research from the very beginning."



PHOTO COURTESY OF HANNAH VANN

Hannah Vann, CLA '10, one of Mercer's first Fulbright scholars and fellow program participants (left to right) Jack Mahoney, Jolie Colby, and Heather Halk, speak to a class of 12th-grade girls at a Muslim boarding school in Indonesia recently.

Law Graduate Confirmed for Federal Judgeship

The United States Senate in June unanimously confirmed Marc T. Treadwell, a 1981 graduate of the Mercer Law School, to fill a vacancy on Middle Georgia's federal bench. Treadwell, who also serves as an adjunct faculty member for the Law School, will fill the vacancy created when Judge Hugh Lawson took senior status in 2008.

The U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia spans an area stretching from Georgia's southwestern corner east through Valdosta, north through Albany and Macon, and east through Athens to the South Carolina border. Treadwell will join another Mercer graduate on the Middle District bench — Judge

W. Louis Sands, who holds undergraduate and law degrees from the University and serves on the Mercer Board of Trustees.

Nominated by President Obama and unanimously supported by Georgia's Democratic congressmen and U.S. Senators Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson, Treadwell formerly was a partner in the Macon law firm Adams, Jordan & Treadwell.



Marc Treadwell

Authors Luncheon

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

Save Dec. 11 on Your Calendar for the 21st Annual Authors Luncheon

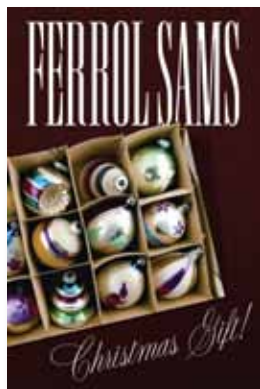
The 21st Annual Mercer University Authors Luncheon, sponsored by Mercer University Press, will be held Saturday, Dec. 11, at the InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta, where an outstanding line-up of talented, interesting and inspiring authors will meet their fans and autograph their books. Be sure to mark the event now on your calendar. For more information, call (678) 547-6419.

2010
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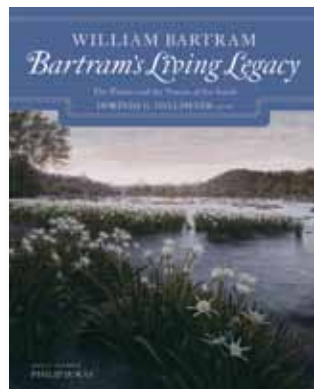
New Titles from Mercer University Press



Christmas Gift!

By Ferrol Sams

In this timeless, touching holiday memoir drawing on his own experiences as a child of the Depression, master storyteller Ferrol Sams rekindles the sentiment and spirit of the Christmas season in a book that will capture the hearts of generations to come.



Bartram's Living Legacy: The Travels and the Nature of the South

Dorinda G. Dallmeyer, Editor
Original Artwork by Philip Juras

In this unique anthology, for the first time Bartram's Travels is joined with essays acknowledging the debt Southern nature writers owe the man called the "South's Thoreau."



The Flower Seeker: An Epic Poem of William Bartram

By Philip Lee Williams

The Flower Seeker is an epic poem that follows the young William Bartram on his journey in the American South.



Five Big Mountains: A Regular Guy's Guide to Climbing Orizaba, Elbrus, Kilimanjaro, Aconcagua, and Vinson

By David Schaeffer

What does it take for a regular guy to climb some of the highest mountains in the world? Five Big Mountains takes you there — through high altitude adventure, struggle and triumph.

All books are available through www.mupress.org or by calling (866) 895-1472.



MERCER BEARS SET TO FIELD Men's NCAA Lacrosse

IT IS ONE OF AMERICA'S OLDEST SPORTS. Its athletes draw comparison to football players, yet it draws offensive strategies from basketball and its face-off restart from hockey. It is fast-paced, hard-hitting and high scoring. Its college championships have filled NFL stadiums. It is lacrosse.

Mercer's newest intercollegiate sport, men's lacrosse, will begin its first official campaign this spring, with several exhibitions this fall. More than 50 students are expected to compete for roster spots on the new team, the first-ever NCAA

Division I program in Georgia and only the 15th in the Southeast. Lacrosse is Mercer's first new team sport in more than two decades.

The addition of the sport is a trend that is being repeated at colleges around the state

and the country, with a number of Division III programs added in Georgia and several Division I programs added in the South, including Jacksonville University and Presbyterian. The team's entry has garnered buzz in the lacrosse



PHOTO: SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

press and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*.

"When you're only the 61st Division I team in the nation, you tend to make a splash," said Jason Childs, the team's head coach, who was hired in 2009.

Georgia is one of 21 states in the nation to have sanctioned lacrosse as a championship sport at the high school level, and the sport is booming. Currently, 62 high schools field boys teams, and the level of talent is increasing each year, Childs said. At the Division I level, there are already approximately 20 players from Georgia, including the captain of the Notre Dame team that made the NCAA Division I finals this year.

"We're getting a lot of interest from Georgia athletes," Childs said. "The sport is just exploding here."

While Georgia is increasing its participation levels, the sport is growing nationally as well, expanding far beyond its roots in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. According to the latest participation survey by U.S. Lacrosse, the sport's governing body, lacrosse is the fastest-growing high school sport for girls over the last 10 years and the second-fastest growing sport among boys. At the collegiate level, men's lacrosse has been the fastest-growing sport over the past decade, while women's has been the second-fastest-growing sport.

This is reflected in Mercer's first recruiting class, which features as many as 40 newcomers representing a lot of geographic diversity. In addition to 22 freshmen from Georgia, Childs' projected roster includes athletes from 12 other states, as well as South Korea. Childs also expects as many as eight of the players on the previous club team to compete for spots on the varsity roster.

The buzz in the lacrosse world is helping fuel interest in admissions as well, notes Emory Dunn, director of freshman admissions at Mercer. Dunn (BUS '98) was a member of Mercer's successful club team in the 1990s, which took on other clubs from around the state and the Southeast. Dunn helped to revive Mercer's club team in 2007 and has seen the interest and inquiries about lacrosse increase among applicants, since the University's announcement last year that it would field an intercollegiate team.

The excitement of the game draws people into the sport, and playing it is equally rewarding, Dunn and Childs said. Dunn was coaxed by a fraternity brother into picking up the sport at Mercer and enjoyed it from the beginning. The game is high-scoring, so it also draws fans. Speed and goals mean more fun for players and fans.

"The game is fast-paced and scoring can happen frequently," Dunn said. "Lacrosse brings with it a lot of excitement."

A Baltimore native, Childs grew up in the heart of lacrosse country. Lacrosse is the official team sport of Maryland and his high school had a lacrosse team 80 years before it fielded a baseball team. A former attackman and midfielder at Dickinson College, Childs started his coaching career at Darlington School in Rome before moving to the college ranks. He coached at Limestone College in South Carolina and then launched the program at Presbyterian College.

While the South may not have been a hotbed of lacrosse, it is likely to become one, Childs said. Athleticism is rewarded, and a history of football and basketball provide a strong base. Jim Brown was a star athlete in football and lacrosse at Syracuse before heading to the NFL and the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Childs is already seeing success in his recruiting efforts, helped by Mercer's strong and diverse academic offerings and its facilities. The traditional and rising powers of lacrosse are all highly selective institutions whose profile is similar to the schools that compete for national championships — including traditional powers such as Johns Hopkins, Syracuse and the University of Virginia, as well as recent powers such as Cornell, Duke and Princeton. Childs' first recruiting class includes several all-Americans, as well as an academic all-American.

"Recruiting is going a whole lot better than I could have hoped," Childs said. "We're the type of school that these athletes are looking for, and Mercer's name and academic reputation have helped."

The NCAA allows 17 official games for each team, and Childs has scheduled 13 so far, including a season-opener against Ohio State University. He isn't setting a goal for wins, but is instead keeping his athletes focused on constant improvement and on the parts of the game they can control. They will focus on winning individual and team battles within games, such as high scoring percentages when up a man and keeping opponents to low scoring percentages when down a man (lacrosse referees can send players off the field for a period of time for infractions, leaving the offender's team down a player).

"For the next two years we're going to focus on being better tomorrow than we were yesterday, and, if we can focus on that, we'll be able to build success," Childs said.

By Mark Vanderhoek, Mercer University's director of media relations



DAVE BEYER PHOTO

Head Coach Jason Childs

Lacrosse 101

- 10 players on the field at a time
- 3 Attackman — offensive players
- 3 Defenseman — defensive players
- 3 Midfielders — Play both offense and defense
- 1 Goalie
- Field is 110 yards long by 60 yards wide
- Named by the French
- The game of lacrosse played today is adapted from the game played by tribes of northeastern Indians long before European settlers arrived. A similar game was played by most of the eastern tribes, including Cherokee and Creek nations, whose territories included Georgia.
- Equipment — helmet, gloves, elbow pads, shoulder pads
- Tools for the game — lacrosse stick and ball (made of molded rubber), two 6 feet by 6 feet goals and netting
- Types of sticks — short stick (offense) and long stick (defense) and goalie (goalie)
- Four, 15-minute quarters make up an NCAA game
- Basic Rules — Score more goals than the other team. Defenders are allowed to hit with their stick with the intention of knocking the ball out of offender's stick. Each team must keep three offensive players on one side of the field at all times, and four defensemen on the defensive end of the field at all times. Substitutions are allowed during the run of play without the use of a whistle or stoppage.
- One point for one goal.

McAfee Alum's Musical Takes Fresh Look at Atlanta's Most Famous Native Son

■ IT MIGHT SEEM LIKE AN UNUSUAL CAREER TRAJECTORY —

an established London barrister born of Jamaican parents becomes the creator of a hit musical about an episode in American history, all via a degree from Mercer's McAfee School of Theology. But that's the story of Douglas Tappin (M.Div. 2008).

He is creator of the musical *I Dream* — a rock-opera tale inspired by the life of Martin Luther King Jr. The show recently completed a run of successful performances at one of Atlanta's premier venues, the Alliance Theatre.

Cut back to London. There, in 2003, Tappin said, "I had a sense of calling." After years as a practicing attorney who also had an active faith and a love of and knack for musical theater — he had already written a musical about Moses' liberation of the ancient Israelites — Tappin began to feel a tug to another career path. He knew it involved faith and the arts.

"Even though I knew I wanted to write, I wasn't certain that going to college to pursue a theater degree was the right step; it seemed to have something to do with ministry," he said. "And so as I began to search around for places to study."

He landed at McAfee.

Tappin quickly got to flex his artistic muscles. He wrote an Easter musical performed in McAfee's chapel services in 2005 and again in 2006. He wrote another musical piece — this one focused on the story of King David — that he called *King*.

That led him to the subject of his next musical.

Although Tappin had previously only written about biblical figures, he began to ponder the idea of a musical about the minister who led a civil-rights revolution.

"It wasn't until I came here that I sort of realized that much of [the Civil Rights Movement] had happened in the South and particularly Atlanta, and how dear to Atlanta the memory of Martin Luther King was," Tappin said.

An invitation from McAfee Dean Alan Culpeper for Tappin to produce two of the pieces from *I Dream* at a school convocation in 2006 led to a collaboration with Atlanta's Peachtree Baptist Church to perform several more pieces from the musical in early 2007.

He fleshed it out into a full-blown production and got his chance to put it on. It included a cast of more than 30 performers, 70 compositions and a 15-piece orchestra.

Reviews were largely positive, but many did take note of the show's massive scale in both performance and its coverage of King's entire life and an entire era of American history (Atlanta's *Creative Loafing* called it "hugely ambitious").

But ticket sales were good — with the latter performances selling out. Many who lived through the Civil Rights Movement gave it rave reviews.

"I think it was a good musical reflection of my father," said Bernice King, in a video posted on the show's Facebook page. "It's very hard, you know, to put this movement on a stage."

Tappin said he is in discussions about taking the show on tour to other Southern cities that were important to the Civil Rights Movement as well as to South Africa. There has also been talk of a bigger stage in New York or London.

His time at McAfee was instrumental in helping him clarify his call, Tappin said. "By the end of the four years ... I was very certain that I was called to be a writer and do my best to write stories like this ... about the intersection of faith — or just what faith lived meant to different people."

By contributing writer Rob Marus

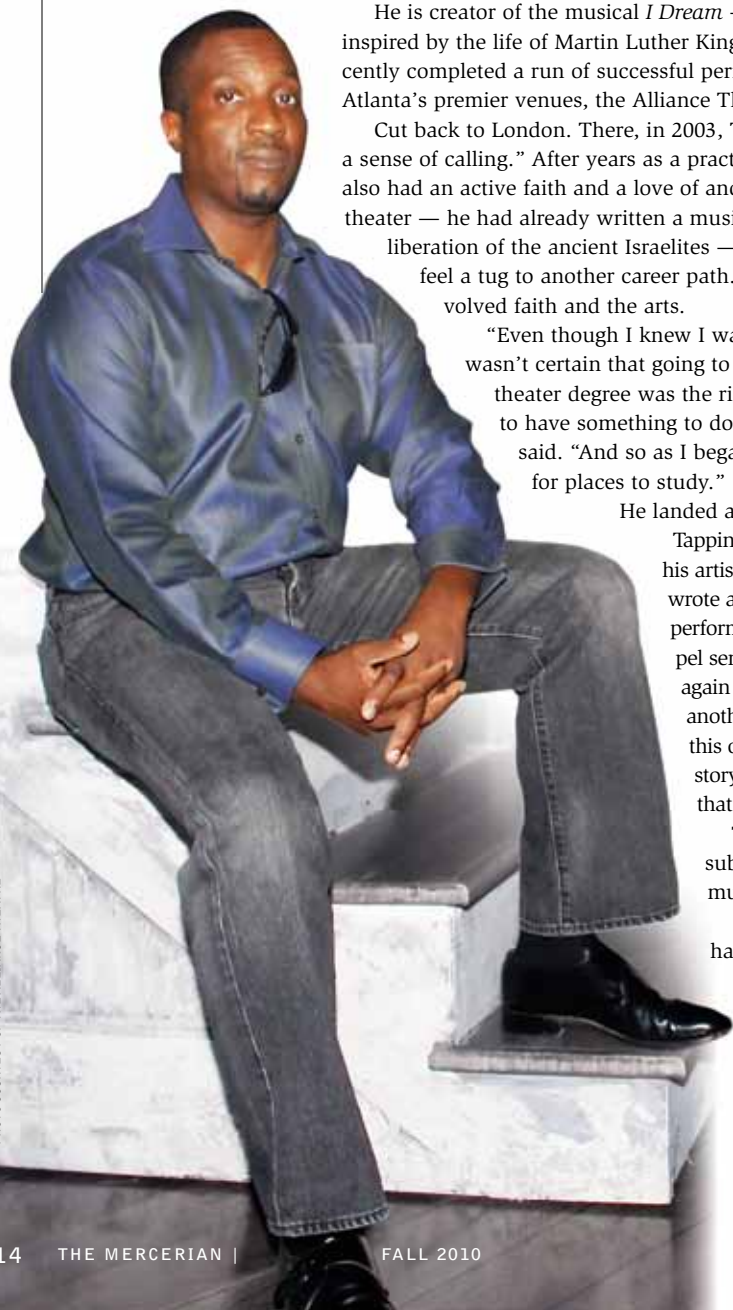
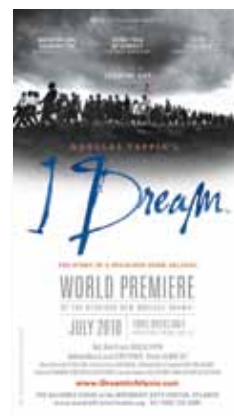


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ALLIANCE THEATRE

BE THE BEAR

Mercer this fall launched a major branding campaign designed to raise the level of awareness of the University among prospective students

and parents and further engage alumni and friends in supporting the institution. Featuring the tagline “Be The Bear,” the campaign was developed in conjunction with the Atlanta advertising and marketing firm TG Madison.

Market research conducted by TG Madison last fall showed that while the University is known for its heritage of producing leaders, attracting high-achieving students, offering a broad range of academic programs and promoting a strong service ethos, it lacked a rallying cry for its constituents. Research findings also reinforced the opportunity that Mercer has to tell its story more effectively to an even greater number of high-ability high school students, prospective graduate and professional students, and other audiences.

In short, Mercer needed a stronger identity.

— Continued on page 16

University to Unveil New Bronze Bear Statue at Homecoming

Mercerians and visitors on the Macon campus have another way to catch the Mercer spirit. A nine-and-a-half-foot bronze bear statue will debut during this year's Homecoming festivities.

“This statue will be a great addition to our beautiful campus,” Mercer President William D. Underwood said. “Mercer’s students, faculty, staff and alumni need a rallying point — something that will ignite school spirit and bring Mercerians together. This statue will contribute in a highly visible way toward achieving that objective.”

Mercer Trustee Roddy Clark, CLA '68, and chairman of the statue committee, said the bear is for all Mercerians.

“It was decided early on that this should not be solely an athletic mascot,” he said. “It is something for all students and alums.”

The statue, designed and created by Colorado-based wildlife sculptor Stephen LeBlanc and funded by gifts from students, alumni and friends, will stand adjacent to the University Center facing Porter Patch and Penfield Hall.

Clark was impressed with the financial support garnered from students, staff and alumni. “The statue didn’t come out of anyone’s tuition,” he said. “The money was raised totally from gifts, and those gifts came from students, the administration and from alums.” Mercer’s

senior class gave \$10,000 to the project.

Alice Crisp, '11, was the student representative on the committee. She said she was honored to serve on the committee and is excited to see the statue unveiled during Homecoming. “I think the power of a physical symbol such as the bear statue simply solidifies all the memories and spirit we have, and it gives us a way to share them with one another,” Crisp said.

The bear statue will be unveiled before the men's Homecoming game against Harvard on Nov. 20. To learn more about Homecoming and to see the full schedule of events, visit www.mercer.edu/homecoming.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHEN LEBLANC. ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

Clay model of new bear statue that will be installed outside the University Center this fall.



Mercer trustee and Bear Committee chair Roddy Clark, CLA '68, left, and 2009-10 Student Government Association President Amy Abel and Vice President Alice Crisp, center, present President Underwood with a check from the senior class for \$10,000 to help fund the bear statue.

The firm recommended positioning Mercer as “the Southern university known for igniting leaders.” After testing several creative concepts with focus groups, a clear consensus developed around the tagline “Be The Bear” that plays off the University’s mascot.

“We believe ‘Be The Bear’ can serve as a strong rallying cry for Mercer’s constituents and also communicate to prospective students

and other audiences the unique qualities associated with our university,” said Larry D. Brumley, senior vice president for marketing communications and chief of staff. “It has a bit of an attitude to it, but allows us to develop messaging that breaks through the clutter and articulates the personal and professional accomplishments of our students and alumni.”

The branding campaign is initially focused on the Atlanta market, where more than 17,000 Mercer alumni live and where a large number of students call home. To help kick off the campaign, the University invited alumni to an Aug. 28 event at the Fox Theatre, where President William D. Underwood encouraged Mercerians to help raise the University’s visibility and to “Be The Bear” in Atlanta by

‘BE THE BEAR’ DEBUTS AT THE FOX

More than 500 Mercer alumni and friends attended the ‘Be The Bear’ campaign kick-off at Atlanta’s Fox Theatre. To view more photos of the event, go to gallery.mercer.edu/Alumni/Alumni-Event-at-the-Fox.



proudly displaying their institutional loyalty. More than 500 alumni and friends attended the event and snatched up window decals, lapel pins, Be the Bear wristbands, and Mercer apparel.

Print ads are appearing in *Georgia Trend* magazine and the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and radio spots are running on WSB, WABE and WCNN. Much of the advertising, however,

is appearing online through demographically targeted Web sites such as *AJC.com* and through social media sites like Facebook. Out-of-home component include sky banners and displays at Lenox Square, Phipps Plaza, and Perimeter Square malls.

The “Be The Bear” theme also is being deployed through extensive advertising for Mercer’s Working Adult Programs in the

Atlanta and Central Georgia areas.

“We believe this is a concept that we can use for years to come,” Brumley said. “There are so many great Mercer stories we can tell around the ‘Be The Bear’ theme. Our goal is to expand this campaign beyond the Atlanta and Central Georgia areas in the future and thereby raise the University’s visibility throughout the Southeast and the nation.”



Spires and Towers

DR. FERROL SAMS JR. still remembers the fragileness of the ladder that he climbed to

reach the tower in the Administration Building in the early 1940s. There have been a good bit of improvements in the ladder since the early 1940s, but the feeling of climbing the tallest spire, scribbling your name on the walls, and looking down at Mercer's campus is still special to Mercerians.

When Dr. Sams, a 1942 Mercer graduate, last climbed the tower in 2008, as part of his visit to campus to speak at Mercer Founder's Day, he was still moved — albeit winded — by the experience.

"It was beautiful up there," the *Whisper of the River* author said. "The wood on that ladder seemed a hundred years old, but it was a

beautiful view."

Beth White, a 2008 graduate, does not quite remember where she signed her name during her tower climb as a freshman, but she does remember the impact of the experience.

"I really enjoyed looking down on the entire campus," said White,



LEAH YETTER PHOTOS

who is currently attending Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law. "My mom attended Mercer in the 1970s and did not get to go to the tower. A big part of enjoying it was because of reading *Whisper of the River*."

The book, published in 1984, tells the story of a young man, Porter "Sambo" Osborn Jr., while he attends Willingham University. The story, based on Sams' tenure at Mercer, is fiction based on "mostly facts," Dr. Sams said with a smile.

"I would not have changed the name of the university in the book," said Dr. Sams, who admits the recognition by Mercer has meant the world to him. "Heck, I thought I was going to get sued by Mercer."

Today, each fall, part of freshman orientation includes a trek up a combination of ladders, spiral staircases, and wooden stairs to reach the tower

overlooking campus. Students write their names, graduating years, and sometimes favorite messages anywhere from the first stairwell to the actual tower.

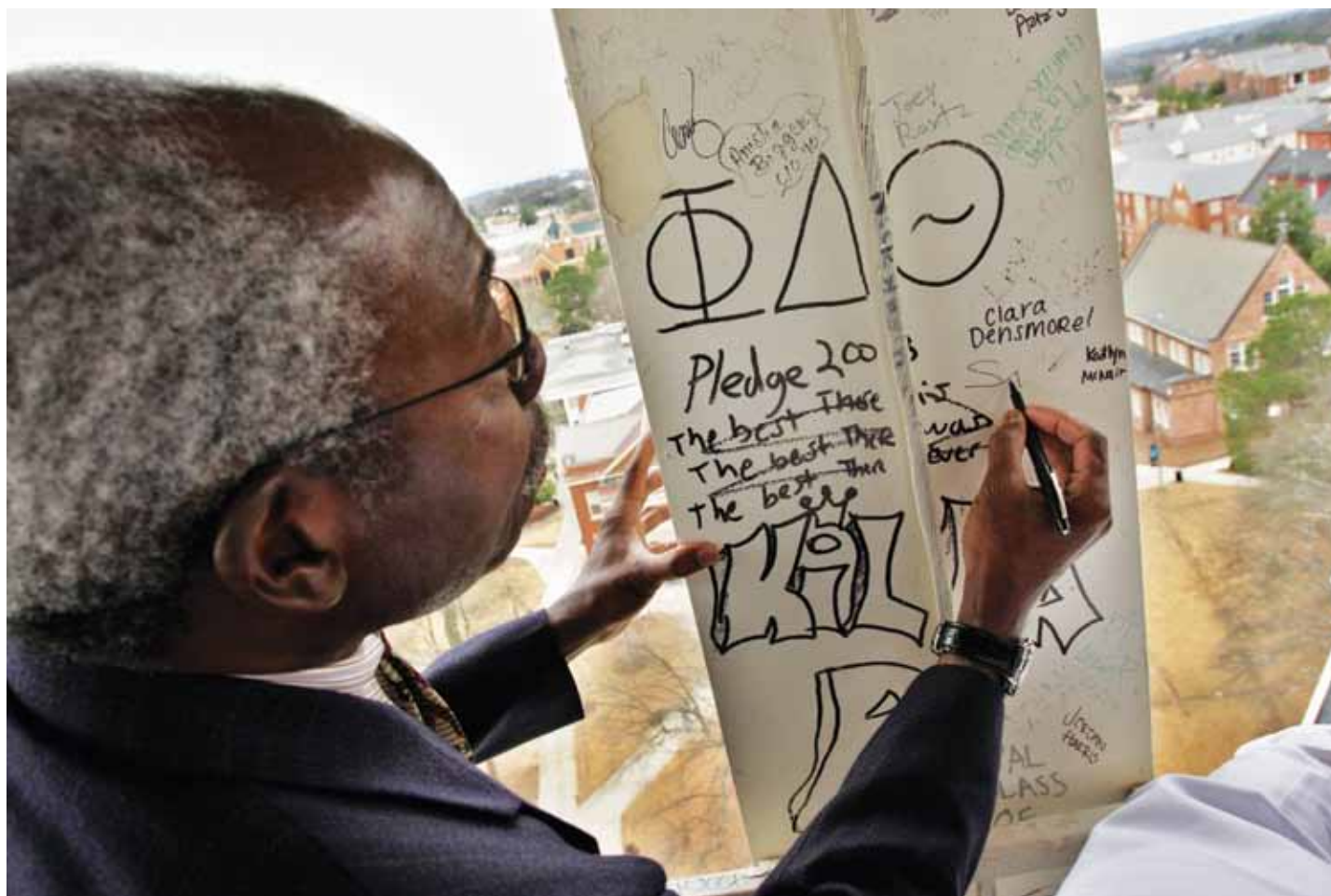
For Dr. Sams, who is surprised that the tower trip has become a tradition, believes it is a fitting part of the Mercer experience.

"That whole book is the story of how an ignorant, innocent young boy can go to Mercer and come out four years later a changed person, almost a man," Dr. Sams said. "Mercer is the hero of the book."

Mercer Traditions by contributing writer Gerry Ford



STEVE MOSLEY PHOTO



Left, gathered at the top of the tower of the Godsey Administration Building following Founder's Day 2008 are, left to right: front row, Tom and Julie McAfee, Julie Hodges, Cara Burgess and Doug Pearson; back row, Steven Stinchcomb, Ferrol Sams, Sam Oni, Eva Walton and Chris Dubberly. Above, Sam Oni, the first black student to attend Mercer, signs his autograph on the tower following the 2008 Founder's Day program.

Pilgrimage to Penfield

This year, 500 Mercer students, primarily freshmen, boarded buses on Oct. 8 to drive the same heritage trail that graduating seniors took in Model T cars in the early 1900s. The new Mercerians participated in a service at the original chapel, the same place that Mercer students sang the hymn "Faith of our Fathers" in 1960. And they observed a quiet moment at the grave of Jesse Mercer, much like the students did in 1950 following the direly-needed completion of the Penfield restoration. Closing out the Pilgrimage experience, students enjoyed a picnic and fireworks show on the grounds of the old campus.

"It gives them a sense of the roots of Mercer," said Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for institutional effectiveness and former longtime dean of

SINCE THE EARLY 1900s, Mercer students have been making the 90-mile trip to Penfield to celebrate the founding of Mercer University. The Pilgrimage to Penfield, as the tradition is now called, has evolved over the years from a celebration for graduating seniors to an integral part of the Mercer freshman experience.

students. "There is so much history there about when Mercer was at Penfield. And the organizing students developed a program that includes little scandals and student pranks that really have appealed to everyone."

Much like other Mercer traditions, the Pilgrimage to Penfield was dormant during the late 1960s to the late 1980s. The focus on Vietnam and other social issues seemed to undermine student interest in the heritage and traditions of Mercer, Dr. Jenkins said.

"In the mid-1980s, Ferrol Sams published *Whisper of the River*," Dr. Jenkins said. "It was the spark that got students interested. The more the students got interested in *Whisper*, the more the students got interested in traditions of the past. It was just fascinating."



ANDY MOORE PHOTOS

Lynn Creech Murphey, a 1990 graduate who served as vice president and president of the Student Government Association while at Mercer, recalls that there was increased interest in the University and the traditions during that period, but it was also a challenging time for the entire institution.

“We were voted as one of the Top 10 party schools by *Playboy*, we were moving from quarters to semesters, we were fighting with the Georgia Baptist Convention, and we had just taken over Tift College,” Murphey said. “Students wanted to participate and lead, and that led to the grassroots effort.”

The revival of Pilgrimage to Penfield initially started as a voluntary freshman exercise but quickly moved to a required part of the freshman orientation process, Dr. Jenkins said.

Beth White, a 2008 graduate and current Mercer law student, recalls thinking how surprised she was that the Mercer of today had grown from a place so small.

“There is not a whole lot there,” White said. “I thought it was interesting to see where it all began and to think about where Mercer is now.”

Penfield, which is located in rural Greene County, was the home

of Mercer from 1833-1871.

It was named after Josiah Penfield, a Savannah merchant, who challenged the Georgia Baptist

Convention to match his \$2,500 contribution and support an educational

institution. The Convention,

fueled primarily from Jesse Mercer’s financial contribution and

leadership, met the challenge and opened Mercer Institute in 1833. It was renamed Mercer University in 1838.

Today, at Penfield, students participating in the Pilgrimage find the original University chapel, the foundation of the first University academic building, and a cemetery that includes the gravesites of Jesse Mercer, as well as a number of former University presidents, trustees and leaders.

Jordan Locke, current Mercer Student Government Association member and co-chair of the Heritage Life Committee, helps organize the event. “The trip means more and more to me each year.”



Students engaged in the evening graveside service at the annual Pilgrimage to Penfield.

Jesse Mercer Plaza

THE STATUE OF JESSE MERCER sits casually on a bench in the middle

of Mercer's Macon campus. The youthful-looking founder of Mercer is staged at a sideways angle, looking ready for a conversation with a passing student. Occasionally, the statue's head is rubbed by a frantic or uneasy student, hoping the tradition of good luck will work on the upcoming exam.

During finals, traffic past Mercer's respected namesake increases drastically.

The statue is encircled by quotes from Jesse Mercer, personally picked out by former Mercer President Kirby Godsey. To the statue's left is a wooden bench, placed in honor of Hugh Lawson, a 1991 Mercer graduate who led the initial effort to design and build the statue. Lawson passed away in 1993 while attending Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law.

Since the statue was installed in 1995, this area in the main Quadrangle has become one of the most visited sites on campus by students and

alumni. The statue, sculpted by Don Haugen of Marietta, was duplicated in 2005 and placed on the Atlanta campus as well.

Beginning in 2009, freshmen, as part of Fall Convocation, and graduating seniors, as part of Baccalaureate, began processing past the Jesse Mercer statue, rubbing his head for the first and last times on campus.

"The tradition really serves as the bookends to the Mercer experience," said Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. "It is



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTOS

The good luck rubbing of Jesse Mercer's head is now a ritual for Mercer students as evidenced at the 2010 Baccalaureate.



a recent tradition, but one that has quickly taken root.”

The statue was unveiled in 1995 in conjunction with the re-introduction of the tradition of Founder’s Day. The statue cost \$75,000 and was paid for by a Student Government Association fund established specifically for constructing the Jesse Mercer statue.

Dr. Ferrol Sams’ *Whisper of the River* created the “spark” of student interest in erecting a statue, said Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for institutional effectiveness and former longtime dean of students. The Student Government Association (SGA), led by Lawson, began a campaign in 1989 to fund the Jesse Mercer statue.

“The SGA voted that at the end of each year all monies that were left over and not used would not go into the upcoming year, but would go into a pot,” Dr. Jenkins said. “The money would accumulate into the statue fund until enough money had been accumulated to build a statue.”

The students were involved in the design, bidding and construction of the statue, Dr. Jenkins said. Lawson and other SGA leaders continued to focus on building a statue that best represented the student experience at Mercer.

“The students have liked that the statue is not on a pedestal,” said Dr. Jenkins, who was dean of students when the statue campaign started. “That caught the student’s eye. They wanted to be able to sit on the bench and talk to Jesse.”

Soon after the statue was installed in 1995, the SGA started a rumor that rubbing his head before a test would bring good luck, Dr. Jenkins said. These days, it is not uncommon to see students seated beside Jesse Mercer on the bench, reaching over and rubbing his head, or simply rubbing it as they run by on their way to class.

“I am embarrassed to say that I do rub his head often,” said Jordan Locke, current Mercer student and SGA member. “I like to rub his head right before tests I am worried about for good luck.”

That enthusiasm toward Mercer would make Lawson proud, according to 1990 graduate Lynn Creech Murphey, who was SGA vice president when Lawson was SGA president.

Dr. Jenkins gives much of the credit for the statue to Lawson, who seemed to understand the importance of his work at an early age.



Christmas Tree Lighting

move from the quarter system to the semester system created the need for a Christmas celebration on campus. And this annual gala has turned into a highly-anticipated and well-attended Mercer tradition.

“The tree lighting started when we were moving from the quarter system to the semester system,” said Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for institutional effectiveness and former longtime dean of students. “We realized we had to celebrate Christmas. Back then, students got out at Thanksgiving and did not return until after the holiday.”

Since the late 1990s, the December event has grown in popularity and attendance. Initially, a new tree was cut each year, but now there is a permanent live tree on the Quad near Willingham for the annual celebration, which includes traditional holiday songs, hot cocoa and seasonal festivities.

“It is an outdoor event that the entire campus attends,” said Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. “The Mercer Singers perform. There is a Christmas message given by the University minister. There is usually a rousing rendition of the ‘Twas the Night before Christmas’ read by a faculty member. And it is all followed up by the lighting of the tree.”

Jordan Locke, who co-chairs the Heritage Life Committee for the Student Government Association, said the annual celebration gives students a taste of the holiday season without disrupting the academic experience.

“Most students are in the middle of finals,” said Locke, a Blackshear, Ga., native who is helping organize the event for the second year. “They want to come out and see the lighting of the Christmas tree, enjoy some cocoa and get a Christmas mug.”

The popularity of the Christmas mugs has helped solidify the tradition for Mercer students. The mugs are designed uniquely each year, thus giving students an opportunity to graduate with four unique Christmas mugs, Locke said.

This year, the Christmas Tree Lighting will be held Dec. 9, with more than 500 students, faculty, staff and their family members expected to attend the event.

PRIOR TO 1997, THE ONLY Christmas tree lightings that most Mercer undergraduate students experienced were in their respective hometowns. In fact, before that time, very few Christmas lights were on the Macon campus at all during December. However, the 1997



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

The Christmas Tree Lighting service each year is organized and facilitated by Mercer students.

BRUCE RADCLIFFE PHOTO



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

Founder's Day

FOR A 177-YEAR-OLD UNIVERSITY, Founder's Day is bound to be special. At Mercer, while the annual celebration has a checkered evolution, the tradition is as strong as ever today. Founder's Day began in 1891, 20 years after the University moved from Penfield to Macon. At that time, Founder's Day was a celebration centered on Jesse Mercer's birthday. Mercer's two competing literary societies, Phi Delta and Ciceronian, each brought in a speaker to honor the heritage of Mercer and its founder.

Founder's Day remained a significant annual event for Mercer for the next 40 or 50 years, said Dr. Doug Pearson, vice president and dean of students. The occasion had different formats during this period, ranging from political events attended by state governors to all-day historic celebrations.

While this tradition remained strong during the early- to mid-1900s, interest began to wane in the 1950s and 1960s, Dr. Pearson said. By the end of the 1960s, the tradition had been completely removed from the University calendar.

The absence of Founder's Day lasted until the mid-1990s, Dr. Pearson said. At that time, the Student Government Association brought the event back to the Macon campus.

"Now, it has morphed into an event where we bring back prominent alumni to talk about their experiences at Mercer," Dr. Pearson said. "And it has once again become a great tradition at the University."

Recent alumni speakers have included Georgia State Representative Brooks Coleman Jr., Bill Yoast, subject of the Disney movie "Remember the Titans," and former Olympic track and field coach and Georgia

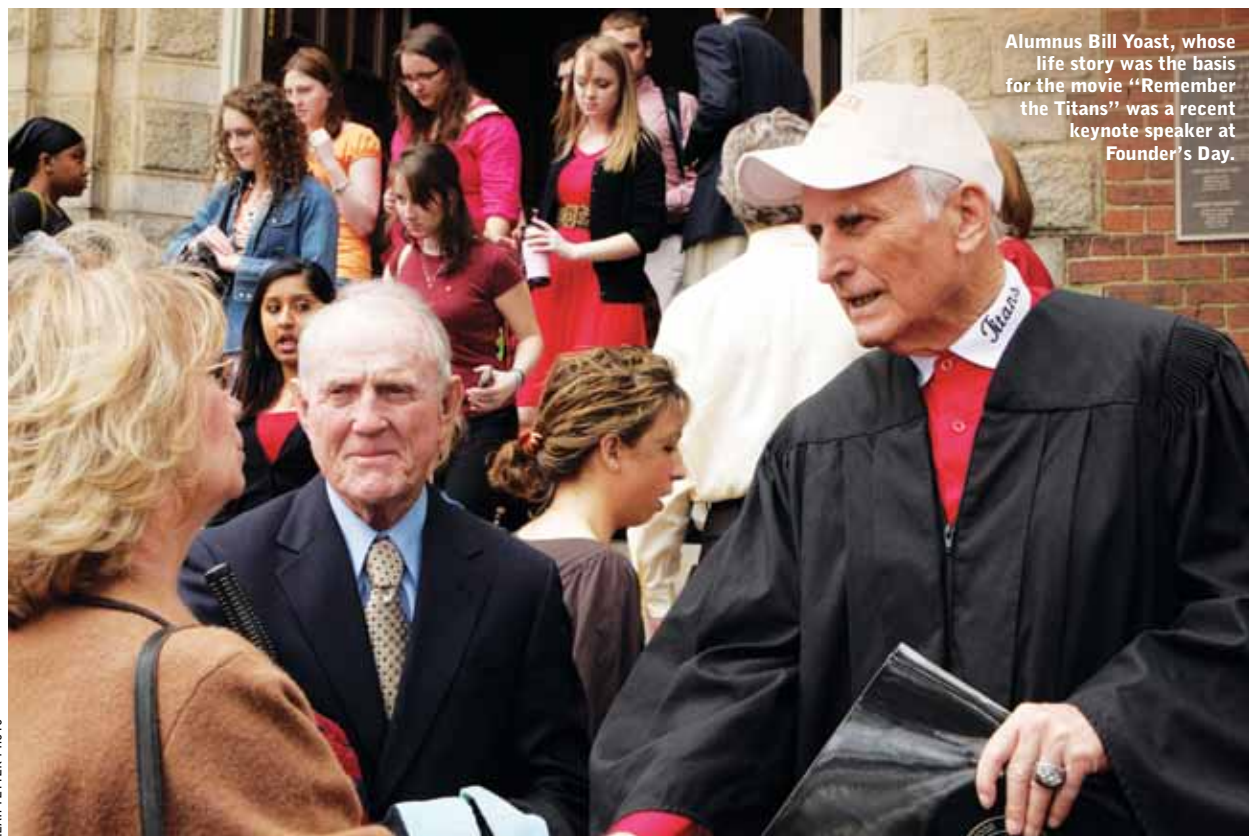
Sports Hall of Fame member Jimmy Carnes.

In 2008, as part of the University's 175th anniversary observance, five Mercer "legends" were invited to speak as part of the Founder's Day celebration. The "legends" were author Dr. Ferrol Sams Jr.; Sam Oni, Mercer's first black student; longtime English professor Dr. Mary Wilder; attorney and author Robert Steed; and former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell.

The next Founder's Day will be celebrated Feb. 16, 2011. The speaker will be chosen this fall in collaboration between the Student Government Association and President William D. Underwood.

"We provide two to three names to President Underwood," said Jordan Locke, SGA member and co-chair of the Heritage Life Committee. "He (Underwood) provides us his recommendation, we ratify the choice, and then President Underwood issues the invitation."

Locke and Dr. Pearson both agree the event is an effective method for current students to honor the heritage of the University, as well as understand the impact the Mercer experience can have on their lives.



Alumnus Bill Yoast, whose life story was the basis for the movie "Remember the Titans" was a recent keynote speaker at Founder's Day.

LEAH VETTER PHOTO

Ring the Tift Bell

WHEN TIFT COLLEGE MERGED with Mercer in 1986, the alumnae of the Forsyth women's school

were apprehensive about Mercer's commitment to honor the Tift heritage. Mercer had joined with the Tift College Alumnae Association to create a plan to honor the historic institution, but when Mercer closed the campus in 1987, that concern was heightened by many members of past classes.

"It was difficult," said Marianne Vinzant Ramsey, a 1959 Tift graduate. "My father was my president at Tift and my grandfather was also a [Tift] president. It has a very special place in my heart."

Then-President R. Kirby Godsey acknowledged the challenges of merging Tift into Mercer, especially following the closing of the school. During that period of the late 1980s, he continued to stress Mercer's commitment to honoring the legacy and heritage of Tift.

That persistence paid off for Mercer and Tift alumnae, primarily through the partnership of past alumnae and current Mercer women participating in the Tift College Scholars Program. This program provides scholarships, leadership development, and, most importantly, mentoring from Tift alumnae to 125 women attending Mercer, which also named its College of Education for Tift in 2001.

Ramsey, who admits it took some time for her to accept the transition, knows that the Tift memories are special but they must be carried on through the tradition of Mercer's Tift Scholars Program.

"The pride I have now is in the Tift Scholars Program," said Ramsey, who recently joined the Tift Scholars Alumnae Board. "That is our future. We can have our memories, but we have to move forward together."

And that future is a combination of the heritage of Tift and the momentum of Mercer. Part of this history and tradition is the ringing of the Tift Bell, which graduates began ringing in 1959 as part of commencement ceremonies.

Ramsey, who was president of the 1959 graduating class, was the first senior to ring the bell and still remembers how loud it was when she rang it. Today, Tift Scholars and Tift alumnae gather each April as part of the Tift Alumnae Weekend to ring the bell, which is located on the grounds of the Tift Alumnae House on Coleman Avenue.

Amanda Whatley, a 2003 Mercer and Tift Scholars Program graduate, said the bell is just one of the symbols of the historic interaction between the Tift Scholars and Tift Alumnae.

"When you graduate, you get Tift medallions and you get to sign the book with all of the Tift graduates," Whatley said. "Then, with the

yellow rose in your mouth, you get to ring the Tift bell, rain or shine."

Whatley, who said the program was a significant factor in her choosing to come to Mercer, serves on the Tift Alumnae Board and stays involved with the Tift Scholars Program.

"We have an annual Holiday Tea, the Tift Alumnae Weekend and many service projects," Whatley said. "Watching the interaction between the Scholars and alumnae is really rewarding."



Sylvia Hall McEver, Tift '59, and her classmates ring the senior bell during the celebration of their 50th class reunion in April 2009.

LEAH VETTER PHOTO

Homecoming

is new to Mercer. The event has been celebrated sporadically during Mercer's history and was typically focused on student events with very few, if any, alumni activities. It is rapidly becoming a popular tradition.

"It was not until President Underwood came that we got alumni involved in Homecoming and it became a major event," said Dr. Barry Jenkins, vice provost for institutional effectiveness and former longtime dean

MERCERIANS ATTENDING Homecoming during the last couple of years may be surprised to know the tradition in its current form

of students. "In the past, we had alumni weekends and they were in the spring and they were not associated with an athletic event."

But that has changed since 2007. Homecoming is now a significant



PHOTOS: ROGER IDENDEN, SALOVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY, LEAH YETTER



event with a bonfire and pep rally, fireworks show, a 5K race, student skit competition, and basketball games against the likes of Georgia Tech and Florida State. This year, Homecoming will be held the week of Nov. 15, culminating with a host of activities that weekend, including a women's basketball game against Furman and a men's game against Harvard.

The campus comes alive on Friday afternoon with Half Century Club activities and the women's basketball game against Furman, followed by the skit competition — a light-hearted show featuring student organizations.

"After the skit competition, students march across the campus to Bear Hill, where they are joined by hundreds of alumni, faculty, staff and community members for the pep rally and bonfire," said Dr. Doug Pearson,

vice president and dean of students. "The evening ends with a spectacular fireworks show over the campus."

Saturday starts early with the 5K run, an orange pancake breakfast, a mid-morning flag football tournament, the Athletic Hall of Fame Luncheon, class reunions, and rolls into the afternoon tailgating and men's basketball game. More reunion activities and a Homecoming Concert featuring the Kinchafoonee Cowboys at downtown Macon's Cox Capitol Theatre round out the evening.

"The Homecoming experience is part of President Underwood's vision of an enlivened Mercer community experience that unites alumni, students, staff, faculty and the Macon community," said Larry D. Brumley, senior vice president for marketing communications and chief of staff.





MERCER UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING NOVEMBER 14-21 2010

www.mercer.edu/homecoming



2010 Homecoming Schedule

For complete information, visit our website often: www.mercer.edu/homecoming

Friday, November 19

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| 1 p.m. | Planned Giving Council Meeting, <i>CSC II</i> | 7 p.m. | School of Engineering 25th Anniversary Reception, <i>The Brickyard at Riverside</i> |
| 3:30 p.m. | National Alumni Board of Directors Meeting, <i>Bear Rock Café</i> ; followed by pre-game hot dogs and burgers | 7:45 p.m. | Skit Competition, <i>Location TBD</i> |
| 5:30 p.m. | Women's Basketball Game vs Furman, <i>University Center Arena</i> | 9 p.m. | Pep Rally and Bonfire for Alumni and Students, <i>Bear Hill</i> (Enjoy complimentary smores and hot chocolate at our traditional Homecoming kick-off event!) |
| 6 p.m. | Undergraduate Class of 1960 50th Reunion Dinner, <i>Idle Hour Country Club</i> | | |

Saturday, November 20

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|---|
| 7 a.m. | 5K Road Run Registration, Porter Patch | 12:30 – | BSU Alumni Reunion, <i>Newton Chapel</i> |
| 8 a.m. | 5K Road Run Begins | 1:30 p.m. | (For more information and to register, visit facebook.com and search for the group Mercer BSU Reunion) |
| 8:30 a.m. | Orange Pancake Breakfast, Porter Patch
\$5 per plate; proceeds benefit MDA | 12:30 – | Regeneration, a professionally published book of art, poetry and prose compiled from works of CCPS alumni, on sale at tailgating. \$16 per book. |
| 9:30 a.m. – | Bear Market in the University Center open | 2 p.m. | |
| 5 p.m. | Purchase Mercer merchandise before and after the game | 12:30 – | Law School Alumni Tables at Tailgating |
| 10 a.m. | Class of 1960 Campus Tours,
<i>Depart from Connell Student Center Breezeway</i> | 2 p.m. | |
| 10 a.m. | Athletic Hall of Fame Brunch,
<i>Presidents Dining Room, By invitation only</i> | 12:30 – | Admissions Table at Tailgating |
| 10 a.m. – | Greek Houses open for viewing | 2 p.m. | |
| Noon | | 2 p.m. | Bear Bronze Unveiling, <i>Front of the University Center, near Stetson School of Business</i> |
| 10 a.m. – | School of Engineering Open House,
<i>LaTorre Plaza, located between School of Engineering and the Science & Engineering Building</i> | 3 p.m. | Men's Basketball Game vs. Harvard |
| Noon | | 3 p.m. | Overflow viewing, <i>Bear Rock Café, University Center</i> |
| 10 a.m. – | ROTC Reunion, <i>New rapelling tower; located behind the tennis courts</i> | 3 p.m. | Watch Party, <i>Cox Capitol Theatre</i>
(No tickets to the game? Bring your friends to the Capitol and watch the Bears on the big screen! Free admission; food and beverages available for purchase.) |
| Noon | Colleges and Schools Open Houses,
<i>Various Locations</i> | | |
| 11 a.m. – | Half Century Club Reception and Luncheon,
<i>Intramural Courts</i> | 7 p.m. | Homecoming Concert featuring the Kinchafoonee Cowboys, <i>Cox Capitol Theatre</i> (Alumni tickets: \$10 each; Mercer student tickets: \$5 each; Public tickets \$10 each. Tickets go on sale Oct. 25. Food and beverages available for purchase.) |
| Noon | Athletic Foundation Meeting,
<i>Griffin B. Bell Board Room</i> | | |
| 12:30 p.m. | Tailgating, <i>UC Patio</i> (BBQ, fried chicken and more! \$5 per plate, includes drink; pay at door) | | |

Men's Basketball Game Tickets For Alumni

Available October 25, 10 a.m.

\$10/each (limit 2 per alum) • Purchase Code: SPIRES10
(478) 301-5470 • mercerc.edu/homecoming

MERCER BEARS ROUNDUP

www.mercerbears.com

A Year to Remember: Mercer University Baseball Has a Season for the Record Books in 2009-2010

The 2009-10 Mercer baseball team had a season that won't soon be forgotten. The Bears were 38-24 overall, the second-most wins in school history.

The Bears caught fire at just the right time, winning 13 of their final 16 regular season games to propel the squad into the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. MU then cruised through the A-Sun tournament by outscoring its four opponents by an aggregate 30-12. Mercer trailed on the scoreboard in just one inning of one game the entire tournament.

With the A-Sun tourney win came the big

prize of earning the league's automatic berth in the NCAA championship tournament. The Mercer team played in the Atlanta Regional — hosted by Georgia Tech — and went 1-2. The Bears dropped the tournament opener to the host Yellow Jackets, bounced back to defeat Elon University in the elimination bracket, before being ousted by Alabama in a game that went down to the final out.

The win over Elon was even more significant because it was Mercer's first-ever NCAA post-season victory in any sport, and it was also the 200th career coaching victory for head coach Craig Gibson.

Along with the successful season on the field came the "perks" of post-season honors and accolades, as well. Sophomore Jacob Tanis was picked by the Colorado Rockies in the 26th round of the June MLB draft, after earning first team All-A-Sun Conference and third team Louisville Slugger All-America accolades.

Fellow sophomore Billy Burns was named to the All-Tournament team at the NCAA Atlanta Regional. Senior Michael Langley was named second team All-A-Sun, while the freshman trio of Evan Boyd, David Teasley and Matt McCall were tabbed on the A-Sun's "All-Freshman" team.



Senior Michael Langley swings at a pitch against Georgia Tech in the NCAA Regional Tournament.

SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

Bears Call on Gardner to Grow Women's Basketball

On June 24 Mercer named veteran NCAA Division I coach Susie Gardner as the University's new women's basketball head coach. Gardner was introduced as the Bears' mentor at a press conference attended by media and MU faithful in the University Center.

Gardner brings a wealth of experience with her as she enters her 25th season on the sidelines. Eighteen of those seasons have been at the Division I level, including 12 as a head coach. Between her time as a college coach and player, Gardner has been involved in a combined 13 NCAA tournaments (four as a player and nine as a coach) and three WNIT bids.

Most recently, Gardner spent the past three campaigns (2007-10) as associate head coach at the University of Florida. She joined the Gators after four seasons (2003-07) as the head coach at the University of Arkansas to give her the past seven seasons as a coach in the Southeastern Conference, regarded by many as the toughest women's college basketball league in the nation.

Gardner cut her teeth as a Division I head coach at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., where she had a highly-successful seven-season run (1996-2003), compiling an overall record of 112-93. From 1992-95, Gardner was assistant coach at Western Athletic Conference power San Diego State University. Her first "official" job as a coach came at Anderson College (now University), where she was head coach of what was then a junior



ROGER IDENEN PHOTO

Athletics Director Jim Cole presents new women's head coach Susie Gardner with her first Mercer apparel.

college program at the South Carolina campus from 1988-92.

Gardner is no stranger to Middle Georgia or the Southeast region, having spent two seasons as a graduate assistant at the University of Georgia (1986-88) following a stellar four-year playing career for the Bulldogs under legendary head coach Andy Landers. UGA made the NCAA Final Four her freshman and junior years as a player — including a national runner-up

finish in 1985 — and reached the NCAA tournament both of her years as a graduate assistant, as well. The Bulldogs won the SEC title in 1983, 1984 and 1986 as Gardner played alongside other noteworthy Georgia players like Teresa Edwards, Janet Harris and Katrina McClain.

Gardner was a member of the 1983 Sports Festival South Team that earned a gold medal. She was also a member of the USA's Select Team that competed in Canada.

Mercer to Again Host A-Sun Championships

Mercer, for the second consecutive year, will host the General Shale Brick Atlantic Sun Conference Men's and Women's Basketball Championship at the University Center. This year, the Championship will return to eight-team brackets as the University of North Florida and Kennesaw State gain eligibility after completing their respective four-year transition periods. The ninth-place, eligible team will not make the tournament.

This year's A-Sun Championship will continue its Wednesday-Saturday schedule. The 2011 Championship will run from March 2-5.

In its inaugural hosting of the tournament this past March, the Mercer men defeated Belmont and Jacksonville back-to-back nights, earning the right to play East Tennessee State University for the title. Before an overflow

crowd, the Buccaneers edged the Bears by six points as millions across the country viewed the contest on ESPN2 as well.

In 2010-2011, the Bears look to combine the senior leadership of Jeff Smith, Brandon Moore, Brian Mills and Mark Hall with an incoming talented recruiting class to make another run at the title.

Mercer University's women's team will look to new head coach Susie Gardner as it tries for a repeat appearance. The former University of Georgia player, who was a member of three SEC championship teams and a national runner-up team in 1985, has coached in several premier programs including UGA, the University of Arkansas and the University of Florida. She has participated in a combined 13

NCAA Tournaments.

Mercer basketball fans are encouraged to secure their 2010-2011 season tickets early.

In addition to having a reserved seat at each men's and women's home basketball games, season ticket holders will also be admitted to general admissions seats for the Atlantic Sun Conference Championship in March.

A seating chart for the University Center can be found at www.mercerbears.com. Also, a season ticket package includes the most sought-after ticket in Central Georgia this year, when the men host the Georgia Bulldogs on Dec. 23.

The complete schedules of both the men's and women's basketball seasons are on the back cover of this edition of *The Mercerian*.



Bobby Pope Era at Mercer Extends Four Decades

BOBBY POPE RETIRED ON JUNE 30 after 21 years as athletics director at Mercer. He was affiliated with Mercer for 40 years, starting in 1970 as a radio announcer and becoming athletics director in 1989. During his tenure, the University Center was constructed and renovations were completed at the baseball, softball, soccer and tennis facilities.

Rather than a long narrative, the staff of *The Mercerian* chose to recount Pope's career at the University through photos. Here are just a few of the highlights of his four-decade-long tenure at Mercer.

In 1989, Pope joins professional golfers Paul Azinger, Larry Mize, Chi Chi Rodriguez and Tom Watson at the Mercer Golf Classic at the Country Club of the South in Atlanta.



Pope with National Football League legends Roger Staubach of the Dallas Cowboys, above, and Dick Butkus of the Chicago Bears, right, at the 1990 NCAA Silver Anniversary Awards Banquet in Dallas, Texas.



Don Baxter, CLA '65, Butch Clifton, CLA '63, and Jack Manton, LAW '67, join Pope at the 1995 M Club Golf Tournament in Cumming.



Above, Pope participates in the 1992 dedication of the plaque at Central City Park commemorating Mercer's football victory over Georgia Tech in the Yellow Jackets' first game ever. Unveiling the plaque are former Macon Mayor/County Commission Chairman Tommy Olmstead and Former Georgia Tech Athletic Director Homer Rice.



Pope presents the legendary Sam Mitchell, CLA '93, with his retired jersey in 1995.



In 2001, Bart Starr, former Green Bay Packer quarterback and the Most Valuable Player in Super Bowls I and II, is welcomed to Macon by Pope to speak at the Executive Forum.



Pope and other senior administrators write their signatures in 2003 on one of the first steel beams erected at the University Center.



Pope welcomes Minnesota Twins legend Harmon Killebrew to a Bears baseball game at Claude Smith Field.

Below, at his last All-Sports Banquet in 2010, Pope presents awards to Holly Oglesbee and James Florence.



A-Sun Receives NCAA Women's Hoops Grant

On June 23, the NCAA announced that the Atlantic Sun joined 13 other schools and conferences receiving funds as part of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Grant Program to increase awareness, exposure and attendance of women's basketball. A total of 88 member schools and conferences submitted proposals in the third year of the pilot program.

"What we have learned during the first two years of the program is that marketing focused on ticket sales rather than just attendance and

programs that focus on a single concept stand out. They have proven to be more successful in terms of overall attendance, achievement of specific program goals, the ability to bring in new fans and long-term sustainability," said NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Vice President Sue Donohoe.

National office staff served as evaluators of the proposals. Grants are awarded on a one-year basis and are not automatically renewed.

"Being awarded this grant, in addition to having been the only conference in the country

this past year to have 100 percent participation in the NCAA Women's Basketball Pack the House program, is exciting news," said Sherri Booker Atlantic Sun Senior Associate Commissioner. "We salute our member institutions for their dedication in promoting women's basketball and this Grant will allow us the opportunity to continue to do so. We have so many positive things occurring in our women's basketball programs, and we will work hard to continue this success in the 2010-2011 year."

Mercer Renews Broadcast Contract with Clear Channel

Mercer has renewed its contract with Clear Channel Broadcasting Inc. to serve as the flagship radio network for the University's men's basketball games in 2010-11. The broadcaster's sister FM stations WPCB 96.5 and WZCH 102.5 will serve as the flagship stations for all broadcasts this season.

In addition, the games will be available on the World Wide Web on the WPCB 96.5 site at www.peach965.com and the Mercer athletic web site at www.mercerbears.com.

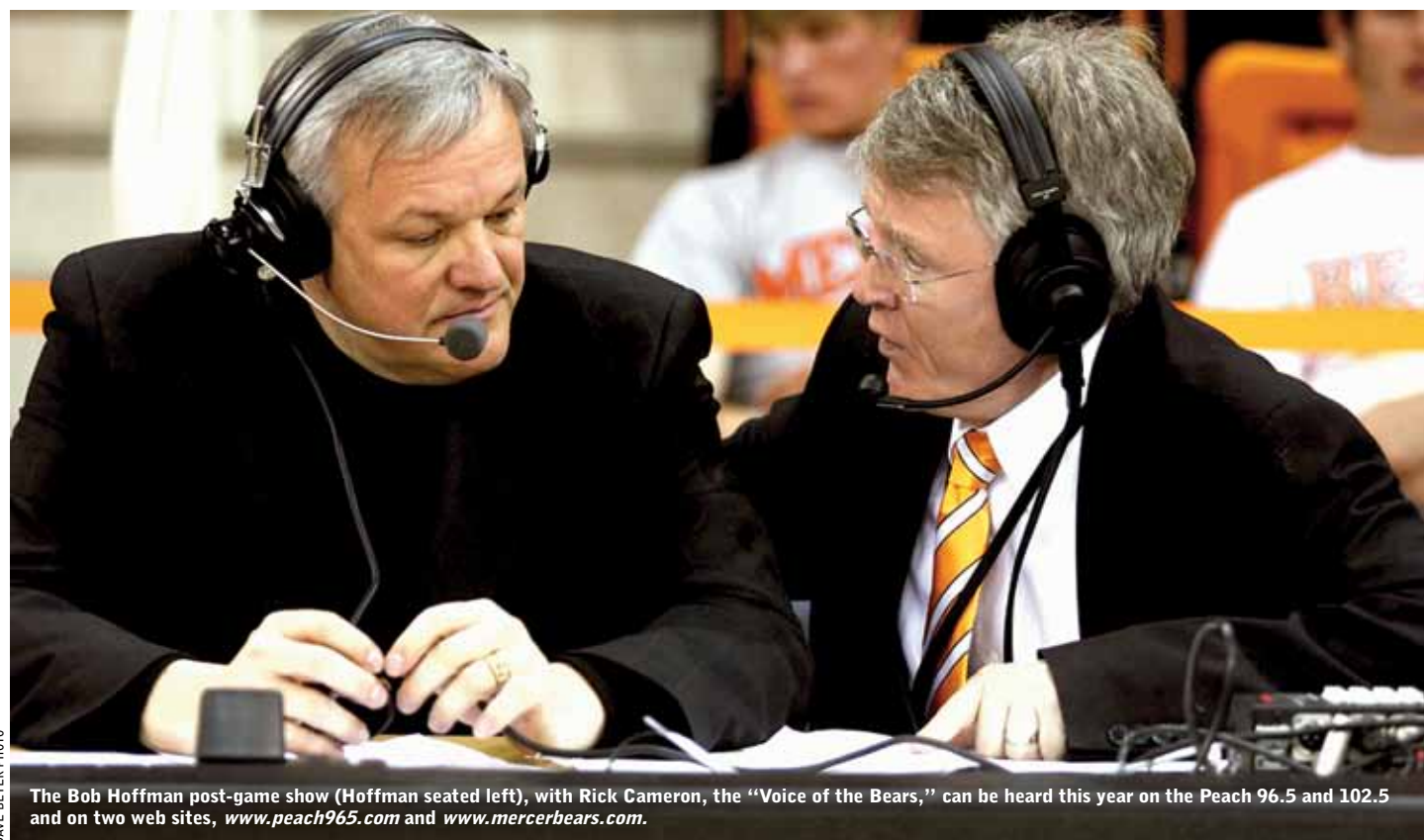
A new feature will allow fans to listen to broadcasts on their smart phones — including iPhones, Droids or Blackberrys — by downloading the free app, "iheartradio."

Mercer's Atlantic Sun Conference games will also be among the broadcasts, including the 2011 A-Sun Basketball Championships, to be played once again this year on the Mercer campus at the University Center. Last season, the MU men's team lost in the A-Sun tournament's final game and narrowly missed

an automatic bid to the NCAA championships.

Rick Cameron, "Voice of the Bears" for the past four seasons, will continue to call the play-by-play. Mercer's senior assistant vice president for marketing communications returned to the broadcast booth in 2006 after originally doing radio play-by-play in the late 1970s.

Other Clear Channel radio stations in the Macon market include Fox Sports Radio 1670 AM, V101.7, Q 106.3, 97.9 WIBB-FM and 1280 WIBB-AM.



The Bob Hoffman post-game show (Hoffman seated left), with Rick Cameron, the "Voice of the Bears," can be heard this year on the Peach 96.5 and 102.5 and on two web sites, www.peach965.com and www.mercerbears.com.

DAVE BEYER PHOTO



College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Alumni Recognized for Achievements and Contributions

Six alumni and friends of the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences were recognized for their achievements and contributions to the College during its annual Alumni Awards Dinner in June. The dinner was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Georgia Pharmacy Association in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Receiving the Alumni Meritorious Service Award was G. Brian Robinson, PHA '93. Currently employed with the Walgreen Company as a pharmacy supervisor for the Atlanta North District, Robinson is responsible for 38 pharmacy locations, including retail sites, employer work pharmacies, and on-site clinical locations. He is the Walgreens Market Leader for Healthcare Integration for Atlanta and a key contact and liaison for the COPHS. He has supported the College in numerous ways, including helping to secure funds for classroom renovations and student scholarships and supporting the annual pinning ceremony. He is a current member of the COPHS Board of Visitors and received the 2010 Dean's Award.

The Young Alumni Award was presented to Joshua D. Kinsey, PHA '05. Kinsey opened an "old-fashioned" pharmacy in his hometown

of Cleveland, Ga., in July 2009 and has been active with GPhA since his early days in pharmacy school. A recent graduate of the GPhA New Practitioner Leadership Conference, Kinsey was honored in 2008 as the GPhA-AEP Pharmacist of the Year and will be serving on the GPhA Board of Directors and as the GPhA-AEP chairman in 2010-2011.

Dr. Evan M. Demestihis was presented the Meritorious Service Award, which recognizes an individual who has contributed to the enhancement of the COPHS. A member of the College's Board of Visitors, Dr. Demestihis is a 20-plus-year veteran of the pharmaceutical industry and is currently CEO of The Medical Affairs Co., the pharmaceutical industry's leading Contract Medical Organization, or CMO. In 1997, he established Science Oriented Solutions, the industry's first CMO. He has held prior executive positions at Bristol-Myers Squibb, Sandoz Pharmaceuticals and Solvay Pharmaceuticals. He holds membership in numerous professional organizations, including the American Medical Association and the American College of Physician Executives.

The Carlton Henderson Award, which honors the longtime Mercerian and supporter of the College, was presented to Eddie M.

Madden. A 1971 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy and founder of Madden's Pharmacy in Elberton, Ga., Madden has been active in public service since 1976. He served four consecutive terms in the Georgia State Senate and went on to serve on the Georgia Board of Pharmacy for six years. He recently served as president of the GPhA. In March 2009, he was awarded the Hubert H. Humphrey Award from the American Pharmacists Association.

Two individuals were presented with the College's Preceptor of the Year Award. The Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences Preceptor of the Year is Brook Medley, a 2001 COPHS graduate who serves as vice president of Wilson Pharmacy in Forest Park, Ga. She has also worked in community pharmacy for Eckerd and Wal-Mart. The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Preceptor of the Year Award went to Tonya Pearson, a 1992 COPHS graduate who serves as clinical coordinator for Piedmont Fayette Hospital in Fayetteville, Ga. She completed a pharmacy practice residency with Piedmont Hospital and Mercer in 1993 and has served the College as a preceptor, guest lecturer, committee member, and adjunct faculty member for over 10 years.

WWII Vet Receives France's Highest Honor

Retired Pharmacy Dean Oliver M. Littlejohn was one of four World War II veterans from the Southeast United States honored on Sept. 1 at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins with the French Legion of Honor, France's highest honor. The honor was established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte to recognize both military and civilian persons who performed extraordinary deeds for France. Littlejohn, 85, from Sandy Springs, was in the Battle of the Bulge. He led his platoon despite being wounded and earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Dr. Littlejohn received an honorary doctor of science degree from Mercer on June 10, 1994.

At right, Pascal Le Deunff, the consul general of France in Atlanta, awards Littlejohn with the honor.



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO



PA Student Selected for Johns Hopkins Residency

Lindsay Watters, a member of the first class of Mercer physician assistants, has earned a coveted spot in the postgraduate surgical residency program for physician assistants at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. The hospital has been ranked No. 1 in the nation for 19 consecutive years by *U.S. News & World Report*. After completion of her Master of Medical Science degree at Mercer this year, Watters was accepted into one of five post-graduate positions in the program, which selects from a national pool of applicants.

"They only take the very best of the best," said Bradford W. Schwarz, M.S., PA-C, director of Mercer's physician assistant program in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. "It's quite amazing that a Mercer student was accepted given the fact that this was our first graduating class. I think this speaks directly to the reputation of the University and, hopefully, to the leadership and mission of our program. Lindsay is an exceptional woman and alumna who will do very well anywhere she goes."

During her tenure with the Johns Hopkins Postgraduate Surgical Residency for Physician Assistants, Watters will train for a variety of surgical specialties in academic and private settings.

In addition to completing her physician assistant studies, the Shannon, Ga., native served as representative to the Assembly of Representatives, representative to the House of Delegates, and junior director of external affairs for the Student Academy of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. As part of her work with the Student Academy, she attended the national meeting of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, as well as attended conferences for other health care professions and health care profession student organizations, educating them about the physician assistant's role within the health care team.

"Mercer's Physician Assistant Program has given me the tools necessary to not only become a physician assistant, but to become an excellent one," Watters said. "I am honored and humbled to have been chosen for the inaugural class of students for Mercer's PA program, because my presence in this program has not only instilled in me the knowledge to be a great health care provider, but the passion, compassion and generosity necessary to make a difference for my patients, and my career."

"The faculty and staff at Mercer continuously inspired me to push the limits and think outside the box, qualities that I know will benefit me greatly in the future," she said. "Without my training and growth during my tenure at Mercer, I would not have had the skills or the confidence to pursue such a prestigious residency position, and I

am forever grateful to the Mercer PA program for challenging me to always strive for more. I look forward to beginning the Johns Hopkins residency this fall, and will take the knowledge and ideals Mercer afforded me on this journey to Baltimore."

Lindsay Watters



SALVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY



Advanced Track Opens Doors for Nurses

When faculty at the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing developed its RN-BSN Advanced Track program in 1992, they did so with their heritage in mind. Before becoming a college in 1989, the hospital nursing school had been graduating diploma nurses since 1902.

"We wanted to provide an education track where diploma nurses could continue to advance their careers, especially as the BSN is now the minimum requirement for many nursing positions," said Dr. JoEllen Dattilo, professor and associate dean for undergraduate programs.

The RN-BSN program attracts licensed nurses with diplomas and associate degrees, as well as a growing number of international nurses, and graduates about 15 students a year.

Like similar RN-BSN programs at other universities, Mercer's curriculum is designed to accommodate working nurses. Rolling admissions and being able to enroll part-time or full-time helps nurses juggle school, work and families. "The difference in our program is that we have a dedicated faculty member who advises, counsels and teaches many of the RN-BSN courses. Our students receive a lot of personal attention," Dr. Dattilo said.

"They all come from different backgrounds and for different reasons, and we want to make sure that we're a good fit for their situations and goals," said Dr. Helen Hodges, professor and RN-BSN coordinator. One-on-one coaching is key to getting students with different course needs headed toward the same goal. Some nurses have been out of school for 30 years and want to move into management. Others want the satisfaction of finishing a college degree.

Nurses from other countries want to find jobs or advance their careers in the U.S. It can be a tough road facing government regulations, as well as cultural and language barriers. Some need extra help in navigating through the CGFNS (the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools) credential evaluation, understanding the licensure exam or transferring credits from international schools. Students who need to improve their English are referred to the University's English Language Institute before applying. Of the 29 students currently enrolled, there are nurses originally from Brazil, India, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Korea, Guyana, Lebanon/Armenia, Jamaica, the Bahamas, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Ghana and



GEORGIA BAPTIST COLLEGE OF NURSING PHOTO

Nigeria. "These are bright nurses with strong work ethics, who are willing to go the extra mile if you show them the way," Dr. Hodges said. "I'm excited by all that we can learn from each other."

Marketing has not been an issue. When nurses feel welcomed and encouraged to succeed, they spread the word to their peers. "Students tell us that the personal attention here makes all the difference to their success," Dr. Hodges said.

"It takes a leap of faith to go back to school," she said. "When you're skilled, comfortable and confident in your role as a nurse, it's intimidating to walk back into the classroom."

At Mercer, they find an atmosphere that respects experienced nurses and learning that is relevant to their practice. Clinical experiences are attuned to individual career goals.

Dr. Hodges doesn't tell them that they will be changed, but they are. "Going back to school helps them rediscover their passion for nursing. They leave pumped up, and it is my biggest hope is that they will find ways to be front-line leaders," she said. "A BSN will open doors and give them so many more opportunities."

Marquess Elected to National Board

Jonathan G. Marquess, Pharm.D. '93, CDE, CPT, was recently elected to serve on the American Pharmacists Association's board of trustees. He will serve a three-year term and be installed at the APhA's 159th annual meeting in Seattle, March 25-28, 2011. Marquess,

who is a member of the COPHS Alumni Association board of directors, owns three community pharmacies and is president of the Institute for Wellness and Education, a disease management company in the Atlanta area. He has served as chair of the APhA New Practitioner Committee and national president of the APhA-ASP, and is serving as a delegate in the APhA House of Delegates.

Hutchings Named GSMA President

Warren S. Hutchings, M.D., family physician from Macon, was inaugurated president of the Georgia State Medical Association at its meeting June 9 at Hilton Head. The GSMA is Georgia's association for minority physicians, founded in 1893. Dr. Hutchings has practiced in Macon his entire career and is currently associate professor of family medicine at Mercer.



Dr. Hutchings

Gamma Psi Named Chapter of Year

Mercer's Gamma Psi chapter of the Kappa Psi international pharmaceutical fraternity earned the Chapter of the Year Award for the 2009-2010 academic year. This is the second consecutive year that the Gamma Psi chapter has won the prestigious award.

Persistence, Attitude Help Medical Student Rise Above Disability

It is not uncommon for young children to idolize professional athletes, and Mercer medical student Oliver Horne was no exception. At a young age, he began to follow the career of Jim Abbott, a former Yankees pitcher and Olympic gold medalist.

The famous athlete, whom Horne met at spring training as a child, was not just someone he looked up to, but was a role model with whom he shared something more than a love of baseball.

“Abbott was born without his right hand,” explained Horne, “and I was born without my left hand.”

In fact, Horne’s left arm ends just below his elbow, a congenital condition most likely caused by amniotic band syndrome.

Like Abbott, Horne has never let his physical impairment get in his way. “It’s never stopped me,” he said. “There’s nothing I’ve come across that I haven’t been able to do. It’s something that I don’t even think about.”

That determination has served him well, said his parents, Wendell and Lisa Horne. “At first we worried about how he would crawl or what

other limitations he might have, but Oliver just did what he needed to do,” said his mother. “He sat up and crawled at an earlier age than his sisters and hopped on a bicycle when he was four without ever having been on one before.”

Some might call it over-achieving, but for this fourth-year Mercer medical student, it’s just a matter of wanting to do something, then figuring out the best way to get it done. “I’ve never let it get in the way of doing things I enjoy,” he said. With that mindset, he became

involved in sports as a young boy and went on to play varsity basketball, baseball and football, even earning the position of deep snapper as a freshman.

Stratford Academy coach Cater Pierce had been coaching 15 years and was skeptical when he first saw Horne on the basketball court. “I remember my first job at Stratford was to go to the Mercer basketball camp with our team. When it was time to start the game, other teams were hooting because we were sending someone with one arm onto the court.” Within two minutes, they realized their mistake. “The other guy

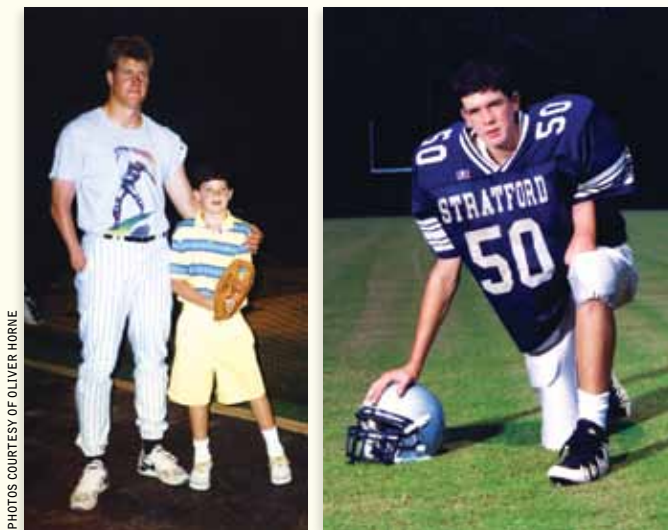
had the ball in the wing and was getting ready to shoot a three-pointer,” he said. “As the guy shot the ball, Oliver left the lane, reached up, and blocked it. The next thing we knew, Oliver caught a ball in mid-air, and, as he was falling out of bounds, threw the ball to a teammate who was already heading down court to make the basket. By then, the fans were on Oliver’s side.”

As a senior, Horne was named to All-Region in basketball and was presented the National Football Foundation’s Scholar-Citizen-Athlete Award by its Middle Georgia Chapter.

Horne, who now plays on Mercer’s intramural teams, admits that sports and other activities, like hunting and fishing, come naturally to him. “I use my left arm in whatever I do. It’s something I’ve adapted to. If I had another hand, I wouldn’t know what to do with it.”

His sisters, Caroline Fleming and Mollie McNeel of Macon, say they never considered him different when they were children. “It wasn’t like it stopped him from doing anything. Whatever he wanted to do, he did,” said McNeel.

Without intending to, Horne has followed in Abbott’s footsteps by reaching out to others who have experienced similar challenges. He’s talked to young boys before and after his own ballgames and befriended a young man in Texas several years ago whose arm was amputated following a car accident. “Talking



PHOTOS COURTESY OF OLIVER HORNE

(Above left) Major League pitcher and role model Jim Abbott and Horne have in common succeeding in athletics with just one hand. (Above right) Horne, even though born without his left hand, served as the deep snapper on the Stratford Academy varsity football team.

“Basically, one can either get on with life and enjoy life, or feel sorry for oneself. Oliver helped me see that I can deal with it, carry on, and achieve.”

to Oliver made me feel that having only one arm was not that big of a deal,” said Trey Lee. “Basically, one can either get on with life and enjoy life, or feel sorry for oneself. Oliver helped me see that I can deal with it, carry on, and achieve.”

Those words could be Horne’s own motto. In addition to excelling in sports, he also has done well academically. The Phi Beta Kappa, *magna cum laude* graduate from the University of Georgia continues to shine in medical school. “Oliver is a very likeable and dependable person,” said Blanca Lopez, M.D., of Mercer’s Department of Internal Medicine. “Any time you have a student who has a disability, you wonder how they’re going to handle the challenge psychologically as well as physically. Medical students are in situations where they have to be able to do certain things. Oliver never seemed to let it bother him. He would look at what he needed to do, then figure out how he could do it. I was always impressed with his attitude and with his ability.”

“Although Oliver has an obvious physical disability, he is in no way handicapped,” added Ellis Evans, M.D. “When I had him assist me in the operating room during his surgery rotation, he was 100 percent effective. I was extremely glad to have him with me.”

Like his colleagues, Mercer’s associate dean for admissions, Maurice Clifton, M.D., envisions a successful medical career for Horne. “One of the things that I most respect about Oliver is that he sees himself as totally normal. That is also how I see him, and I have not been surprised at all about his success. Attitude, perseverance and hard work are the attributes necessary to succeed in medicine whoever you are.”

By contributing writer Roban Johnson



SALDIVIA-JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

AlumniClassNotes

Key to Mercer Schools and Colleges — **BUS** — Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics; **CAS** — College of Arts and Sciences; **CLA** — College of Liberal Arts; **CCPS** — College of Continuing and Professional Studies; **DIV** — McAfee School of Theology; **EDU** — Tift College of Education; **EGR** — School of Engineering; **LAW** — Walter F. George School of Law; **MD** — School of Medicine; **MUS** — Townsend School of Music; **NUR** — Georgia Baptist College of Nursing; **PHA** — College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; **TCS** — Tift College Scholars; **Tift** — Tift College

Achievements

1940s

The Medical College of Georgia School of Medicine has awarded **Dr. William C. Shirley**, CLA '43, its Distinguished Alum Award posthumously.

1950s

William "Noah" Lindsay, CLA '53, recently traveled to Berlin, Hong Kong, Warsaw, Irkutsk, Ilaan Bator, Beijing, Xi'an, Bangkok, Singapore, Darwin, Alice Springs and Sydney. Lindsay teaches history at Florida Gateway College.

1970s

Kyle Carter, CLA '70, was appointed chancellor of The University of North Carolina on July 1.

Anne Longman, CLA '71, was selected as a 2010 Florida Super Lawyer in the area of environmental law.

Stan Pollock, LAW '73, has been named to a new term on the Board of Directors of the Bank Counsel Section of the Georgia Bankers Association. Pollack is an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker LLC.

David Thompson, CLA '72, '74, was chosen as one of only four professional storytellers out of the 1,500 considered to appear at the 60th annual convention of Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann, the largest gathering of traditional Irish performers in North America.

1980s

Melinda (Mallory) Moody, CLA '89, practices pharmaceutical sales with Novo Nordisk and serves the Middle Georgia area.

1990s

Chris Andrews, EGR '98, is the technical marketing manager at Samsung LED America. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in the Mableton/Vinings area of greater Atlanta.

Andrew R. Fiddes, CLA '95, BUS '96 and LAW '00, has been commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve.

David Kay, MD '98, was selected by Gov. Sonny Perdue to serve a four-year term on the State Medical Education Board.

Matthew Lauck, EGR '97, was promoted to director of strategic sales of Emerson's Retail Solutions group located in Kennesaw. Lauck previously held the title of marketing director.

Michelle Wilson McCarthy, PHA '94, was selected to serve as the vice chair of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Commission on Credentialing. She was also recognized by the ASHP as a fellow at the ASHP summer 2010 meeting. Dr. McCarthy is the director of medication management, use and policy and the program director for the PGY1-Pharmacy and PGY-2 Drug Information residency programs at the University of Virginia Health System in Charlottesville, Va.

Army Major Mike McGregor, BUS '93, was promoted to lieutenant colonel on July 29 in a ceremony held at the courtyard of the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

Texanna Massey Reeves, BUS '87, '97, is the vice president of corporate diversity for Sodexo. Under her leadership, the company was ranked number one on DiversityInc's Top 50 Companies for diversity list.

Jay Sanders, BUS '97, became an owner of Serotta Maddocks Evans & Co. CPAs on July 1, 2009.

Ahmed Samaha, CLA '92, was elected chair of the board of directors for the National Association for Campus Activities. His term began May 1. Samaha is the director of

student involvement at the University of South Carolina, Aiken.

2000s

Valerie Bandy, PHA '04, received the new Pharmacist of the Year award from the Texas Society of Health System Pharmacists in 2009 and was nominated to run for the TSHP 2011 president-elect, 2012 president and 2013 past president. She just finished a term as president-elect, president and past president for 2008-2010 for the Austin Area Society of Health System Pharmacists. She is currently a director and pharmacy specialist for Amerinet.

Julia Bennett, CLA '09, is finishing her Master of Science in Sports Medicine degree at Armstrong Atlantic State University. Bennett will graduate in May.

Jennifer Brown, CLA '05, recently earned her MBA from South University in Savannah.

Tara Owens Bruss, EGR '00, was promoted to program manager for the 787 Program for Goodrich Sensors and Integrated Systems.

Daa'iyah R. Cooper, CLA '06, graduated from Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, D.C., in May.

Julie K. Darty, CLA '08, accepted a job as an assistant volleyball coach at Villanova University.

Mercer On Mission for Alumni and Friends.

Mercer On Mission will partner next summer with the Fuller Center for Housing on a short-term building project in Peru that is designed for Mercer alumni and friends. For more information, please contact Craig McMahan at (478) 301-2992 or mcmahan_ct@mercer.edu.

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David Dod, CLA '01, was promoted to regional manager of the Southeastern United States with Augusta Medical Systems.

Darren Draper, EGR '05, is now an engineer-in-training. He is an associate of the Atlanta-based engineering firm Newcomb & Boyd and is an LEED accredited professional.

Chia Hsieh, EGR '02, and his wife recently opened Kuma Japanese Steakhouse in McDonough.

John Hansford, DMD, CLA '03, graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in May. He is continuing his education with a two-year residency at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, N.Y.

Amy Landers May, LAW '01, was recently selected as a shareholder at the firm Rogers Townsend & Thomas PC.

Kate Green Miller, BUS '06, was promoted in April to an assistant vice president of SunTrust Bank, Middle Georgia.

Karen (Molek) Sinclair, CLA '01, is assistant professor of chemistry at The University of East Florida in Pensacola, Fla. She lives in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., with her husband, David Molek.

Farooq Mughal, CLA '00, managing partner of MSGP LLC Governmental & Political Advisory, met with Kiran Ahuja, White House executive director on Asian-American affairs, United States Congressman Mike Honda of California and United States Congressman "Ahn" Joseph Cao of Louisiana to discuss the key legislative agenda of 2010-11.

Jennifer Wright Purcell, CLA '06, received a Master of Public Health Administration in Nonprofit Management degree from Valdosta State University in May. She was accepted as a doctoral student at Georgia's Department of Lifelong Education, Administration and Policy.

Sarah MacConnell Schanck, BUS '06, began a new career as a job development consultant at the Georgia College & State University Career Center in Milledgeville, where she focuses on employer outreach within the Middle Georgia and Atlanta areas.

April Trussell-Smith, CLA '06, recently earned her M.A. in English and American Literature from Brandeis University.

Stefanie Woodward, CLA '04, graduated from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine with the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine on May 29.

Marriages, Births & Anniversaries

1970s

Lew Hartman, CLA '75, and **Kathy (Thomas) Hartman**, CLA '75, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on June 2.

Alumnae, Former Trustees Adams and Grace Honored as 'Women of Achievement'

Former Mercer Trustees Nancy Grace and Cathy Callaway Adams were honored in Atlanta last May as YWCA "Women of Achievement."

Grace, who earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Mercer, was honored as the organization's 2010 "Woman of Achievement," and Adams, a graduate of Tift College, was named as one of 10 members of the 2010 Academy of Women Achievers. Both women recently completed five-year terms on the Mercer Board of Trustees.

For more than 25 years, the YWCA has honored Atlanta's premier female role models through the Academy of Women Achievers. Each year, 10 women are nominated by their peers into the Academy and are recognized at the annual Salute to Women of Achievement luncheon. These women represent what every young girl hopes she can and will become with opportunity and support. The Academy

of Women Achievers is the first major program to recognize the professional and civic accomplishments of Atlanta's women. Members of the Academy include Jane Fonda, former Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin, Monica Kaufman, Gladys Knight and Rosalynn Carter.

Grace hosts cable news' only legal analysis program, "Nancy Grace," which is the highest-rated show on HLN. One of television's most respected legal analysts, Grace came to HLN from Court TV, where she hosted the live daily trial coverage program, Closing Arguments, until 2007. She also has appeared as a legal commentator on CNN's Larry King Live, ABC's The View, The Oprah Winfrey Show, Dr. Phil, and numerous other cable and network programs. She is based in CNN's New York bureau.



Nancy Grace



Cathy Callaway Adams

Adams serves as executive vice president and chief administrative officer for the Atlanta-based Federal Home Loan Bank, where she oversees the bank's information technology, human resources, and administrative services functions. Adams joined the Bank in 1986, and she has held several high-level bank positions including senior vice president of staff services, group vice president of human resources and administrative services, and vice president and director of human resources.

Cindy (McLemore) Price, CLA '77, announces the birth of her first grandchild, Layla Paige Blankenship, on Jan. 8, 2009.

1980s

Tammi Newham Walker, BUS '89, and **Brent Walker**, CLA '89, celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary on June 1.

1990s

Chris Carrollton, CLA '90, announces the birth of his son, Justin, in October 2009.

Stephanie (Kimbell) Langley, EGR '96, announces the birth of her daughter, Camilla Grace Langley, on Feb. 28.

Shelley (Moore) McGraw, CLA '99, and her husband, Gabe, announce the birth of their first child, Graysen Elisabeth, on May 17. McGraw was named executive director of the Children's Advocacy Center in Chattanooga, Tenn., last year.

T.J. (Thomas) Van Auken, BUS '98, announces the birth of his son, Andrew Charles Van Auken, on Aug. 16, 2009.

2000s

Alison (McDowell) Alexander, MUS '03, and John Alexander announce the birth of

their son, Brady Sheppard Alexander, on Feb. 12. The Alexanders have another son, Connor.

Tara Owens Bruss, EGR '00, welcomed a baby girl in January.

Steven Carder, PHA '05, and **Beth B. Carder**, PHA '04, announce the birth of twin daughters, Madison Elizabeth and Lily Katherine, on Oct. 2, 2009. The family resides in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Theresa Light Critchfield, BUS '02 and LAW '05, and John Critchfield, announce the birth of their daughter, Mary Margaret, in October 2009. The couple has two other daughters, Anna Catherine and Kaitlyn.

Melissa Coone, BUS '09, and **Adam Cornett**, CLA '10, are engaged to be married.

Matthew Drury, CLA '06 and LAW '09, and **Cindy Strowbridge**, CLA '06, were wed on April 24 in Macon.

Lauren (Thomas) Fallin, CLA '07, and Jacob Fallin announce the birth of their daughter, Lakelyn Nicole, on July 21. The couple also has a son, Noah.

Alayna Maria (Price) Dukes, CLA '07, married **Andrew William Dukes**, BUS '09, on Oct. 24, 2009.

Jody Long, CLA '01, DIV '04, and Julie

Whidden Long, CLA '02, DIV '05, announce the birth of their first child, Merrill Marie, on Feb. 17.

Jo Ann (Bartlett) Loyd, EGR '06, and Scott Walker Loyd, EGR '06, were married on July 3 in Macon. The couple resides in Warner Robins.

Kate Green Miller, BUS '06, and Mitch Miller, EGR '05, announce the birth of their daughter, Libby, on Jan. 28.

Clayton Roberts, BUS '06, and Anne Mantiply Roberts, CLA '05, BUS '05, announce the birth of their daughter, Mary Alston, on April 20.

Katie Hald Sample, EDU '04, and David Sample announce the birth of their daughter, Emma Grace, on April 4.

Sarah MacConnell Schanck, CLA '06, married Justin Schanck on March 27. The couple resides in Macon.

Jonathan Strunk, EGR '04 and '10, and Melissa Newton Strunk announce the birth of their first child, Dane Richard, on July 16.

Heather Moore Whitaker, EGR '09, married Andrew Moore, EGR '10, on May 22.

Julia Redmon Whitt, CLA '07, married Matthew Whitt, BUS '07, on May 22.

In Memory

Friends

Mary Adelaide "Dixie" Haffenden Stewart of Macon died June 2.

George Andrew Christenberry of Augusta died April 21, 2009.

Earl W. Farriba of Macon died Feb. 18.

Gwendolyn Sue Bell Harris, Tift, of Albany died March 25.

A.H. Hines of Macon died Jan. 21.

Geneva Johnson of Macon died May 3.

Barbara B. Maner of Evans died May 4, 2009.

Carolyn Martin of Macon died Feb. 16.

Floyd W. Moore of Hephzibah died May 18, 2009.

Francis Robert Otto of Macon died Feb. 16.

Virginia S. Semak, Tift, of Cleveland, Tenn., died Jan. 24.

1930s

Irma Willis Barnes, CLA '38, of Del Ray Beach, Fla., died March 14.

Aurel Maner Erwin, CLA '37, of Macon died Feb. 2.

William H. Grimes, CLA '33, of Atlanta died May 5.

Emily Walker Hill, Tift '38, of Kennesaw died April 27.

Byron Kennerly, CLA '39, of Martin died July 12.

Sarah B. McGee Lifsey, Tift '32, of Salem, S.C., died Feb. 3.

William Joseph Patterson Jr. of Lawrenceville died Feb. 26.

Meredith B. Price, CLA '39, of Swainsboro died June 10.

Frances Estes Reagan, CLA '36, of Macon died Dec. 2, 2009.

1940s

Elizabeth Reid Berry, Tift '43, of Blairsville died May 30.

Frances C. Bradford, CLA '49, of Macon died June 9.

Kristine Yancey Burks, Tift '42, of Jonesboro died April 29.

Horace F. Chapman Jr., CLA '42, of Chattanooga, Tenn., died Feb. 15.

Clara Bailey Daniel, CLA '48, died May 7.

Carolyn Sistrunk Dudley, Tift '37, of Burnsville, N.C., died June 1, 2009.

Lynette Sharp Gibson, Tift '48, of Carrollton died Oct. 23, 2009.

Marguerite Goshorn Qualls Harper, CLA '42, of Lake Alfred, Fla., died June 22.

Charles C. Haslam Jr., CLA '42, of Marshallville died March 10.

Robert S. Holt, CLA '48, of Shreveport, La., died July 28, 2009.

George F. Hooper Jr., CLA '49, of Rome, died July 18, 2009.

Rose L. Johnson, CLA '47, of Tallahassee, Fla., died March 12.

Peggy Jo Jordan, CLA '47, of Galveston, Texas, died June 1.

William E. Laur, CLA '49, of Amarillo, Texas, died March 20.

William Claude Lee, CLA '49, of Macon died March 26.

Nursing and Tift Alumnae Cherry Rutland Dies

Cherry Braswell Rutland, NUR '63, Tift '65, and wife of former Mercer Trustee Robert "Bob" Rutland, died on Feb. 3. She was a devoted supporter of Mercer and was a life member of the President's Club.

Rutland was very involved in church activities

throughout her life. She was active at First Baptist Church of Covington as well as a church plant called Crossroads.

Rutland's sister, JoAnn Barber, preceded her in death. She is survived by her husband of 44 years; daughters and sons-in-law, Dawn and Ken Trygg,

Shelly and D. Hunter Hall, Carie and Clete Cordero; nine grandchildren, Brielle and Tyler Trygg; Jackson, Steadman, Holden, and Lauren Hall; Ansley Braden and Carson Cordero; and sister and brothers-in-law, Sally and woody Giezentanner and Norman Barber.

Radio CEO Osterhout Dies June 26

Michael D. Osterhout, CLA '71, of Tampa and Augusta, died June 26. He was a loyal Mercerian and supporter of the University.

Osterhout was vice president and chief operating officer of the radio division of Morris Communications Company, where he was responsible for national and international radio operations. He served in the Air

Force before beginning his career in radio at WDAE in Tampa. At the time of his death, he was a director of both the Radio Advertising Bureau and the Country Radio Broadcasters.

Osterhout is survived by his widow, Marsha; his daughter, Sidney; his mother, Imogene; and his sisters, Carole and Alice. He was preceded in death by his father, Sidney, and brother, Stephen.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORRISVISITOR PUBLICATIONS

Michael Osterhout

Ralph George Newton Jr., CLA '48, of Macon died Feb. 18.

Marion Wright O'Neal, Tift '40 &

EDU '67, of Forsyth died July 14.

Jane Orme Outen, CLA '40, of Richmond, Va., died July 15.

H. Elmo Simmons, CLA '45, of Macon died Jan. 3.

Peggy Smith Smith, Tift '47, of Newport, Tenn., died March 23.

Martha Munn Bedingfield, CLA '44, of Vidalia died Feb. 23.

Ray E. Tyner, CLA '47, of Albany died May 3, 2009.

James B. Williamson, CLA '49, CLA '82, of Macon died Feb. 23.

Estelle P. Young, Tift '46, of Gainesville, Fla., died April 1.

1950s

Richard Latimer Benson, CLA '50, of Athens died March 2.

Warren Everett Beal, PHA '55, of Dillard died July 9.

Keith W. Benning, LAW '53, of Augusta died April 24, 2009.

Winston O. Bullard, PHA '53, of Newnan died March 28.

George Burrows Jr., PHA '51, of Amory, Miss., died Feb. 28.

Orrin H. Carstarphen Jr., CLA '50, of Macon died April 6.

F. Malcolm Chapman, CLA '55, of Hiawassee died Jan. 6.

Margarite Washburn Childs, CLA '52, of Gray died April 28.

Berry Raymond Coppage, CLA '50, of Vero Beach, Fla., died April 19.

Lovick P. Culverhouse, CLA '51, of Macon died March 23.

Grant Finnell, CLA '53 and '61, of Carrollton died Feb. 20.

Freda G. Fox, CLA '50, of Jacksonville, Fla., died May 11.

Carolyn Burton Gregory, CLA '58, of Vienna died April 4.

Forrest L. Hagan Jr., CLA '51, of Commerce died July 5.

Sandra Linzer Hanley, NUR '58, of Niceville, Fla., died May 18, 2009.

Daniel B. Herron, CLA '51, of Norcross died May 4.

Esther B. Hester, CLA '56, of



The Offices of University Admissions and Alumni Relations are seeking alumni partnerships to spread the word about Mercer to prospective students by:

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Marietta died Jan. 26.

William Fred Hinesley Jr., CLA '54, of Savannah died June 3.

George A. Kemp, PHA '59, of Augusta died June 23.

John C. Kemper, CLA '51, of Pelham died May 19.

Louis Max Kent, CLA '56, of Clemson, S.C., died April 18.

The Honorable W.D. Knight, CLA '57, of Nashville died Nov. 28, 2009.

Thomas M. Knotts, CLA '54, of North Augusta, S.C., died March 24.

James A. Langley, CLA '57, of Jackson died March 18.

Dorothy Stroup Mansker, CLA '51, of Bradenton, Fla., died April 28.

Jack E. McClendon, CLA '50, of Washington, D.C., died Jan. 26.

Shirley W. McCool, CLA '57, of Cordova, Tenn., died May 17.

Bob H. McDermitt, CLA '57, of Garland, Texas, died June 1, 2009.

Ben C. McEwen, PHA '51, of Gainesville died April 12.

Floyd M. Meeks, EDU '53, of Statesboro died June 19.

Ira Loyd Morris, CLA '55, of East Point died Feb. 12.

Anna Ruth Odum Murphy, Tift '50, of Patterson died Dec. 12, 2009.

Kenneth E. Peirce Jr., CLA '54, of Columbus died Jan. 17.

J. Dixon Post, CLA '57, of Bartow, Fla., died Feb. 7.

Billy G. Roberts, PHA '55 of Rome died Jan. 25, 2009.

John W. Rogers, CLA '57, of Plano, Texas, died May 4.

Betty Williamson Schoendorf, CLA '52, of Vidalia died April 11.

Anne Fleming Singleton, CLA '50, of Glenville, N.C., died May 20.

Eugenia Z. Smith, CLA '53, of Macon died May 14.

William Savoy Smith, CLA '52, of Locust Grove died June 22.

Bert Lloyd Tapley, CLA '57, of Columbus died June 29.

Earl Hubert Wheeler, CLA '58, of Macon died March 24.

John A. Wimpey, CLA '50, of Hapeville died March 23.

James E. Worrall, EDU '57, of Perry died May 15.

Dr. Ed Roberts, School of Medicine Alumnus and Inventor of the PC, Dies at 68

Dr. Henry Edward Roberts, M.D. '86, died April 1. He was a member of the charter class of the Mercer School of Medicine and inventor of the world's first personal computer.

In the 1970s, Dr. Roberts built and sold the Micro Instrumentation and Telemetry Systems Altair 8800 — a predecessor of the first PC. Microsoft founder Bill Gates was inspired by Roberts' computer and later became an associate of the inventor.

Gates reportedly visited Dr. Roberts in Macon shortly before his death. In a blog post the day after Dr. Roberts died, Gates said "Ed was truly a pioneer in the personal computer revolution, and didn't always get the recognition he deserved. He was an intense man with a great sense of humor, and he always cared deeply about the people who worked for him, including us (Paul Allen and Gates). Ed was willing to take a chance on us — two young guys interested in computers long before they were commonplace — and we have always been grateful to him. The day our first untested software worked on his Altair was the start of a lot of great things. We will always have many fond memories of working with Ed in Albuquerque — in the MITS office right on Route 66 — where so many exciting things happened that none of us could have imagined back then.

"More than anything, what we will always remember about Ed was how deeply compassionate he was — and that was never more true than when he decided to spend the second half of his life going to medical school and working as a country doctor making house calls. He will be missed by many, and we were lucky to have known him."

In a 1995 interview with *The (Macon) Telegraph*, Dr. Roberts said he coined the term "personal computer."

"History has been rewritten," he said. "I've been to computer stores in Macon and asked them 'Who invented the personal computer?' Every time I've asked that question, they've always told me it was Apple ... We developed an entire industry before Apple ever shipped its first personal computer. When the fiction becomes bigger than the fact, you go with the fiction. Besides, Steve Jobs is more photogenic."

Dr. Roberts sold his computer company and became a farmer before making the decision to attend medical school. He was one of the first students to attend the Mercer School of Medicine after its founding in 1982. Known for his passion for rural medicine, he



AP PHOTO/ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/WILLIAM BERRY

Dr. Ed Roberts

practiced in Cochran from 1988 until his death.

In the 1960s, before inventing the Altair and becoming a physician, Dr. Roberts joined the United States Air Force and earned an electrical engineering degree from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Roberts is survived by his wife, Rosa Cooper Roberts; his mother, Edna Wilcher Roberts; his daughter, Dawn Roberts; his sons Melvin Roberts, Clark Roberts, Dr. David Roberts, Edward Roberts and Martin Roberts; and several grand- and great grandchildren.

1960s

William Raymond Barnette, PHA '64, of Clifton Forge, Va., died Jan. 27.

Larry M. Broadfoot, LAW '66, of

Vidalia, died June 17.

Donald R. Ford, CLA '60, of Conyers died Jan. 31.

Joe D. Hammonds, CLA '64, of

Macon died Feb. 27.

Lilyan M. Hanberry, Tift '64, of Macon died May 4.

Harriett Ruby Lee Human, Tift '63,

of Mableton died July 12

Filomena Tambuatco Mullis, Tift '68, of Macon died April 19.

Virginia Fickling Monfort, Tift '63,

of Macon died Jan. 23.

Patricia E. Moore, Tift '66, of Atlanta died May 11.

Everett Ezra Norton, CLA '64 of

Charlestown, W.Va., died May 16, 2009.

G. Donald Rabern, CLA '61, of Stone Mountain died May 21, 2009.

Charles M. Roberts, CLA '64, of Fort Lupton, Colo., died Aug. 21, 2009.

Joel Watson Sikes, PHA '68, of Brooklet died Oct. 28, 2009.

M. Francis Stubbs, LAW '69, of Reidsville died July 7.

Karen Jervis Supon, Tift '67, of Cedartown died Sept. 28, 2009.

Virginia Stewart Wheeler, NUR '63, of Sunnyside, Utah, died Feb. 27.

Robert C. Wiley, EDU '64, of Macon died May 1.

1970s

Faye Rudeseal Baggett, Tift '71, of Lilburn died June 26, 2009.

Ramona Dobbs Barber, CLA '78, of Pendergrass died March 3.

Claire Bowen Beall, CLA '70, of LaGrange died Jan. 21.

Pamela F. Boyd, Tift '77, of Milner died Jan. 24.

Michael G. Bryant, CLA '72, of Atlanta died Feb. 10.

Marie Byington Chapman, CLA '70 and EDU '83, of Macon died March 27.

Randall M. Clark, LAW '72, of Brunswick died June 15.

Eloise M. Devan, CAS '78, of Mobile, Ala., died June 6.

Annie Maude B. Fletcher, Tift '74,

of Barnesville died Aug. 4, 2009.

Richard L. Hodge, LAW '77, of Albany, died June 16.

Henry K. Jarrett III, LAW '78, of Louisville, Ky., died June 2.

Corinne Luther Kitchens, PHA '76, of Macon died March 4.

Leland Bailey Lacy, PHA '76 and '77, of Pembroke, Va., died June 1.

Darlene Miller Lindsey, Tift '71, of Fort Valley died Jan. 31.

Mickey N. Mayfield, CAS '73, of Jefferson died March 10.

John Dale Mixon, CLA '71, LAW '74, of Arlington, Texas, died March 3.

Joe Beck Moore, PHA '71, of Bowdon died June 18.

Paul R. Stockhammer, CLA '67 and EDU '72, of Atlanta died May 23.

Janice Loftin Wasden, CLA '70, of Warm Springs died Feb. 27.

1980s

Fred Robert Haymons, Tift '84, of Lumber City, Ala., died Sept. 8, 2009.

Arlis Durell Head, BUS '88, of Palm Coast, Fla., died Jan. 6.

David K. Lawson, CLA '85, of Tucker died Feb. 19.

William Clay McKey, LAW '81, of Valdosta died May 17.

Charles Gordon Milling, BUS '82, of Stockbridge died Feb. 2.

Warren Thomas Taylor, LAW '89, of Atlanta died April 10.

Laura Whitney Davidson April 23, 1986 – May 23, 2010

The Mercer family was saddened to learn of the death of 24-year-old Mercer alumna Whitney Davidson on May 23 from an automobile accident. Davidson came to Mercer from Alexander City, Ala., and graduated in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in program leadership and community service. She was chosen to participate in Teach For America and accepted a position teaching special education in the Mississippi Delta.

While at Mercer, David-

son served in leadership positions in the Alpha Iota Chapter of Phi Mu Fraternity. She also worked as a student assistant in the Office of Marketing Communications, where the staff often recruited her to participate in photo sessions.

Davidson was dedicated to improving the common good and embraced Mercer's strong service-learning component. She recognized the urgent need in underprivileged school systems, and she wanted to be actively involved in making



ROGER IDENDEN PHOTO

Whitney Davidson

the world a better place.

Phi Mu held a private memorial service on Aug. 22 for members and alumnae.

Dolly Hays Todd, LAW '84, of Dacula died March 30.

1990s

Jean Bailey Clark, BUS '91 and '94, of Griffin died April 10.

Arthur Sheldon Besser, BUS '99, of Macon died May 12.

Larry D. Burnham, BUS '94, of Warner Robins died Feb. 13.

Hayley H. Cheatham, NUR '91, of

Griffin died March 25.

Darria Denise Comer, EDU '90, of Macon died March 5.

Jill Nicole Meekins, LAW '97, of Mableton died July 3.

Carl Wayne Thurmond, MED '92, of Atlanta died March 9, 2009.

2000s

Mary Kathleen Ferreyra, LAW '00, of Valdosta, died June 8.

Andrea Denise Young-Miles, BUS '05 and '08, of Snellville, died June 22, 2009.

Janet Marie Miller, CCPS '04, of Jonesboro died Jan. 27.

Submit class notes to Jamie C. Dickson, CLA '05, director of advancement communications, at dickson_jc@mercer.edu.

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Janet Mattson Starr, NUR '66, Tift '70, BSN '81, Jonesboro, President-Elect

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Sarayud Tinakorn, BUS '94, Bangkok, Thailand, President
Masant "May" Nakornsri, BUS '96, Bangkok, Thailand, President-Elect

25-50-100 Years Ago ...



1985

Engelhard Corporation officials announced a gift of more than 700 volumes to the library for the School of Engineering. Pictured at the event are, from left, Mercer President R. Kirby Godsey, Engineering School Founding Dean C.B. Gambrell, Engelhard Corp. Vice President Glenn Taylor and Macon Chamber of Commerce President Allen Neal.

1960

Lyndon Johnson spoke at Law Day on Oct. 14, 1960. To his immediate left is Mercer University president Rufus Harris (inaugurated in 1961). To Johnson's right are Carl Vinson and Herman Talmadge. The men pictured far left and far right are unidentified.



1910

Mercer football that season:

Mercer 32 Locust Grove 0
 Mercer 3 Clemson 0
 Mercer 22 Georgia Medical College 0
 Georgia Tech 46 Mercer 0
 Mercer 14 University of Florida 0
 Georgia 21 Mercer 0
 Chattanooga 6 Mercer 0
 Mercer 23 Citadel 0
 Mercer 28 Howard 0

Giving

Mercer Ambassador Alumni Giving Back

Some students might find it difficult to look past graduation, much less imagine what life will be like as alumni, but Mercer's Student Ambassador program gives participants the opportunity to connect with graduates and learn the importance of being University supporters and active alumni.

The program, founded in 1983 and managed by the Office of Alumni Services, strives to develop future alumni leadership by introducing its members to graduates of the University at special events, meetings and reunions. Ambassadors share stories about their experiences at Mercer, and alumni are invited to do the same.

Alumni of the program said their experiences as Ambassadors not only taught them more about the University, but also about the importance of Mercer's alumni and donors.

Alison Alexander, MUS '04, was an Ambassador for two years. She said that her time in the program taught her the value of being an involved alumna and University donor. She is now a member of the Townsend School of Music Alumni Board and often attends basketball games and Homecoming events. She conducts

interviews during scholarship weekends and also gives to the University's Mercer Fund.

"Through the Ambassador program, I felt connected to the University. It was another way to serve Mercer, and it was a way for me to give back as a student," said Alexander, who was also a Tift Scholar and a member of the Mercer Singers. "It was neat to see how we, as students, benefited from the giving of others. We were able to see the new music building go up. There are so many things going on in the music school that are happening because of its donors."

Matt Miller, CLA '02, said he became an Ambassador because he wanted to tell alumni about the great things happening at their alma mater. "As an Ambassador, I saw first hand how important the relationship between Mercer and its alumni is," he said. "I wanted to show alumni that things were going well at Mercer. Now, I'm an alumnus, and I give because of what's going on at Mercer now."

Miller also said that the Ambassador program showed him that gifts from alumni help Mercer attract the best and brightest students. "I didn't realize before becoming an Ambassa-

dor that alumni donations help offset the cost of students going to school at Mercer," he said.

Each year, the Office of Alumni Services selects about 30 students for the Ambassador program. The office looks for students who love Mercer and who enjoy talking about their Mercer experience. Ambassadors must also excel academically and have a professional acumen.

Stephanie Hennigan, CLA '11, and current president of the Mercer Ambassadors, said her experiences in the program have taught her the importance of giving to Mercer. "[Donors] are real people with real families who have real expenses to cover, but they value Mercer enough to give to the programs that I have the opportunity to participate in and enjoy. Even though they've graduated, they continue to give back, which is something I will do as an alumna."

Students are interviewed in the spring and attend training before school starts in August. David Cook, CLA '01 and former Ambassador, offered some advice to current Ambassadors. "Enjoy the trips you take and the people you meet. They are great folks, and they will tell all sorts of stories about their time at Mercer," he said.

Scholarships Help Fulfill School of Medicine's Mission

If Crystal Bailey Gary, M.D. '05, could say anything to the donors who contributed to the scholarship she received, it would be "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Dr. Gary operates a family practice in her hometown of rural Blairsville with her husband, Thomas Gary, M.D. '05. She received the Joseph A. Ray Scholarship — one of the first scholarship funds established at the Mercer School of Medicine (MUSM).

She said that though she has always been passionate about practicing medicine in her hometown, without the scholarships she received, achieving her goal would have been impossible. "Without financial assistance, I never could have attended medical school," she said. "I am reminded of this everyday when I put on my white coat and head into a patient's exam room."

Scholarships often play a crucial role in a student's decision to attend MUSM. The School's mission is to provide a medical education for future physicians who will meet the health care needs of Georgia's rural and underserved communities. For students without financial aid or scholarships, this goal can be impossible to meet.

In spring 2009, Doctor of Medicine graduates completed their degrees with an average debt of \$180,000, while Master of Public Health graduates carried an average debt of \$48,521. Annual tuition at the School is approximately \$40,000.

"In today's shaky economic and health care climate, it's going to be difficult to convince future physicians to choose a primary care specialty and live in a region that is financially less beneficial than living in a city practicing as a specialist," Dr. Gary said. "Most students will choose to go large cities where it's easier to pay off their debt."

Currently, 161 scholarships offered in the School of Medicine assist 31 medical students.

Dr. Maurice Clifton, associate dean of admissions in the School of Medicine, said the cost of a medical education often discourages prospective students from attending medical school. "Studies show that physicians tend to go back to the communities they came from, so we want to recruit from all over Georgia," Dr. Clifton said. "I think students are intimidated by borrowing the full amount of loans — more than \$240,000 — to go to medical school."

Dr. Gary encourages current medical school students to consider practicing in a rural community. "There are few career choices that offer as much personal satisfaction as being a family physician in a small town," she said. "Family physicians are a needed, vital entity of the community, and are treated as such. I feel very blessed to enjoy going to work each day."

Dr. William F. Bina III, dean of the School of Medicine, said that scholarships and financial aid play a crucial role in a student's decision to attend Mercer and eventually return to his or her hometown to practice medicine as a primary care physician. "These scholarships are very important to both the School and the students in reducing the cost of a medical education," he said. "Any

reduction in individual student debt we can offer, especially for those from rural areas, increases the probability that they can afford to return and practice medicine in rural and underserved areas."

Aside from saying thank you to the donors of the scholarship she received, Dr. Gary said she hopes they realize what an impact their contributions had on her education and profession. "When patients

walk through my door, the last thing on my mind is whether his insurance is going to reimburse well enough to help pay off my medical school debt," Dr. Gary said. "Rather, I think about the kindness that was shown to me through the scholarship money, and I pass this kindness on to my patients."

If you would like to establish a scholarship in the School of Medicine or contribute to an existing scholarship, contact Donovan Eason in the Office of University Advancement at (800) 837-2911 ext. 5648 or eason_dk@mercer.edu.





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Mercer students are changing the world, and by simply answering the phone, you can help them.

This fall through early spring, Mercer phonathon students are making calls to more than 60,000 alumni to update contact information and seek support for The Mercer Fund — the foundation of all charitable giving to the University.

Gifts to The Mercer Fund help provide computers, journal subscriptions and lab equipment for our more than 8,000 students, and every gift, regardless of the amount, makes a difference.

So, when you get the call, please help our students change the world by making a gift to The Mercer Fund. Or go online now and make your gift through our secure Web site at www.mercer.edu/gift.

LEAH YETTER PHOTO



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2010-2011 MERCER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULES



Men's 2010-2011 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
November 4	GC&SU	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
November 12	Oglethorpe	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
November 14	University of Texas El Paso	El Paso, Tex.	2 p.m.
November 20	Harvard University (HC)	Macon, Ga.	3 p.m.
November 23	Florida State University	Tallahassee, Fla.	7 p.m.
November 26-28	Legends Classic	Williamsburg, VA	TBA
December 2	*Belmont	Nashville, Tenn.	8:15 p.m.
December 4	*Lipscomb	Nashville, Tenn.	7:30 p.m.
December 10	Navy	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
December 23	University of Georgia	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
December 30	UNC-Charlotte	Macon, Ga.	2 p.m.
December 31	Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.	1 p.m.
January 3	*East Tennessee State^	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
January 5	*USC Upstate^	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
January 10	*at Campbell^	Buies Creek, N.C.	7 p.m.
January 14	*at Stetson	DeLand, Fla.	7 p.m.
January 16	*at Florida Gulf Coast	Fort Myers, Fla.	2:05 p.m.
January 20	*Jacksonville	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
January 22	*North Florida^	Macon, Ga.	4:30 p.m.
January 25	*Kennesaw	Kennesaw, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
January 29	*at USC Upstate^	Spartanburg, S.C.	2 p.m.
January 31	*at East Tennessee State^	Johnson City, Tenn.	7 p.m.
February 5	*Campbell^	Macon, Ga.	4:30 p.m.
February 10	*Stetson^	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
February 12	*Florida Gulf Coast^	Macon, Ga.	4:30 p.m.
February 15	*Kennesaw State	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
February 18	*at North Florida	Jacksonville, Fla.	7 p.m.
February 20	*at Jacksonville	Jacksonville, Fla.	7 p.m.
February 24	*Belmont	Macon, Ga.	7:30 p.m.
February 26	*Lipscomb	Macon, Ga.	4:30 p.m.
March 2-5	A-Sun Tournament	Macon, Ga.	TBA

Home games are in **BOLD** | * - Atlantic Sun Conference Game | ^ - Doubleheader
All Times Eastern | Schedule is subject to change

Women's 2010-2011 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
November 4	GC&SU	Macon, Ga.	5 p.m.
November 12	at Auburn	Auburn, Ala.	5 p.m.
November 16	at Georgia Southern	Statesboro, Ga.	7 p.m.
November 19	Furman (HC)	Macon, Ga.	5:30 p.m.
November 27-28	at Georgia State Tournament	Atlanta, Ga.	TBA
December 2	at Belmont*	Nashville, Tenn.	6 p.m.
December 4	at Lipscomb*	Nashville, Tenn.	5 p.m.
December 7	at Georgia	Athens, Ga.	7 p.m.
December 20	Charleston Southern	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
December 22	UNC Asheville	Macon, Ga.	1 p.m.
December 28	at Georgia Tech	Atlanta, Ga.	7 p.m.
January 3	*East Tennessee State^	Macon, Ga.	5 p.m.
January 5	*USC Upstate^	Macon, Ga.	5 p.m.
January 10	*at Campbell^	Buies Creek, N.C.	11:45 p.m.
January 15	*at Stetson	DeLand, Fla.	1 p.m.
January 17	*at Florida Gulf Coast	Fort Myers, Fla.	7:05 p.m.
January 22	*North Florida^	Macon, Ga.	2 p.m.
January 24	*Jacksonville	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
January 26	*at Kennesaw State	Kennesaw, Ga.	7 p.m.
January 29	*at USC Upstate^	Spartanburg, S.C.	4:30 p.m.
January 31	*at East Tennessee State^	Johnson City, Tenn.	4:45 p.m.
February 5	*Campbell^	Macon, Ga.	2 p.m.
February 10	*Kennesaw State^	Macon, Ga.	5 p.m.
February 12	*Florida Gulf Coast^	Macon, Ga.	2 p.m.
February 14	*Stetson	Macon, Ga.	7 p.m.
February 18	*at North Florida	Jacksonville, Fla.	5:30 p.m.
February 20	*at Jacksonville	Jacksonville, Fla.	TBA
February 24	*Belmont^	Macon, Ga.	5 p.m.
February 26	*Lipscomb^	Macon, Ga.	2 p.m.
March 2-5	A-Sun Tournament	Macon, Ga.	TBA

Home games are in **BOLD** | * - Atlantic Sun Conference Game | ^ - Doubleheader
All Times Eastern | Schedule is subject to change

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