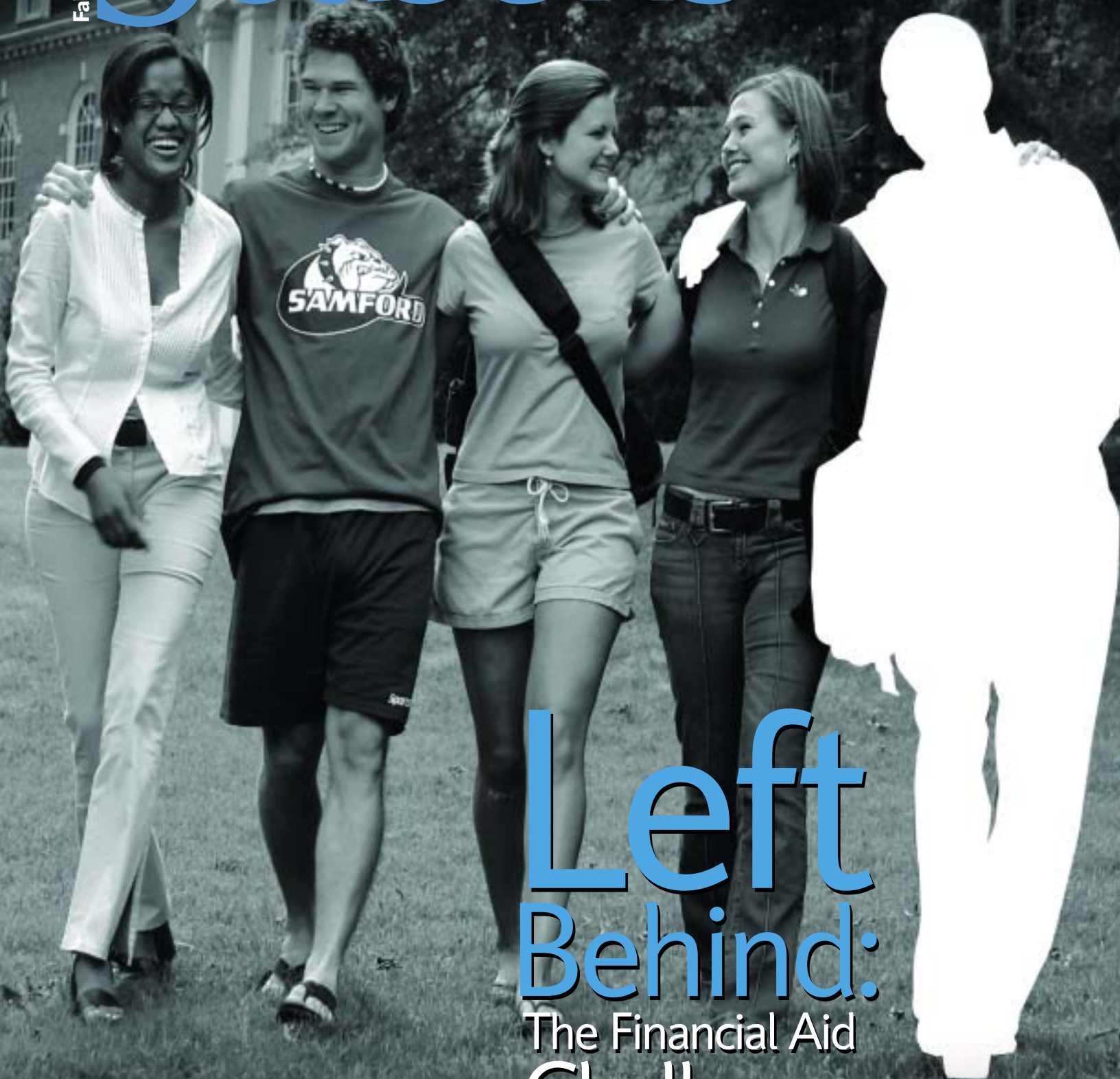


Samford University

Fall 2004

Seasons



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Earlier this year, Samford announced fund-raising initiatives that would increase the number of scholarships for current and prospective students. Provost Brad Creed and Dean of Admission Phil Kimrey discuss the issue in a question-and-answer session. Meet six students already on scholarship.

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Eugenia Vykhodseva has listened to hundreds of professional and nonprofessional choirs in 30 years as director of Kapella Hall in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is not easily impressed. But she liked what she heard—and said so—as the A Cappella Choir performed works by Russian composer Bortnianski.

26 Calling It a Career

Martha Ann Cox touched the lives of several generations of Samford students during her 38 years as a Samford administrator. "If I have made any contribution to Samford, it has been to individuals," she said at her retirement in July. Returning to her hometown, Talladega, she will stay active in community affairs.

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Our Declaration of Independence speaks of inalienable rights, including “. . . life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” The Constitution uses the phrase “. . . life, liberty, and property.” Some suggested a further adaptation of what was an old slogan to read “. . . life, liberty and opportunity.” With whatever problems our nation has, to most of us, America has proven to be a land of amazing promise.

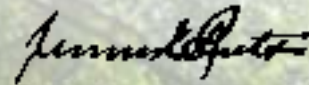
Opportunity is obvious in the fact that more Americans are enrolled as college/university undergraduates this fall (13.7 million) than at any time since the peak of the Baby Boom in 1982 (10 million). That record is unmatched anywhere in the world, a signal achievement of our form of government and the generosity of our people. The 680 well-chosen freshmen who began at Samford a few days ago, and the 140 transfer students, are among that record number.

I often think of my own parents and in-laws—bright, energetic, talented—but born at a time of less opportunity. When they came out of high school in the Great Depression, money was in short supply, farmers had difficulty being paid for their production and whole families were living in automobiles, desperately seeking jobs of almost any kind. Opportunity was scarce. Not one of my wife’s or my parents was able to obtain a college degree.

By the time my wife and I reached college age in ’59–’60, even young people from economically limited homes could borrow, work, earn scholarships and find a way. We did not do it by ourselves: but with a lot of encouragement, loans, grants and scholarships, we made it. It took us a while to pay it back, but we are forever grateful.

Students today are still knocking on the door of opportunity. Thankfully, from families, churches, foundations and individuals, living and deceased, Samford has more than 500 separate scholarship funds that every year open the possibility of Samford to worthy students and their families. Federal and state government support is significant. In loans, grants and workshops, Samford makes available more than \$12 million in help each year, most of it awarded on a need basis. The result is that Samford serves a great many families of very modest income, including minority families and internationals.

A responsible citizenry, alumni and caring friends are passing on the blessings they have received. It is our generosity that has created opportunity, making American higher education the envy of the world.



Thomas E. Corts
President



Life, Liberty and
Opportunity

Celebrating 20 Years in London

by William Nunnelley

Jeremiah Mosley spent the spring semester in London at Daniel House, the Samford study centre. He's visited cities in the United States and Europe, but to his mind, the British capital is the most fascinating.

"The diversity of culture, the history, the availability of the arts, being able to take the Tube five stops to an original section of the Roman Wall—it's just great," he said.

Morgan Earley also spent the spring at the London study centre.

"I enjoyed the diversity of London: the theatre, the symphony, the museums," said Earley, "and the bookstores."

Mosley, a Samford junior, enjoyed London last spring. Earley, a 1986 graduate, discovered the British capital in 1985.

That the two students felt the same about their London experience almost 20 years apart is not surprising. The program has engendered glowing comments from the outset. Samford purchased the former bed-and-breakfast hotel during 1984, and students and faculty have been raving about what a great experience it is since.

At Homecoming Oct. 29, Samford will hold a 20-year reunion for London Program participants—students, faculty and friends—giving everyone a chance to relive their days in England. As part of the celebration, London alumni are asked to send their photographs for inclusion in a Samford Art Gallery exhibit (see below).

London Programs Director Jane Hiles credits the foresight of Samford President Thomas Corts in choosing a location that allows classes immediate access to the cultural riches of the city.

"The location of Daniel House not only allows, but encourages, experiential learning," said Dr. Hiles. "The result is that students and faculty alike rank their semester in London as one of their most meaningful and most satisfying academic experiences."

Hiles says the experiential aspect of the London semester has changed the way she teaches on campus.

"I now make a point of taking my Cultural Perspective classes to the Birmingham Museum of Art and my Shakespeare classes to a live performance at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery," she said.

It was just such an impact that Corts envisioned when he and his wife, Marla, accompanied by Samford Trustees Ben Brown and Ben Harrison and their wives, traveled to London in 1984 seeking a site for a Samford centre. They looked at 23 properties in four days.

"Discouraged and about to leave empty-handed, the group made one last call at 12 Ashburn Gardens, SW7," Corts recalled. They found the property ideally situated and quickly acquired it as a freehold.

"Having the house is one of the best things about Samford's London Program," said Chris Edmunds, a junior who was at Daniel House this spring. "I have friends in other schools with international programs, but they don't have houses, and that's a disadvantage."

Edmunds, an accounting/finance major, also praised the internship program that enabled him to work at PricewaterhouseCoopers in financial management during his London stay. "I thought I would make copies, but I did actual accounting work about 25 hours a week," he said.

Nonetheless, Edmunds and the other students traveled broadly in the United Kingdom and Europe during their four-month stay. Three-day weekends—a part of the program since the start—encourage the travel.



An estimated 8,000 students and 125 faculty members have experienced London because of Daniel House, Corts noted in a 2002 column for Seasons. "Its significance in making Samford globally aware is immeasurable," he added. ■

London Alumni: Send Your Photos

Samford will commemorate 20 years in London with a photo exhibit in the Samford Art Gallery at Homecoming Oct. 29. London alumni are encouraged to submit 8" x 10" or larger London photos for this purpose. Several pieces will be selected by a juror to hang in Daniel House. Send framed and ready-to-hang photos to Robin Snyder, gallery director, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229. Contact her at rdsnyder@samford.edu or (205) 726-2508.

Albert Brewer Wraps Up His Third Career: Teaching

Albert Brewer had two career loves for many years: the law and politics. During the past 15 years or so, he added another: teaching.

The first two pursuits helped lead him to Samford University and Cumberland School of Law in the late 1980s. That's where he discovered the third.

Brewer was Alabama governor from 1968 until 1971. Historians describe him as the state's only New South governor in the 20th century. His experience in politics taught him, among other things, the value of having a credible nonpartisan source of information on public policy issues.

And that's what brought him to Samford.

"As governor, I would talk to all the interested parties involved in an issue," he said. "Afterward, I would just assume that the facts were somewhere in the middle. There was a legislative reference service that would prepare the language for a bill, but it did no research into issues. The legal fiscal office would provide financial information on budget issues, but there was no agency that would provide information on nonfiscal issues such as water quality, Medicaid, law enforcement, health issues, conservation and such."

Alabama was still without an independent public policy research organization when Samford President Thomas Corts helped Brewer and a group of state civic leaders form the Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama [PARCA] at Samford in early 1988. Brewer was named its first executive director.

"PARCA has no agenda except good government," said Brewer. "It publishes all its research and does no secret work for individual interests."

Over the years, the organization has produced over 50 major studies and a number of special reports on various aspects of state and local government.

THAT'S A WRAP



"... I would just assume that the facts were somewhere in the middle."

Public office holders, media members and the public are its audiences, said Jim Williams, who became PARCA executive director in 1996, when Brewer was named chairman of the board.

PARCA has earned respect because of its mission to provide cold, hard facts on a variety of issues that, according to *The Anniston Star*, "allow genuine leaders to set an agenda higher and bolder than the flatbed of a pickup."

As gratifying as the work with PARCA has been, Brewer has found teaching equally satisfying. He has held the rank of distinguished professor of law

and government since coming to Samford.

"The opportunity to interact with students is refreshing, because our students are so very bright and enthusiastic about their schoolwork, about their careers and about our society," he said.

Brewer taught Alabama constitutional law, ethics and law office practice, and coauthored textbooks on constitutional law with colleague Charles (Bo) Cole of the Cumberland faculty. He also taught undergraduate history courses during his first several years.

He "thoroughly enjoyed" teaching and is proud of the accomplishments of

Working to Keep Freshmen Connected



Dana Basinger

Basinger's office serves as a clearinghouse for numerous programs that impact freshmen, including the Success Mentoring Program, the Student Success Seminar and Freshman Forum.

Problem-solving is a key element of her job, which she formally assumed June 1. About halfway through the summer, after a series of phone calls, she walked out to Freshman Life secretary Donna Phillips and said, "I finally figured out what my job is."

Before she could say anything, Phillips said, "Calming people down?"

That's it, said Basinger, and helping freshmen feel connected to faculty, staff and one another.

"If they feel connected, they are more likely to want to stay at Samford and will do whatever is necessary to make that happen—academically and socially." ■

Dana Basinger expects to spend plenty of time with 2004 Samford freshmen. Not only is she the director of freshman life, she also teaches one section of Communications Arts 101 and serves on the team of advisers for undeclared majors, which can number more than 300.

Plus, her daughter is one of Samford's 680 freshmen this fall. Other freshmen may have encountered her lugging boxes into a residence hall on move-in day.

New students first met Basinger during orientation sessions in June, when she was part of the team helping freshmen and their parents get acclimated to university life. One of her favorite times then was during lunch and dinner, when she met the newcomers face-to-face.

"I thought I would see more anxiousness," she said, "but that did not appear to be so—just a lot of questions, anticipation from the parents and compliments on the session presenters."

She was "energized by the contact and was struck by the excitement on the faces of most everyone there," she said.

Basinger was named to her post in April, succeeding Dr. Amanda Borden, who returned to teaching full-time in communication arts. Previously, Basinger taught communication arts and was chairperson of the faculty Core Literacies team. A faculty member since 1997, she has been active in Samford's Problem-Based Learning initiative and has represented the University in PBL presentations.

his former students. He mentioned three who are serving in the Alabama Senate—Curt Lee '93, J.D. '96, of Jasper; Zeb Little, J.D. '94, of Cullman; and Myron Penn, J.D. '98, of Union Springs—and another, Robert Aderholt J.D. '90, of Haleyville, who represents Alabama's Fourth District in Congress.

The spring semester was Brewer's final term as a full-time professor. Although he will teach one course in the fall, he has formally taken his retirement.

"I have the best of both worlds now," said Brewer. "I can enjoy retirement but continue to be involved with the students."

His fall course is entitled Beyond Professional Responsibility: What It Means To Be a Lawyer. It will study ways lawyers can serve through public service.

Looking at his career, Brewer said "one of the greatest awards I ever received" was the George Macon Teaching Award in the spring of 2001. The award cited his "unwavering commitment to the highest ideals of the legal profession: justice, compassion and the importance of contributing to one's community."

He was proud of it, Brewer said, because "it symbolized that I was respected as a good teacher." ■

Law Prof Honored for Role in Church Bombing Conviction



Don Cochran

More than 40 years ago, in September of 1963, four young black girls were killed in the bombing of Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. Two years ago, federal prosecutors convicted former Ku Klux Klansman Bobby Frank Cherry for the killings. Another man, Thomas Blanton, Jr., was convicted the year before.

Don Cochran, associate professor of law at Samford's Cumberland School of Law and former federal prosecutor, was a key member of the prosecution team that convicted Cherry. In August, he and prosecution colleagues Robert Posey and Jeff Wallace were recognized by Attorney General John Ashcroft for their courtroom success in the case.

The trio received the John Marshall Award for Trial Litigation in a formal ceremony at Constitution Hall in Washington, joining almost

200 U.S. Department of Justice employees from around the country being honored for various kinds of work. The award is named for the early chief justice of the Supreme Court.

"Their dedication to pursuing the prosecution of this crime resulted in bringing to justice those responsible for one of the most notorious terrorist attacks in American history," said Assistant Attorney General Peter Keisler.

Cochran, who holds undergraduate and law degrees from Vanderbilt University, left the Justice Department and joined Cumberland during the summer of 2002. One of his great strengths as a practicing lawyer was his ability to integrate technology into the presentation of a case. At Cumberland, he teaches advanced trial advocacy, which stresses the use of technology, as well as basic trial advocacy and criminal law. ■



Left Behind: The Financial Aid Challenge

Financial aid, specifically merit-based and need-based scholarships, is an important element of the college selection process for today's students. Samford University recently announced fund-raising initiatives that would increase the amount of scholarship funding available to current and prospective students.

In recent extensive interviews with *Seasons*, Provost J. Bradley Creed, Samford's chief academic officer, and Dean R. Philip Kimrey, Samford's chief admission and financial aid officer, talked about Samford's scholarship program. Because of space constraints, the interviews have been edited for length. The full transcripts of the interviews can be found at www.samford.edu/news.

Profiles of six students holding scholarships are included with the interviews.



What is Samford's general philosophy about student scholarships?

Creed: When I arrived at Samford, I was really surprised that we weren't doing more in this area [scholarships]. What we are doing is great, but we must do better. We want to be able to provide resources for qualified and deserving students, and to attract the best qualified students to enroll and graduate from Samford. That's basically our philosophy.

Kimrey: Our general philosophy is to help the people who need it. . . . Our commitment as an institution is to keep costs low, and we do that many ways . . . to make it a little more affordable for the average family to send a student here. The majority of our funds—scholarships and institutional grants—are for students with financial need. That means, through a financial analysis, we determine those students and families who have the most needs in comparison with others. We're helping those who need it the most.

Why is important for a university like Samford to offer merit-based and need-based scholarships?

Creed: We want to accomplish two things. We want to make higher education accessible to qualified students. We also want to attract the most qualified students we can. This fits our mission as a university in that we strive to be the best.

Kimrey: Diversity. We need to have some students who are financially needy and some students whose families can provide for all their needs. The financial aid process at Samford is designed and implemented so that we can have some level of diversity from a financial perspective of the types of students who attend here. If we have more scholarships available, that will help us attract other students or make the loan burden less for freshman students.

How important is a scholarship program to the University's overall academic reputation?

Creed: To have scholarship funds demonstrates that our alumni and friends are committed to supporting this and believe in the goals of the institution. It's one of those benchmarks that you have more funds to help deserving students. It shows that you are able to attract the funding that is a vote of confidence in the University.

Kimrey: Reputable academic institutions provide scholarship assistance to students who will succeed in the future, whether that's in graduate school, research, professional training. The expectation is, if you are a worthy academic institution, you will have resources to attract the right students.

Is it important from an academic perspective for Samford to have academic scholarships available, particularly for specific departments and academic units to offer?

Creed: Yes, it is. Eventually, students are going to have to declare a major. If they have an interest in a particular subject and scholarship funds are available, we can help both needy students and provide resources for meritorious students.

Kimrey: It is important from a recruiting perspective that students know they are getting a scholarship from a department. Those departments do need more scholarship funds because it is important to recognize students as outstanding juniors or seniors. For parents, the bottom line is what is important. They just want to see the scholarships and don't always about care the source [of the funds].

Samford's tuition and total costs generally are competitive in its peer group and sometimes are lower than in its peer group. Why does Samford need to offer scholarships at all?

Creed: Even though we might be a better buy than our peers, a college education still is a very expensive proposition. There may be students who would never be able to afford to go to a school that charges more than we do, and scholarships



Sarah Bell
Montgomery, Ala.

Sarah Bell is a junior French/Spanish major who ultimately plans to attend law school and study immigration and international law. This summer, she studied French and lived with a French-speaking family in Montreal, Canada.

"I have been fascinated by government, legal and international affairs, as well as other cultures, for a long time," she said. "I have always valued language and the ability to communicate effectively.

"Due to the current globalization of our economy and society, the ability to break language barriers and build bridges to more effective communication serves as an increasingly essential tool."

One of the best ways to do this is "a cultural and linguistic immersion experience," such as the one she was involved in this summer. She attended classes at the Universite du Quebec a Montreal l'Ecole de Langues with students from Syria, Kuwait, Peru, Mexico, Haiti and Canada.

Sarah, a Beeson Scholar, also spent the early summer working as an intern in the office of Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions.

Always active in extracurricular activities, she was vice president of her freshman class. Last summer, she attended the American Association on Higher Education Summer Academy with Samford faculty and administrators and represented Samford at the Kansas Breakaway Citizenship School. She and the others worked with the Pelathe Center, which partners with local groups and agencies to develop positive programs for Native American youth and underserved populations.

Sarah got to know Samford by attending the Alabama Governor's School between her junior and senior years in high school. She credits Samford with challenging her "to grow spiritually, academically and socially," and with helping her gain insights about future plans. "The Beeson Scholarship enabled me to attend Samford and, thus, to benefit from the numerous opportunities and unique characteristics Samford offers students," she said.

She will enter the Honors Program this fall and hopes to be able to continue her language studies in Spain next spring. ■

scholarships

Matt Spann

Dothan, Ala.



Matt Spann says Samford taught him an important lesson.

“It encourages students not to fall into the common trap of complacency,” he said. “It teaches a very important lesson that everyone must learn at some point: there are greater purposes in life than being successful.”

A premedical student as an undergraduate, Matt earned his degree in May and started medical school in August. He became interested in studying medicine when he was 16, and he had made up his mind to attend a large state university. A visit to Samford changed his mind.

“When I visited Samford, I felt at peace and knew this was the place I wanted to go,” he recalled. He came to know the University as a close-knit community of caring people.

“One of my favorite memories of Samford will always be the biology faculty,” he said. “I have great respect for the depth and methods they use to prepare students. Although their teaching has been very beneficial, the aspect that I will hold most dear is the friendships that I developed with them.”

An active student who served as a Samford Ambassador, Matt said his Presidential Scholarship provided a degree of financial freedom that allowed him to concentrate on academics and develop relationships that have shaped his life. “Lessons learned with friends outside the classroom are equally as important as anything you learn in class,” he says.

Matt doesn’t know where his medical training will lead, but as a Christian, he will “allow God to light my path,” he says.

How does Matt rate his Samford experience?

“Priceless,” he said. ■

scholarships

make it possible for them to come here and to have the kind of education that Samford provides.

Kimrey: The most important reason is to help students. We look at several factors. We want to attract the best and the brightest to come to Samford. Students who are above average academically based on standardized exam scores, high school grade point average, high school courses—however you measure those students who are above average—generally can write a ticket anywhere. They are going to get offers—public and private—to go wherever they might want to go. So, from a scholarship perspective, we need to be competitive.

The estimated actual cost of educating a student at Samford is about \$25,000 per year, but the University has published total costs—tuition, room and board—as about \$19,500 for the 2004–05 academic year. Does that mean that every student automatically is receiving a \$6,000 scholarship?

Kimrey: That is a legitimate way of looking at the costs, but those are not real dollars to people. People are looking for real money—something in their pockets. The vast majority of families with whom we work tell us that Samford clearly is their first choice—of the student and of the parent. They want to be here, but they need some help. For some families, that’s \$2,000. For others, that may be \$12,000. We just don’t have the resources to provide help to every family at their level of expectation. That is why the process must work and why financial assistance funding from other sources is important.

What do we say to those constituents that tell us “unless you can offer me scholarships, I am not going to be able to attend Samford?”

Creed: We would like to attract the best qualified students possible. We clarify that by saying that we are not in the business of buying students. I think part of the strength of Samford is not just in getting as many qualified students as we can . . . but taking qualified students who will benefit from the kind of education we have to offer. Therefore, we have to balance between merit and need, but obviously, the more scholarship funds we raise, the most merit-based and need-based scholarships we have to offer.

Kimrey: If they truly are saying “we need assistance,” then we try to explain our process. . . . We have a process where we try to evaluate their financial perspective and do what we can to try to help them. We stress that we are the best option out there, but it will not be free.

Why does Samford not offer annual scholarships to all Alabama Baptist students who want to attend Samford?

Creed: Creed: The \$5 million we receive annually from Alabama Baptists is important to us, but we provide much more than that in student aid. Of course, we offer scholarships to all ministerial students. About 80 percent of Samford’s undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid, and about one-half of our undergraduate students are Baptist. So, it would be fair to say that Samford offers more than double in financial aid what we receive annually from the Alabama State Baptist Convention (see box at left).

Kimrey: We do offer some level of assistance. We have a \$750 scholarship for the freshman year only. It’s called the Earl Potts Scholarship.* If you are an Alabama Baptist, active in a church, and that is documented by the church, you receive this scholarship for the freshman year.

financial facts

Based on 2003–04 fiscal year

Total operating budget:	\$97,604,558 ¹
Revenue from tuition and fees:	\$62,731,758 ²
Alabama Baptist gifts:	\$4,917,117 ³
Annual “sticker” price:	\$18,398 ⁴
Annual per student cost for the University:	\$21,983 ⁵
Financial aid budget:	\$12,281,556 ⁶
Fall 2003 total enrollment:	4,440
Fall 2003 undergraduate enrollment:	2,882

¹Annual audit still was being completed at press time.

²Approximately 65 percent of total revenue.

³Approximately five percent of total revenue

⁴Undergraduate tuition, room and board as quoted in the University catalog.

⁵Includes instructional, facilities and other educational support costs

⁶Includes all forms of financial assistance provided



Rachel Lim
Memphis, Tenn.

Rachel Lim decided she wanted to major in music education after attending the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts as a high school junior. Later, she visited Samford for music auditions and "fell in love" with the

school, she said.

"Samford set aside a full day for auditioning students to get to know other students and faculty members," she recalled. "It was much more personal than some other places I visited."

She earned a music scholarship for flute, and played in the Samford Marching Band and Samford Orchestra as a freshman. She was principal flutist in the orchestra and Wind Ensemble last year as a junior and continued in the marching band. She also joined the University Chorale as a sophomore and the A Cappella Choir as a junior, and took part in the choir's trip to Russia in June.

"Samford offers a richness of opportunity for students to be a part of various ensembles," she said.

Rachel began her musical pursuits playing piano in kindergarten. She added the flute in middle school. Ultimately, she hopes to teach music theory at the college level, so she'll head to graduate school after completing undergraduate studies next May.

But first, she's looking forward to her senior year, when she will serve as president of Delta Omicron music fraternity and add the handbell choir to her other ensemble pursuits. In addition to her music activities, she has maintained a 3.969 grade point average.

Rachel found her way to Samford through recommendations from people in her church, Trinity Baptist of Cordova, Tenn., where her parents were members of the choir. Her parents had saved for college, she said, but she would not have been able to attend Samford without help.

"The scholarship allowed me to come to Samford, and the experience has been so much more than I could have hoped for," she added. ■

scholarships

Is it possible that some students would do better at other institutions because of a lack of scholarships available for them at Samford?

Creed: I don't believe that part of it. I go back to my original contention: if we don't have the kind of scholarship support that other schools have, then we're not able to resource and attract the kind of students we would like to have.

Kimrey: I'm not sure I would answer yes to that. We emphasize the spiritual context of our institution in the recruiting process and the financial process. For many families, this is an adventure in faith. We say to them up-front, "you many not know how it is going to fit together, but it is important that you find the best place for your student. Once you find that place, if it is Samford, we will work with you to have an understanding of how to finance it." Typically, that will include loans for many families. That's when many families will determine that they do not want to be burdened with that debt when the student graduates. We also try to help them understand that Samford's perspective will be drastically different from almost any other institution in which they would be interested or where they might apply. Our goal is to keep tuition low. . . . We do not run a sale, where we say everyone up-front gets 10 or 15 percent off. At most private institutions, that's going to be more than 35 percent. Unfortunately, there are plenty of private colleges that will discount [tuition and costs] more than 60 percent for their freshman class just to get the students. Samford is not going to do that.

Why is it important for Samford to raise additional scholarship funds from donors?

Kimrey: I think of the verse in the Bible that says, "To whom much is given, much is required"*** first and foremost. Most of us in the United States have much more than others have. Donors should understand that they can significantly impact a student's life or a family's life by providing scholarship assistance so that a student can attend Samford who otherwise might have to attend somewhere else. But, we have to have the resources to make that happen, and donors can help to make that happen.

Why is it important for Samford graduates to help with scholarship funds?

Kimrey: Interestingly, some graduates will say "Samford didn't provide me with scholarships or enough scholarships, so the student loans I'm paying back now are my contribution to the University." To me, that is shortsighted. I do think that, by comparison to what other students are getting to go other places—although it's not always real money—the perception among some is that "Samford didn't want me because they didn't provide enough assistance for me to go here" without it being a hardship. For some students, it is a hardship, but they gladly take that on. But there are others who feel that they deserve for it to be easy. That's not Samford's philosophy. If more graduates will help with scholarship funds, it will make it easier in the future, but Samford never is going to be free or financially easy. ■

*R. Earl Potts is executive director emeritus of the Alabama State Baptist Convention.

**Luke 12:48b

financial aid quick overview

Basic definitions provided by R. Philip Kimrey, Samford's dean of admission and financial aid.

Merit-based scholarships are based on academic, leadership and geographic criteria, depending on guidelines established by the donor and/or the University.

Need-based scholarships and grants also are called financial assistance, for someone with clearly defined financial need. These funds do not have to be paid back.

Work study provides a student a set amount for the year working at minimum wage or just above somewhere on campus.

Loans have different origins. Some may be from state or federal government; some may be from the institution. Repayment usually is deferred until after graduation or withdrawal from school.

Samford Students Benefitting from Scholarships

Daniel Mills Evansville, Ind.

Daniel Mills had narrowed his college choices to three when he visited Samford a couple of years ago.

Arriving late in the day, he wandered into the new Sciencenter to take a quick look on his own.

"We ran into Jonathan Jarvis, a student, and he took time to show us completely around the building," said Mills. "That made a big difference. You just don't get that kind of treatment a lot of places."

Mills planned to major in physics and computer science, and he was impressed with the treatment and the facility. After completing his freshman year, the Presidential Scholar has no reason to change his mind. He worked in a physics lab with Physics Chair Perry Tompkins, enjoyed his courses and campus activities, and even went to Russia with the A Cappella Choir.

"I had a great first year," he said.

That experience extended into the summer when he continued lab work on a physics research project for Dr. Tompkins. Tompkins and his students are building an electron accelerator that will drive a free electron laser. The laser is powered by an electron beam that is continuously tunable through a range of different wavelengths or colors. The first thing their research will involve is how various metals react to an ultraviolet laser.

Mills developed an interest in physics as a high school junior, when he had what he described as a great teacher. He hopes to teach physics himself eventually, after graduate school. He's getting in some teaching experiences already.

"I'm tutoring a student in physics this summer," he said in late July. "And I'm going to Cuba in August with Dr. Tompkins to help plan a January Term course that Samford will offer with the Universidad de la Havanas."

Mills won't be singing in the A Cappella Choir this fall because the activity conflicts with a calculus course he's taking.

"Math wins out over choir," he said. "But I will be taking a guitar course." ■



David Tyson Chanhassen, Minn.

David Tyson attended a public university in his home state for two years but wasn't happy with the level of education he received or the seriousness of the students. He decided to drop out and work for a couple of years, and then attend a church-related college or university.

"I applied to a number of Christian schools in the South," he said, "Then I drove around looking at them. I liked Samford the best."

David entered the Samford School of Business two years ago to work on a degree in business management. He's "not a desk person," he says, but he enjoys using numbers and other factors to develop a strategic plan.

"Business makes sense," he said. "You can put all the ingredients together and probably do pretty well. Business is fun."

A Dean's List student, David describes his Samford experience as "nothing but a blessing" because of the educational experience and the people, "both faculty and students."

Over the past several years, his interests have shifted from political science to economics to business. "My business school classes have been exceptional," he said.

He thinks the business management major will enable him to go in one of several career directions. He's not sure of that direction yet, but one possibility is combining some type of denominational work with his business degree.

David is financially independent of his family, which means he's paying for his schooling and supporting himself as well. He works part-time at two jobs while attending Samford full-time.

In addition to loans and other financial assistance made available by the Samford Office of Financial Aid, David has earned some scholarship money from the School of Business.

"Bottom line, it's enabled me to go to Samford," he said, "and I'm grateful for it." ■



Bonnie Aday Morrow, Ga.

Bonnie Aday believes a good teacher can inspire other people to be successful. She also believes music is a field in which middle and high school students can be successful, even if they cannot excel in other areas. For that reason, she plans to teach music in middle or high school.

"My father has been a minister of music his whole career, and I have seen how successful he has been with people," she said. "Some of my most inspiring teachers have been my music directors in school."

Bonnie began playing the violin when she was four years old. She took up piano at eight. She has sung in church choirs all her life and in school choirs since middle school. It was only natural that, with her love of music, she chose music education as her major.

The senior has an equal concentration in voice and violin. She has the highest grade point average in her class of music majors. She has sung in the A Cappella Choir two years and has played violin in the Samford Orchestra since her freshman year. She also plays the bass drum in the Samford Marching Band and the Samford Steel Band.

"I do percussion for fun," she said.

Performing in a number of different ensembles is an advantage for music students, she says, especially if they plan to teach. She is particularly proud of the orchestra's growth since her freshman days.

"We have a full string section now, and we haven't always had that," she said. "The strings can balance out the percussions and winds now."

Bonnie credits her scholarship with enabling her to attend Samford. She hails from a state where Hope Scholarships keep many students inside state borders.

What attracted her to Samford?

"I kept running into alumni who spoke highly of the school when I was looking for a college," she said. "There was one other thing. The marching band had an all-girl drum line. I thought that was really neat. I had to at least look at that school." ■



WHAT ONE CHURCH DOES

Brookwood Baptist Church of Birmingham set up a scholarship plan in 1988 to help worthy students attend Samford University. Under the plan, the church would budget \$12,500 each year for a Samford scholarship fund. An individual church member or family would match that amount.

Over the years since, the church and its members have provided more than \$315,000 to the fund. The scholarships produced by the fund have enabled students to attend Samford who otherwise would have found it difficult to do so.

“Brookwood has a heart for students and a long-standing commitment to Samford University,” said Dr. Barry Howard, Brookwood’s pastor. “The unique scholarship program at Brookwood is a great way for generous donors to partner with our larger church family in matching scholarship funds for Samford students.

“Providing scholarships for students is one way our church can participate in disciple-making both at home and around the world,” he added.

“We have a tremendous unmet scholarship need,” Samford President Thomas Corts said at the time the program began, “and this creative solution will be a great help in making up the difference in what a student’s family can pay and what it costs to attend.”

The same situation is true today, Dr. Corts reported.

“The scholarship program is a wonderfully creative way in which a church can be of specific help to the generations yet to come,” he added.

John Josey, chairman of the church finance committee when the program was established, helped originate the idea as a way for the typical church family to provide support, in addition to that provided by the Alabama Baptist Cooperative Program, to a specific student.

“I place a high priority on higher education and I know others in the church do as well,” he said. “We are pleased that the program has been able to continue as it has over the years.”

As part of the plan, the church budgets money to the scholarship fund each year that is in addition to its regular contribution to the Cooperative Program. ■

Beeson Education School Takes New Techniques to K–6 Teachers in Lebanon

Samford education professor Carol Dean stood before a class of teachers in Beirut, Lebanon, recently, explaining the concept of graphic organizers. She was part of a Samford team conducting a workshop on new teaching methods.

But one class member, an older biology teacher, either didn’t get the concept or seemed unwilling to accept it.

“From the beginning, he asked the difficult, almost confrontational questions about everything we said,” Dr. Dean recalled.

Two days later, the situation improved. The teacher asked permission to address the class. He explained that after hearing the team’s ideas on graphic organizers, he had gone through the first chapter of his biology text and created organizers to help his students understand the different concepts.

“He said he thought if the others saw that he could do it, they would feel more confident to try it themselves,” said Dean. “What a validation that was of what we were trying to do!”

Dean joined Dean Ruth Ash and professors David Finn and John Harris on the team from Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies. The group spent a week in Beirut in late July conducting workshops on “Optimizing Student Learning.” Samford President Thomas Corts also traveled with the group, addressing workshop and school groups.

“The teachers and principals of these schools had not been previously

exposed to this information and, consequently, were quite appreciative of the new educational research we were able to share with them,” said Dr. Ash. “They all asked us repeatedly to please come back and help them again.”

Workshop participants were 160 K-through-6 teachers at Beirut Baptist School and Amman Baptist School. The Samford team presented strategies that help students to do several things: become more analytical and less dependent on rote memorization, develop problem-solving skills, and understand and implement change.

“They are hungry for this information and how to differentiate instruction for individual students in their classrooms,” said Dean. “Most want this kind of information to make a difference for children. They were very engaged in the activities of the workshop.”

The Beirut Baptist School, with about 1,200 students in K-through-6, has the highest rate of students passing exit exams of any school in Lebanon. About 90 percent of the students are Muslim, but they attend the private, Christian school because of the high quality of its education programs.

The workshop effort won the approval of the Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development, which provides management for the Baptist school. According to Dr. Harris, the LSESD hopes Samford will conduct future workshops and develop a master’s program for Lebanese K-through-12 teachers and administrators. ■



Lebanese teachers work on new teaching techniques at a Samford workshop in Beirut.

DRAWING GRADS

from all Political Persuasions



Susan Corts '99



Eric Motley '96



Carol Guthrie '93

by Robert Marus

As a high-ranking White House official, Eric Motley '96 is a loyal Republican who gets valuable face time with President George W. Bush every week.

A couple of miles across town, on Capitol Hill, Carol Guthrie '93 works as a top aide to Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon.

In between, both physically and ideologically, Susan Corts '99 avoids partisan politics but embraces political advocacy by working to bring quality housing to poor families through Habitat for Humanity International's Washington Office.

These three are only a few of the 200-plus Samford graduates living and working in the nation's capital and its suburbs. The values they learned at Samford, they and other local alumni say, inspire and inform their careers in public service.

"I had a very Enlightenment education at Samford," Motley said during a recent interview. The breadth of knowledge he received in the liberal arts and sciences through such an education—not to mention his subsequent master's and doctoral degrees from St. Andrew's University

in Scotland—comes in handy in his present job.

As special assistant to the president and associate director of the White House's Office of Presidential Personnel, Motley is charged with advising Bush on hundreds of nominees to slots on many of the approximately 250 advisory and governing boards to which the president makes appointments. That makes being something of a generalist in various fields of knowledge a huge asset.

"Part of my responsibility is knowing what works and what doesn't work—what is good and what is bad—and how to extract a workable, enlightened synthesis to govern my thoughts and my actions," Motley said. "That's not always easy, but it's certainly easier because I'm an educated person, and I've been exposed to many ideas."

For instance, Motley said, in any given day, he could be busy vetting and interviewing potential appointees who range from CEOs of Internet firms to biotechnology experts to high-ranking generals. The positions for which he's interviewing them could range from bioethics panels to slots on the boards of the nation's

“PART OF MY RESPONSIBILITY IS KNOWING WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T WORK—WHAT IS GOOD AND WHAT IS BAD—AND HOW TO EXTRACT A WORKABLE, ENLIGHTENED SYNTHESIS TO GOVERN MY THOUGHTS AND MY ACTIONS.” —ERIC MOTLEY '96

military academies. “The learning curve is tremendous,” he admitted. Besides his education, Motley said, he also has the advantage of having “a very skilled team in place that’s very good at collecting information.”

Guthrie has to be something of a generalist, too. Working as the communications director for a U.S. senator is like directing public relations for a corporation with a very wide range of corporate interests, except that she and her boss are subjected to a very high-stakes performance review every six years by a few hundred thousand bigger bosses.

The broadcast-journalist-turned-politico said during a recent interview at the Democratic National Convention in Boston that her Samford education provided her both with practical help in processing information and with inspiration to serve the public.

“Both in my journalism career and in my career in political communication, the goal has been to spread information to improve peoples’ lives by growing their knowledge of the world around them or of their government or of key issues that affect all of us,” Guthrie said. “The desire to do that directly springs from the sense of responsibility that I was given at Samford.”

One of the places she gained a desire to try to improve people’s lives, she said, was in service and ministry projects at Samford as part of such groups as the Baptist Student Union choir.

“What matters is what you do on the ground for folks, how you put your faith into action—not just what you say, but what you do,” Guthrie said. One of the things she learned in her hometown Methodist church in Chattanooga, Tenn., and that Samford reinforced, was to love and serve others. That knowledge, Guthrie said, helps her keep an even, professional keel in a divisive election year in which some have attempted to portray Democrats as anti-Christian or antireligious.

“Jesus taught us about compassion, about concern for the poor, about lifting up the least of these in your community, about striving to live in harmony, about striving to be good stewards of the earth, of our lives and of our resources,” she

said. “All of those teachings directly inform my political passions and my professional choices about the sorts of people I’ve wanted to work for, and the sort of causes and issues that I support.”

For Corts, meanwhile, the same values inspired her interest in housing justice. While working in the Senate as an intern showed her that she wasn’t suited for a full-time job in politics, lessons she learned at Samford nonetheless led her to a Washington career in public policy.

“You can really concentrate on the mission, on the people that you want to help, and there’s not a lot of other stuff getting in the way,” Corts said of her job of cultivating partnerships between Habitat and Washington-based organizations.

Although Corts served as a Capitol Hill intern for former Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) and said she “really had a lot of fun,” she decided that the politics of the Hill weren’t for her. She thought she was on her way to law school, but her life took a different path after a senior-year Foundations for Leadership class at Samford.

“It challenged me” to think more about community service, Corts said. After graduation, she took a year off to join the federal AmeriCorps community-service program. Working in the impoverished coal-mining community of Sayre, Ala., west of Birmingham, she acquired a passion for housing and community-development issues.

After completing a graduate program, she returned to Washington to work for the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. She moved up to serve as a special assistant for community development in the Office of the Secretary, serving under both former HUD Secretary Mel Martinez and current Secretary Alphonso Jackson.

“I really felt like I was in the middle of the policy-making process, and was able to see both the policy making and political process up close,” Corts said. She took the Habitat job in July so she “could work directly on affordable housing issues in a nonpartisan environment,” she said. “Nongovernmental national and international organizations are another important part of the greater

public service being done in Washington.”

Washington is a busy place full of busy people—60- and even 80-hour work weeks aren’t uncommon for the highly educated and highly talented young people who swarm over this city. But that doesn’t mean Washington’s Samford graduates spend their precious free time just lollygagging around.

Corts has maintained a commitment to community service that goes beyond her career. She is heavily involved in a newly planted church, Grace Presbyterian, that meets near her apartment in Washington’s bohemian Dupont Circle neighborhood.

Motley started a great books program for the interns who work under him. “What I’m trying to inspire, and this is something that I embrace, is that there can be a coexistence of professional development and intellectual growth,” he said. Motley and the interns read texts together and gather regularly to discuss them in an out-of-office setting.

He cofounded a similar group for his contemporaries, Motley’s Dialectic Society, which includes about 40 professionals between the ages of 30 and 45. From several different disciplines and a wide array of ideological persuasions, they meet monthly to hear lectures from leaders ranging from famous architects to Supreme Court justices.

Robert Sands ’96, one of Motley’s classmates, is an attorney in the Department of Homeland Security’s Customs and Border Protection Office. A fellow Dialectic Society member, he says the society carries on the intellectual tradition he learned at Samford.

“A place like Samford turns the conventional wisdom that one should live and learn on its head,” Sands said. “A liberal education like the one offered at Samford allows one to learn and then live. That’s great training for any profession one enters.” ■

Robert Marus is Washington bureau chief for Associated Baptist Press.

Students find BIGGER PURPOSE in Capital

by Sean Flynt

William Peek



Allison King



Matthew Manning



The march of Samford students to Washington, D.C., continued this year as three business undergraduates served internships in the nation's capital. Allison Blair King and William Barret Peek served in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, and Matthew Manning served in the Department of Justice. Their work at the heart of the U.S. government was coordinated through the School of Business's Academic Internship Program. The Program encourages Samford business students to explore domestic and international career possibilities and gain valuable experience for professional practice, and the Washington internships certainly met those goals.

A LABOR OF LOVE

Working in The White House Office of Presidential Personnel, which fills thousands of government positions at all levels, introduced Peek and King to the fast-paced world of Washington. Both described long days and work for which perfection was the minimum acceptable standard.

Peek handled correspondence for his supervisor while she was working with the transitional government in Iraq, and he helped compile the book that listed Bush administration job vacancies. Fortunately, long hours didn't always crowd out enjoyment of the city's culture. Peek, a music lover, watched a Kennedy Center performance from the Presidential Box and attended an organ recital at the National Cathedral. He said he also enjoyed roaming the city's museums.

Otherwise, Peek said, the high-pressure atmosphere of his work impressed upon him that one shouldn't seek a public service job for any reason other than love of the work. Even so, he said the internship was so positive that he is now interested in such a career. "This was one of the greatest experiences I've had at Samford," he said.

In addition to having new career options to consider, Peek said he also is seeing rewards of the internship in class, because he now has greater appreciation for the importance of ethics and for how different personalities must work together. The latter proved especially important in the expensive Washington housing market. Required to find his own lodging, Peek wound up rooming with three other interns who shared his economic plight but not his political views. But, adaptable and friendly, and generically dubbed "Samford" by their colleagues, Peek and King became the popular center of their intern community.

A PERSONAL MINISTRY

King said the Office of Presidential Personnel section in which she served was "a very politicized office" that screened potential Bush administration nominees for ethical failures or personal embarrassments that might disqualify them from service. She said the work, so sensitive in so many ways, helped her appreciate the importance of having purpose and focus. She never felt her time was wasted.

King said the experience also taught her to value humility in the powerful. She especially appreciated the time her superiors took to offer practical, personal advice about building her résumé, interviewing and networking. As positive as her routine work responsibilities and relationships were, King found unique rewards in one of her unofficial duties. She said her assignment to find speakers for the White House Fellowship religious programs became a form of personal ministry. Overall, she said, her positive experience in Washington inspired greater trust in the government.

A BIGGER PURPOSE

Manning's work with the Finance Staff of the Justice Management Division "was full speed ahead from day one," he said. "Each day brought with it new experiences, from sharing coffee with a United States Attorney to bumping into National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice to watching the attorney general always on the move." In addition to his work, he heard notable speakers through the Attorney General's Summer Lecture Series and enjoyed private tours of the Pentagon, Supreme Court, Capitol Hill and other national landmarks.

Like Peek and King, Manning said he valued the personal connections he made during his internship and returned to Samford with a clear sense of what such work requires.

"Above all," he said, "I think I brought back with me a better sense of professionalism." He said seeing how those around him went about their work "was a testament to how individuals come together in the workplace not for themselves but for a much bigger purpose." It's no wonder, then, that Washington, D.C., holds such attraction for Samford University's students and alumni. ■

CLASSnotes

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ALUMNI

- '49 **John Kirk** of Troy, Ala., received a certificate of appreciation from the American Red Cross for his 14 years (14,580 hours) of volunteer service at Lyster Army Community Hospital, where he is known as the "Red Cross Ambassador."
- '52 **H. Wallace Garrett** completed a course on priority senior issues to earn a certified senior adviser designation. He is a certified life underwriter and certified retirement counselor with Garrett Financial Group, Inc., Houston, Texas.
- '55 **Jenus D. Phillips** is in his 30th year as choir director and organist at Lake Vista United Methodist Church in New Orleans, La. He is also an independent music teacher.
- '68 **Nance Lovvorn**, M.B.A., recently was installed as director-at-large of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers [ASHRAE]. He is owner, Lovvorn Consulting Services, Birmingham. He retired from Alabama Power Company in 2001 after 35 years of service.
- '73 **Robert B. Hanks** of Mobile, Ala., is author of a Christian novel, *No Higher Calling*, published by PublishAmerica. He is manager, substance abuse counseling, University of South Alabama.
- '75 **George Hammons** of Barbourville, Ky., recently completed a year as president of the Kentucky Pharmacists Association.
- '78 **Scott A. Powell** was named the next president of the Alabama Trial Lawyers Association, and will assume the post next June. He is a partner with the Birmingham law firm of Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton, LLP.
- '80 **Randolph M. Allen** is music specialist at James B. Sanderlin Elementary School and director of music at Lakewood United Church of Christ, both in St. Petersburg, Fla. He is also voice/piano instructor at Marcia P. Hoffman Institute for the Performing Arts at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, Fla.
- '86 **Steve Hayes** is minister to single adults and minister of counseling at Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.
- '87 **Christopher Douglas O'Rear** earned a master's in marriage and family therapy in May from Trevecca Nazarene University and received license as a clinical pastoral therapist in Tennessee. He and his family live in Nashville, Tenn.

'88 **Michael Lammons** of Atlanta, Ga., is an assurance partner, focusing on the insurance industry, with PricewaterhouseCoopers. He is president and chairman of the board for HARMONY, Atlanta's international youth chorus.

Barry Walton of Kingsport, Tenn., is a nominee for president of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association.

'89 **Stephanie Holderby** is general manager of One Nineteen Health and Wellness facility, St. Vincent's Hospital, Birmingham.

'90 **George Hobbs** is partner and vice president of Capstone ISG, a regional insurance services firm based in Virginia Beach, Va. He and his wife, **Julie Jones Hobbs '91**, have a daughter, Sabrina Katelyn, born in March.

'92 **Carolyn Wall Ealy** and her husband, Shannon, live in Birmingham. They have a daughter, Alyssa Taylor, born in October. Carolyn also has twins, Brian and Caitlin, seven.

'93 **Jason Earl Gudgen** is retail financial sales manager for SouthTrust Bank's Nashville, Tenn., market.

Ross Lankford, M.Div. '96, earned a doctor of ministry degree from Samford's Beeson Divinity School in May. He and his wife, **Jeanna McIntire Lankford '95**, live in Fultondale, Ala., with their son, Will, five, and daughter, Bailey, two. Ross

is pastor of Fultondale First Baptist Church.

'94 **Andrea Mikala Northcut** completed a two-year chaplain residency and is staff chaplain at Baptist Health Medical Center, Little Rock, Ark. She and her husband, Lane, have two children, Aubrie and Leah.

'95 **Erin Lynch** and her husband, James, live in Shady Dale, Ga. They have three sons, Braden, Benjamin and Ethan.

'96 **Danny Crawford** of Panama City, Fla., was named Irishman of the Year by the Emerald Society of Federal Law Enforcement Agencies. He is a retired chief investigator, U.S. Veterans Affairs.

Brandon Fetner earned an M.B.A. from LaGrange College in May. He is director of administrative computing at the Georgia school.

Allison Leggett Jeancake of Woodstock, Ga., and her husband, Paxson, have released *Rhythm of Worship*, a CD of adapted psalms, hymns and original compositions. They have a daughter, Laura Camille, born in November.

'97 **Jason Kizer**, Pharm.D., of Union City, Tenn., is a nominee for chair-elect of the Tennessee Society of Independent Pharmacists. He is married to **Kristi Moore Kizer**, Pharm.D. '97.

Old-Song Sing-Along Set for October 3 Samford Auxiliary Schedules 2004 Event

Requests for a second Old-Song Sing-Along have prompted the Samford Auxiliary and Campus Ministries to host another event. The program is scheduled for Sunday, October 3, in Reid Chapel at 2 p.m., and will conclude Family Weekend activities.

"Gospel music has an incredible capacity to embed itself in the deepest recesses of memory and the softest spots of our souls," said Samford President Thomas E. Corts. "The music implanted in my being has been a lifelong treasure for which I am eternally indebted."

Bob Burroughs, recently retired director of the Church Music Department of the Florida Baptist Convention and currently an adjunct in

Samford's School of Performing Arts, will direct the program. The piano accompanist will be Samford alumnus Frank Jones, music associate and minister to seniors at Calvary Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa.

The program will feature the Student Ministries Choir under the direction of Trey Harper, and a male octet composed of Samford administrators, and current and retired faculty members. ■

'98 **Candace Nicole Jones Boeninger** is assistant director of communication and operations in the undergraduate admissions department at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. She and her husband, Chad, have a son, Clay Fielding, born in June.

Mark Damron is enrolled in graduate school at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Jeff Gissing, M.Div. '02, of Birmingham is a staff member with InterVarsity Christian Fellowships graduate and faculty ministry.

Beth Piper Leathers is manager of fitness and cardiac/pulmonary rehab at St. Vincent's Fitness & Wellness Center, Birmingham.

Carolyn Jean Nelson is pursuing a master's in divinity at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Ky. She recently was an intern at First United Methodist Church, Prattville, Ala.

'99 **Valerie Campbell** married Scott Huguen in July. They live in Birmingham. She is marketing director and executive assistant at Sterne Agee Asset Management.

Robert and Heather Johnson Dean live in St. Augustine, Fla., where he coaches and teaches at Sandalwood High School. She is a pharmacist at Shands Jax. They have a daughter, Bailey Kathleen, born in June.

'00 **Jennifer Dianne Bearden** received a master's in social work from the University of Alabama in May. She is a grant writer and program director for low-income and working-poor families

at Bent Tree Neighborhood Center, Memphis, Tenn.

Louise Curtis Lusk, M.S.N. '02, is a nursing instructor at Chipola College, Marianna, Fla. She lives in Dothan, Ala.

Jeff Walding graduated from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in May. He is a resident in surgery at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.

'01 **Dana Dews** is a student at the University of Richmond School of Law, where she is executive editor of the *Law Review* and a member of the national moot court team.

Lucas Dorion married Emily Clift in March and earned a master's in divinity at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in May.

Vickie Lally teaches kindergarten at Golson Elementary in Marianna, Fla.

Holly Renee Morris is director of marketing for Vinson Hall Corporation, a nonprofit military retirement residence near Washington, D.C. She is pursuing a master's in public administration with a focus in nonprofit management at George Mason University. She lives in Annandale, Va.

Eric Sanford graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in May with a master's in Christian education with an emphasis in youth/student ministry. He is youth/activities minister at Fairhaven Baptist Church, Demopolis, Ala. He and his wife, Amanda, have a son, Alexander William, age one.

'02 **Terrel Boger** married Sarah Stringer in May. They live in Fort Worth, Texas.

Jennifer Elise Butler and Seth Allen Acuff, Pharm.D. '04, married in March in Reid Chapel at Samford. They live in Birmingham.

Michael and Natalie Seanor Lea live in Bullock, N.C., where he is pastor of Bullock Baptist Church. He attends Duke Divinity School. Natalie recently earned a master's in education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and teaches first grade.

Daniel Stanford Mangham is pursuing a master's in human relations at the University of Oklahoma.

Sarah Reed Trapp is a development assistant for the lower and middle schools at The Ensworth School and for the new Ensworth High School, Nashville, Tenn.

McAlisters Know their New Assignment Well

The new commandant of cadets for Samford's Air Force ROTC Detachment 012 needed no newcomer's tour of campus when he reported for duty this summer.

Maj. Richard S. McAlister is a 1985 Samford business graduate who received his Air Force commission through the University's Detachment 012. He is highly pleased with his assignment.

"I really enjoyed Samford as a student and remember the influences those officers had on my life. I would like to be able to have the same influence on cadets," he said. His fond memories go beyond his ROTC experience.

"My wife and I met and fell in love here," recalled McAlister, who is married to the former Kim Hickman, a 1986 nursing graduate. She will be on the Samford nursing faculty as an adjunct clinical instructor while pursuing a master's in nursing at the school. The couple has two daughters, Christin, 13, and Rachel, eight.

The McAlisters most recently lived in Satellite Beach, Fla., where he was commander of the operations center at Kennedy Space Center. During his tenure there, his team of controllers facilitated the successful execution of 73 space launch missions.

The three-year assignment also meant the Trussville native

Maj. Richard S. and Kim McAlister are happy to be back at Samford.

had special responsibilities during two national tragedies.

"I sent the message to the Pentagon saying that we had lost Columbia," said McAlister, who was on duty when the space shuttle prematurely reentered the atmosphere.

Following the Sept. 11, 2001, disaster, his duties included coordinating protection of space lift assets, including shuttle, facilities and unmanned launch vehicles.

McAlister earned a master's in systems management at the University of Southern California in 1989. Following assignments at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California and Malmstrom Air Force base in Montana, he served on the ROTC faculty at Troy State University and at national ROTC headquarters in Montgomery, where he managed academic plans and progress of more than 10,000 ROTC students enrolled in 144 universities. He was also commander of education and training flight at Warren AFB. ■



'03 **Sara K. Ellison** works in sports marketing with MSL management, New York, N.Y.

Korey Mark Mobbs and **Mary Elizabeth Cardina** '04 married in June and live in Lawrenceville, Ga. He is pursuing a master's in education at Piedmont College. She is a nurse at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Kelli Renae Parrish Muncher teaches eighth-grade English and math at Perry Mid High School, Perry, Okla. She and her husband, **Michael Muncher** '02, live in Stillwater, Okla. He has completed testing to be certified in music education.

Mary Anne Garner Sahawneh and her husband, John, live in Birmingham. She is a research technician and graduate student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

'04 **Drew Hataway** received second place in graduate student presentation at the June meeting of the American Arachnological Society for his research paper on the correlation of population density of the White Beach Spider to the commercialization of the beaches of the northern Gulf of Mexico. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in environmental biology at the University of Mississippi.

Sara Elizabeth Mike and **Jess Randall Nix** married in May. He received the Hatton Lovejoy Scholarship and attends the University of Alabama Law School. ■

births

Travis '99 and **Melanie McCoy Alston '98** of Huntsville, Ala., a son, Tate Anderson, born Nov. 5, 2003.

Chad and **Candace Nicole Jones Boeninger '98** of The Plains, Ohio, a son, Clay Fielding, born June 9, 2004.

Robert '99 and **Heather Johnson Dean '99** of St. Augustine, Fla., a daughter, Bailey Kathleen, born June 23, 2004.

Shannon and **Carolyn Wall Ealy '92** of Birmingham, a daughter, Alyssa Taylor, born Oct. 3, 2003.

David and **Kelly Rogers Flynt '93** of Seattle, Wash., a daughter, Harper Swann, born March 22, 2004.

John A. '99 and **Lauren Cole Fortney '99** of Macon, Ga., a daughter, Caroline Grace, born April 15, 2004.

Daniel '01 and **Lacey Hunter Gilliam '01** of Louisville, Ky., a daughter, Katherine Grace, born July 9, 2004.

George '90 and **Julie Jones Hobbs '91** of Midlothian, Va., a daughter, Sabrina Katelyn, born March 27, 2004.

Paxson and **Allison Leggett Jeancake '96** of Woodstock, Ga., a daughter, Laura Camille, born Nov. 30, 2003.

Rodney '94 and **Kim Culpepper Johnson '94** of Birmingham, a daughter, Jenna Caroline, born June 7, 2004.

Jason '98 and **Shawndee Proffitt Lovoy '00** of Birmingham, a daughter, Juliette Caiola, born Oct. 12, 2003.

James and **Erin Camp Lynch '95** of Shady Dale, Ga., a son, Ethan Bailey, born April 16, 2004.

Keith Aaron '99 and **Misty-Michelle Patton Miller '97** of Helena, Ala., a son, Samuel Graydon, born Nov. 14, 2003.

Michael '02 and **Christina Hill Naro '98** of Pelham, Ala., a daughter, Olivia Rentz, born April 19, 2004.

Marty '96 and **Angela Stanfield Ray '97** of Swainsboro, Ga., a daughter, Alexis Kate, born March 3, 2004.

Chad and **Cynthia Keen Simmons '94** of Hoover, Ala., a daughter, Ann Marie, born May 26, 2003.

Troy and **Lynette Robbins Smurawa '92** of Hudson, Ohio, a daughter, Noelle Adeline, born March 6, 2004.

Tom and **Lea Marie Harwell-Day Wolsoncroft '94** of Helena, Ala., a daughter, Carly Marie, born Feb. 7, 2004. ■

in memoriam

Eugie Franklin Aman '50, age 90, of Dothan, Ala. died June 26, 2004. He was a pharmacist with Dothan Drug Store and other stores before retirement in 1990. He served with the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Ronald "Joe" Brewer '61, age 64, of Satellite Beach, Fla., died May 4, 2004. He was an educator and counselor for 35 years with the Brevard County School System.

John Dexter Camp '63, age 69, of Fayetteville, Ala., died June 13, 2004. A pharmacist, he was owner of Doctors Center Apothecary in Birmingham and Sylacauga Apothecary.

Larry Allen Doss '74, age 59, of Madison, Ala., died June 17, 2004. He was president of Coilplus of Athens, Ala., and Jackson, Miss. He was a president of Japan America Society of Alabama, a Mason and a member of the Zamora Temple's clown unit.

Barry Dykstra '77, age 57, of Holland, Mich., died May 18, 2004. He was an anesthetist.

Steven Mark Fountain '77, age 48, of Birmingham died June 10, 2004.

Ina Harrell '41, age 87, of Macon, Miss., died June 24, 2004. She was a nurse for more than 40 years with Noxubee General Hospital.

Sue Morton Jones '61, age 64, of Baton Rouge, La., died March 6, 2003. A former school teacher, she was editor of the Samford yearbook, *Entre Nous*.

Charles Benjamin Long '64, age 62, of Hoover, Ala., died June 7, 2004, from cancer. He was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity, and helped establish the Association of Business Majors at Samford. He served 26 years with the Alabama Air National Guard., including two years at the

Air National Guard Bureau at the Pentagon, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He was a Mason and a board member of the state Numismatic Society.

Joel Morris '37, age 88, of Birmingham died June 1, 2004. An industrial engineer for Southern Testing Laboratories for more than 50 years, he was also a wedding photographer who recorded three generations of Birmingham brides and grooms.

Howard W. Rhea, J.D. '50, of Sneedville, Tenn., died May 25, 2004. ■

Samford Picked to Finish Third in OVC

The word is out. The Samford Bulldogs won't be sneaking up on any of their Ohio Valley Conference football opponents this fall.

Coach Bill Gray's team was picked to finish third in the nine-team league in the 2004 pre-season poll of OVC coaches and sports information directors. Last year, in their inaugural OVC season, the Bulldogs were picked to finish eighth.

Samford was the surprise team of the league a year ago, posting a 7-4 overall record and finishing in a tie for third with a 5-3 league mark. Gray was named OVC Coach of the Year, and Bulldogs Efre Hill, a receiver, and Cortland Finnegan, a defensive back, were named OVC Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year, respectively.

Gray and his players are excited about prospects for 2004.

"There is no reason for us not to be excited about this season," he said. "I thought we played well at times last year, but we definitely left room for improvement."

Hill, who led the nation in yards receiving per game (126.1), and his battery mate, quarterback Ray Nelson, will lead a high-powered offense again this fall. Hill caught 92 passes for 1,387 yards and 15 touchdowns last year—all OVC highs and Samford season records. Nelson passed

for 2,759 yards and 23 touchdowns, directing an offense that averaged 31.8 points a game.

Samford will kick off its OVC home season Oct. 2 against the team picked to finish first in the preseason poll, Eastern Kentucky. That game will be at 6 p.m. in Seibert Stadium. ■

Efre Hill led the nation in yards receiving per game.

2004 schedule

Aug. 28 WEST ALABAMA
Sept. 4 Georgia Tech

Sept. 11 FURMAN
Sept. 25 Southeast Missouri State*

Oct. 2 EASTERN KENTUCKY*
Oct. 9 Murray State*

Oct. 16 UT-MARTIN*
Oct. 23 Tennessee State*

Oct. 30 TENNESSEE TECH (HC)*
Nov. 6 Jacksonville State*

Nov. 20 EASTERN ILLINOIS*

*Ohio Valley Conference game
Home games are in **BOLD CAPS**.

For tickets, contact the Department of Athletics at (205) 726-2966 or tickets@samford.edu.



For more sports action . . .



Samford to Play OVC Favorite at Family Weekend Oct. 2

Samford will host Ohio Valley Conference preseason favorite Eastern Kentucky in football Saturday, Oct. 2, as a highlight of Family Weekend this fall. The game will kick off at 6 p.m. in Seibert Stadium, preceded by a barbecue dinner and pep rally.

A Student Showcase of performing groups will lead off the big weekend Friday, Oct. 1, at 8 p.m. in Wright Center, followed by a dessert reception.

Saturday morning is reserved for family time, with the option to take part in a golf tournament beginning at 8 a.m. Family Symposia

information sessions are scheduled at 2 p.m. and a Parents Association meeting at 3 p.m.

Sunday's schedule includes worship at 10 a.m., brunch/lunch at 11:30 a.m. and the Old-Song Sing-Along at 2:30 p.m. in Reid Chapel (see separate story, page 13).

For information, visit www.samford.edu/parents, or contact Jennifer Dunn, Samford director of student activities, at jedunn@samford.edu or (205) 726-2031. ■



Did you know that when you purchase a Samford Car Tag, most of the money goes to support Samford programs? Last year, more than 800 people purchased Samford car tags, producing over

\$39,000 to support today's students. When your tag comes due, ask the county auto license clerk to exchange it for a Samford Tag. You'll be helping today's Samford students as you show your school spirit wherever your travels take you. Make sure you request the NEWLY DESIGNED Samford Tag (above). Take this ad when you purchase your tag.

Samford wants to give you credit for buying a Samford Tag. Please let us know if you do so. This is the only way credit can be recorded.

Just send a note to Car Tag, Alumni Development Office, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229. Or e-mail samnews@samford.edu.

Available in two styles: numeric and personalized (up to 5 letters). The official Samford University auto license is available in every Alabama county. Be sure and ask for yours when you license plate comes up for renewal.

Homecoming

A Samford tradition and perspective

by Billy Ivey '96, Alumni Relations Officer

HOMECOMING

Homecoming in itself is not unique, but as we approach Samford's 138th Homecoming celebration Oct. 28–31, it's a good time to remind ourselves of Samford's uniqueness, of the memories that make the University a place in which we all can take pride and celebrate as our own.

It's easy to lose sight of all the reasons Samford is so special. We graduate, leave campus and start living life. We search for jobs, raise children, pay bills, find new jobs, pay more bills, and become involved in church, community service, supper clubs, travel. Sometimes, it's tough even to find time to mow the lawn or wash the dishes that seem to stack up in the sink.

That is precisely why it is so important to take advantage of every opportunity we have to reconnect with our University, to remember and to be reminded of all we have to be thankful

for, to get away from the daily routines and to come back to our school—Samford.

This year is no different. With all that is happening in the world and our communities and daily lives, it's more important than ever to take a deep breath, slow down a little and come home for a few days.

Staying connected to Samford is a great goal for grads. Just getting together with friends and others who share

a common past is exciting. There's something very special about believing in where you are from—and knowing where you're going. A strong alumni network is one of the most important benefits a University can offer its constituents. Because Samford appreciates the importance of networking and building community and staying in touch and rekindling relationships, this year's Homecoming promises more excitement and opportunity than ever before.

Away from Samford, it can be difficult to stay in touch with faculty and friends. Homecoming provides opportunities to re-establish those connections, and it can kick-start your involvement in some new opportunities.

The Samford Alumni Association is more dedicated than ever to fostering a mutually beneficial and enduring relationship between the University and Samford alumni, parents and friends around the world.

The association's programs, activities, online services and clubs throughout the U.S. can help all of us make the most of being affiliated with Samford.

Each year, Samford strives to find more and different ways for alumni to learn about, work with and help the University and each other. Homecoming is one of the many ways Samford establishes a direct link between the University and you, the people who are dedicated to maintaining our tradition of academic vigor, social responsibility and service.

Homecoming 2004 promises to be the most exciting, entertaining and all-encompassing coming home in Samford's history. With reunions, exhibitions and activities for the entire family, this Samford weekend will be hard to top! Complete details and registration information will be mailed soon to all Samford alumni, but turn the page and take a look at all we have planned so far.



Billy Ivey

138th Anniversary Homecoming

Thursday, Oct. 28

6 p.m.
McWhorter School of Pharmacy Advisory Board dinner (by invitation only)

7:30 p.m.
School of Performing Arts Concert honoring Dr. H. E. Tibbs and featuring five Division of Music graduates, A. Gerow Hodges Chapel

Friday, Oct. 29

8:15 a.m.
McWhorter School of Pharmacy Advisory Board meeting (by invitation only)

12-6 p.m.
Registration, Beeson University Center
Be sure to register your attendance so classmates and friends can find you during Homecoming. Also, an updated and complete list of Homecoming events and locations will be available at registration.

12 p.m.
Alumni/Letter Club Golf Tournament, location TBD*
For more information, contact Samford Athletics, (205) 726-2966.

4 p.m.
Alumni Association Annual Meeting
All alumni are invited to attend the meeting of the Samford Alumni Association to elect new officers, discuss alumni involvement in networking, local Club events and student recruitment.

4-6 p.m.
Reception for London Studies Photo Exhibit, Wright Center Art Gallery
(See page 3 for additional information.)

5:30-6 p.m.
Evensong led by University Chorale and conducted by Timothy Paul Banks, A. Gerow Hodges Chapel
This worship service is modeled after the British evensong tradition.

6:30 p.m.
138th Anniversary Alumni Banquet, Wright Center Concert Hall stage.*
Everyone is invited to join fellow alumni for dinner as we continue the decades-old tradition of the alumni candlelight dinner. Alumni of the Year will be recognized during the evening. Tickets: \$25 per person or \$160 for table of eight.

8:30 p.m.
Homecoming Bash, Bonfire and Fireworks, Adjacent to Wright Center
Enjoy refreshments, live music, the Samford Band, cheerleaders and a fantastic fireworks finale. Cosponsored by the Samford Alumni Association and Student Government Association.

Saturday, Oct. 30

8 a.m.-2 p.m.
Registration, Beeson University Center
Be sure to register your attendance so classmates and friends can find you during Homecoming. Also, an updated and complete list of Homecoming events and locations will be available at registration.

8 a.m.
Samford Women's Basketball Red/Blue Scrimmage, Bashinsky Fieldhouse

8:30-11:30 a.m.
McWhorter School of Pharmacy Continuing Education Seminar: Topics in Pain Management, Ingalls Hall
This seminar offers three hours of pharmacy continuing education credit and is registered with the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy for consulting hours. For more information, contact the McWhorter School of Pharmacy, (205) 726-2722. Free to Samford alumni.

9 a.m.
Samford Men's Basketball Red/Blue Scrimmage, Bashinsky Fieldhouse

Golden Bulldogs Brunch, Flag Colonnade, Ralph W. Beeson University Center (formerly called the Half-Century Brunch)

Alumni from the classes of 1954 and earlier are invited. The Lockmiller Award will be presented to the oldest alumnus attending the brunch.*

9-10:30 a.m.
School of Business Alumni Continental Breakfast and Reception, Brock Forum Lobby
For more information, contact the School of Business, (205) 726-2542.

9-11 a.m.
Special Education Professional Development Workshop
Sponsored by the Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies Department of Teacher Education. For more information, call (205) 726-2442.

9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Howard College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Board Meeting, SIM Forum, Brooks Hall (by invitation only)

10 a.m.
A Cappella Choir reunion and reception, Student Lounge, Beeson Divinity School
For more information, contact Aleesa Naish, (205) 726-2778.

Hot-air balloon rides (weather permitting), University Quadrangle, \$1 per person

Sciencenter Open House
Watch a show at the planetarium and visit the unique conservatory and living museum at Samford's state-of-the-art science facility.

10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Journalism/Mass Communications Department 20th Anniversary Reception, Wright Center Art Gallery
For more information, call (205) 726-2465.

10:30 a.m.
Hypatia 80th Anniversary Reunion and Brunch, Rotunda Club, Lucille Beeson Center for Healing Arts
For more information, contact University Relations, (205) 726-2807.*



Schedule

For additional information and schedule updates, see www.samford.edu/homecoming.

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Phi Mu Homecoming Brunch, Phi Mu House Chapter Room, West Campus
For more information, contact Leslie Wade, (404) 513-7035.

11 a.m.

Concert featuring Samford A Cappella Choir, A. Gerow Hodges Chapel

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

All Alumni Reunion Luncheon, Ralph W. Beeson University Center
Reminisce with your classmates and renew old friendships. Special tables will be designated for reunion classes (ending in 4 or 9). Tickets: \$6 per person, children 5 and under free.

Class of 1994 Reunion and Picnic, Ben Brown Plaza

For more information, contact Adair Fletcher Middleton and Michael Middleton, (407) 228-9874. Tickets: \$6 per person; children 5 and under free.

Class of 1999 Reunion and Picnic, Beeson Divinity School Plaza

For more information, contact Whitney King Reidinger, (205) 824-0837. Tickets: \$6 per person; children 5 and under free.

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing Homecoming Barbecue, Center for Healing Arts Courtyard

All Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing graduates and their families are invited. For more information, contact Stacy Waldrep Miner, sewaldrep@samford.edu. \$5 per person.

11:30 a.m.

Sigma Nu Fraternity 125th Anniversary Reunion and Cookout, Sigma Nu House
For more information, contact Scott Watson, stwatson@samford.edu, or Charlie Raddin, cdraddin@samford.edu.

12 p.m.

Class of 1969 reunion picnic and tailgate party, Seibert Stadium
Alumni and their special guests, including children and grandchildren, may enjoy photo opportunities with Spike, the Bulldog mascot, and the Bulldog FunZone. The reunion tent will be available throughout the football game. For more information, contact Paula Hovater, (770) 587-3171.*

Class of 1974 reunion picnic and tailgate party, Seibert Stadium

The reunion tent will be available during the football game. For more information, contact Bill Goodman, (615) 384-4071.*

Samford Volleyball vs. Morehead State, Bashinsky Fieldhouse

Bulldog FunZone children's carnival, Seibert Stadium south end zone

Children enjoy games, clowns, face painting and other fun activities. The FunZone will remain open during the football game.

2 p.m.

Football Game vs. Tennessee Tech, Seibert Stadium

Cheer the Bulldogs to victory and enjoy a halftime performance by the Samford Marching Band. The 2004 Homecoming Queen and court will be presented. General admission tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children.

5–7 p.m.

London Study Program/Daniel House 20th Anniversary Reunion, Lucille Beeson Center for Healing Arts Rotunda
For more information, contact London Programs, (205) 726-2741.

6–8 p.m.

Library reunion, Harwell G. Davis Library
All current and former Library employees, including students, staff and faculty are invited. For more information, call (205) 726-2847.

6 p.m.

Class of 1954 Golden Reunion and Dinner, Flag Colonnade
For more information, contact University Relations, (205) 726-2807.*

7 p.m.

Sigma Nu 125th Anniversary Ball, The Club Advance reservations required. For more information, contact Scott Watson, stwatson@samford.edu, or Charlie Raddin, cdraddin@samford.edu.

8 p.m.

Brad Paisley and Steve Azar in concert, Wright Center Concert Hall
The Academy of Country Music's best new male vocalist of 2000, Brad Paisley, headlines the Homecoming concert with up-and-comer country singer Steve Azar opening the show. Paisley made his mark with the 1999 single, "He Didn't Have to Be," which helped his debut album, *Who Needs Pictures*, sell more than a million copies. He recorded another No. 1 hit, the hilarious "I'm Gonna Miss Her (The Fishing Song)," as part of his 2002 album, *Part II: A Grand Ole Opry* member since 2001, he released his third album, *Mud on the Tires*, in 2003. It features the hit, "Celebrity," which pokes fun at fame and reality shows. A sellout is expected, so early ticket purchases are encouraged. Tickets: \$25 students; \$30 alumni beginning Sept. 1. All tickets \$40 after Oct. 1.

Sunday, Oct. 31

9:30 a.m.

Samford Family Worship Service, A. Gerow Hodges Chapel

Guest speaker is Wanda Lee '69, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Samford Student Ministries Choir will sing.

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Homecoming Brunch, Beeson University Center Cafeteria, \$5.35 per person (tickets purchased at the door)

*event cost to be determined



“Your concerts and performances were at the highest artistic level.”

—Eugenia Vykhodseva

IMPRESSIVE

A Cappella Choir’s High Standard Draws Rave Review from Russian Expert

Eugenia Vykhodseva is not easily impressed. For more than 30 years, she was director of Kapella Hall in St. Petersburg, Russia, one of three major concert halls in the city. For more than 40 years, she has listened as hundreds of professional and nonprofessional choirs perform in St. Petersburg. As vice chairman of the St. Petersburg Music Society, she is an influential figure in the musical life of the city.

So what was her reaction to the Samford A Cappella Choir during its visit in March?

“Your concerts and performances were at the highest artistic level,” she wrote School of Performing Arts Dean and A Cappella Choir Director Milburn Price. “Your choir’s artistic level is not what one would expect from an academic choir; they were at a high professional level. I would say to you, Dr. Price, ‘Bravo, Bravo.’ Your choir was the finest foreign a cappella choir I have ever heard in St. Petersburg.”

The choir sang works by the Russian composer, Bortnianski, as part of its program.

“Your repertoire of Russian sacred music was

chosen with care and consideration,” Vykhodseva continued. “It was sung as few Russian choirs could have sung it. It was sung with sensitivity and passion as if every member of the choir, including yourself, possessed a ‘Russian Soul.’”

She called the choir’s pronunciation “perfect,” and said numerous musical friends and colleagues had commented on “the wonderful, uplifting feeling they received when they heard the choir sing.”

George Gordon of Moscow, Russia, vice president of the International Fine Arts Institute and primary coordinator of the choir’s tour, told Price he had never known Vykhodseva to write such a glowing letter.

“She is a real hard nut when it comes to musical excellence,” Gordon wrote Price. “Please don’t take her compliments with a ‘grain of salt.’ You and the choir earned every accolade she gave you.”

What was Price’s reaction to such praise?

“Wow!” he said. ■

‘Beautiful Savior’ Traditional Closing Underscores Choir’s Link with Composer Christiansen

by Jack Brymer

When the late Dr. George W. Koski ended the A Cappella Choir’s program in 1954 with the hymn “Beautiful Savior,” he began what has become a 50-year tradition at Samford.

As impressive as the text and beauty of the hymn, however, is the tradition of inviting former members to join the choir in singing the hymn at concerts.

Koski, a graduate of St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., joined the faculty of then-Howard College in the fall of 1949 as one of 21 new faculty members. He was recruited by President Harwell Davis from Louisiana Tech to head “an expanding” music department and to direct the A Cappella Choir.

The music department began in 1939 when the late Professor Kathleen S. Martinson was employed. She founded the A Cappella Choir and was its director from 1939 until Koski’s arrival in 1949.

Mrs. Golda Koski remembers the move quite well. Speaking from her home in Ft. Worth, Texas, she tells of riding a streetcar from downtown Birmingham to East Lake and walking to what she had expected to be a much larger campus. There was no music building and little more than a room to house the program.

In frustration, she asked her spouse: “Have you lost your mind? How could you let him talk you into doing this?”

Koski’s contributions through the years, including starting and directing a band, and leading the A Cappella Choir to an international reputation, validated Davis’ wisdom and Koski’s good judgment.

The choir has performed extensively in Alabama churches, and state and national conventions, including the Southern Baptist Convention in Chicago in 1950. It has been featured with the Birmingham Symphony and abroad on numerous occasions, including a tour this spring to Russia. The choir has toured Europe on numerous occasions.

Composed by F. Melius Christiansen early in his 40 years as conductor of the St. Olaf College Choir, “Beautiful Savior” was used in various ways and went through several settings, according to Dr. Gene Black, who was a member of the choir under Koski’s direction and later conducted the group.

“It was not until the composer’s son, Olaf, became conductor in 1943 that the anthem became a traditional closing for the St. Olaf Choir,” Black said. “Dr. Koski was a member of the St. Olaf Choir two years under F. Melius and a year under Olaf, and brought the hymn with him to Howard College in 1949. He used it for the closing of all of his concerts.”

Black, who succeeded Koski as conductor of the choir and later as dean of the School of Music, continued the practice. ■

Milburn Price, dean of the School of Performing Arts and director of the choir, said he has chosen to continue that tradition for three primary reasons:

1. It serves as a link for many generations of A Cappella Choir members. Also, it enables former members to connect with the experiences of current members by joining them in singing “Beautiful Savior” at the conclusion of concerts.
2. It maintains a link with the musical/choral heritage of the Samford (Howard) A Cappella Choir by using an arrangement by F. Melius Christiansen.
3. Textually, it provides an appropriate conclusion to the choir’s concerts and emphasizes the reason for those concerts.

Traditions Play Important Role in Band Programs

Samford’s Marching Band sings the alma mater and doxology and plays a hymn to end its football game-day activities. These activities reflect a growing number of traditions in the instrumental department resulting from suggestions by students, football coaches and department directors.

In addition to the 65-member Marching Band directed by Brad Sargent and Grant Dalton, there are Pep Bands for men’s and women’s sports, and the 54-member Wind Ensemble directed by Jon Remley, department chair.

“The Marching Band has a set pattern for their postgame show that includes some really neat traditions,” Remley explained. One is the result of a suggestion from football coach Bill Gray, who was promoted to the head coaching position during the 2001 season.

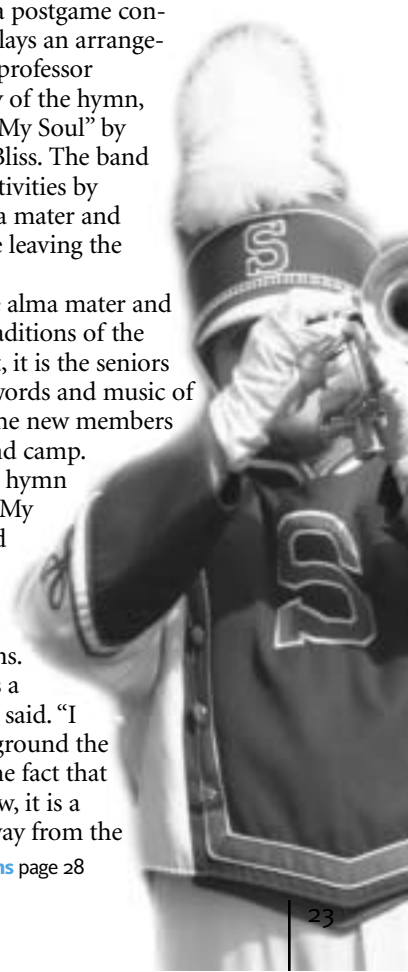
Shortly after the end of the football season, Remley and Marching Band director Sargent met with Gray to discuss the program. Gray suggested having the football team gather in front of the band’s section during the Fight Song after the game. Team members would remove their helmets and hold them in the air while the band plays the alma mater.

Following a postgame concert, the band plays an arrangement by music professor Rebecca Remley of the hymn, “It is Well with My Soul” by composer P. P. Bliss. The band concludes its activities by singing the alma mater and doxology before leaving the stadium.

Singing the alma mater and doxology are traditions of the students. In fact, it is the seniors who teach the words and music of both pieces to the new members each year at band camp.

Playing the hymn “It Is Well with My Soul” was added to the program in 1990 by Jon Remley for a couple of reasons. “First of all, it is a great hymn,” he said. “I also wanted to ground the students with the fact that win, lose or draw, it is a game. We go away from the

See [Band Traditions](#) page 28



Freshmen Get Free Key-Chain Device That Stores 45 Times the Capacity of Floppy

Samford University is providing every incoming freshman a free, pocket-sized computer device that can store up to 45 times the capacity of a floppy disk. The device—a USB drive—is less than three inches long, looks a little like a key and fits handily on a key chain. Students can plug the device into a computer and store documents, pictures, presentations, notes and any other data. They can take the device with them and use it to retrieve information on lab and classroom computers around campus.

“The floppy disk has long been the standard in portable storage of computer documents, but presentations and other large documents often exceed the capacity of the floppy disk,” said Samford Associate Provost and Chief Information Officer Alan Hargrave.

“The USB drive solves this problem by offering the same convenience and ease of use as a floppy disk, and it operates faster, is easier to carry and has significantly greater storage capacity.”

Samford distributed USB drives imprinted with the school logo to approximately 680 entering freshmen during orientation sessions in June. ■

a key device
for students



Bringing In-Demand Technology to the Classroom

by Sean Flynt

Some explanation is in order for those who missed the U.S. Department of Labor's recent finding that "geotechnology" is among the top three most important and rapidly growing professional fields. Geotechnology, commonly encountered as geographic information systems [GIS], merges cartography, geography, and computer and satellite technologies to create a tool with application in most any profession.

Need a system that can identify and track the spikes in drug prescriptions that might indicate a bioterror attack? Want a sophisticated series of maps and overlays that will help predict how the inhabitants of a particular region will vote or shop? Want a graphic representation of how language and religion spread in the ancient Near East? By creating maps enhanced by layers of specific information limited only by the mapmaker's imagination, geotechnology is likely to provide at least some solutions to each of these problems. Thanks to a project conceived in Samford's geography department, Samford faculty are applying geotechnology to problems in their respective academic fields and, most importantly, bringing students along for the ride.

The Academic Excellence and Geographic Information Systems [AEGIS] project, developed and directed by Samford Geography Professor Max Baber and supported by a \$195,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement program, is teaching nontechnical faculty how to use GIS and assisting them in the development of discipline-specific

GIS modules suitable for use in their introductory-level courses. According to Baber, the project's goal is to help faculty help students understand and integrate the technology into their studies and careers.

"The broader impacts of this project are far-reaching," Baber said. "The integration of introductory GIS into a diverse array of arts and sciences courses is leading to further development of GIS modules for advanced courses, and is enhancing student research skills by providing students with multiple opportunities to engage in spatial data acquisition and analysis activities."

The three-year AEGIS project, now in its second year, has just graduated its second and final group of seven faculty participants. The faculty spent a week in June learning how to use GIS and could be seen wandering the quad in clusters, hunched over handheld global positioning system [GPS] receivers. The receivers, originally developed for military and nautical use but now found everywhere from car dashboards to watches, work with satellites to provide the precise geographic coordinates that are at the heart of GIS. They can record the location of a pot shard, house or spider as well as help soldiers navigate or direct artillery fire. The faculty learning how to use the devices said they plan to apply the technology to a surprising variety of classroom projects, from plotting the flora and fauna of Shades Creek to tracking the spread of Roman architecture in ancient Britain.

Although geotechnology may not be a headline grabber, its practical value in both career and classroom is apparent to the faculty who volunteered to participate in the AEGIS project. Professor Ron Jenkins and his colleagues in Samford's biology department are especially interested in the technology.

"GIS and GPS can be big pluses in conducting environmental research," Jenkins said. "Being able to map distributions of animals can give the biologist a better understanding of the animals and their biological roles." Jenkins said Samford biology students will use GIS in their study of the flora and fauna of Shades Creek, which runs along Lakeshore Drive in front of Samford and has served as an outdoor Samford biology lab for many years.

Professors Shannon Flynt and Doug Clapp, representing two-thirds of the Department of Classics, see applications for GIS in even the most traditional of the liberal arts. They plan to develop student research projects that will inform a complex series of teaching maps of ancient Greece, and Flynt plans to apply the technology to her own archaeological research of the Roman military frontiers of Europe and Britain.

"Those nebulous people of history, be they Greek, Roman or your great-grandparents, did not live in a vacuum or on page 243 of a textbook, but in a real place where it even rained sometimes," said Clapp. "The AEGIS project can help those of us who introduce students to their cultural roots through Cultural Perspectives or through Greek and Roman history by providing a geographical anchor for the printed page that is our primary teaching tool."

Having completed their introduction to the growing field of geotechnology, the 14 AEGIS project participants now face the challenge of turning ideas into real GIS projects that will benefit their disciplines and give their students intellectually rewarding, not to mention highly marketable, skills. ■

Calling it a Career

by Mary Wimberley



Martha Ann Cox enjoys her July retirement dinner.

In July, longtime Samford administrator Martha Ann Cox concluded a 42-year association with the University. First as a student and then as a staff member, Cox has affected the lives of several generations of students across five decades and two millennia. Her service spanned three divisions at Samford: student affairs, academic affairs and business affairs.

While a career such as hers can be hard to capsule, a student may have summed it up best when, while fumbling to introduce the campus legend to his parents, said, “This is Dean Cox. I don’t know what her title is, but she’s always around when we need her.”

Beginning with her freshman year in 1957, Cox found a niche at Samford that was uninterrupted except during the early 1960s when she taught fifth grade in Munford, Ala., earned a master’s in counseling at the University of Alabama and was guidance director for nursing students at Baptist Medical Centers.

In 1966, the Talladega native returned to Samford to work in the student affairs office as director of women’s programs and associate to the dean of students.

She served as vice president and dean of students during 1984–90, and later as dean of academic services and associate dean for Extra Learning Experiences. Since 2002, she has been director of Quality Quest with primary responsibilities to coordinate people and projects.

“I’m a dot connector,” she said of her most recent post, which included coordinating many aspects of the Sciencenter construction project.

The art of connecting with people has always been one of Cox’s specialties.

“The significant events in my career have been those involving people I’ve been fortunate enough to help—students, faculty members, parents. If I have made any contribution to Samford, it has been to individuals,” she said.

Many coworkers and students she mentored attended a July 15 banquet in her honor.

Alumna Ann Irwin Williams ’69, a former Panhellenic president who lives in Atlanta, Ga., recalled how Cox helped students handle problems.

“This is Dean Cox. I don’t know what her title is, but she’s always around when we need her.”

“When we would approach her with a problem, she would listen to us, and then ask, ‘What are you going to do about that?’ She made us think it through and make our own decisions,” said Williams, adding that one of Cox’s great gifts is how she helps people in ways unknown to them. “She does good for others quietly.”

Cox always found time to work with community causes. She serves on local and state boards for Cerebral Palsy, Easter Seals and Camp ASCCA for people with disabilities.

In 1989, she became involved with Miss Alabama Pageant, Inc., serving on the board of directors, chair of the scholarship committee and as a chaperone to the titleholder.

In retirement, she will return to Talladega, where she expects to catch her breath, become involved in the community and resume a few favorite pastimes. “I need to reflect on and remember the last 38 years, and visit people,” said Cox, who also hopes to continue work with the Department of Human Services’ Child Protection Services.

She will make a difference in people’s lives when she can. “I’ve always been interested in helping a person become the best individual they can be. Many people have helped me, and my mission and ministry is to do that for others.”

Many friends have recognized Cox’s retirement by contributing to a scholarship fund that she established in 1996 to honor her late parents. Anyone wishing to add to the fund should make checks payable to Samford University and designate the gift to the Hezz Malone Cox and Suaylor Wyatt Cox Scholarship. Mail to: University Relations, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229. ■

The Midnight Fire

by Sean Flynt

Institutions often commemorate the happiest moments of their history, but the saddest can be among the most inspiring and revealing of character. Samford, founded as Howard College in 1841, certainly had its share of the latter. Within 50 years of its founding in Marion, it endured the Civil War, conversion to a Confederate military hospital, temporary confiscation by Federal troops, bitter denominational relations, racial violence, the forced public auction of its property to pay its debts and the ill will attending the college's relocation to Birmingham.

This fall marks the 150th anniversary of one the most spectacular and tragic events of Samford's early history—the midnight fire of 1854, which destroyed the college's only building and claimed three lives.

HEROES

The fire started not long before midnight on October 15 in the four-story, multi-purpose building and quickly spread up its stairs “as up the flue of a chimney,” as one contemporary account recorded.

As the fire grew, someone roused Harry, a 23-year-old slave who served as the college's janitor and handyman, owned by Howard president Henry Talbird. Warned to save himself, Harry is said to have replied, “I must wake the boys first.”

Harry then worked his way through the fire from the ground floor to the fourth, raising the alarm as he went. With the stairs finally blocked by the flames, most of the building's occupants, including Harry, jumped from the upper windows, preferring the fall to the fire.

At least one student escaped with the help of an unnamed slave on the ground, who leaned a long plank of wood against the building beneath a third

story window and lowered the student 25 feet to the ground. At least four more students and tutor Richard Montague were saved when a Marion resident arrived with a ladder. When student Anderson Talbert was not accounted for among the rescued, “three noble spirits”—Noah K. Davis, Augustus Stollenwerk and a Mr. Washburn—reentered the building and brought him out unconscious but alive.

The people of Marion cared for Howard's many casualties, but three men—one each from among the college's staff, students and faculty—died as a result of the fire. Harry was injured in his fall from the fourth floor of the burning building and died the next day. Talbert died of his injuries a few days later. Montague died years later as a result of the lung damage he suffered that night. As for the physical resources of the college, one contemporary account recorded that “all was lost save faith in God and love for His cause.”

SURVIVORS

Survivors credited Harry with the night's greatest courage, buried him in the White cemetery in Marion and raised funds to erect a large marble obelisk there in his memory. But Harry's story shouldn't end here, because it raises so many important questions. Did Harry, who was not free to make the most basic decisions about his life, really believe he had a choice that night? Did the survivors of the fire honor him as a model of Christian self-sacrifice or merely as a model slave whose duty was to die to protect those who enslaved him? What was Howard College's role in slavery, and how did its well-educated, devout Christian supporters defend the practice?



The historical record, notwithstanding its many flaws, suggests multiple answers for each of these questions, and could inform an important, community-wide dialogue. But the result of Harry's actions is not in dispute. Whatever his motivation, he did

save many of Howard College's students that night. By doing so, he also may have saved the college itself, because if the students had perished along with the building, Howard's supporters might not have summoned the will or resources to start over.

Samford University still maintains Harry's grave in Marion and remembers him with a plaque on Centennial Walk, an image on the University Mace and in the name of Harry's Coffeeshouse, a popular campus meeting place. Most of the other heroes of the midnight fire are all but forgotten. But Samford will remember them, too, in an October 15 service of thanksgiving for their acts, and for the spirit of courage, faith and hope that rebuilt Howard College after the fire and has sustained this community through so many other troubled times. ■

Above: The Marion gravesight of Harry, the slave who awoke Howard College students and faculty, saving them from the fire of Oct. 15, 1854.

Below: Howard College replaced its original building destroyed by fire with this structure nearby.



with Appreciation

Samford University expresses gratitude for these additional tribute gifts received June 1, 2004, through July 31, 2004. For further information, contact the Samford University Gift Office at (205) 726-2807.

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Band Traditions cont. from 23

game with the security of knowing that we are in the hands of God."

Another tradition of the Marching Band is opening the field presentation with "Sweet Home Alabama," a song made popular by Lynard Skynard.

In 1974, Samford dropped football and the band program took a nosedive. When Remley arrived in the fall of 1988, there were only 25 students in the band, of which only seven were instrumental majors. Last year, there were 40 instrumental music majors, with 54 members in the wind ensemble and 65 in the Marching Band. A majority of students are in both bands.

Remley credits former director John Parks with the emphasis on tradition while at Samford, for instituting the singing of the alma mater after football games and for introducing a routine which has become another tradition.

"Man, I love this band," someone says. Others chime in: "Man, I love this band," which is then chanted by the band before it disperses. ■

GiftLegacy Site Offers Finance, Estate Planning Information

GiftLegacy, a comprehensive Web site offering a wide range of personal finance and estate planning information, is available now free from Samford University.

The Web site, www.sugift.org, offers up-to-date information on personal finance, tax deductions, the stock market, wills and trusts, income-producing gifts, and other areas.

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Anyone can sign up for a free weekly personal finance e-mail newsletter through GiftLegacy. The site also contains news articles and helpful information on Social Security, Medicare, stocks and bonds, and other areas, as well as a Washington hotline.

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Visit the Web site today and browse through the free tools available to you. ■

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