As this issue goes to press, we have so much to celebrate here at SBU, but it is with great sadness that we report on the death of one of our students. Sgt. Kristin Beasley was an example of servant leadership in his daily life and work. His memorial is on page 4. Please join the SBU family in praying for Kris's family and his girlfriend Rebecca, who also was seriously injured in the motor vehicle accident that took Kris's life. We grieve at the passing of this fine young man.

When a young person dies, it is a reminder to us all that we only have a short time on earth to make an impact for Christ. We are proud of our SBU alumni, students, faculty, and staff who live to make a difference in the kingdom of Christ. I hope you will enjoy reading some of their stories in this issue of SBU Life. I especially am inspired by the servant's heart of one of our students, Tiffany Grant, who began a prom clothing and accessories ministry for those who couldn't afford such luxuries when she was just an eighth grader. Her story begins on page 12.

As you turn the pages of this magazine, you will read about our starting another academic year with increased enrollment, the dedication of the newly renovated Jim Mellers Center, and a special focus on the Harriett K. Hutchens Library. We also have featured interviews with two of our scholar-athletes dedicated to ministry, a special alumni couple who have spent a lifetime in ministry, and four of our faculty members who share their thoughts on preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.

We have a feature of the magazine to acknowledge that our readers are among our very best recruiters. As you flip through the following pages, you will find a purple bookmark and postcards asking you to "Spread the Word" about SBU. As alumni and friends of the University, you have the opportunity to influence the next generation of Christian scholars by encouraging them to attend SBU, where we feel they will experience one of the highest quality and affordable Christ-centered academic programs available.

If you haven’t been back to campus in awhile, I hope you will visit soon. You will see a photo gallery from Homecoming 2007 on pages 26 and 27. "There is No Place Like Home: Follow the Purple Brick Road" was the theme, and the students made such wonderful floats for the parade! It was a beautiful, summer-like weekend and alumni enjoyed the time to tour campus, visit with old friends, and make new SBU memories.

I would like to invite you to send in story ideas along with your personal updates and address changes. We like to keep in touch with our alumni and have planned many regional events to re-connect with you, so you won't want to miss these invitations and the chance to fellowship with SBU alumni and friends in your area. You'll read about some of these events in this issue.

We work to make each issue of SBU Life better than the one before, so please do not hesitate to send us your feedback!

Sharina Smith
Executive Editor
Senior Director of Marketing & Communications
Preparign
Servant Leaders

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Keeping in Touch

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SBU Life highlights the University’s mission: to be a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society. SBU does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age, marital status or disability. Any person having inquiries regarding this may contact Ron Maupin (417) 328-1511.
It is with sad news that I greeted our University community on the morning of the dedication of the Jim Mellers Center. One of our students died in a tragic one-vehicle accident that happened on the afternoon of Sept. 23, the day before the dedication. The driver of the vehicle, also a student, was seriously injured.

The student who died was Sgt. Kristin Edwin Beasley, 26, a criminal justice major from Lathrop, Mo. The injured student is Kris's girlfriend, Rebecca Cook, who is expecting to graduate this December with a Bachelor of Science in physical education (K-12). More information about the students is located on page 4 of this SBU Life issue.

It was a difficult transition from sadness to joy, but we dedicated the newly renovated Jim Mellers Center on Sept. 24 with a special chapel service and celebration of the new and improved home for the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry. Donors and friends as well as family members of Courts Redford enjoyed the festivities, but we were all heavy-hearted for the families of Kris Beasley and Rebecca Cook as she remained in the hospital that morning. Kris's military funeral honors in Lathrop, Mo., and his memorial service on campus were both a testimony to a life well-lived.

The 2007-08 academic year has gotten off to a great beginning. We have a good enrollment on the Bolivar campus. We have outstanding students. As I say again and again, I can unequivocally tell you that we have the best students at SBU.

God has been faithful to SBU and has blessed this University for 129 years. We have come a long way since our founding by James Rogers Maupin and Abner Smith Ingram in 1878 in Lebanon. We began with six faculty and 69 students. As I think about our humble beginnings and where we are today, I think about the words of the prophet Jeremiah in Lamentations chapter three, verses 21-25. Written somewhere around 585 B.C., these verses have been very encouraging to me as we begin our 130th year at SBU.

“Through I recall to my mind, therefore, I have hope. The Lord’s loving kindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore, I have hope in Him. The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him.”

As I ponder these verses from Lamentations, I know that God will provide loving kindnesses and God will be faithful to us every day as we endeavor to provide the best possible academic and spiritual experiences for our students. The Lord is good to the University who waits for Him and to the University who seeks Him.

As I evaluate the state of the University, I can tell you that SBU is stronger than it has been at any point in our 129-year history. We have assembled a great faculty, staff and administration. We have great trustees and we have great students. Our enrollment has improved and all indications are that it will continue to grow. Our financial health has improved. Our endowment continues to grow. We have better facilities than at any time in our history. And we have a good strategic plan to guide us through the next five years.

As long as we remain committed and focused on our mission, we will continue to get better each year. God is indeed faithful. His loving kindnesses never cease. His compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Thy faithfulness!

C. Pat Taylor
President
When students began classes at Southwest Baptist University on Monday, August 20, “they were greeted by several new faculty and were amazed by the changes to the Jim Mellers Center, which houses the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry. In turn, the faculty greeted many new faces as another large freshman class moved in during welcome week beginning August 16,” said Dr. Stephanie Miller ’80, SBU’s vice president for enrollment management.

SBU President C. Pat Taylor said, “Total enrollment increased from 1,521 to 1,560 students on the Bolivar campus, which is an increase of 2.6%.” Dr. Taylor also announced a record enrollment for one of SBU’s signature graduate programs, “We are at absolute capacity in our doctoral program in physical therapy. We have forty new doctoral students this fall from an applicant pool of 90, and 18 students are still on the waiting list.”

The fall semester began on a positive note: “One of the positive factors in our enrollment growth this fall is an outstanding retention rate for our freshmen class of last year,” Dr. Taylor said. “The freshmen class last year was the largest in our history with 459 first-time freshmen. The good news for this year is that we had a retention rate of 86%. This is outstanding. The national average retention rate for schools like SBU is a little more than 70%. A year ago we retained 82% and we set a goal of 85% for this year. Eighty-six percent is exceptional and certainly helped us meet our enrollment objectives for this year.”

Formal convocation was held August 22 in the Pike Auditorium on the Bolivar campus. Dr. Taylor and SBU Provost, Dr. Gordon Dutile, recognized the 2007 Parkway Distinguished Professor, Dr. Herb Hamann, and the 2007 Orien B. Hendrex Distinguished Teacher, Mel L. Steele ’84. The Faculty and Staff Newcomer of the Year Awards were presented by Dr. Taylor and Dr. Dutile. (see Faculty/Staff news, pp. 23-25)

2007 Parkway Distinguished Professor, Dr. Herb Hamann

Dr. Hamann came to Southwest Baptist University in 1983 and has served the University in various capacities. He joined the faculty in 1999 in the department of physical therapy. Dr. Hamann (right) completed his doctorate (DPT) at Creighton University (May 2002) and attained certification as a clinical specialist in sports physical therapy. He has presented his research at regional meetings and has published work in scholarly journals such as Physical Therapy Review. He is an active member of the Missouri Physical Therapy Association and the Missouri Athletic Training Association, and has served as liaison between these organizations.

Dr. Hamann has served the University in a variety of roles outside the classroom. He has been a student advisor, class advisor to physical therapy classes, given oversight to the pre-physical therapy club, and has assisted the physical therapy recruiter with prospective and current students. He has served on various departmental, university and Faculty Senate committees and has been on a number of faculty search committees. He also has been active in planning and participating in a variety of medical mission trips. He has led two healthcare mission trips to Venezuela guiding and nurturing students to combine their faith with their new profession. He recently served on a medical mission trip to El Salvador (sponsored by First Baptist Church of Bolivar) with six physical therapy doctoral students.

Dr. Hamann and his wife, Joyce, have three children and two grandchildren. They attend First Baptist Church in Bolivar, where he serves as a deacon and as a Sunday school teacher.

2007 Orien B. Hendrex Distinguished Teacher, Mel L. Steele ’84

Mel L. Steele ’84 became an assistant professor of business administration at Southwest Baptist University in 1990. Since that time he has taught predominantly on the Mountain View campus. In recent years, Mel has been active in designing and teaching interactive television courses for the University. Prior to coming to SBU, Mel taught at Missouri Valley College in Kansas City.

Mel received his Bachelor of Science at SBU in 1984. In 1986 he earned a master’s degree in business administration from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana.

For more SBU News, visit www.sbuniv.edu/news. Did you know SBU has an RSS news feed? Check it out online!
One student at Southwest Baptist University died from injuries he received in a one-vehicle accident that occurred on September 23. The accident happened on U.S. Highway 60, five miles east of Van Buren.

An additional student, who was driving the vehicle, sustained serious injuries and was transported to Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center.

The victim was Sgt. Kristin Edwin Beasley, 26, a senior criminal justice major from Bolivar, Mo. (formerly of Lathrop, Mo.), who was expecting to graduate this December. He will receive his diploma posthumously. The injured student was Kris’ girlfriend, Rebecca J. Cook, who is a senior physical education major from Delta, Mo. and also is expecting to graduate this December. She played on SBU’s softball team.

Kris’ parents are Pam and Phil Beasley who are missionaries in Thailand. Kris’s sister, Megan Beasley is a graduate student in education at SBU.

Kris was born October 14, 1980, in St. Joseph, Mo. He graduated in 1999 from Faith Academy in the Philippines. Kris served active duty in Iraq in the U.S. Army and was currently a Sergeant in the Army Reserves. He had worked as a department manager at Wal-Mart in Bolivar.

He received military honors at his funeral in Lathrop, and a memorial service was held at SBU on October 1. Many friends and family members honored the memory of Kris by giving testimonies at his funeral and memorial services.

A tree planting service in memory of Kris was held October 26 in the Art and Doris Allen Walk of Life garden in which trees have been planted in memory of the students who have died in the past 11 years.

Twelve students have been killed in traffic crashes since 1996.
Southwest Baptist University dedicated the renovation of The Jim Mellers Center on September 24 after a special chapel service in Pike Auditorium on the Bolivar campus.

SBU’s renovation of the 22,000-square-foot Jim Mellers Center was completed this summer. The center houses the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry as well as SBU’s Intercultural Studies program and the in-service guidance office that directs students into internship opportunities. The $1.5 million renovation is being funded entirely by private donations.

“Thank you so much for offering your talents to help with what we’re doing here,” said Dr. Rodney Reeves ’79, dean of the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry, during the dedication ceremony.

The Jim Mellers Center was originally built in 1984 as a conference center.

“It was a very good building, but it was not configured as an academic building,” said SBU President Dr. C. Pat Taylor. “The interior was completely gutted and construction started from scratch. The center now features eight state-of-the-art classrooms with the largest two having Smart Board technology and all of the classrooms are PowerPoint-ready. The new student lounge has wireless technology.”

According to Dr. Taylor, the renovation was designed by faculty working directly with the architect, Joe Vejraska, from Gaskin, Hill and Norcross of Springfield.

“Among the most innovative features are the faculty offices, which are all on the main (second) floor providing ease of access for students and creating a scholarly community for the faculty and students,” Dr. Taylor said. The center also features a preaching room giving the students more adequate space for practicing sermons.

Nolan Carrier ’72, (right) pastor of South Gate Baptist Church in Springfield and former president of the SBU Board of Curators, said the building renovation was a “field of dreams.”

“God just put it in my heart that we’ve got to do something here,” he said. “God has used us, and God has made it happen.”

Stephanie Smith, an SBU ambassador and senior psychology and biblical studies major, said the general consensus of students is that the building is “awesome!” “We absolutely love the new student lounge,” she said. “We love the new technology in the classrooms, and professors are utilizing it. On behalf of all the students, thank you very much.”

David Redford, son of Dr. Courts Redford, recalled some memories of his father. “We just knew we were the luckiest family in the world to have the most loving, caring, sacrificial parents ever,” he said. “My dad always gave my mother more than half the credit for the fruits of his ministry.

“My dad was a people person. Every person, to my dad, was important. I never once heard my dad say a negative thing about anybody. He was so patient, understanding, forgiving, and he always had something good to say about anybody.”

In 1930 the trustees at Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar extended an invitation to Dr. Courts Redford to become its 15th president. It was during the depression that Redford accepted the presidency of SWBC, a time when the college was not financially solvent. As Mayme Hamlett wrote in her book, To Noonday Bright, “Dr. Redford set forth to plan financial strategy, to advance the institution educationally, to build the morale of the trustees, faculty and students, and to cooperate in denominational endeavors.”
The new president rose to the challenges of those difficult years and immediately launched a fundraising campaign that culminated in a “note-burning” ceremony on June 6, 1941. Redford served SWBC as president for 13 years.

In 1943 he began working for the Home Mission Board as assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer, Dr. J.B. Lawrence. After Dr. Lawrence retired in 1954, Dr. Redford was promoted to executive secretary-treasurer serving the HMB for 22 years.

After Redford’s retirement in 1965, he and his family relocated to Bolivar. During this period, Redford began preaching in area churches. Once again, he would be aligned with SWBC in 1967 when he accepted the position of interim president, which lasted nine months. When a new president, Dr. James Sells, was named the following year, Redford was named “President Emeritus” at SWBC. In 1970 Dr. Redford was named as the first archivist at the college. He and his wife, Helen, shared an interest in SWBC’s history and worked together on this project.


A native of East St. Louis, Ill., Stanton served in the ministry for more than 60 years. He served two terms as first vice president for the Southern Baptist Convention in 1986 and 1987. He was the author of The Christian Witness and How to Have a Full and Meaningful Life, in addition to writing numerous articles for Southern Baptist papers, magazines and curriculum materials and sermons that were published in various books.

Some of Stanton’s special honors include being listed in Who’s Who in Religion, being named the alumni of the year in 1995 at Luther Rice Seminary and honored for his Outstanding Achievement in Evangelism by the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists at the Southern Baptist Convention in 1996.

In 1997 The Jack Stanton Chair of Evangelism was established in his honor for his commitment to evangelism and his years of faithful and dedicated service to the university.

Stanton and his wife, Mary, who died in 1999, were married for 58 years. Stanton died in July 2002, leaving two daughters, Mary Lee and Melody Ann, who live in Texas.

Many donations for the project were made in memory of Dr. Jack Stanton, who served the University beginning in 1979 for 22 years as the director of evangelism. Granville Watson, consultant and director of special projects at SBU, and John Woods ’79, (left), a businessman from Horn Lake, Miss., shared their memories of Dr. Jack Stanton.

“His personality was infectious,” said Watson (left), who was recruited by Stanton to join the SBU staff.

Woods met Stanton in the fall of 1974 at First Baptist Church in Dallas and then was a student of his at SWBC.

“Jack Stanton was an encourager,” Woods said. “Jack was an evangelist. His whole purpose in life was to share the gospel with the world.”

Members of the Redford family pose in front of their father’s painting, which hangs in the lobby of the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry.
**2007 - 2008 SBU BEARCATS BASEBALL SCHEDULE**

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* Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Game

**2007 - 2008 SBU BEARCATS SOFTBALL SCHEDULE**

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* Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Game

www.sbuniv.edu

For more SBU sports news, visit www.sbubearcats.com for the latest updates and information.
Victoria Reed, a junior at SBU, is on the tennis team and the SBU spirit squad. Her friends call her Tori. She is quick to say that her heroes, unequivocally, are her parents. Her dad preaches and her mother is a professional singer. Tori has a five-year-old brother. Tori is majoring in Christian ministry with emphasis in youth, and is actively pursuing God's plan for her life.

“Looking at different schools around my home in Tennessee, I didn’t really want to go that far away, because I didn’t want to be apart from my little brother growing up. But I’m eight hours away from home now. My mom actually came to SBU and sang for chapel one time. My mom came home and said, ‘If my daughter ever comes here, I’ve lost her.’ And when I got here I visited the school and fell in love with the school instantly. I liked how it felt on campus and how nice everyone was. The coach wanted me on the team and said I’d have a spot when I came on. There were a lot of schools that talked to me, but I just knew this is where God wanted me, because there are only so many places that have Christian ministry with emphasis in youth as a major. I love all my classes. And I just love all of my professors.”

As Tori talked about being a student-athlete, she quickly turned the conversation to her parents and the vital role they’ve played in her life. “Being an athlete and a Christian are two things that have been a natural fit for me. Being an athlete gives me more of a chance to show people the love of Jesus. It’s all about keeping your temper on the court. You have to keep a Christian attitude on the court. I think that’s the biggest battle for most people.”

“Growing up as a pastor’s kid, I always felt like I was being watched. It was always hard to have that pressure on me to reflect my Christian faith and also represent my parents. I realize now that doing what my parents taught me, it reflected well on my parents. It was an ongoing struggle but I was able to talk to my parents anytime, which helped. It was hard, but it could have been a lot harder if I weren’t as close to my mom. My mom was my buddy. I respected her and was able to talk to her as a friend at times. My dad was a spiritual leader. If I had any questions with the Bible, he was right there helping me and teaching me stuff. He was able to help me with scripture and life.”

As the conversation with Tori continued, it was easy to realize that her greatest dreams in life came from the important decisions she made early in her life. Again, she gives credit to her parents for being her greatest influence.

“I’m extremely close to my mom, my dad, and my grandmother. They are pretty much the main influence in my life. I had some really awesome teachers in school, but by far the people that shaped me the most has to be my parents. My dad was my pastor and I went to church all the time. Whenever the doors were open I was there. When I was seven years old, I accepted Christ, and my dad got to baptize me very soon after that. That was a very cool experience. After that, I ended up leading the Children’s Church when I was 15, and I led that ministry until I graduated high school. During that time, I prayed a lot about what I wanted to do in college. I didn’t know what I wanted to do at that time. I never really had any Christian peers at my age. I never had a youth group. It was through that experience that God put a love for youth in my heart. I love my situation right now because I get to help out with youth a lot around here. I definitely realize it’s a passion that God put in my life.”

It might seem that Tori is “all business,” but she enjoys life and has a variety of interests and things that bring her enjoyment. As she discussed many things she enjoyed on a personal level, it was easy to see where her real heart was. “For fun, I love watching movies. My favorite girly movie would have to be Pride and Prejudice. I love Finding Nemo as an animated movie, and I love action movies, especially ninja movies. I’m actually a second-degree black belt. I was in the talent show with my nunchucks. It’s fun to talk about my martial arts.”

“For me, the perfect meal is a southern meal; chicken, mashed potatoes and green beans. I also like Ethiopian and Mexican food. When my grandmother cooks, I eat it up. Anytime my grandmother cooks I eat more than I should. I have never been able to go out of the country, because of health reasons. My sophomore year, doctors found a tumor on my thyroid. The tumor is not gone yet, so it’s been an ongoing battle. Traveling with the tennis team is fun. All the girls are really close. We don’t have any tension, or drama. Tennis trips are where the fun stories happen.”

“I love to have fun, but I hope people realize that I have a heart for God. And I do the best I can to represent Christ. I love getting involved with the community. I started a ministry with a couple of other people called the White House Youth (WHY!) with First Baptist Church of Bolivar. White House Youth deals with kids that don’t feel comfortable in church. There are lots of un-churched kids in our area, and we have a Bible study with them. It’s been two years now since we started. It started on the steps of this big white house (hence the name) and now we are inside the house and we have music. We really challenge the kids. God is working and blessing them a lot. More kids are really starting to go and get involved. You could say it’s blown up now. Really cool ministry.”
Nathan Brown still remembers the heartbreaking loss that ended his Seneca High School football career. “Heading into districts, we were 9-0 and so was our opponent, Cassville. We fell short to a great team, and my high school career ended. It was the worst memory I have about high school football. If I didn’t get to play here at SBU, it would probably still eat at me.”

Even though Nathan classifies the loss to Cassville as his ‘worst’ memory, he still has many more good memories than bad ones. “I lettered three years in football. I was an all-conference linebacker my senior year and named honorable mention in district as a linebacker. My favorite game in high school was the game right before the Cassville loss. We were down to Monett in the last 2 minutes. They had the ball and things looked pretty hopeless. But we got a turnover, drove down the field, and won. I had pretty much given up, but we came back and won. It was a miracle.”

Nathan is from Seneca, a small town of 2200 people near Joplin. He lived in Seneca most of his life. He began playing football in 2nd grade, but his parents made a decision that, at the time, Nathan didn’t like. “I started football in 2nd grade, but my parents kept me out so I wouldn’t get burnt out, which I hated every year. But I got to play again in 7th grade. I played running back and linebacker throughout my career until my senior year and I moved to tight end. I’ve always played on good teams.”

Nathan has a heart for missions. He believes that SBU has played, and will continue to play, an important role in his heart’s desire. “I applied to different schools, and got accepted to Missouri Southern on an academic scholarship. I didn’t plan on playing football in college. Thinking back, it’s funny because one day someone asked me where I was going to go to school and I said ‘SBU’ for some reason. It just came out! But from that day, I knew deep down that I was supposed to be here. It was just a feeling I had.”

“I’m an ICS major, which is Inter-Cultural Studies. I really didn’t know what God had planned for my life until I saw the ICS major and I just fell in love with the thought. I just felt called to missions. I’ve been to Montana and Wyoming, but never too far out of the Midwest. I’ve been to California twice over spring break and the summer. We had to camp out the whole time for financial reasons. But we got to camp by a lake, which was awesome.”

Nathan Brown football

“I would love to go to Brazil on a mission trip. I’ve heard stories about some of the things they need down there and I’ve always had a soft spot for them. I always wanted to do missionary work. I would love to study abroad in Brazil. Hopefully I can go on the mission trip to Brazil on spring break to get a feel of missionary work that’s going on there.”

As Nathan discussed his spiritual life, and his greatest influences, he talked about some of his personal challenges at this time in his life. He is an honest, sincere person, who is very open to talk about things he is learning at this point in his life. In short, Nathan keeps it real. “I’ve gone to church as long as I can remember. I was saved November 11, 2001. I had gone forward as a kid, but in November 2001, I really ‘got it’ that time. I’d even been baptized before but it was real in 2001. But what is weird is that ever since that night — my life has actually had more challenges, if that makes sense. The temptations are still there, but God has put key people in my life that I need and takes away stuff I don’t need. It’s challenging sometimes because in sports you can get a big head, but God always humbles me. The friends I’ve had have been crucial to me. The SBU coaching staff makes it where being a Christian and playing football can go together. Coach [Keith] Allen does a great job. The thing I’m struggling with the most right now is witnessing. It’s hard to look for the openings, but they are there. It’s getting better.”

“This year, I’m starting to play on special teams. It was a hard adjustment from high school, where I was playing all the time, to going to college where I was red-shirted. It was a very hard transition for me. This year is particularly hard because I’m always there watching the game wishing I could help them. But when I do get in I do all I can, as hard as I can, because you only get so many chances.”

As we ended our chat, I asked Nathan what he wanted people to know about him. “I really want people to know that I’m a pretty easy-going guy. I love meeting new people. I’ve loved coming to SBU and meeting everybody. I want people to know that I’m honest and loyal to friends. Friends mean a lot to me.”
“SBU will give [students] a good foundation for the rest of their lives.”

“Truly Servant Leaders
Hubert & Charlotte Conway

by Jessica Oliver, Class of 2008
Photos courtesy of Conway family

“Our lives have been enriched by being part of this school.”
The Conways recommend SBU to any college, they credit spiritual growth to the staff and experiences they had at SWBC. “The professors and Dr. Dowdy had a tremendous influence on us,” said Hubert. “The atmosphere of the school was prevailing to push you in spiritual walk and revival.”

“SWBC was a good school,” said Charlotte. “It was a godly place to be. If anyone had a need they could share it with the staff and they would do what they could to help. Even though there were 400 to 500 students, the faculty was always available if you wanted to talk.”

The Conways recommend SBU to anyone looking to further their spiritual walk with Christ. “SBU will give [students] a good foundation for the rest of their lives,” said Hubert. “The experiences you have in your college days will put you in a good place to go through trials you will face in years to come. Christian love truly prevails and [students] can grow in their walk with Christ and understand their calling in life at SBU.”

“What we learned [at SBU] was passed on to our children, churches we have worked with and people we have come in contact with,” said Charlotte. “Our lives have been enriched by being part of this school.”
Glittery dresses, shiny shoes, and sparkling jewelry are among the memories that people hold from their prom night, but for Tiffany Grant prom accessories are more than just fond memories, they are part of her mission to serve. Tiffany, a sophomore at SBU, started Prom Wishes, Inc. six years ago. This non-profit organization reaches out to those who are financially unable to attend their senior prom. Prom Wishes, Inc. sets up appointments with teens throughout Oklahoma who are in need of prom necessities. From dresses to tuxedos, shoes to corsages, jewelry to hairstyle appointments, Tiffany’s slogan is, “We provide everything but the date!” Over these past six years Prom Wishes, Inc. has assisted 850 students in 44 cities throughout Oklahoma.

Tiffany explains that she set up this organization originally to be an eighth grade 4-H project. Later in her high school years, Tiffany created a business plan for the organization for a Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) project. The following mission statement was formed for Prom Wishes, Inc., summing up the organization’s heart and soul: “To help teens who do not have the financial resources to attend their prom, winter ball or coronation, provide them counseling on celebrating safely, and increasing teen’s self-esteem, allowing them to enjoy a night of memories that will last a lifetime.” With the business plan finished, this project molded into a non-profit organization rather quickly.

Tiffany’s family, particularly her mother, encouraged her to get involved with community service. Tiffany states, “Many students consider community service to be something that is not fun, but if they find something they enjoy and believe in, then they will want to make a difference.”
to make a difference.” So, Tiffany designed her business based on service. Prom Wishes, Inc. assigns students, who have been recommended through high school counselors, with a fairy-godmother. The fairy-godmother acts as a personal shopper for the student. The student and the appointed fairy-godmother will search for a few dresses, or tuxedos, in his or her size and then the student will head to the dressing rooms to try them all on. After selecting a dress, the teenage girls will pick out shoes, jewelry, and accessories to match. Before leaving, each student receives gift cards for a manicure, a hairstyle appointment, and even gasoline. The dresses are donated by individuals and local businesses act as sponsors by donating gift cards or through a monetary donation. Prom Wishes, Inc. started offering tuxedos in 2005 two years after creation, noticing that costs for renting tuxedos can be a financial burden as well. Local boutiques have donated the tuxedos.

Before coming to SBU, Tiffany aspired to major in business administration after her extensive involvement with Prom Wishes, Inc. After two business classes in high school, Tiffany knew that she wanted to be in the business world. Her youth minister encouraged her to look at SBU. Tiffany visited the Bolivar campus and was able to stay with a current student. She was able to get a taste of true college life and absolutely loved the Christian atmosphere associated with SBU.

In 2006 Tiffany graduated high school, leaving Prom Wishes, Inc. in order to come to SBU. She says that leaving was very difficult because she had been directly involved for so many years. Tiffany realizes that Prom Wishes, Inc. is a non-profit organization and not just a business, so passing the organization on is an unwritten requirement for the organization to remain strong. Yet, she is thankful for the blessings and business experience that she gained through this organization. While she has been at SBU, Prom Wishes, Inc. has increased awareness through both newspapers and television stations. Tiffany is proud that the organization is still helping others.

Now that Tiffany is a sophomore at SBU, she realizes that the business world often focuses on aggressive tactics; however, at SBU Tiffany enjoys that the business classes focus on integrity and ethics within the business realm. Tiffany explains, “The Psalms 15 verse is stressed as the key verse of the College of Business and Computer Science. I think that this allows us to understand how the business world evolved by building a solid foundation and SBU has helped me to realize the importance of this. Here at SBU professors teach us how to think outside the box and not just dwell on the worldly things that will sell.”

After she graduates, Tiffany plans to still be involved with Prom Wishes, Inc. Tiffany understands that she will never be as directly involved in the business as she was in high school. Yet, she hopes that the organization she founded will continue as she moves on. Tiffany states, “I would like to see more student involvement, character training, and more adults helping out and giving advice to those who come to Prom Wishes, Inc. for assistance.”

In the years to come, Tiffany said she would like to get married, have a career, and be able to adopt teens or be a foster parent. She affirms, “I have seen the heartache that some teens have endured, and God has blessed me.” Furthermore, Tiffany plans to continue to be involved with a local church and hopes to get involved with the Women On Mission ministry as well.

Tiffany is truly a servant leader. Tiffany’s leadership skills have been expressed through Prom Wishes, Inc. and enriched at SBU. These skills will continue to guide her through her life and will impact many lives in her future.
Theology students and local pastors can find valuable information quickly and efficiently on the SBU Bolivar Campus in one of the hidden treasures in the Harriett K. Hutchens Library. This quaint and under-used treasure is the R. Earl Allen Model Pastor’s Library. The pastor’s library is named after the late R. Earl Allen, who served at Rosen Heights Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas for 32 years, and who is known for his interesting index of his personal library.

Allen was drawn to the University after SBU Provost Dr. Gordon Dutile, who was the associate pastor for Rosen Heights Baptist Church, came to SBU. Allen had this to say about the mission and future of SBU, “So with these impressions and because of your unique location and the possible future of the ministry and the fact that you have the largest number of church vocational students of any school in our Southern Baptist Convention, it is an honor and a privilege for me personally to be able to contribute my own library to your future.”

Allen hoped that his library would be a guide and an inspiration for future scholars at SBU. Since the opening of the R. Earl Allen Model Pastor’s Library, which was implemented by Charles Chaney, Dr. Dutile, and Betty Van Blair, the purpose has been for theology students and local pastors to use this library as a resource and a study place. The library is not limited to theology students and pastors, but it is open to anyone who is searching for materials that help relate Biblical truths to today’s life. The library is open upon request during normal Harriett K. Hutchens library hours, and a key can be obtained at the circulation desk.

The library is Allen’s personal collection and totals approximately 12,000 volumes which include: Bible study materials, Biblical characters, sermon illustrations, histories, and biographies all to support sermon preparations and writings. The materials can be found on the library’s catalog and can be copied for use but are not allowed out of the library. Among the approximately 12,000 books in this collection, there are also artifacts from Allen’s travels for the Southern Baptist Convention, the original manuscript of his book Good Morning, Lord, awards he has earned, his Honorary Doctorate, hoods, and pictures of Rosen Heights Baptist Church, and file cabinets full of clippings for sermon support. Allen’s desk and chair and dictionary holder complete the library.

It is very common for academic libraries to have special collections to show scholarship for a particular person and inspire scholars of this generation. Sandra Brown, reference services librarian, commented that the “R. Earl Allen Model Pastor’s Library helps SBU’s mission to integrate faith, so it is a natural fit for our institution.” This library supports those wishing to study sermons.
and enhance their Bible study. It also preserves SBU history for students and members of the University community.

Ed Walton, acting dean of University Libraries, had this to say about the history associated with SBU and this library, “If we don’t keep it alive, it will get lost. It is here for use so let’s use it.” Books allowed R. Earl Allen to leave a legacy behind for years to follow, and now SBU students have the opportunity to use it to leave behind their own legacies.

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST PERIODICAL INDEX**

The Harriett K. Hutchens Library is host to the Southern Baptist Periodical Index (SBPI). According to Eldonna Deweece, SBPI editor, the SBPI originated in 1984-1985 by the historical commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The historical commission decided they could not continue the SBPI any longer. Students from Southwest Baptist University kept inquiring about the articles found in the SBPI, so Eldonna said she created a sample index and submitted it to the SBC who gave her moral support. The then-named Inter Agency Council gave SBU permission to start up the index again. Subscribers gave their payments up front so SBU could begin the printing process and the SBPI has been housed and operated at SBU ever since.

The SBPI is compiled of 40-50 periodicals that are approved by selected agencies and seminaries at the national level. These sources lend the SBPI magazines and tell the compilers what to include in the index. Some of the periodicals include *Midwestern*, *LifeWay*, *ParentLife*, *Ministry with Kids*, *Christian Single*, and *HomeLife*. The articles in these and other magazines are available by citation only up through 2004. These citations can be accessed through the Harriett K. Hutchens library catalog online and can searched for similar to any other index like EBSCOhost. Searches can be made by key word, subject, title, author, or year. Special reviews of CD’s, movies, and books are available as well. Besides the different magazines that can be found, the topics included are theology, evangelism, parenting, missions education, lifestyle issues, healthcare, devotional literature, and family life.

While mostly Christian education and ministerial students use this index, it is available for everyone. It can be accessed through the SBU website or it can be accessed by subscription. The subscription fee covers the expenses for the non-profit index. Volunteers from other libraries as well as student workers help to compile the index. The index has subscribers internationally including three seminaries and two college and university libraries, as well as 22 seminaries and 47 college and university libraries nationally.

Walton and Brown both encourage SBU alumni, students, faculty and staff to make use of the treasures housed in the Harriett K. Hutchens library. For more information, visit [www.sbuniv.edu/library](http://www.sbuniv.edu/library).
Since its founding in 1878, SBU has enjoyed a legacy of excellence in academics along with an intense passion for building Christ’s kingdom. As you would expect from a quality Christian university, many of our graduates have been chosen to pastor churches, lead worship, and serve as missionaries in North America and around the world.

What is important to remember is that SBU graduates also are serving in leadership positions in the United States Senate, in Congress, and in local and state government. They also are pursuing careers across the globe with companies such as Smith Barney/Citigroup, Hallmark, Proctor & Gamble, Cerner, New York Life, Bayer, Eli Lilly and Company, John Deere, Boeing, Motorola, Intel, and Microsoft.

Our students have a unique opportunity to impact a world for Christ if we truly prepare them to be servant leaders in a global society. At SBU, each student must take Old and New Testament history courses as well as an Introduction to Spiritual Formation. Along with a university seminar and critical thinking course, new students begin to develop a Christian worldview that faculty hope to instill in each student before graduation.

For this article, three of our faculty leaders from the Courts Redford College of Theology and Ministry have been interviewed: Dr. Bing Bayer, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew; Dr. Jim Frost, director and professor of Intercultural Studies; and Dr. Kelly Malone, new assistant professor of Intercultural Studies. Since education is one of our most popular majors, SBU’s Director of Teacher Education Dr. Judy Bryant also was asked to offer her thoughts on servant leadership.

What is a servant leader?

Dr. Bayer: A servant leader is one who serves others out of a motivation for loving God and others. It is not based on a title or position. The person is selfless and does not serve for personal gain or recognition. The leadership style may vary but the focus is on helping others achieve success in life whether it is spiritual, material, or personal success.

Dr. Frost: One who gives up personal rights in serving others, which hopefully then will give the opportunity to point them to the truth

Dr. Bryant: A servant leader is someone who desires to lead and to serve. Although there are many ways of being a leader and of being of a servant, teaching allows the unique blending of the
**Dr. Bayer:** Global society does not mean merely ministering overseas and is not technically a location. America itself is multicultural and has many cultural enclaves, especially in the cities. The global society is here all around us.

**Dr. Frost:** Global society must include the international world, that is, cross-cultural involvement.

**Dr. Bryant:** We have so many students who complete their teacher preparation or earn degrees here and then go on to teach or work far from here in many different global settings. I believe a global leader is someone whose leadership skills have an impact on people and places beyond our local and state boundaries. Faculty at SBU are global leaders because their influence goes with students who are prepared here to go on to serve outside this immediate area.

**Dr. Malone:** In our world every corner of the globe is in constant contact with every other corner of the globe via the Internet and other communication methodologies. Transportation also allows us to travel to almost any place in the world in less than 24 hours.

As a result, it is now possible to maintain relationships with people everywhere in the world at the same time. This has resulted in a meshing of societies and cultures so that it is becoming more difficult to identify a distinct society and culture with one nation or region of the world. Before I came to SBU, I lived in Tokyo for five years. As a result of globalization, the young people had many similarities to young people in other major urban centers of the world, such as New York, L.A., London, Paris, Delhi and Singapore.

**“We often make plans for what we want to do and wonder why they don’t seem to ever work out until we surrender and say to the Lord we are willing to do what He wants us to do. At that point we are ready to become servant leaders.”**

Dr. Judy Bryant, director of teacher education

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two. I am reminded of a graduate who recently left SBU to teach in the inner city among very disadvantaged children. She teaches in extreme conditions and models a Christ-like spirit to the children and their parents. She could easily have chosen to teach in a beautiful building, with up-to-date technology, and a bigger paycheck.

**Dr. Malone:** A servant leader is a person who lives in service to Christ. They lead by example, and the foremost aspect of that example is humility. One example of a servant leader in my life was Dr. James Leo Garrett, Jr., now retired, who taught theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Garrett was a top-notch scholar, always up to his ears in research, but what impressed me about him is that he was never too busy to put aside what he was doing and make time for students. When I was in Dr. Garrett’s office, he made me feel like I was the most significant thing on his agenda.
Dr. Bayer: Understanding the biblical idea of a servant leader, especially with the example of Jesus. Seeing servant leadership modeled in others.

Dr. Frost: Profound spiritual transformation. Years of being a “pastor” in the classroom.

Dr. Bryant: I began teaching children during Vacation Bible School when I was in high school. I loved being able to help children learn. Later I fell in love with the idea of facilitating children’s love of reading and learning.

Dr. Malone: Preparation to be a servant leader is an ongoing process. As a student, I would have to say that it was the example of professors who were humble and Christ-like in their approach to teaching. When I was a pastor, a missionary, and now teaching at SBU, there is the ongoing challenge of trying to reflect the example of Christ in all that I do. The grading scale for servant leadership is Jesus, Himself, so there is always room for growth and improvement.

What is the single most important lesson you want to teach SBU students about servant leadership?

Dr. Bayer: As Christ came not to be served but to serve and give his life a ransom for many, so should we (Mark 1:45). We have not been created for ourselves but “for Him” (Col. 1:16).

Dr. Frost: What is most important is serving Christ. Very often, serving people and building relationships are prerequisite in order to share Christ with them.

Dr. Bryant: I think the thing I would most like to teach our students is to be willing to do whatever God calls them to do. We often make plans for what we want to do and wonder why they don’t seem to ever work out until we surrender and say to the Lord we are willing to do what He wants us to do. At that point we are ready to become servant leaders.

Dr. Malone: The single most important lesson for servant leadership is to learn to trust in Christ and follow Him daily. I hope that we can encourage our students to become world Christians who are interested in the needs of the whole world, and who want to impact the corner of the globe where God places them with the love of Christ for the glory of God.
FOCUS ON STUDENTS

Prepared to be servant leaders

SBU is blessed to have four of our senior students completing professional internships in the SBU Marketing and Communications department. While they have been gleaning hands-on experience in marketing strategy, public relations, graphic design, photography, and business communications, we have learned just how capable and compassionate our SBU students can be. We hope you enjoy getting to know these servant leaders.

Why did you choose your major?

Holly Stockard: I am a Communications/Public Relations major and an Inter-cultural Studies (ICS) minor. I decided to be a Communications major because I enjoyed being able to speak at the Acteens conferences that I was invited to in high school. I have always had a heart for missions so I wanted to minor in a field that allowed me to learn about other cultures.

Jill (Day) Reed: I was really unsure of what I wanted to major in when I started school. I really started seeking the Lord in what interested me and what I thought and others thought that I was good at. For my high school graduation present my Grammy and her husband gave me a camera. I really enjoyed taking pictures. That summer I spent a month in Senegal, West Africa. I really fell in love with capturing the hearts of people in pictures. I chose photography as my major. And I hope to use that some day on the mission field.

Levi Bridge: My father is the marketing and sales manager at his company, and I have always admired him and his work ethic. I first learned about business and got a taste of the possibilities out in the world from him. I am a creative person and enjoy dealing with people. Marketing is an area of study that fits me perfectly. I love working in groups and meeting new people.

Mat Crouse: I had always expressed an interest in art. I was the kid in grade school that had my teacher calling my parents because I was drawing in my notebooks more than actually taking notes. When I got into high school I enrolled in the commercial art program at the local Votech. Because of that, I had the hardest time getting into college-bound classes to prepare me for college. The administration thought that because I was in a vocational program, there would be no reason to prepare for college. Because of my parents and their persistence, I was able to get into those classes. When I came to college I already knew what I wanted to do... art is my passion.

Have you taken any mission trips or studied abroad while at SBU?

Holly: As an ICS minor I have to take an abroad mission trip and a home mission trip. I went to Canton, Mississippi with a team of ten individuals from SBU. We helped with the In His Steps Ministry in Canton. During the day we painted and repaired the home of an elderly woman named Earline. It was hard work and we got tired quite a bit, but on the last day when we saw the joy on Earline’s face as she sat on her porch, it was all worth it. God blessed us in so many ways. In the afternoons we would tutor at-risk children. We wrote skits based on the armor of God passage in Ephesians 6:10-18. I loved working with the children. I was able to work with a little girl named Ayzah. She was so cute. Each day she tried so hard to get out of having to do her homework so we could play board games. It was such a blessing to see her each day. God worked in so many ways on that mission trip. Not only in the hearts of those that we worked with, but also in our hearts.

I am currently on a team of ten individuals who will be going to the Philippines in January. As a team we meet each Thursday night. We will be working on the island of Luzon in the province of Quezon. We will be teaching English as a Second Language classes on local universities and high school campuses. God has given me a passion for teenage and young adult ministry, and I am eager to serve Him overseas.

Jill: Since going to SBU I have had the chance to go on four mission trips. During my freshman year I went to Mexico with my church. While we were there we did street evangelism, Vacation Bible School, and we built a house. The summer before my sophomore year I went to Venezuela with my church family and worked with kids while they did a medical clinic. Sophomore year I went to Chang Mai Thailand where my parents were serving on a short-term two-year assignment. We went to an orphanage, prayer walked, and helped minister to missionaries. I also went to El Salvador with my church this summer. We did a medical clinic, VBS, and construction. I also spent those times capturing the hearts of the people with my camera. I love serving overseas and know that God wants me to do missions overseas some day.

Levi: I went on an International Business Trip in 2007 with seven other students and three faculty members. We went to Europe for ten days and visited France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Lichtenstein. I took this class for credit and was required to do research on each of the countries and their economy. While in Europe I kept a journal of the happenings of the day including business
transactions and the differences between how American culture does business versus other cultures. The first-hand experience is something you cannot learn in the classroom. It was a great opportunity to learn about business in other cultures as well as other students and faculty. It was a great experience and I’m going again this year to Italy for ten days.

What have you learned about yourself while at SBU?

Holly: I have learned that I truly enjoy learning. My classes have forced me to raise my expectations for myself and have challenged me. The biblical classes that I have taken have taught me to question why I believe what I believe. Each professor has shown me the importance of understanding and continually growing in your relationship with Christ. I have learned that I am not always right and that in order to work with others you have to admit when you are wrong. Working in groups requires different roles. It requires you to be a leader at times and a follower at other times. I have grown as a student and a Christian while at SBU, and I know that God will use my time here at SBU to enhance my future dreams.

Jill: I am not a night owl. I need my sleep and I can’t study after 10. It just doesn’t stay in my brain. Peanut butter, chocolate, and bananas are a must in any girl’s dorm room!

Levi: I have learned that I can be a professional businessperson serving Christ in all that I do. I have also learned to develop relationships with people from all walks of life. What I have grasped the most is to have a Christian attitude in all I do and to be a witness in more than just words.

Mat: I have learned that I need God more than I let on. Just because you feel like you have it all together and that you can do it your big boy self, doesn’t always mean that’s true. I have discovered that the things I do on my own are never as well-conceived or fully as well-finished as the things that I have had to rely on God for. In short; I am nothing without the One who made me.

What do you do when you are not studying or going to classes?

Holly: I am very involved in Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE). I have led three projects and helped with many others! Last year I was able to create a project called Destination Station. This project was designed to teach second grade children the concept of currency exchange. It is amazing to be able to use the concepts and theories that I am learning in the classroom and teach them to others. It is great to hear younger students eager and excited to learn about the business world. This year I am the Vice President of SIFE. I am responsible of all of the projects that we do through SIFE. SIFE has given me the opportunity to get involved in the community. I am also active in Southern Hills Baptist Church college ministry. SHBC has been such a home away from home. I also enjoy scrapbooking, painting, and laughing!

Jill: I spend all my time with my husband. I got married the summer before my junior year to Jeff Reed ‘05. We like to go camping and rock climbing. I also love to cook and try new recipes. We just moved into a new house, so decorating has become a new hobby of mine.

Levi: When I am not studying or attending class I am watching House, CSI, or a movie. I am very involved in Students in Free Enterprise. I have led Risky Business twice and helped with numerous projects. I hold the secretary position and am in charge of recording the minutes and tracking membership, hours, and producing the annual report for competition. I attend church at Southern Hills Baptist Church and am very involved in the college ministry and Bible Thrillers.

Mat: I work for The Omnibus as the ad designer, and I also lead worship for our Wednesday night college service at Southern Hills Baptist Church. In my free time I enjoy playing the guitar, and spend time with my friends.

What would you say to a prospective student about SBU?

Holly: SBU is an amazing place. During Welcome Week, everyone’s nervous so be yourself! Mostly though I would say soak up the time that you are here. The four years you spend at SBU go by so quickly. School is tough and professors expect a lot, but it is so worth it. I have learned more than words can say.

Jill: SBU has been an amazing place for me to go to school. I have learned a lot mentally and spiritually. The teachers really care about their students. I can graduate and say that I truly got my money’s worth! (Oh, and it’s a great place to find a husband!)

Levi: SBU is a great place to serve God, grow in your faith, and to discover what God has for your life. Each individual is different but we can all come together and worship the same God and develop relationships that will last for years to come.

Mat: That if you’re looking for a place to learn, grow, and serve. SBU is the place. (Oh, and it’s a great place to find a wife!)
The Competitive Edge
Dr. Jeffrey Brown ’92, Tyndale House Publishers, 2007
“If competition were a virus, we would have an epidemic on our hands.”

At work, in sports, and in everyday life, you’re constantly surrounded by the pressures of competition. In The Competitive Edge, celebrated sports psychologist on faculty at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Jeffrey Brown offers principles you can use to guide your character towards victory. He shows how to become a legitimate winner every time you compete—regardless of whether you come out on top.

Whether you compete against others in sports or business—or compete within yourself to achieve personal goals—the means by which you win tells the real story as to whether or not you are a champion.

Brown teaches the reader to redefine victory and aggressively pursue it in every competitive situation. He demonstrates the importance of maintaining strong integrity and high character. Strategies for winning appropriate for court and field, workplace, and home. Illustrates the challenges, risks, and rewards involved in doing what is right through examples from real life, biblical history, media, and popular culture.

Believe!
Andy W. Allen ’94
Xulon Press, 2007
Want to know that you can truly trust the Bible? Want to know how to apply its Truth to everyday life? Are you frustrated that faith doesn’t seem to work for you? Want to know how to use faith properly so that you can truly move mountains?

Unlike other faith books this one combines faith with truth so that faith actually works. After first proving that the Bible is truth and that God can be fully trusted, this book then demonstrates how to apply this truth to everyday life through faith.

Believe! deals with such tough subjects as how to hear from God and why bad things happen to good people (even people of faith). Once you understand how faith works you will be an overcomer no matter what the circumstances. Then your faith will be strong, firm and steadfast.

Desire of My Heart
Dr. C.C. Duzan ’48
Tate Publishing and Enterprises, LLC 2007

In Desire of My Heart by C.C. Duzan, Nellie Dunkirk seeks answers to her questions. After meeting Karl de Kort, she wonders how learning her name might affect their relationship.

Hester Wirth is also searching. Aunt Lena’s death ended some twenty years of service for this experienced housekeeper and caregiver. Alone and in her sixties, Hester pleads with God, ‘What do you have for me to do Lord? I need to be needed.’

Jalene Anderson has done well in her chosen career, but life has become so routine. She wants a husband and a family to give meaning to her life. Yet, she had already made a commitment to Hester when she meets Richard Nelson. ‘Lord, what do I do now?’

God will use events and people to shape the lives of his children. He will answer prayers that advance his kingdom. Will He enable these three women to obtain the Desire of My Heart?

“Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” (Psalm 37: 4)
Rediscovering Paul: An Introduction to His World, Letters and Theology
Dr. Rodney Reeves ’79
(co-authored by David B. Capes and E. Randolph Richards) InterVarsity Press, 2007

For some of us, the apostle Paul is like a distant uncle. We’ve heard he’s pretty important. We’ve read the good parts of his letters. But sometimes he comes across as prickly and unpredictable. Not someone you’d like to hang out with at a coffee shop. He’d raise his voice, try to convert the barista, and we’d want to slink out the back door. For a mid-afternoon latte, we’d prefer Jesus over Paul.

But actually, this is the guy who, from Ephesus to Athens, was the talk of the marketplace and the raconteur of the Parthenon. Maybe it’s time to give Paul a break. Let go of some stereotypes and try to get to know him on his own terms. If that’s where you are, Rediscovering Paul is your guide. This is a book that helps us find Paul again—holding forth in the marketplace of Corinth, working with a secretary in framing his letter to the Romans, or pastoring the messy emerging churches of Philippi and Thessalonica.

Drawing on the best of contemporary scholarship, honed by teaching and conversing with today’s students, Rediscovering Paul is a textbook that rises above the rest.

Making Sense of the Old Testament Scriptures
by Robert Eugene Fly ’53

Some people claim to have difficulty in understanding that part of our Bible referred to as the Old Testament, or the Hebrew Scriptures. This book attempts to alleviate at least a part of the nonunderstanding. Placing the major events and chief personages of the Old Testament in their approximate time frame and cultural milieu, the book seeks to help the reader have a somewhat concise overview within which to study and be conversant with the separate parts of the entire Old Testament and its times.

In setting forth its message it utilizes an outline form in regards to the Pentateuch and Historical material, and descriptive paragraph form for all other material such as the Prophets, and the Poetic and Wisdom Literature.

If you would like your book reviewed, send a copy to SBU Life, 1600 University Avenue, Bolivar, MO 65613.
Southwest Baptist University began its 130th school year as an evangelical Christian university with a formal convocation held August 22 during a special chapel service.

During the service, Dr. Janet Juhlin ’73, director of institutional effectiveness, presented the University’s newly crafted strategic initiatives for 2007-2012 to a standing-room only crowd of students, faculty, and staff. SBU President Dr. C. Pat Taylor and Provost Dr. Gordon Dutile presented the 2007 Newcomer Awards. In 1995 the Newcomer of the Year awards were begun to recognize one full-time faculty member and one non-teaching staff member who, in their first months of employment at Southwest Baptist University, demonstrate exceptional commitment to the University’s mission and make a positive impact as part of the SBU family. Faculty and staff members who have been employed full-time for no more than 18 months prior to the selection process are eligible. The winners are selected by committees of their peers.

The 2007 Faculty Newcomer of the Year, Dr. Brian Hopwood, holds music degrees from Oral Roberts University, the University of Colorado, and Arizona State University. He has taught all levels of instrumental music from elementary through college. His specialties are wind band conducting and brass instruments, with trumpet as his major instrument. Before coming to SBU, he was a public school band director in Manitou Springs, Colorado. He is a member of a number of professional organizations and has made guest appearances as conductor, clinician and adjudicator throughout Colorado, and now Missouri as well. He serves in the SBU department of music as assistant professor and director of instrumental studies. He and his wife Franka, previously an elementary school teacher in Colorado, have three children: Brian, an SBU student in music education; Matthew, a sophomore at Bolivar High School; and Maggie, who will be entering the 3rd grade.

This year’s Staff Newcomer of the Year, Mike Pitts, is a 1985 SBU graduate with a B.S. in Economics and Business Administration. Before coming to SBU he served as senior pastor at Princeton Bible Church in Princeton, New Jersey for twelve years. During the past year he has formed great relationships with the students, athletic staff, and media. He leads devotions at staff meetings, occasionally preaches at area churches, and is an active member of First Baptist Church Bolivar, where he is involved in the youth Esquire ministry. He is a great leader and role model to the students, and has made a positive impact on the sports information office of SBU, where he serves as the sports information director. He and his wife Rhonda have two children: Jack, age nine; and Brock, age six.

Brad Gamble Receives MASFAA Leadership Award

Brad Gamble, director of financial aid at Southwest Baptist University, has been awarded the MASFAA Leadership Award at the 2007 annual conference of the Midwest Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (MASFAA). The award is presented annually to recognize the outstanding leadership of a member from each of the nine states with MASFAA. Recipients must exhibit high integrity and character, inspired and encouraged others to participate actively in the professional development activities. Brad Gamble has been a long time member of MASFAA and the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Professionals. Gamble has been state president for two years and state program chair.
Dr. Gordon Dutile, SBU provost, will serve as the acting dean of the College of Science and Mathematics for the next few months. “Former dean Dr. Gary Gray and his family have moved to Plainview, Texas, where he will serve as professor of chemistry at Wayland Baptist University, his alma mater,” Dr. Dutile said. “We will miss Gary. He has served SBU well. His personal friendship to me has served as a source of great encouragement. We wish him the best of success in this next phase of service in the Kingdom’s agenda.”

Dr. Mike Fuhrman ’74, chair of the department of Christian ministry and director of in-service training, recently completed a one-year term serving as national president of the In-Service Guidance Association. He led in planning and conducting the group’s annual meeting, which was hosted this year by Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo.

Dr. Dave Bennett ’58, associate professor of evangelism and church ministry, recently taught sessions in “Personal Lifestyle Evangelism” and “A Comprehensive Game-Plan for Church Evangelism” at Glorieta in the Ozarks in Joplin and Springfield.

Dr. Josh Compton ’97, chair and assistant professor of the Bob R. Derryberry School of Communication Arts, presented a panel titled “Forensics is Like...: Effects of Forensic Metaphors on How We View and Do Forensics” at the November National Communication Association Convention. He has written two chapters which will appear in Routledge’s Laughing Matters: Humor and American Politics in the Media Age, edited by Jody Baumgartner and Jay Morris. A paper co-authored with Dr. Michael Pfau of the University of Oklahoma, “Inoculating against Pro-Plagiarism Justifications: Rational and Affective Strategies,” is scheduled for publication in the next issue of Journal of Applied Communication Research.

Dr. Holly Hill-Stanford, professor of English, prepared a text review of John Bushman & Kay Parks Haas’ Using Young Adult Literature in the English
Classroom, 3rd Edition, for Pearson Merrill/Prentice Hall, Inc. She also served as judge for the Association of Christian Schools International, South-Central States writing competition during the summer. 

Curtis Goss, assistant professor of Spanish, has been chosen for inclusion in Who’s Who Among American Teachers & Educators, 11th Edition. He was invited to join the Heinle Publishing Cultural Council; and as a member of the Council, he evaluated and authenticated cultural material on Panama for the beginning Spanish textbook Plazas, 3rd Edition.

Dr. Brian Hopwood, director of instrumental studies and assistant professor of music, wrote two articles, “Band Repertoire” and “Artistic Music for Young Bands,” which were published in the Palen Music Notes, an e-publication sent to over 500 band and orchestra directors in Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma.

Dr. Melinda Smashey ’89, associate professor of music, performed as pianist for the Springfield Symphony in concerts in Springfield and Branson in September and October.

Dr. Linda Wooderson ’78, dean of the Lewis E. Schollian College of Education and Social Sciences and associate professor of health, physical education, and recreation, along with Christine Saladino ’97, instructor and coordinator of psychology and human services at SBU’s Salem campus; Dr. Judy Bryant, department chair and professor of education; and Dr. Kevin Schriver ’83, professor of psychology and department chair of behavioral sciences, developed an articulation agreement with Three Rivers Community College in the areas of elementary education and psychology. This agreement will permit Three Rivers’ students graduating with an AA degree to complete bachelor’s degrees at the Mountain View, Salem, or Bolivar campuses by meeting SBU prerequisites at Three Rivers Community College.

Dr. Kevin Schriver ’83, department chair and professor of psychology, served in Indianapolis this summer in his role as the chair of the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee.

Dr. Delta Cavner, assistant professor of education, recently traveled to China and Thailand. In western China, she helped a missionary develop a two-week teacher’s seminar on effective literacy strategies. Then, she had the opportunity to teach effective literacy strategies to middle-school teachers in southwest China for ten days, in a project initiated by two school districts. Also in western China, she taught at a one-week English camp for high school students—minority students from villages. In Thailand, she gave a Saturday workshop on “Effective Curriculum Planning with the Brain in Mind.” It applied recent brain research to curriculum development.

N. Lee Weeks, director of student services and marketing at the St. John’s College of Nursing and Health Sciences-SBU, was honored at the 92nd Annual Conference Missouri Writer’s Guild which awarded her Second Place-Best Magazine or Newspaper Column for her column “Leezy’s Slice of Life” in The Commonwealth and Cross Country Times.

Holli Henslee, St. John’s College of Nursing and Health Sciences-SBU librarian and assistant professor, presented a poster session titled “Incorporating Library 2.0 into Everyday Library Services” at the Missouri Library Association’s Annual Conference. The poster session presented why libraries should incorporate Library 2.0 and ways to incorporate it without spending a lot of time and money.

HARRIS RECOGNIZED IN WHO’S WHO

Dr. Bev Harris ’47, professor emeritus of mathematics, has been notified that his biography will appear in two consecutive volumes of the Marquis Who’s Who in America, the 61st and 62nd editions, published in 2007 and 2008, respectively. Professor Harris taught mathematics 40 years before retirement. He spent two years at Humansville High School, two years at the University of Missouri (Columbia), and 36 years in Bolivar at Southwest Baptist University. More than 50 of his former students have at least a master’s degree in mathematics. Since retirement 18 years ago Harris has devoted his time and energy to his family, his church, social ministries, tennis, and writing. At age 80 he still drives to Springfield three times a week to play indoor tennis. He finds great satisfaction helping deserving, needy families in Polk County, Mo. He has a weekly mailing list of about 40 people who receive his Christian devotionals. P.O. Box 66, Bolivar, MO 65613.
Lloyd "Bo" Haworth '52 (center) speaks with his grandson Justin Haworth and Philip Dorth '52 at the reception following honors chapel.

Dr. Pat Taylor with this year’s Life Service Award recipients Dr. Norman Weaver ’41, Dr. James Hackney ’48, Philip Dorth ’52 and Dr. Randy Arnett ’78.

Dr. Bernard Holmes, a recipient of the Global Ambassador Award, with Dr. Pat and Judy Taylor.

Members of the Class of 1957 present at their reunion and induction into the 50 Year Club.

Dr. Jack Fellows ’40 (left), the 2007 Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, congratulates John Edie ’67 upon receiving a Global Ambassador Award.

Highlights of the dorm floats including Landen Hall, Maupin Hall and Plaster Hall.
Despite a head start, Brent Good, Judy Taylor, Dr. Pat Taylor, Dr. Bob McGlasson and Dr. Stan Norman were unable to win their heat during the Bed Races.

Junior running back Jeff Finnell (#18) receives the handoff from freshman quarterback Steve Gachette (#10). Finnell rushed for 219 yards and Gachette threw for 356 yards but it wasn’t enough as the ‘Cats fell to Truman 55-31.

Kristen Blinzler, a senior elementary education major from Monett, Mo., was named 2007 Homecoming queen. She is the daughter of Luke and Mary Blinzler. She was escorted by her fiancé, Chris Dutschmann.

SBU alumni and friends give a cheer for the Bearcats while watching the parade.
Looking Back, Looking Forward

I hope you took the opportunity to return to SBU for Homecoming 2007 “There’s No Place Like Home…Follow the Purple Brick Road.” We had beautiful summer weather for the weekend and once again many of us got sunburned at the football game!

Alumni, students, faculty, and staff enjoyed a busy weekend visiting and participating in the festivities. The University honored the following alumni with the Life Service Award: Randy Arnett ’78, Philip Dorth ’52, James Hackney ’48, and G. Norman Weaver ’41. Jack Fellows ’40 was the recipient of the Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award. If you missed the fun this year, I hope you will make plans to join us for Homecoming 2008. The date will be publicized in upcoming issues of SBU Life and on the website www.sbuniv.edu/alumni.

NOMINATIONS ARE IN ORDER . . . The SBU Alumni & Church Relations Office requests nominations from alumni and friends for the 2008 Life Service Award and Edwin Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award. If you have nominated a person in the past who has not yet been selected, it is not necessary to re-submit that name. New nominations will be processed and combined with nominations on file. Please include a letter indicating why you believe this nominee deserves to receive the award and the name of the person making the nomination.

Life Service Award Final selections are made by the Life Service Award committee of the National Alumni Association and then ratified by the entire board. A nominee should be at least 50 years of age. Nominees must be graduates who: (1) have lived exemplary Christian lives; (2) are or have been outstanding in their field of service; (3) were in good standing as students at SBU (SWBC); and (4) are or have been making a significant contribution to mankind.

Lightfoot Distinguished Alumni Award

The National Alumni Association Board annually selects a recipient of this award. The recipient of this award is a graduate who has: (1) remained enthusiastically and actively involved in leadership within the Alumni Association; (2) continued to support SBU in a variety of ways, including financially; (3) demonstrated genuine interest and concern for young people; and (4) been faithful and active in the work of a local church. This award is distinct from the Life Service Award in that nominees must have been continuously involved with the University through alumni activities since graduation.

The deadline for nominations is February 4, 2008. Please send your nomination(s) to: SBU Office of Alumni & Church Relations, 1600 University Avenue, Bolivar, MO 65613. If you have any questions please contact me at 417.328.1806 or ssummers@sbuniv.edu.

Shawn Summers ’94
Director of Alumni & Church Relations

St. Louis Area Alumni Reunion
Friday, February 8, 2008  6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, St. Charles

Columbia/Jefferson City Area Alumni Reunion
Saturday, February 9, 2008  5:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Columbia

Springfield Area Alumni Reunion
Friday, February 29, 2008  6:30 p.m.
Southgate Baptist Church, Springfield

Lake of the Ozarks Area Alumni Reunion
Saturday, April 5, 2008  11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, Camdenton

Polk County Alumni Reunion
Sunday, April 6, 2008  11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
McClelland Dining Facility, SBU Campus

Greater Kansas City Area Alumni Chapter Spring Banquet
Friday, April 18, 2008  6:30 p.m.
Noland Road Baptist Church, Independence

For more information on any of these events contact Shawn Summers at 417-328-1806 or ssummers@sbuniv.edu
1942
Orval Woolley and wife Ruth (Schindhelm) ’42 recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple met at SWBC while working at Muirhead Hall and sitting beside each other in Greek and Old Testament classes in 1940. They were impressed with each other’s testimonies of God’s calling each individually to Christian service. Ruth was called in April, 1940, and Orval surrendered in June of that year. Orval retired from being director of missions of Harmony Baptist Association, Sedalia, Mo. Ruth also retired from Harmony Baptist Association as a secretary and from Interstate Studies in Sedalia. The couple’s secret to happiness is to have respect for each other. Ruth admires Orval’s tremendous courage. He is there when she needs support. A great source of joy comes from their four children, Beth Coughenower of Butler, Ellen Bellows of Bolivar, and Ed and Ben Woolley, both of Joplin.

1948
Rev. Carl Wilbur Noble passed away on July 13, 2007. He and his wife, Barbara, shared 58 years and ten months together. He started 11 churches in Kansas. and helped build several more churches. Carl and Barbara’s next to youngest granddaughter is in her second year at SBU. She stays in Memorial Hall which is where Carl stayed while attending SBU.

1954
Janet Wendleton earned a B.S.E. from SMS (now Missouri State), an M.A. in elementary school administration from NEMSU (now Truman), and a Ph.D. in education from SLU in St. Louis, Mo. She taught in elementary schools in Mo. for 18 years, was a principal for three years, taught in elementary schools in Mo. for 18 years, and worked for the Missouri Department of Elementary Education for eight years. Janet retired in January, 1992, and currently resides in California, Mo., where she has lived for the past 23 years.

1959
Rev. William Albert Harris passed away February 19, 2007, at the Baptist Home in Chillicothe, Mo. His wife, Evelyn, resides at the Baptist Home. William pastored churches in Bolivar, Weston, Smithton, Bogard, Oregon, Orenogo, and served on staff at the First Baptist Church of Carthage, Mo. He continued to witness and minister to others until poor health in 2004. William and Evelyn moved to the Baptist Home in 2005. He was a graduate of SWBC, William Jewell College and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

1960
Rev. Gayford Radar Lowrance Sr. passed away on July 24, 2007. He was married to Jewell Lorene Browitt on December 25, 1941. The couple had two sons, Gayford Radar Jr. and Dale Leon. Gayford accepted Christ as his Savior in 1931 but drifted away for a time. He united with the First Baptist Church, Hartville, Mo., in 1954. He surrendered his life to the gospel ministry in 1955 and was ordained July 22, 1956, at the same church.

Her husband, Lee R. Wendleton, passed away on January 31, 2007, from cancer. Her first husband, Charles L. Barry, passed away as a result of a heart attack in 1987. 406 West Russell St, California, MO 65018 barwen@socket.net

1957
Rosanne Osborne, Hixon Professor of English at Louisiana College, received the MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University, Louisville, Ky., in June. Osborne’s thesis, “Between Dream and Memory,” is a collection of poems in four parts: poems triggered by news stories juxtaposing autobiographical fragments and cultural commentary, a sonnet sequence that reckons with the shaping influence of tools in life, autobiographical memories of the poet’s childhood in Missouri, and persona poems depicting the life of Mark Twain. 172 Huntington Dr, Pineville, LA 71360 osborne@lacollege.edu

1962
Marilyn (Pearson) Ogan passed away on July 3, 2007, in Springfield, Ill. She was born on February 26, 1941, in Ewing, Mo.

1967
Twyla (Holcomb) and husband Raymond (R.W.) Keuhn ’68 are beginning to think about retirement. In the meantime they are still enjoying their store which they opened 35 years ago. Most of all they enjoy time with their four grandchildren.

1968
Raymond (R.W.) Keuhn (see 1967 news)

Rick Smotherman retired in 2004 after 40 years as a teacher, coach, and principal in Texas, Tennessee, and Mississippi. He and his wife, Gloria, are still cleaning up almost two years after Katrina. 11131 Bud Lee Rd., Picayune, MS 39466 rss7373@hotmail.com

1970
Jeffrey Adams would like to hear from friends and classmates he met at SWBC from 1968 to 1970. jeffadams@comcast.net

1972
Vicki Dill moved to Virginia from southwest Missouri after living in Tennessee for a number of years. Her son, Blake, works for the government. She has two grandchildren in South Carolina and has
been working in management with Macy’s Corporation. She really likes the East but is not too fond of the traffic around the Beltway. pianolady@email.com

1973
Charlene (Rakestraw) Platt retired in May 2007 from the Republic R-3 school system. She has taught in the education field for 31 years at the third, first, second, and kindergarten (in that order) levels. 329 S Lynn Ave, Republic, MO 65738

1975
Rev. Thomas H. Eaves passed away on June 2, 2007. Tom was retired. He pastored several Baptist churches in Mo. He and his wife, Janice, were both employed at SBU from 1971 to 1975. The couple has three daughters.

Maeanne Browning is returning to her home town of Trenton, Mo., as the counselor at the middle school. She is in the process of selling her home in Carl Junction and looking forward to buying a new house. Her beagle, Rascal, is adjusting to transition at “grandma and grandpa’s” while waiting for the sale to go through. Box 501, Trenton, MO 64683 maeanne@sbcglobal.net

1977
Connie Locke continues to serve in small congregations and in rural areas of the state. She also works at the Rich Hill Mining Review, a weekly newspaper. Rt 2 Box 127-2, Schell City, MO 64783 clocke001@centurytel.net

1980
Les Frazer and wife Kathy have two children, Andrew (19) and Timothy (16). Les has been teaching bilingual second grade in Grand Prairie, Texas, since 2000. He and Kathy also do illusions and clowning and have gone on several mission trips including Mexico, Canada, and Maryland. 4714 Oak Valley Dr, Arlington, TX 76016 lesfrazer@sbcglobal.net

1981
Barb (Allen) VonMoss (see 1982 news)

Gary Neal and wife Sherri (Butler) ’82 have four children, Devin (22), Cory (21), Andrew (18), and Sutton (17). When Gary accepted a promotion to regional manager, the family moved to Keller, Texas. Sherri is completing her twelfth year at Pfizer. 912 Gentle Wind Dr, Keller, TX 76248 neal27@aol.com

1982
Sherri (Butler) (see 1981 news)

Mike VonMoss is now the pastor of First Baptist Church in Jesup, Ga. His wife, Barb (Allen) ’81, is teaching 7th grade at Martha Puckett Middle School in Jesup. 572 South 6th St, Jesup, GA 31545 mvonmoss@bellsouth.net

Daniel Jeffery and wife Lucinda have five children, Jessica (22) and husband Matt Crosson, Elisha (18), Abbi (13), and Bekah (11). 2102 Lochmoor Ct., North Fort Meyers, FL 33903 LucindaJeffery@juno.com

1983
Sheila McCann-Traugh has worked as a transitional case manager for homeless families in Hilltop of Tacoma, Wash. She currently works as a residential crisis counselor in Tacoma. sheikaWA@aol.com

Jeffrey Carter is associate director of the School of Music at Ball State University. He is also national chair for Youth and Student Activities for the American Choral Directors Association. 4501 N Wheeling Ave 7A-201, Muncie, IN 47304

1984
Carla (Arnold) and husband Daryl Carter have four children, Nathan (17), Daniel (16), Audrey (13) and Kailey (11). 2608 North 10th St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012 cbcixsmom@cox.net

1985
Sandra (Dubro) Ballingall moved to Atlanta, Ga., after graduating in order to be close to her grandpa and grandma. Her grandma, Lucia G. Dubro, passed away at 89 years on June 23, 2007, at St. Simons Island, Ga. She would have turned 90 on June 25. 203 Kiowa Ct, Acworth, GA 30102 smdubro@bellsouth.net

Hugh McComb and wife Debbie (Beck) ’85 have two children, Leah (15) and Mark (12). 3901 Cedarwood, Pearland, TX 77584 hdllmcc@sbcglobal.net

1986
Ty Adcock and wife Cheri (Falcone) ’88 were recently appointed to the International Mission Board. They will relocate overseas with five of their seven children. Their oldest son, Caleb, is a United States Marine. Sarah, their oldest daughter, is a freshman at SBU. 8618 Cedar Dr, Joplin, MO 64804

1988
Steven Sanders is prominently featured in the acclaimed new documentary, The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters, and is absolutely amazed that the film is receiving such rave reviews and is being so well-received by audiences nationwide. Incredibly, people in theaters actually clap and cheer at the ending. Please pray for Steve as God expands his ministry. 6006 NW 101st Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64154 sbu@AttorneySteveSanders.com

Jim Lambeth was promoted to quality assurance coordinator of the lab at Ferrell-Duncan Clinic. He is also an instructor of phlebotomy at Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) in Springfield, Mo. He and his wife Julie have two children, Josh (12) and Jenaee (8). 3631 N Snowmass Circle, Springfield, MO 65803 lambeth.j@sbcglobal.net

Cheri (Falcone) Adcock (see 1986 news)

Visit www.sbuniv.edu/alumni for more news and photos!
Joseph Matos was promoted to associate professor of Biblical Studies at Dallas Baptist University. He and his wife Yolanda have three children, Elias (9), Yesi (6), and Mari (5). 2012 Jessie Pl, Edgecliff Village, TX 76134 joseph@dbu.edu

1989
Todd Pruitt has served as senior pastor of Metro East Baptist Church in Wichita, Kan., for the past eight years. His wife, Karen (Bozarth) ‘89 is currently the director of admissions at Central Christian Academy where their three children attend: Kate (13), Ryan (9), and Matthew (7). 438 S Terrace, Wichita, KS 67218 tpruitt@metroeastbaptist.com www.metroeastbaptist.com

Mike Reid and wife Becky have three children, Heather (11), Hannah (8), and Joy (1). Mike spent 2005 teaching a Medic Course to Iraqi soldiers at a forward operating base in Iraq for the Army Reserves during which time he had many open doors to share the gospel. Since then he has been serving as the youth director at Randolph Air Force Base Chapel in San Antonio. 16511 Crested Butte, San Antonio, TX 78247 mikeanebecky@prodigy.net

1990
Robin Cole is doing well as a single parent raising her four children, Rashad (20), Rashon (15), Raven (8), and Ryan (5). She recently bought a home and is working on her master’s degree. Robin would appreciate prayers for Rashad who is currently stationed in Iraq. 3465 Brookshire Dr, St. Louis, MO 63033 colefamily5@charter.net

Jeff White would love to reconnect with old friends. 920 Downing Ave, Chico, CA 95926 jeffandrobinwhite@yahoo.com

1991
Steve Davis is in his 15th year with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. On September 17, 2006, he was promoted to lieutenant. He works out of Troop I Headquarters in Rolla. He and his wife, Monica, have three children, Ashton (16), Madison (12), and Drake (9). 13315 Co Rd 5010, Rolla, MO 65401

1993
John Kirk, Jr. (see 1994 news)
Keith Gilley and wife Jennifer have four children: Joseph (9), Daniel (5), Noah (3), and Isabella (1). Keith is working for the Illinois State Police and the Army National Guard. Joseph made a profession of faith in Christ and was baptized on June 24, 2007. Keith.M.Gilley@us.army.mil

1994
Nicole (Baumgarden) and husband Ian Camejo recently celebrated their sixth wedding anniversary in Germany where they recently moved by way of the U.S. Army. They have one son, Caleb (4). The family will be in Germany for three to four years. CMR 475 Box 1603, APO, AE 09036 CALEBSMOM0822@hotmail.com

Jamie (Wernli) Kirk is the fifth grade teacher at Christ Lutheran School in Sterling, Ill. Her son, Elijah Rey (7), will enter second grade at Christ Lutheran in the fall. Jamie would love to hear from any friends/classmates of hers or of her deceased husband. John Kirk, Jr. ’93. 1713 11th Ave, Sterling, IL 61081 jmeeli@cpnwi.net

Mark Taylor and wife Courtney have one daughter, Olivia (2). Mark is stationed at Andersen AFB, Guam. 1020 B Rota Dr, Yigo, Guam 96929 marktaylor14@yahoo.com

1995
Jimmy Bledsoe and wife Diana (Livingston) ’96 are serving with the International Mission Board. They are serving a two-year term. Jimmy and Diana have two children, Caleb (6) and Isaac (5). They ask that you visit their website web.mac.com/jdbledsoe519 and see their prayer requests. Box 870, Shinyanga, Tanzania jdbledsoe519@mac.com

David Falksen was released from RadioShack in April along with 280 fellow employees. He is now working at DataTrac in Fort Worth, Texas. 6008 Grand Champion, Fort Worth, TX 76179 davidf215@yahoo.com

1996
Diana (Livingston) Bledsoe (see 1995 news)
Mary-Martha (Miller) Nave (see 1997 news)

Aaron Elliott has become a master ballet instructor. He founded the “Heavenly Dance Ministry” and was recently invited to perform with the San Francisco Ballet.

Erik Yates and wife Janet moved to Katy, Texas, in the West Houston suburbs where Erik is going to be teaching economics at Katy High School. 28227 Fantail Dr, Katy, TX 77494 erikdyates@yahoo.com

1997
Ronnie Hammond is the childcare supervisor at the Family Violence Center in Springfield, Mo. Rt 1 Box 46-A, Weaubleau, MO 65774 rhammond1973@yahoo.com

Christine Saladino is starting her second year as an instructor and coordinator of human services and psychology at the SBU Salem and Mountain View campuses. She would love to catch up with old roommates, friends and classmates. csaladino@sbniv.edu

Nathan Nave is starting his tenth year teaching and his eighth year at Monett, where he teaches math and coaches soccer. Mary-Martha (Miller) ’96, his wife, is beginning her eleventh year in Springfield at Truman Elementary where she is teaching third grade. The couple has three children, Laura (8), Alex (5), and Kate (6 mos.).
Richelle (Summers) and husband Jamie Reid have one daughter, Piper Elizabeth(1). Richelle works for State Farm Insurance. richelle007@netzero.net

Jon Guthrie has joined a ministry organization called Coaches Outreach. The ministry was founded by former NFL player Tommy Maxwell. It has been serving the state of Texas for the last 20 years. Coaches Outreach contacted Jon this spring about pioneering the ministry in the Southeast. Jon will be encouraging coaches in Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi. The goal of Coaches Outreach is to help coaches see their role as a ministry in the lives of our youth. Coaches Outreach helps coaches by beginning Bible studies on their staffs and sending coaches and their spouses to marriage retreats in the summer. Jon and his wife Shonda (Dutile) ’97 have one daughter, Lucy Grace, who is 11 months old. 5791 Warrior River Rd, Hueytown, AL 35023 shonjon@bham.rr.com jon.guthrie@coachesoutreach.org

1998
Paul Mose Rickey was honored as a recipient of Illinois Jaycees Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the year. He shares this honor with notables such as Pat Fitzgerald, football coach at Northwestern University, and Brian Cook, basketball player for the LA Lakers.

1999
Allison (Ater) and husband Michael Holcomb recently moved to Texas for Michael to coach football at Paschal High School in Fort Worth. Allison is enjoying staying home with Madison (3) after teaching pre-school for the past two years. 5244 Cameron Creek Cove Apt 67, Fort Worth, TX 76132 allison_nicole_holcomb@yahoo.com

Misty Kay (Stiffler) and husband Kurt Faudel have one son, Kurt William III (6 mos.). Misty Kay has recently received a B.A. in elementary education. She will be teaching second grade at Rea Woodman Elementary School in Wichita, Kan. 10224 SW 72nd, Halstead, KS 67056 mistyfaudel@sbcglobal.net

Joe Wooderson and wife Anna (Underhill) ’99 have two daughters, Gracee (8) and Elizabeth (5). Joe is the new worship pastor at First Baptist Church in Bolivar, Mo. Anna is the new music teacher at the Bolivar Primary School. jwooderson@fcbolivar.org

2000
Faithia (Keith) and husband Glen Gillogly have one daughter, Addison (1). The couple has been married for five years. Glen teaches high school special education for the Odessa R-7 school district. Faithia is a parent educator for Parents as Teachers for the school district. 1705 Sunrise, Warrensburg, MO 64093 faithiak@hotmail.com

Michael Gouge and wife Mara (Gillespie) ’02 have two daughters, Makiya (5) and Alysabeth (3). Michael graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth with a M.Div. on May 11, 2007. On May 26, he accepted the position of associate pastor of Student and Family Ministries at Pinecrest Baptist Church in Silsbee, Texas. 5660 FM 1122, Silsbee, TX 77656 gouge14@yahoo.com

2001
Christopher Breshears completed his master’s in management degree at Fontbonne University in May and has recently begun working on his second master’s degree at Fontbonne – a master’s of science in computer education. He was recently promoted to web content and marketing manager at Fontbonne University, where he has been working for five years. 4949 West Pine Blvd, Apt 10d, St. Louis, MO 63108 kitbreshears@mac.com

Katie (Cope) Hayes (see 2003 news)

Patricia Schierholz is beginning her second year teaching fifth grade at CMCA in Colorado Springs, Colo., after teaching three years in Panama and one year in Philadelphia. 2916 Drakestone Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80909 psmusketeer@hotmail.com

2002
Mara (Gillespie) Gouge (see 2000 news)

Mason Bigler is working as the regional sales manager at ONEAC and has just finished an M.B.A. at Averette University in Richmond, Va. His wife, Sarah (Long) ’02, is working as a sales manager at State Farm. 8310 Thunderbird Lane, Mechanicsville, VA 23111 biglerms@verizon.net

Mandy (Wilburn) and husband Rye Taylor ’02 are starting a new church in Pittsburgh, Pa., called Fusion. 217 School Hill Road, PO Box 44, Hendersonville, PA 15339 ryeandmandy@yahoo.com

Amber Rippstein completed her M.Div. from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary in Springfield, Mo., in the summer of 2007. She is currently working as a community support worker for Community Alternatives Missouri helping adults with developmental disabilities and mental retardation. doorfry@christfirst.net

Visit www.sbuniv.edu/alumni for more news and photos!
2003
Tom Hayes is currently a graduate student at Dallas Theological Seminary. He is graduating in December with a master's degree in cultural studies (missions). His wife, Katie (Cope) '01, is working as director of public relations & marketing for a local non-profit organization that provides marriage and family education workshops in Dallas. 1500 North Garrett #119, Dallas, TX 75206 tomyhayes5@yahoo.com katiehayes5@yahoo.com

2004
Keri Cochran is now the head volleyball coach for Grain Valley High School in Mo. 525 NW Brad Circle, Blue Springs, MO 64014 cochrankc@hotmail.com

Meggen Cumpton recently moved to Springfield, Mo., to attend Evangel University. She will be pursuing a master's degree in counseling psychology. 1244 E Elm, Springfield, MO 65802 cumpton6792@evangel.edu

2005
Pamela (Bryson) and husband Mike Foster just moved to Clever, Mo. Pamela is teaching chemistry and astronomy/geology at Hollister High School in Hollister, Mo. 107 W Meadowbrook Ave, Clever, MO 65631 mpplfoster@yahoo.com

Terry Blauvelt graduated with a M.A. in organizational leadership from Gonzaga University (Spokane, Wash.) on May 12, 2007. 2043 N Jeffrey; Springfield, MO 65803 terryblauvelt@msn.com

2006
Jennifer (Gleason) '96 married Michael Smith on March 17, 2007. She is working for Media Professional Insurance in Kansas City as an entertainment media underwriter. 3412 NW 56th St, Kansas City, MO 64151 jennifer.smith@mediaprod.com

Angela “Lia” (Bordelon) Tackabery '98 was recently married in June 2006. willowrosenberg77@yahoo.com

Lyndsay (Tucker) '00 married Jason Funke on May 1, 2004. They make their home in Jefferson City where Lyndsay is a surgical nurse at St. Mary's, and Jason works for Miller Co. Ambulance Service. 1607 Amanda Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109 1funke@mchs.com

Janelle (Lauer) '00 and Ethan Yonker were married September 10, 2005. 420 NE Fox Trail Dr, Blue Springs, MO 64014 Janelle-yonker@yahoo.com

Julie (Anderson) '02 and Andrew Wall were married on April 20, 2007. Julie is teaching computer application classes at St. John's, Springfield, Mo., while Andrew teaches Spanish and drama at Fordland High School. okanadia@yahoo.com

Justin Osborn '04 married Danae on June 17, 2006. 343 W 2nd, Buhler, KS 67522

Pamela (Clodfelter) '05 and Burla Travis '06 were married on May 20, 2006. Pamela is teaching high school mathematics and computer science this year at Hearne High School, 520 Southwest Parkway, #A, College Station, TX 77840 mrs.pamela.travis@gmail.com

Lindsay Cole '05 married Matt Rhinehart on January 6, 2006, in Parkville, Mo. The Rhineharts live in Columbia, Mo., where Lindsay is the systems specialist for CMCA Head Start of Boone County and Matt is the marketing manager for the Spirit of '76 Fireworks. 2321 F S. Providence Rd., Columbia, MO 65203 pcdrhinehart@yahoo.com

Kevin Morgan '05 and Sarah (Richie) '05 were married in December 2005 and moved to Indiana to take a student pastor position at Calvary Baptist Church in Seymour, Ind. 1212 N Ewing St, Seymour, IN 47274 cmorgan497@sbtststudents.net

Olivia (Spires) '06 and Zachary Howard '06 were married on July 22, 2006. ozhoward@sbcglobal.net

Karen (Flint) '87 and husband Ron Miller would like to announce the adoption of Mackenzie Sue Jian who was born on June 25, 2006, in the People's Republic of China. They traveled to China and completed their adoption of Mackenzie on June 25, 2007 (her first birthday). Their oldest daughter, Reagan (4), was born

Visit www.sbuniv.edu/alumni for more news and photos!
Robert Kumpe ’88 and his wife, Tamera Black, would like to announce the birth of their babies, Robert Otto Connor (ROCK) and his sister Hope Ann Victoria (HAVOC), on January 16, 2007. After 18 ½ years of marriage, Robert and Tamera are blessed with these two bundles of joy! On April 1, 2007, Robert retired as a major from the United States Marines. Having served both as enlisted and officer with 11 years of active duty and 11 years of reserve time, he retired to direct his extra effort into raising ROCK and HAVOC! 13187 Oak Farm Dr, Woodbridge, VA 22192 bucklumpy@aol.com

Jon Rehurek ’92 and wife Natalie would like to announce the birth of their baby boy, Nathan Dean, who was born July 2, 2007. Nathan is welcomed home by big brother Josiah David (4). Jon serves as the professor of theology at Samara Theological Seminary and Samara Preachers’ Institute in Samara, Russia. Jon and Natalie are missionaries of Grace Community Church in Los Angeles, pastored by John MacArthur. The family returned to Samara at the end of August after spending three months in Los Angeles. 17625 Granada Hills, CA 91344 jonrehurek@juno.com

Ginger (Orr) ’92 and husband Chris Gainer would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashlyn Nicole, who was born June 19, 2007. She weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. She was welcomed home by her two big brothers, Collin (7) and Devin (4). 4807 W Ducharme Ave, Bartonville, IL 61007 3kboysmom@insightbb.com

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Jairus Lee Wolfe and wife Marie would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Journey Nicole, who was born October 17, 2007. Journey is welcomed home by her two big sisters, Abigail Leigh (10) and Abigail Elizabeth (8). 4530 E State St, DeKalb, IL 60115 jlwolfe@bellefleur.com

Matt Hensley ’94 and wife Tammy (Allison) ’96 would like to announce the birth of their son, Jett Matthew, who was born February 24, 2007. He joins his big sister, Jamison (17 mos.). Matt and Tammy still own their hardscape business, Outlook Inc. 12719 Garnett St, Overland Park, KS 66213 hensley@kc.rr.com

Shawn Summers ’94 and wife Cheryl (Bowles) ’96 announce the birth of Ella Grace, their second child, born August 31, 2007. She is welcomed home by big sister Claire Evalyn (6). 2331 Coronado Place, Lynn Haven, FL 32444 cggainer@knology.net

Jon Rehurek ’92 and wife Natalie would like to announce the birth of their baby boy, Nathan Dean, who was born July 2, 2007. Nathan is welcomed home by big brother Josiah David (4). Jon serves as the professor of theology at Samara Theological Seminary and Samara Preachers’ Institute in Samara, Russia. Jon and Natalie are missionaries of Grace Community Church in Los Angeles, pastored by John MacArthur. The family returned to Samara at the end of August after spending three months in Los Angeles. 17625 Granada Hills, CA 91344 jonrehurek@juno.com

Jairus Lee Wolfe and wife Marie would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Journey Nicole, who was born October 17, 2007. Journey is welcomed home by her two big sisters, Abigail Leigh (10) and Abigail Elizabeth (8). 4530 E State St, DeKalb, IL 60115 jlwolfe@bellefleur.com

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Shawn Summers ’94 and wife Cheryl (Bowles) ’96 announce the birth of Ella Grace, their second child, born August 31, 2007. She is welcomed home by big sister Claire Evalyn (6). 2331 Coronado Place, Lynn Haven, FL 32444 cggainer@knology.net
Gammon Sparkman '95 and wife Shelley (Leonard) '96 would like to announce the birth of Lauren Chappell born June 8, 2007. She is welcomed home by Samantha Grace (3). Rt 2 Box 2768, Cassville, MO 65625 sparkman@mo-net.com

Philliina (Haselwood) '96 and husband Michael Lewis announce the birth of their daughter, Savannah Raine born November 19, 2006. Philliina is a stay-at-home mom and Michael is in the U.S. Army currently stationed in Oklahoma. mplewis2005@sbcglobal.net

Alex Whitten Bishop '97 and wife Yoonjeong Park would like to announce the birth of Ethan Jesse, who was born December 28, 2005. Generation is now 19 months old and is very active, energetic, and fun to play. Heather loves her rewarding and exciting career as an OB nurse. Andrew continues to work as a state trooper. 50 Adventura, Festus, MO 63028 hcheaneyrn@hotmail.com

Kyle Williams '00 and wife Rachel (Erisman) '01 would like to announce the birth of their first son, Robert "Kaleb", who was born November 25, 2006. He was 8 pounds, 13 ounces and 20 inches long. 201 NE Beacon Ave, Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Erin (Sisk) '00 and husband Brett Francis would like to announce the adoption of their daughter, Brennah McRae, who was born March 22, 2006. She is a joy and blessing. The couple's first child, Grace, died minutes after she was born on March 16, 2004. Brett has been the worship pastor at Antioch Bible Baptist in Kansas City since November 2004. Erin taught middle school math before becoming a stay-at-home mom. 826 NE 107th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64155 erin@brettturnerfrancis.com

Matt Ditch '01 and wife Sarah (Nichols) '01 would like to announce the birth of their second child, Sophia Grace. She is a beautiful red-haired girl and is welcomed by big brother, Matthew Peyton. 7622 Westport Rd, Louisville, KY 40222 mattditch@hotmail.com

Ashley (Plummer) '01 and husband Jason Bowman would like to announce the birth of their son, Clay Alan, who was born June 21, 2006. He weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. Ashley has completed her master's degree in clinical psychology from Evangel University and is now staying at home with their son. Jason is the associate pastor of young adults at Evangel Temple in Springfield, Mo. 5016 N 10th St, Ozark, MO 65721 mrsabowman@yahoo.com

Kristy (Utley) '01 and husband Evan Smith would like to announce the birth of their son, Logan Harley, who was born May 3, 2006. 7116 W 54th Terrace, Overland Park, KS 66202 kds22duke@yahoo.com
Grant Story ’01 and wife Erica (Clear) ’02 would like to announce the birth of their baby girl, Addison, who was born January 19, 2007. She weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces.

Jeff Walls ’02 and wife Elissa (Altis) ’05 would like to announce the birth of their first child, Jerrett Robert, who was born April 18, 2007. He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 21 inches long. 701 Reynolds St, Fayette, MO 65248 sbusuprman@yahoo.com

Erin (Ahlrich) ’02 and husband David Millspaugh would like to announce the birth of their daughter, McKenzie Elizabeth, who was born November 27, 2006. 1302 Ingle Court, Burlington, NC 27215 demillspaugh@yahoo.com

Melissa (Evans) ’03 and husband Benjamin Brennecke ’03 would like to announce the birth of their son, Lucas Edward, who was born August 8, 2007. He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 ¼ inches long. 5040 Country Valley Dr, Imperial, MO 63052 mrb92003@yahoo.com

Candace (Stiffler) ’03 and husband David (Toby) Decker would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Kaylea Breanne, who was born January 23, 2007. She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 ¼ inches long. 144 S Abilene, Valley Center, KS 67147 cbs_andy80@yahoo.com

DeAnna (Bumgarner) ’04 and husband Victor Sheets announce the birth of their daughter, Kaylea Breanne Decker, who was born July 2, 2007. The family is living in Branson where DeAnna is teaching in the Branson Elementary, and Victor is teaching at Ozark Junior High. deannasheets3@hotmail.com

John Paul Williams ’06 and his wife celebrated the birth of their third son in February. John Paul serves as pastor of First Baptist Church of Appleton, Mo.

Scott Beever ’06 and wife Melissa (Tribble) ’04 would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Hannah Jo, who was born May 7, 2007. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. 11 Archer Ave, Springfield, IL 62704 sbeever@gmail.com

Please note that alumni updates are published in SBU Life in the order they are received, depending on the space available in each issue. Therefore, it may take several months for Keeping in Touch submissions to be printed. Also, we will be happy to list your weddings and babies, but it is our policy not to list engagements or little expectations.

Let’s Keep in Touch!

Alumni News: ____________________________________________
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Name: ____________________________________________ Class of: ______ Degree: ______
(AA, BA, BS, MBA, MPT, MS)

Address: ____________________________________________ City: __________ State: ___ Zip: ______

Email: ____________________________________________ Telephone: __________________________

# of Children: ______________________ Employment: ______________________

Spouse: ____________________________________________ Class of: ______ Degree: ______
(AA, BA, BS, MBA, MPT, MS)

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Return to: Southwest Baptist University • Office of Alumni Relations • 1600 University Avenue • Bolivar, MO 65613
You can also complete this form online at www.SBUniv.edu/alumni if it’s more convenient.
In an age when the endowments of many of the largest universities in our country are calculated in the billions of dollars, most, if not all, of the smaller evangelical colleges and universities are still keeping track in the millions. Such is the case here at Southwest Baptist University, where the endowment now exceeds $18 million. While we may be a long way from our first billion, we rejoice that our endowment has dramatically grown from less than $1 million in 1984 to its present level. So we say “thank you” to the many alumni and friends over the years who have been those channels of blessing through which the Lord has blessed and increased the SBU endowment to its present level.

Of that total endowment balance, the combined value of 306 endowed private scholarship funds now accounts for more than $10 million, or about 55% of the total endowment. As a result, in this academic year almost $500,000 in student aid will be awarded to those worthy and needy students who have applied and are qualified to benefit according to the specific requirements of each scholarship fund. What an enormous difference the private scholarship funds are making in the lives of today’s students. If you are a private scholarship fund donor, you are aware of that difference each time you read a thank-you letter from your scholarship student recipient.

Here’s more good news—during our past fiscal year the endowment portfolio earned more than a 16% return. The SBU Investment Committee membership includes Ed Clark, Wayne Hutchins ’51, Jim Jones ’86 (Sterling Investments), Rick Juhlin ’72, Dr. Ray Leininger, Ron Maupin ’70, Tom McLoud, Bill Roberts Jr. ’51, Cary Summers, SBU President Dr. Pat Taylor, and Tom Welch. This committee is to be commended for establishing and pursuing an investment philosophy that has resulted in such a notable return on the principal amount of the total endowment.

Growing the SBU endowment has been and will continue to be a focus over the next several years as SBU matures as an institution of Christian higher education. Because the principal of the endowment fund is not spent, the earnings provide a reliable stream of earnings year after year. This provides financial stability that permits the University to make strategic plans well into the future as the endowment becomes an increasingly significant source of income.

Finally, there will be greater attention in this publication and in other SBU correspondence about growth of the endowment in the near future. In the mean time, if you would like to know more about the difference you can make in the life of a student by establishing a private endowed scholarship fund or by some other kind of endowment, please contact Cindy Rice ’73 (417-328-1838) in the Scholarship Development Office or me in the Estate Planning Office.

One final word of good news: there is great opportunity right now for you to make an investment at SBU (through an outright gift, gift of appreciated property, or a planned gift) which will pay eternal dividends because of the kingdom work the Lord is doing in the lives of students today that will impact the world tomorrow.
Be at SBU!

BEARCAT DAYS

Sunday, February 17 and Monday, February 18, 2008

Bearcat Days are specifically designed for students who have already applied to SBU. Students will stay with current students in residence halls, attend classes, go to chapel, interact with faculty and staff, and experience campus life.

The best way to learn more about Southwest Baptist University is to experience it for yourself. With just one visit to campus, we believe you will quickly see why so many students choose Southwest Baptist University as their home away from home. You will enjoy the beauty of our campus and state-of-the-art facilities, as well as learn more about our quality faculty and staff, our challenging academic programs, our passion for Christ, our competitive NCAA athletics program and our great campus life opportunities. You need to be here to experience SBU!