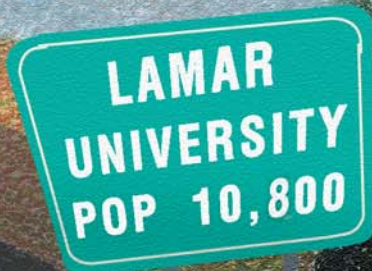


CARDINAL Cadence

VOL. 32 NO. 4

A PUBLICATION OF LAMAR UNIVERSITY
A MEMBER OF THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2004



Looking back, looking ahead

pg. 20



From the President

The 2004-2005 academic year is off to a great start with record enrollment on the first day of classes.

Hundreds of students moved into Cardinal Village Saturday, Aug. 21 – bringing all three phases to full occupancy with more than 1,500 student residents – and a number of students are living in the renovated Brooks Hall as well.

We continue toward our goal of hiring 100 new faculty, with plans to create and fill another 10 new faculty positions this year.

The university’s Academic Master Plan is proving to be an excellent guide as we focus resources to further strengthen Lamar’s academic excellence.

The university’s overall excellence is being boosted by the start of Lamar’s two newest doctoral programs, the Ed.D. in educational leadership and a Ph.D. in audiology. The College of Engineering is at work toward gaining coordinating board approval for the university’s fifth doctoral program, a Ph.D. in chemical engineering.

Fulfillment of the university’s Facilities Master Plan continues apace with renovations to existing academic buildings across the campus. In addition, construction of the new dining hall will begin this year, and architectural plans for the new state-of-the-art recreation center are being drawn.

Lamar University continues to work with chamber, city and county officials in developing a stronger economic presence. With much to add in expertise, research and innovation, the university has potential to become a center for economic development in Southeast Texas.

Our annual giving campaign will begin soon. With tuition on the rise throughout the state, scholarships and other opportunities are more important than ever for students seeking higher education. Lamar is one of the best values in Texas. Nonetheless, your participation in this campaign can make a real difference to students here. Please give generously!

Thank you for your support of Lamar University!

James M. Simmons
James M. Simmons
President
Lamar University



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Cardinal Events 2004 - 2005

through Nov. 16

Faculty Exhibition. Lower Gallery. Then & Now: An Alumni Survey 1962 to 2004. Upper Gallery. Reception 7-9 p.m. Sept. 10. Dishman Art Museum

Sept. 9

2004 Cardinal Smash Tennis Banquet. 6 p.m. Cardinal Club Room. Montagne Center. Reservations (409) 880-2319

Sept. 13

College of Fine Arts and Communication Lecture Series presents Leonard Pitts Jr., nationally syndicated columnist and Pulitzer Prizewinner. 7:30 p.m. University Theatre

Oct. 5

Lamarissimo! Wind Ensemble and Concert Band open 2004-2005 season. 7:30 p.m. Julie Rogers Theatre. Tickets (409) 880-8144

Oct. 7 - 9

On the Verge, presented by Lamar Theatre. Nightly 8 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. University Theatre. Tickets (409) 880-2250

Oct. 11

Academic Lecture Series presents Gen. Barry McCaffrey, international affairs expert and NBC News military analyst. 7:30 p.m. University Theatre. (409) 880-8741

Oct. 13 - 14

Grad Fair. Seniors prepare for December Commencement. Setzer Student Center. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (409) 880-8359

Oct. 18

Distinguished Faculty Lecture. Sponsored by Entergy Texas. Terri Davis, assistant professor of political science, presents "Politics and Dissent: The U.S. Constitution in Times of Crisis." 7:30 p.m. Lamar University Theatre. Post-lecture reception. Dishman Art Museum

Oct. 19

Dinner and Twelve Strangers. President and Mrs. Jimmy Simmons’ host music majors for this dinner, one of a continuing series sponsored by Alumni Affairs. Music majors may reserve seats by calling the Career Center, 880-8879. Information on hosting, alumni@lamar.edu or (409) 880-8921

Oct. 22-23

La Dolce Vita. Two days of fine wine and cuisine to benefit the Dishman Art Museum. University Reception Center, Mary and John Gray Library. Reservations (409) 880-8959

Oct. 25

All College of Engineering Seminar Bill Nylin, president of Conn’s Appliance. 4 p.m. John Gray Center. (409) 880-8741

Oct. 28

KVLU 30th-anniversary celebration, featuring live music, food and refreshments. 6-8 p.m., Katharine & Company, 1495 Calder. Reservations (409) 880-8164

Oct. 29

Spring 2005 class schedule distributed

Nov. 1

Spring 2005 advising begins

Nov. 2

Lamarissimo! Faculty Artists. 7:30 p.m. Julie Rogers Theatre. Tickets (409) 880-8144

Nov. 4

Red, White & YOU Alumni Reception. Houston. (409) 880-8921 or (800) 298-4839

Nov. 8

Spring registration begins

Nov. 12

Baseball Coach Jim Gilligan inducted into Texas Baseball Hall of Fame. 6 p.m. J.W. Marriott Houston. 5150 Westheimer. Tickets \$50. Reservations (713) 408-1044

Nov. 16

Dinner and Twelve Strangers. LU Alumni host dinner for students studying a particular major to meet professionals in that field. alumni@lamar.edu or (409) 880-8921

Nov. 18 - 23

Baby with Bath Water, presented by Lamar Theatre. Nightly 8 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m. Studio Theatre. Tickets (409) 880-2250

Nov. 30

Lamarissimo! A Cappella Choir Holiday Concert. 7:30 p.m. Julie Rogers Theatre. Tickets (409) 880-8144

Dec. 1 - 9

Senior Thesis Exhibition. Reception 7-9 p.m. Dec. 3. Dishman Art Museum

Dec. 2

Cardinal Lights: A Holiday Carnival at Lamar University, featuring food, games for all ages and entertainment. Carnival at 4 p.m. and lighting of “Cardinal Lights” at 6:15 p.m. adjacent to Plummer Administration Building. Reception and Dessert Gala at 6:30 p.m. in Setzer Student Center.

Dec. 3-5

Lamar Puppet Theatre on the road at Dickens on the Strand. Galveston. Information (409) 880-8150

Dec. 13-17

Master’s Thesis Exhibition. Reception 7-9 p.m. Dec. 17. Dishman Art Museum

Events open to the public without charge unless otherwise indicated.

www.lamar.edu • Events (409) 880-8419 • Admissions (409) 880-8888

Contents

2 From the President

4 News Briefs

8 Lighter, faster, cleaner

9 Gift of a Lifetime

10 Places in the Heart

12 Storybook Beginning

14 Helping Business

16 Conventional Wisdom

18 Cardinal Views

20 Looking Back, Looking Ahead

22 Shonto Ranch

25 Rhythm in Rhyme

26 Friendly Fire

30 Moncrief’s Milestone

32 Athletic Achievements

34 Basketball Schedule

35 Class Notes

40 New Sousa Band

44 Diztorsha Jefferson

Design by Mike Rhodes • Cover illustration by Bill Anderson

News Briefs



Meg McKinney, a photographer for Southern Living magazine, takes photos of Spindletop/Gladys City Boomtown, capturing a reenactment of the Lucas Gusher blowout, complete with reinactors in period costume. The photos will be published in a 2005 issue of Southern Living along with a story on Beaumont.



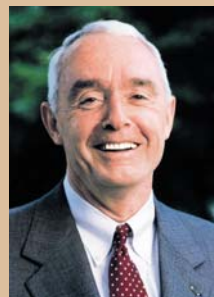
Price claims Golden Torch honor

Richard Price, associate professor of mathematics, recently accepted a 2004 Golden Torch Award for Lifetime Achievement in Academia from the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the largest student-managed organization in the country dedicated to raising the profile of African-American engineers. The award celebrates the accomplishments of individuals, corporations, and academic institutions that espouse the organization's mission to "increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community." Price has been mentoring engineering students at Lamar for 26 years in his role as director of minority recruitment and retention for the College of Engineering. Information about NSBE may be found at www.nsb.org.

Gen. Barry McCaffrey will speak Oct. 11

A national expert on the war on terrorism, Gen. Barry McCaffrey will speak at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11 in the University Theatre as part of the Academic Lecture Series sponsored by the College of Engineering. The lecture is open to the public.

McCaffrey is the Bradley distinguished professor of international security studies at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He serves as a national security and terrorism analyst for NBC News and also writes a regularly scheduled commentary on national security issues for Armed Forces Journal.



Gen. Barry McCaffrey

Williams keynotes LU commencement

State Senator Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, was the keynote speaker for Lamar University's summer commencement Aug. 14 in the Montagne Center. Lamar conferred 335 degrees, including two doctorates.

Carla Hearn, a social work major from Chester, earned the Plummer Award as the top female graduate in the class of August 2004. James Treadway, the male Plummer recipient, was attending law school orientation in Houston and unable to participate in commencement. He is a history major from Slidell, Texas.



Carla HEARN

Stalking ancient great whites in Panama

Lamar's Jim Westgate and other North American scientists recently teamed with naturalists from ANCON Expeditions of Panama in a search for fossil remains of giant great white sharks (Carcharodon megalodon) and other fossil sharks in Panama's Darien Rain Forest and the Canal Zone.

Westgate, associate dean of Lamar's College of



Arts and Sciences; Dana Cope of the College of Charleston; and Ben Brown of Mexico's National Institute for Anthropology and History found the region yielded fossils in a globally significant geographic and geologic setting. The team found fossils of 20- to 30-foot sharks, including great white sharks, bull sharks, rays and a diverse assortment of drum fish, catfish and other fishes. The area that is now a mountainous rain forest once was a shallow tropical seaway.

The team's fossil discoveries document the marine animals and ecological conditions that existed prior to the closing of the Straits of Panama. Beginning about 15 million years ago, the collision of the continental plates with the Pacific Ocean plate began forming a ridge of islands, completing a land bridge that connected North and South America approximately 3.5 million years ago.

Discovering shark teeth is a great help in dating these changes, Westgate said, because "sharks are great gauges of water depth, salinity and temperature." Unlike other species that either must adapt to changing environments or perish, sharks "are mobile and will sidestep these stresses

by moving to more favorable conditions." Therefore, finding the very specialized teeth of sharks gives a good indication of the sea conditions of the site.

Students step into campus life at WOW

Week of Welcome, known as WOW, introduced students and their parents to life on campus Aug. 21-24. Events included Paint the Town Red, a midnight barbecue and karaoke at the Card Rock Café and concluded with freshman convocation. Students checked in at the Mary and John Gray Library before Move-In at Cardinal Village and Brooks Hall.

Students found classrooms, met departmental representatives and attended workshops on topics such as taking essay exams, how to study and using the library. Seminars are designed to familiarize students with campus opportunities and prepare them for success in and out of class.

Cornyn visits campus



U.S. Sen. John Cornyn visited campus Aug. 13 to highlight the importance of educational partnerships to increase and keep good job opportunities in Southeast Texas. Cornyn received a briefing from university and community leaders on research opportunities in the field of advanced materials, which provides innovative potential to develop new industries in the area.



High-tech way to cleaner water

Water is an issue with tremendous importance to the future of Texas and Mexico, and Lamar University is working on solutions to ensure clean water as industry grows in the region.

David Cocke, holder of the Gill Chair in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, and his research partner, Jose Parga of the Technological Institute of Saltillo, Mexico, recently presented their achievements to the USAID Synergy in Development 2004 Conference in Washington, D.C.

Of particular interest to attendees at the conference was research into a bicycle-powered water treatment plant using the project's electrocoagulation process. With the capability of producing 10 liters of clean water with only 20 minutes of peddling and at a cost of less than 2 cents to treat that amount, the device is attracting the attention of numerous Third-World countries, Cocke said.

The Lamar Mobile Electrocoagulation Unit was used to treat arsenic-contaminated well water in Torreon, Mexico, in a test earlier this year. Ecolimpio, a Mexican environmental company, bought the pilot plant and signed an economic agreement based on the tests with Kaselco, a Shiner, Texas, electrocoagulation company.



Cardinal Village III residence hall opened in August. This newest addition to the village complex accommodates 500 students.



Breoja Keil, left, practices administering a shot during the Nightingale Experience as Marjorie Antwine watches. The two juniors attend Central High School in Beaumont.



Brian Boudreaux, 15, practices administering an IV under the watchful eye of nursing student Kristal Fruge, a senior nursing student. Boudreaux is a junior Port Neches-Groves High School student who is considering nursing as a career. He was among 41 potential nursing students from 14 area high schools who visited Lamar University, Christus St. Elizabeth and St. Mary hospitals for the Nightingale Experience. LU and Christus hosted the two-day program aimed at familiarizing students with nursing and the job opportunities available within the field.

Students meet Florence Nightingale

Forty-one potential nursing students from 14 area high schools met an icon from the past – Florence Nightingale, the British nursing pioneer. LU, Christus St. Elizabeth and St. Mary hospitals hosted the two-day Nightingale Experience aimed at familiarizing students with nursing as a profession and the job opportunities available within the field.

Faculty earn Research Enhancement Grants for 2004-2005

Lamar University has awarded 10 Research Enhancement Grants to faculty members for the 2004-2005 academic year. Grant recipients and their departments are Kenneth Dorris, chemistry; Xing Fang, civil engineering; and Kendrick Aung, mechanical engineering (co-recipients for a joint project); Chung-Chih Li, computer science; Jerry Lin and Mien Jao, civil engineering (co-recipients); Julio Morales, health and kinesiology; Dehu Qi, computer science; Martha Rinker, psychology; and Rafael Tadmor, chemical engineering.

In addition, Helen Lou, assistant professor of chemical engineering, and Rebecca Boone, assistant professor of history, received release-time research awards, enabling them to reduce their course loads by one class in order to devote time to research.

Go Center

Go Center is a cooperative project between Lamar University and Central High School that turns high school students into college graduates. Jay Spencer, regional coordinator of the Region 5 Go Center at Central High, uses management resource skills to encourage high school students to attend college. Spencer receives help from several first-generation college students, many of whom are from Lamar's McNair Scholars Program. The students act as mentors for the college hopefuls. The Go Center was the brainchild of Madelyn Hunt, Lamar professor and executive director of the McNair Scholars Program.



KVLU lines up new program

Lamar public radio KVLU has added six new programs to their lineup, including *Sound Money*, *The Splendid Table*, *Speaking of Faith*, *St. Paul Sunday*, *Pipedreams* and *Composer's Datebook*. Find the full programming guide or listen live at <http://dept.lamar.edu/kvlu>.

Inaugural mentor program nurtures first-year students

The Foundations of Excellence (FOE) in the First Year Experience will sponsor a new mentor program for fall 2004 and spring 2005 semesters. The goal of the program is for faculty and staff mentors to create nurturing and personalized university experiences for new students, thus easing the transition from high school to college and assisting in the enrichment, retention and graduation of college students. Each mentor will work with an average of three students, and training is provided. Mentors and students will attend opening receptions each semester, then develop their own schedules to meet regularly – at least biweekly – throughout the semester.

Conference benefits technology-enhanced education at Lamar

At the invitation of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, four Lamar executives attended a national conference on the use of information technology to better recruit and serve students. “The Key to Competitiveness: Understanding the Next-Generation Learner” was the subject of the conference, also sponsored by Microsoft and EDUCAUSE. Lamar was among 12 universities from across the country selected to participate in the program June 9-11 at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Representing Lamar at the event were President James Simmons; Stephen Doblin, provost and vice president for academic affairs; and Cliff Woodruff, assistant vice president for information technologies.

Students incorporate ‘Universal Design’ into kitchen

The Beaumont chapter of RISE – Resource. Information. Support. Empowerment – asked interior design instructor Sarajane Eisen to teach a class in which students could design a kitchen using the principles of universal design, a method of designing environments to meet the needs of all people, no matter what age or disability. The blueprints are to be used to create a new kitchen for the RISE office facility in Beaumont. RISE is a federally funded program that provides skills training and support to assist individuals with disabilities in living an independent life.



Show takes UP helm

Mark Show, a junior communication major from Pearland, is the new University Press editor for fall 2004 and spring 2005.

New Media Consortium recognizes tech-savvy efforts

Lamar University was among 50 colleges and universities worldwide identified in the New Media Consortium's search for proven leaders among higher educational institutions in the application of technology to teaching, learning, research or creative expression. Lamar will join 150 other colleges, universities and museums who have been invited to join NMC during the 10-year history of the organization. “Selection to be part of this elite group is considered a mark of excellence,” said Steve Doblin, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Lamar. Higher-education institutions of all types are included among those who were recognized.

Montagne Center floor gets makeover

The Montagne Center floor received a makeover with new graphic elements – including a 16-foot-wide rendering of the current Cardinal mascot logo – replacing the vintage graphics. Jones Hardwood Floors, a Texas company, completed the refurbishment in time for the new sports season.



A employee of Jones Hardwood Floors paint logos onto the Montagne Center court this summer to represent the new Lamar University sports logo.

Chris Costello, top center, eighth-grade science teacher for the Texas School for the Deaf in Austin, laughs as the group's tour guide feeds lollipops to a nutria during a swamp tour outside of Baton Rouge, La. Other teachers pictured, from left, are Bridgette Different from Odom Academy, and Jan Ruppel from Upper Texas Coast Water-Borne Educational Center. Lamar's Paula Nichols, director of the JASON Expedition, is seated beside Costello.





Lamar recently received word from U.S. Rep. Nick Lampson '68, '72, D-Beaumont, that the Defense Appropriations Conference Report for fiscal year 2005 includes \$2.5 million for the Advanced Laser Electric Power program, which would allow the College of Engineering to conduct military research.

Lamar will partner with Alabama-based Radiance Technologies to develop fuel-cell power for military vehicles. "Laser-operated instruments are becoming commonplace on military vehicles, and these use diesel fuel for power," said Jack Hopper, dean of the College of Engineering. "If diesel fuel is replaced with fuel cells, the vehicles can be built lighter and can run farther and faster."

A fuel cell is an electrochemical energy-conversion device that converts hydrogen and oxygen into water, producing electricity and heat in the process. It is much like a battery in that it can be recharged while power is drawn from it.

"The partnership with the U.S. Army and Radiance Technologies may well become a defining moment in the stature and national visibility of the College of Engineering and Lamar University," said Steve Doblin, provost and vice president for academic affairs. He credits the reputation of the engineering college's faculty and hard work by

Hopper and David Cocke, Gill Chair in Chemistry.

"The help and support of Congressman Lampson and Senator Hutchinson were invaluable," Doblin said. "Over time, I expect great things for our university and Beaumont as a result of this project."

Advancements in research made under the grant can be applicable to other technologies, Hopper said. "This grant could have a long-term impact on our area and on Lamar because fuel cells will be a larger part of the

This grant could have a long-term impact on our area and on Lamar.

way electric power is produced in the future." He also sees potential for developing laboratory discoveries into businesses – including creation of commercial "clean air" power products – and the resultant boon to economic development in the region.

The project will develop and adapt fuel-cell technologies for U.S. Army high- and low-power laser weapon systems. Lamar

researchers will develop, test and demonstrate enhanced fuel-cell membranes, catalysts and thermal management for optimized power, Hopper said. Using a test bed developed at Lamar, researchers will validate fuel-cell applications for a variety of laser applications. Researchers will also conduct feasibility experiments on alternative advanced power sources and energy storage devices.

Cocke, who has 16 years experience in fuel-cell research and development, is the principal investigator for the grant. He will be joined by a dozen other LU research scientists in engineering and chemistry as a part of the university's Fuel Cell Group.

As a subcontractor under the program, Radiance Technologies Inc., an employee-owned systems engineering and technology development company with 145 full-time employees, will establish an office at Lamar and staff it with on-site technical employees serving as a commercial link and military agency interface. The company now has contracts with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, U.S. Air Force National Air Intelligence Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and seven universities in Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and North Carolina.

Gift of a lifetime



When the father of a Lamar University student encountered a medical crisis, he had one viable option left: a kidney transplant.

Tina Gipson, a 22-year-old education major, now wears a scar on her right side from a medical procedure that changed her father's life. She doesn't view the scar as a badge of courage, but instead as something that had to be done.

"I just decided I'd do it. I decided I wasn't scared at all. I did what I had to do," the soft-spoken LU student said. For a while, she said, her father tried to discourage her from donating her kidney. Eventually, she won him over.

Fifty-seven-year-old Herman Gipson '71, describes his daughter as a woman who thinks, makes a decision and acts on it. And that's how it happened. She learned what it would take, made a plea to the public to pay for testing, then got the procedure done. For Tina, it was all part of the plan.

"The average person on dialysis lasts 5 to 7 years. My Dad did it for 10 years. He was at the end of his rope. A transplant was the only option left," Tina said.

Dialysis is a process of cleansing a patient's blood by passing it through a special machine, a process made necessary when the kidneys are not able to filter impurities out of the blood. It gives patients with kidney failure a chance to live productive lives.

Even on dialysis, Herman Gipson remained active. While his daughter attended

Ozen High School, he spent four years as a parent coach for her softball team. She graduated from Ozen in 2000 before beginning study at Lamar.

During a three- to four-month period, she said, she went through two full days of testing in Houston to ensure she was a compatible match. The testing cost \$5,000 and required that Tina be in perfect health.

Lamar University and the community came to the rescue. Sororities and fraternities on campus held a fund-raiser, and area entertainers lent their talents for a show and barbecue to offset the cost of testing.

"We got help from everyone on campus," she said. An anonymous donor stepped up to the plate to help them raise the final \$1,800.

"Lamar just took over," Herman Gipson said with appreciation.

The surgery took five hours and left Tina weak and in pain. Herman Gipson said he began feeling better immediately after the surgery. The surgery took place over the summer, and Tina returned to school in the fall.

Herman Gipson was concerned about his daughter's health, but she wouldn't hear of it. "She said, 'Let's go do this,'" he said. "She never made me feel like she was feeling sorry for me."

It took about four months to recover from surgery, Tina said. But by October of 2003, she was working out in the gym.

She was cautious about whom she told

about the transplant, sharing the information only with members of her immediate family. She didn't want anyone to discourage her making the donation.

Sometimes, she finds it strange to have a piece of her body living within her own father, Tina said. But overall, she feels joy that she could give her kidney to her father, she said.

Although it was a major surgery, she would encourage relatives to consider donating organs to help keep their loved ones alive, she said.

Whenever Herman Gipson goes out in public, he exclaims how happy he is to have a second chance.

"He's been excited every day since May 19, 2003," Tina said. The father and daughter recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of the successful transplant. "He reminded me that it was our (new) birthday," she said.

While walking down the street, she said, she sometimes gets stopped by people who tell her what a "proud and noble" thing she did. She disagrees. She believes it was just part of her life plan.

"She is very, very special," Gipson said. "I appreciate it."

Herman Gipson's dietary restrictions have been lifted. Before the surgery, he had to limit his fluid intake. Now, he can dine on his favorite meal — his wife's gumbo — and enjoy it to the fullest and savor the flavor.

PLACES IN THE HEART

Terri Davis was just 2 years old when an assassin's bullet ended the life of President John F. Kennedy, but the images replayed on television a few years later became indelibly etched in her memory.



WHO: Terri Davis, assistant professor of political science.
WHAT: "Politics and Dissent: The U.S. Constitution in Times of Crisis."
2004 Distinguished Faculty Lecture, sponsored by Entergy Texas
WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 18
WHERE: Lamar University Theatre, with reception afterward in Dishman Art Museum.

"They would show and re-show the film clippings," Davis recalls. "I remember seeing it when I was 5 or 6 and realizing that was the president. The violence was bad enough, and the depiction was bad enough, but it wasn't just that. It was understanding just what had transpired."

The experience illustrated the relevance of public figures to its citizens. It was one of life's lessons that would lead Davis toward her calling – now as an assistant professor of political science at Lamar. It is a career she loves and that has brought her an array of

honors, most recently as Lamar's Distinguished Faculty Lecturer for 2004.

There were other influences: "The first thing I remember about politics is watching television, probably when I was 12, and seeing on the news that the United States had put up a wheat embargo against Russia. I asked my dad, 'What's an embargo?' A two-hour conversation ensued with him explaining supply and demand, international economics, why you have economic embargos, as opposed to going to war. It was him telling me all about the world."

Davis grew up in a democratic family – with a small 'd'. "We all had a voice and actually voted on matters affecting the family," Davis said. "When Dad decided to start his own company, everyone sat down to discuss it, and we all got a vote. There was always the feeling that my voice mattered."

That is a theme she plans to stress in her lecture, "Politics and Dissent: The U.S. Constitution in Times of Crisis."

Davis's hometown of Sulphur Springs, 80 miles east of downtown Dallas and Dealy Plaza, epitomized small-town southern

America of the 1960s. With an older brother and younger sister, she was part of a close-knit family. Her father, Billy T. Burney, who died in 2003, was a high school graduate who spent 26 years working at a manufacturing plant before starting his own valve company. He earned a college degree soon after Terri earned her first. Her mother, Jackie, is a full-time homemaker whose impact becomes increasingly significant, her daughter says.

Outside the classroom, Davis is an advisor to The Washington Center for Civic Education and a nationally known speaker and resource on the Constitution. In 2001, she returned to Sulphur Springs High School as keynote speaker for commencement – a long journey indeed. As a child, she says, "I was shy and very much a bookworm, though a tomboy. When I was a sophomore in high school, I decided it was time to not be shy anymore."

She ran for a student council office and was elected. She became editorial page editor of the school newspaper and, eventually, president of student council. After graduating from Sulphur Springs High in 1979, Davis worked as a paralegal and attended the University of Texas at Tyler at night. "It took me nine years to get a bachelor's degree in political science," she says. She went on to earn a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies from UT-Tyler and applied to doctoral programs. The University of Texas made the most attractive offer.

"I applied and just hoped I'd get in," she says. "I not only got in, but I got a teaching stipend. Also when I got to UT, I found out for the first time that there were women like me. They were smart. They liked to study and they, too, had earned places in the doctoral program."

If one characteristic distinguishes Davis's career, it is her reputation as a dynamic and energetic teacher whose classroom presence and dramatic impact on students draws high marks. But her first foray into a classroom at UT began in sheer terror. "Oh, gosh, that was an experience," she says with a shudder. "In high school, I went to state in persuasive speaking. I'd done drama. I'd done debate. But when I walked into an auditorium with 450 students and got up on stage, nothing came out. I told them to just be patient with me, and I'd get it going."

Which she did. During her first year, Davis earned among the highest teaching evaluations in the UT system and honors as a faculty fellow. "Teaching is easy for me," she now says. "I'm definitely in the vocation I'm supposed to be."

Davis believes she's an effective teacher because she's a good storyteller, in large part because of her heritage. "I spent my 20s running away from being from Sulphur Springs. I wanted to be a Vassar girl, a Wellesley girl. I wanted to be Ivy League, so I studied the

"The family is the most basic unit of political societies, and when mothers and fathers teach the children their voices matter, it gives them a sense of advocacy in the political system."

French existentialists, and I learned about fine wine, art, literature and music," she says.

"But once I stepped into a classroom, I realized how important it was to be from the South because southerners learn by storytelling. That's the way I learned in my home and from my teachers. I found that if I read out of a book, it didn't work with students. So I was able to construct stories and teach the same way I learned."

Students often write on evaluations that Davis makes her classes interesting through stories. She also has a little trick up her sleeve. "The attention span runs 20 minutes," she says. "That's tops for anybody. So I throw in ridiculous stories that are always true – and my life is filled with hysterical stories. Then I get back to the Constitution."

Davis is known for helping athletes with study skills and for mentoring students, many of whom "have gone on to do amazing things," she says.

"I have students who are getting doctorates, who are practicing law are or in law school," Davis said. "I also have students who are mothers who have written me and said, 'I'm a better homemaker for having had you as a mentor.' The thing I try to do with my students is to give them options."

As she prepared her lecture, Davis realized her biggest challenge is that she won't be teaching, per se. But, she says, "I not only am a teacher, but I am also engaged in teaching citizens, and that's a very important role for me. I hope to empower everyone to

recognize the significance of their voice." She will use art, literature and music as well as constitutional interpretation.

"Our world collapses on us in eight-second sound bites," Davis says. "We've turned our authoritative text over to the interpreters. I have a different take on the Constitution. We need to reclaim it as American citizens. We are its authors and interpreters."

Off campus and away from the classroom-consultant-speaker circuit, Davis loves to fish, golf and garden. She's the ultimate Lamar Cardinals baseball fan, vocal in the stands and seldom missing a game.

She's traveled the globe, to destinations including China and, most recently, this July, to Ireland. "I went by myself with a rail pass, a bus pass and a backpack," she says. "I am so proud that I had the courage to spend my

43rd birthday in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on the Day of Protest."

The University Press once ran a profile on Davis with the headline: "I never want to say I wish I would have." That was her philosophy of life. "There are a lot of things I wish I wouldn't have done, but there are very few things I've wanted to do that I haven't at least attempted . . . It was blow and go and explore and learn and do."

The past year has been profoundly significant, with the deaths not only of her father, but also of her faculty colleague Bert DuBose and U.S. District Judge John Hannah, the husband of her close friend, U.S. Magistrate Judith Guthrie, who herself suffered a heart attack.

"It caused me to look at the significance of family and friends to rejoice in the pleasure of the community you have. My philosophy in life has changed and has expanded my existence in ways I never thought possible."

Over time, Davis's perception of her hometown has changed too. "It was way too small, way too parochial, way too restrictive in terms of the roles people were supposed to play. I loved my family and friends, but I was rebellious. I wanted to get out," she says. "I think the turning point came when my grandfather died. The funeral procession went through town, and people quit mowing their lawns. They took off their hats. The world stood still. And it occurred to me, 'This is your hometown. This is a pretty good place to be from.'"

Storybook beginning

Valerie Rush Sexton '73 never had the confidence to write a children's book, but two children created a fire that made her look beyond her own ability to the needs of those suffering with Prader-Willi Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that affects about one in 10,000 newborns.

"I'm an advocate for disability awareness education," said Sexton, speech language pathologist and teacher at Center Road School in Vernon, Conn.

After earning her bachelor's in speech pathology from Lamar University, Sexton earned a master's degree in 1977 from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, where she specialized in speech pathology and learning disabilities. She and her husband, Robert '73, '81, also a Lamar alumnus, with degrees in physics and mechanical engineering, both work for the Vernon Board of Education in Connecticut.

Until she met Michael, the inspiration for her book, Sexton had never heard about Prader-Willi Syndrome. Children with the syndrome are missing the mechanism in the hypothalamus part of the brain that tells them when they are full, so the drive to eat is constant.

"Parents are forced to keep food under a lock and key to keep their children from eating all the time," Sexton said.

To distract Michael from the chronic feeling of hunger, his mother would pack his lunch in a lot of small Ziplock bags, Sexton said. "In his mind, he thought he was getting a lot of food because his mother had things in a lot of small bags."

Food is also an issue for a girl Sexton calls Marie. One day, teachers found torn animal cracker wrappers in the bathroom Sexton's class shared with another teacher. The teacher used the food as treats for her students. Wrappers were found on the floor, and cookies were even found in the toilet. Marie was questioned, and she denied getting into the food and making the mess. Later, she confessed. Sexton determined Marie was probably unable to get into the cookie packages because her motor skills weren't properly developed.

Sleepy, listless PWS babies mature into easily excitable, constantly hungry children with learning disabilities. People suffering from the syndrome undergo physical therapy and occupational therapy to offset problems with their motor skills. Some people with Prader-Willi are mentally challenged, although they have superior long-term memories. Obsessive-compulsive behavior also exists in many of the people with the disorder, as does the need for routine and predictability similar to autistic behavior.



"They usually have low muscle tone and have very soft-looking bodies. So some parents choose to use growth hormones. That helps them not only to grow – because they tend to be short of stature – but it also helps solidify their muscles and make them a little more solid," Sexton explained.

Sexton's book follows the lives of Michael and Marie, two unique children who have much in common with kids their age, but who also have special needs. In one scene, Michael is so frightened by a thunderstorm that he disrupts his class and won't

stop talking about the storm. The book, which retells Sexton's account of that day, shows how Sexton located a book on thunderstorms and started to read. That did the trick. The story was so compelling that Michael asked to take the book home that evening.

After teaching Michael for several years at Lake Street School in Vernon, Conn., Sexton decided a book needed to be written on Prader-Willi. She discovered only one other book had been published about the condition and thought it too lengthy for children and needed to have better illustrations for a classroom setting. Ignorance can lead to cruelty, and Sexton believed a storybook would be the best way to tell the Prader-Willi story to other children.

When Sexton began work, she learned that Michael's teaching assistant, Debbie Erbe Fortin, also had the idea of developing a children's man-

uscript about the youth and his daily challenges. The pair decided to join forces on the project.

Michael's family agreed to let the boy's name and likeness be in the book. The character Marie is based on another child at the school who wished to remain anonymous. By consulting with teachers and care-givers, the team ensured that every aspect of the three-year project was accurate.

"It has changed me. Once, I didn't think I could do the book," Sexton said.

She initially tried to get a friend to write the book, but that individual was working on another project at the time.

Taking a writing class finally convinced her she could succeed. It took several drafts and numerous revisions, but the writing team eventually achieved success. After getting rejections from three different publishers, she approached



During a recent visit to Beaumont, Valrie Rush Sexton shows 6-year-old Sallie Curtis student Austin Seabourne how Prader-Willi Syndrome affects some children.

the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association about publishing it. She eventually got a family friend, artist Bonnie Branson, to illustrate the book, using photos of Michael, Marie's playground and even Sexton to get the likenesses just right.

The day never came when Sexton walked to the mail box to pick up a big check for her years of work developing the book. All proceed from the book go to the Prader-Willi Association.

But Sexton didn't do it for the money, she said. "From the beginning, they told me I wouldn't get paid, and I said that was ok because that wasn't the purpose," she said. She wrote the book to educate and help students. Michael's mother said the book has changed her family's life, Sexton said.

Now, Michael is 13 and is attending a school for children with special needs. Marie, four years younger, is suffering from diabetes, so her eating must be monitored even more closely, Sexton said.

The book received a rave review from their most important critic – Michael.

"Michael loves it. He calls it 'my book.' He goes around school telling people the book is about him. He is just so happy. There are not too many things he's going to have shining in his life, so this is a good thing," said Sexton, who has been teaching since 1974.

To order the book, contact the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association by calling (800) 926-4797, visit www.pwsausa.org or send \$8 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling to the association at 5700 Midnight Pass Road, Suite 6, Sarasota, Fla., 34242.



Helping business find a Way

“We mobilize together resources that no other organization can assemble. We bring together businesses and volunteers, government entities and non-profits to work on the big-picture issues.”

— Joseph MALBROUGH



Joseph Malbrough '86 credits much of his success to taking chances.

Taking risks, faith and hard work were all vital components in making Malbrough what he is today. Now at 40, Malbrough is assistant vice president of new business development for United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta. He heads up the new business initiative, aimed at recruiting small and medium-size Atlanta companies to run employee fund-raising campaigns year round.

In his first year, Malbrough's team generated nearly \$600,000 in new revenue and recruited 23 Alexis de Tocqueville Society Members – individuals who committed \$10,000 annually to United Way.

“When I moved from Beaumont, I had never been to Atlanta or Georgia before. I moved here on a whim with no job prospects,” Malbrough said. “Sometimes, you have to take a chance.”

As a communication student at Lamar, Malbrough learned hands on about management training from Mary Alice Baker. She was working as a consultant and had hired several students as interns to assist a local company with its customer-service department.

“We trained them how to be more professional and customer friendly and showed them how to handle complaints. That was great training that I was able to bring into corporate America once I finished college,” he said.

An internship at the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce during his senior year gave him experience and paved the way toward work in Atlanta. “That gave me the entrée to the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.”

Malbrough spent the last decade at the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, most recently as manager of key accounts. He was the first accounts manager in the chamber's history to generate more than \$1 million in revenue and was the top producer for nine years in a row.

Nearing 40, Malbrough felt he needed another change. One day, at the Atlanta chamber, the United Way called. The Atlanta branch was looking for someone to approach small-and medium-sized businesses to get involved in an employee campaign. Within a day, Malbrough called the United Way to say he had the perfect candidate – himself. Five months later, he was hired.

At United Way Atlanta, the focus has generally been major employers, he said. With businesses downsizing, the work force for those companies has shrunk over time. That

resulted in revenue loss for United Way Atlanta. The regional United Way board decided to shift its focus to target Atlanta-based businesses with 50 to 250 employees. The move proved fruitful.

Malbrough started with United Way in April 2003. In 2001, Atlanta's annual campaign came \$1 million short of its goal. That next year, in 2002, the goal was off target by \$7 million. In 2003, the regional United Way office raised \$72.1 million – making it the fourth-largest United Way in the United States and giving it a 1 percent increase from the previous year.

“It is very challenging in Atlanta. It's a large community, with over 4,000 non-profits in the Atlanta metropolitan area,” he said. “United Way is unique. No other non-profit does what we do and impacts the number of people we impact. We have a good reputation in the community. We'll celebrate our 100th anniversary next year.”

It's Malbrough's job to build relationships with CEOs and presidents of Atlanta businesses. So, if he reads about a business expanding or hears about a leadership change or expansion at a company, he is on the phone ready to invite them to be part of United Way. Malbrough and his wife, Cara, live outside Atlanta proper in Smyrna with sons, Evan and Jared.

He is proud to say that 91 percent of every dollar donated to United Way is reinvested in the Atlanta community. And the community is aware of United Way's fiscal responsibility, he said. “We see ourselves as kind of a manager of a community mutual fund. We work with hundreds of volunteers. We invest in 442 strategic programs that yield the best returns for the community.

“We mobilize together resources that no other organization can assemble. We bring together businesses and volunteers, government entities and non-profits to work on the big-picture issues, like ending chronic hopelessness and ensuring children start school ready to succeed,” he said.

Malbrough also serves on the board of the Southeast Chapter of the U.S. Fund for UNICEF. The organization supports child survival, protection and development worldwide. Malbrough is organizing an AIDS awareness dinner, which will be hosted by former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young. The goal of the dinner is to get more African-Americans involved and aware about the AIDS epidemic in Africa, Malbrough said.

Conventional wisdom

While most who were so inclined watched the 2004 political conventions filtered through the commentary and newscasts of network and cable news, four Lamar University students experienced the conventions live, participating in a process that is unique to American politics.

The students were accepted into the convention program of The Washington Center. They attended briefings, discussions, issue forums and host-city events before beginning their fieldwork assignments — volunteer activities with party organizations, media or interest groups — at each convention.

In July, T.J. Geiger, a senior history major from Kingsland, and E.R. Hamilton, a sophomore communication student from Houston, attended the Democratic National Convention in Boston. And in

August, Beth Yelverton, a May 2004 marketing graduate from Orange, and Heather Volrie, a senior communication major from Beaumont, attended the Republican National Convention in New York.

Hamilton and Volrie attended the conventions as Knight Fellows of The Washington Center, where they filled internships with national media. Geiger and Yelverton attended as McMaster Scholars of the Lamar University Honors Program, which provided grants for them to participate in research and other educational experiences.

Here, they share their impressions of people, experiences and events.



T.J. GEIGER

19, history and English, Kingsland

On the eve of the Democratic Convention, the Veterans For Peace, gathered in Faneuil Hall, the place where the Sons of Liberty



and abolitionists met in years gone by. VFP is composed of men and women who served in the U.S. military in war and peacetime, dating to World War II. They seek the abolition of war and violence through radical pacifism. . . Before Sept. 11, 2001, their membership totaled about 600. Now, it exceeds 4,500 . . . Daniel Ellsberg, of Pentagon Papers fame (a top-secret study of U.S. decision-making in Vietnam he leaked to the press in 1971), spoke of the need for transparency and accountability in government. Never have so many disparate voices of the left been so united.

Tuesday morning, I went to volunteer at an EMILYs List luncheon. EMILY stands for Early Money rises Like Yeast. It raises money for female, pro-choice candidates. Today, at a \$120-per-plate fundraiser, I was assigned to greet people and direct them to seats. I met some of the speakers, including Diane Feinstein, Nancy Pelosi and our own Ann Richards. Richards' emotional and powerful appeals elicited a standing ovation as she connected with the crowd on a number of issues: healthcare for children,

education, sex education, social services and, of course, protecting a woman's right to choose.

Reg Weaver spoke to us Wednesday morning. He's the president of the National Education Association and a passionate, dynamic speaker . . . Teachers' unions are often referred to as special interests. I've never understood how a group of those entrusted with our nation's most precious resource — our children — and one that advocates better wages, better working conditions and increased resources for classrooms, can be lumped under the banner of special interests. When we invest in people — in what Robert Reich called human capital — returns exceed expectations. We must invest in our schools, communities and hospitals rather than slash their funding.



E.R. HAMILTON

20, broadcast communication, Houston

The morning of my first day in Boston, I thought only of what I was to learn . . . The pride in being around the current and future leaders of America filled me with the excitement of a 10-year-old.



As I entered the streets of Boston, a smile remained on my face as I admired the architecture of the city



and realized that only events like this could put me in the mind-set I was in. It was the first time that I have ever, truly felt what it means to be an American.

The Democratic Convention provided me with a clear understanding of civic responsibility and our obligations to our state and each other. The Washington Center program made sure each individual was able to leave with more knowledge than when he or she arrived . . . This is significant in identifying the issues most important to us and how we approach them. Politics is the most efficient form of freedom of speech and, by this, we are privileged to participate in choosing who is to represent us.



Working with Capital News 9 was truly an experience to remember. There were three broadcasts from the convention, including a report for the David Letterman show, all of which were live . . . I spoke with my field supervisor about three weeks before my arrival in Boston, and a plan was set into motion concerning my internship . . . Although those plans did, indeed, change, my goals did not. . . . Howard Dean, Jesse Jackson and P. Diddy were at the hall before the convention started, and my supervisor



encouraged me to take advantage of this . . . From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., I walked faithfully around Fleet Center to see who I could interview, and from 3 to 11:30 p.m., I assisted on the news broadcasts . . . Not only have I become more knowledgeable about elements of TV production, but I have learned about our world of politics and why each one of us has a reason to be involved.



HEATHER VOLRIE

21, broadcast communication, Beaumont



I might never return to Beaumont. Just kidding, but that is how much fun I am having in New York. We are staying at Pace University in lower Manhattan — close to everything. I have enjoyed the company of the people in The Washington Center program. We attended seminars with speakers ranging from Secret Service agents to pro-choice activists.



Before the convention, we were able to wander around the city on our own. The stereotypes of New Yorkers have been wiped from my mind. I really like this city and want to return to see more when I have a chance . . . On the Saturday before the convention, there was a pro-choice march across the Brooklyn Bridge and a rally near City Hall, just a block from where we are staying. From

what I could see, it was a peaceful rally, and I got to stand in the middle of it and talk to protesters about their views. I can't wait to begin my fieldwork and mingle with the media personalities.

Day two: The night kicked off with great music and even better speakers.

To everyone's surprise, the Bush twins introduced their father, who then introduced First Lady Laura Bush. The girls did a fine job of speaking on behalf of their family — and acknowledged their previous escapades.

On the final day of the convention, there was a packed house and heightened security for President Bush's arrival. Being close to the president — or at least in the same building — is something not everyone gets to experience. It was interesting to watch reactions to his speech. This was my last day to work with my friends at Capital 9 News in Albany and New York 1. From getting popcorn for Mayor Bloomberg to meeting media personalities like Jakie Reid and Teri Okita, this has been one of my most eventful college trips. I also had the opportunity to meet music celebrities like Sean P. Diddy Combs and Andre 3000 of Outkast.

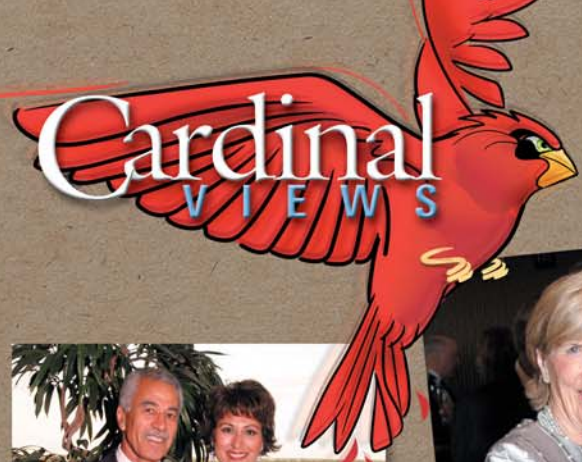


BETH YELVERTON

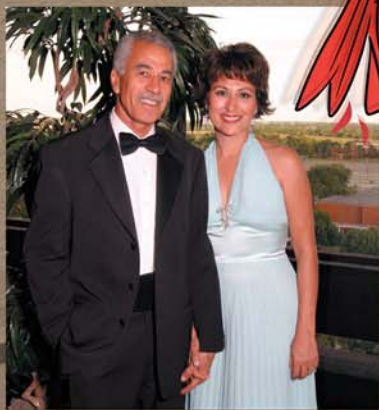
22, marketing graduate, Orange

I just got back from painting signs for the convention. If you see a California or Arizona sign, it might be one of mine! I've seen Staten Island, Ground Zero, Wall Street, Times Square, Madison Square Garden, the pier, Trinity Church, City Hall, Little Italy, Chinatown and other places. The Brooklyn Bridge is outside my window.





President James Simmons
with Bruce and Jan Allred



Abraham and Norma Motiee



Susan Simmons greets Ann Pigue '51,
daughter of late President John Gray.



Red roses and Cardinal-red elegance awaited members of the President's Circle and Heritage Society when President James Simmons and First Lady Susan Simmons hosted top donors for a reception, dinner and "state-of-Lamar" report July 9 in the University Reception Center.



Joy Crenshaw '69 and Betty Leaf



Charles '59 and Eleanor Garrett
with Jack '58 and Linda Gill



Maxine Johnston, with Jerry LeBlanc

On the LU-laby stage, Cheryl Guidry enchants the audience with her rendition of *Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man* from the musical *Showboat*.



LU-laby of Broadway cast member Les Warren, a communication instructor at Lamar, escorts his mother, Nell Warren, to the reception preceding the June 8 fund-raiser for theatre scholarships.



Stephen and Suzye Doblin, with
Patricia and Edward Hurwitz '62



Michael Getz '78 and Allison Nathan Golias are among the LU-laby of Broadway patrons enjoying an array of taste treats donated by area restaurants.



President James Simmons guest-conducts the Symphony of Southeast Texas at the Fourth of July celebration at Beaumont's Riverfront Park.

High school students participating in Lamar's Texas Honors Leadership Program join in the Fourth of July festivities.



President Simmons applauds as members of the Lamar Brass Quintet take a bow at the Fourth of July concert. From left are Robert Culbertson, Scott Weiss, Raul Ornelas, Wayne Dyess and Russell Tipton.



LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

During the past several years, Lamar University has been an institution rediscovering its drive to achieve. The successes of that continuing effort are evident when comparing measurements from 1999 to today. In this six-year span, Lamar University has seen significant improvements in many measures.

Compared to 1999, Lamar University's student enrollment has grown 27 percent, with an expectation of record enrollment this fall. In the same period, first-time-in-college student enrollment grew 28 percent. But it isn't just numbers that have improved. Lamar has seen a dramatic increase in the diversity of its student population. Since 1999, LU's African-American enrollment has grown 49 percent, Hispanic by 42 percent, Asian-American by 17 percent and



international student enrollment by 106 percent.

Lamar's students are finding academic confidence earlier and attaining success as a result: the six-year graduation rate has increased by more than 23 percent. Student's SAT scores have remained steady, while the number of high-scoring students has increased, and the size of the university's honors program has doubled.



Lamar's faculty has also seen great improvement since 1999. Reversing the trend of the late 1990s, LU's faculty has grown in both number and quality.

Today, Lamar enjoys the addition of 50 full-time faculty, not including the 27 who join this fall, and plans are in progress to add more faculty during the next few years as budgets allow. Three more endowed chairs and a distinguished professorship were added in the past six

years, and key hires were made in many academic departments.

The accomplishments of Lamar's faculty have attracted attention from across the state and nation, and, compared to 1999, the university now is seeing a five-fold increase in sponsored research dollars – more than \$4.6 million this year alone.

Lamar's academic programs have made significant strides since 1999. Two new doctoral programs – in audiology



Because of this growth – even in the face of a flat state appropriation -- the university has been able to move forward on a faculty salary equity plan

that has helped bring faculty salaries, by rank, from the bottom to the middle of the state's universities. Likewise, LU has a fully funded classified pay plan, five straight years of faculty and staff raises, and healthy balances in all fund accounts – all of which help the university recruit and retain the quality people it needs to deliver educational excellence.

Through the efforts of many, united by a common vision, the process of transforming the appearance of the Lamar campus continues. There is still much to

and educational leadership – are opening their doors this fall, and two new master's programs and several new and restructured baccalaureate programs have added breadth and depth to the university's offerings. Numerous support programs were created or have seen growth in the past six years, such as the Texas Academy for Leadership in the Humanities, the Honors Program, the Foundations of Excellence initiatives, the Centers for Developmental Studies, as well as Distance Education and General Studies. Dynamic new student orientation programs and a Week of Welcome for new students are among new initiatives at the university.



do, but compared to 1999, today's campus has three new state-of-the-art residence halls; several renovated academic buildings and other renovations underway; new boundary fences, directional signs, security cameras, and lighting; beautiful grounds; attractive gardens; clean buildings; and a pleasing entrance to campus. Plans and commitments for a new recreational sports facility, dining hall and office/classroom facility are all part of the plan for future growth.

Donor support for the university has been growing as well, with Lamar's friends and family contributing more than \$18 million to the university since 1999. More than \$5 million of that



total went directly to creating or increasing endowments for student scholarship support.

Helping guide these many accomplishments is careful planning, detailed in such documents as the academic master plan, facilities master plan and salary equity plan. This fall, the university begins preparations for its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaffirmation, a process it enters with even greater strength, renewed purpose and continuing vision for excellence.



Photo courtesy of Ron Strait

Bill Childs '62 and his son, Chris '90, run their wild-game ranch operation with precision and passion. Eight years after purchasing the former horse ranch near Kerrville, they opened it for guided hunting, fishing and camera-safari adventures.

From the on-staff biologist to the creation of 10 pristine lakes along its spring-fed creeks, the 1,000 acres of Shonto Ranch have benefitted from attention that keeps business in tune with nature.

Bill's passion for "getting it right" and his penchant for customer service were hallmarks of Precision Tune, a concept he built into a thriving business venture that at its zenith was attracting more than 3 million customers a year.

Between the ranch's rocky ramparts lie lush meadows and groves of native pecan. Springs feed meandering crystal-clear, rock-bottomed creeks teeming with largemouth bass, catfish, perch and, in cooler months, rainbow trout.

Near the center of the ranch, Bill and his wife, Antoinette (Modica), have built a new ranch home to complement the existing centennial house. Broad wrap-around porches catch the slightest breeze, and a columned walkway joins the homes. Even on hot summer afternoons, a cool breeze often flows down the valley to rustle the leaves where shade-dappled cattle lie, a few of some 30 cow-calf pairs that graze along with a wide array of native and exotic species on the property.

Helping Bill and Chris run the ranch is wildlife biologist C.D. McGehee, who came there with 17 years experience at the legendary Y.O. Ranch. That knowledge is essential in managing a variety of species that includes: axis, elk, red stag and sika; blackbuck, gemsbok oryx, waterbuck, grant gazelle, sable, impala, springbok and dama gazelle; zebra; Indian red, aoudad, mouflon, Corsican, Hawaiian black and Texas dall; feral and Russian wild boar; wild turkey and trophy Texas whitetail.



Shonto Ranch

A native of Beaumont's South Park, Childs attended a military school in Alexandria, La., before coming to Lamar to pursue a general business degree (In 1999, he was honored as a Distinguished Alumnus). "While a lot of my friends went to Louisiana schools, I chose Lamar because it was a good school and because of the advantage of being able to walk to school," Childs said.

During college, he worked at the local Sears store and planned to enter the company's management program after graduation. Yet when a friend encouraged him to explore another venture – janitorial service – Childs saw it as the best place to start his career.

It was January 1963 when the recent graduate got the contract to provide custodial services for the newly opened First Security National Bank, a "flagship of the time." That job opened many more opportunities, and the business flourished as Childs expanded it into other unskilled labor markets.

"We were furnishing a lot of people in the town," Childs said of the company that grew to almost 600 employees. "It was a really good business," he said, though not as stable as he would have liked. The work was tied to the business cycle – so when "housing and auto markets would boom and then all of a sudden hit the skids, we would have to cut back employees," Childs said. He grew tired of the downside – and the very real pain of having to let people go – so he began to look in earnest for business opportunities that might prove more stable.

Even in that quest, he didn't abandon the business. Today, Childs' son, Patrick '90, runs SanServe Building Services, a group of companies with 800 employees and with more than 30 industrial clients from Corpus Christi to Baton Rouge. SanServe provides out-sourcing services in a wide array of non-technical fields such as warehousing, packaging, shipping and receiving, and janitorial.

In the early 1970s, Childs read of a new business being tried in California, an auto tune-up chain that seemed to offer great promise. So, he planned a Las Vegas vacation with the idea of getting a first-hand look. He liked the basic idea, but, after more research, decided to "change the concept somewhat" as well as the presentation

to the customer.

The first Precision Tune store opened at the corner of Fourth and College Street in Beaumont, followed shortly by a second store in Groves. With the concept worked out and two stores open for business, Childs decided to advertise on television.

"All heck broke loose," Childs said. Soon, sales volumes were rolling skyward, and he was opening more stores in Port Arthur, Lake Charles, Corpus Christi, Lubbock and Monroe, La.

The next big break came when Business Week magazine profiled a West-Coast franchise operation and interviewed Childs by phone. Precision Tune's business volume and profitability – both markedly better than the West Coast competitor's – were mentioned near the end of the article.

"The phones started to ring off the wall," Childs said, with people seeking franchise opportunities. While he had franchised a couple of stores by this time, it was that article that "knocked the doors off" and launched his tune-up business into a new league.

Two factors created the unique window of opportunity that made Precision Tune wildly successful. First, the major oil companies were in a headlong rush away from full-service to self-service stations. This made available thousands of former service station bays that could be purchased or leased at fire-sale prices. Childs converted hundreds into Precision Tune shops. In a little less than a dozen years under Child's leadership, Precision Tune grew to 365 stores with 80 more in development. Most of these stores were franchised between late 1978 and 1987. That year, the business recorded 3 million customers, and Childs sold the company to East Coast investors who later took the company public, a move he had earlier considered.

"I like to build businesses. I like to design businesses. I like to start businesses," Childs said. "But when it gets to be administrative and sit-in-the-office-all-day, it's not fun." So, when the offer came, the decision wasn't difficult.

When Precision Tune was founded, cars



needed tune-ups every six months or 6,000 miles. Today, sophisticated electronics and other improvements have vastly increased the efficiency and durability of cars. The business has adapted by offering other services, and now is known as Precision Auto Care.

Meanwhile, the Childses' son Chris had fallen in love with the Texas Hill Country while attending graduate school in Austin, and he encouraged his parents to make it their home. It wasn't until after selling Precision Tune that they had time to visit the area. Similarly smitten, they soon began looking for a ranch to call their own.

Shonto Ranch was one of the first properties they visited. "I knew it was a great place," Childs said, but the asking price was "astronomical." They continued looking, off and on, over a five-year period before the call came that the owners were ready to sell.

Most recently operated as a race-horse farm, Shonto Ranch became theirs in 1992. After eight years of limited hunting, it was apparent that it would be beneficial – in fact necessary – to increase hunting; the deer population was getting out of hand. The recreational hunting and fishing operation began, and, with the aid of heavy equipment and sound biology, Chris created nearly 40 acres of ponds along Turtle, Fall and South creeks, where today eight-pound bass are a commonplace catch.

Today, Shonto Ranch is fashioned as a hunting preserve for the successful executive. With first-class accommodations available in nearby Kerrville, and, soon, an 18-hole golf course – across the highway – the ranch has already hosted CEOs, presidents and executive vice presidents of some of the largest corporations in America, as well as many international guests.

From living on South Park's Zavalla Drive to watching zebra cross his driveway, Bill Childs has found a way to stay in tune with his entrepreneurial spirit.

Life's rhythm in rhyme



DeMonica Gladney '90 was only 7 years old when she found she had a knack for bringing comfort and encouragement to people through poetry.

Today, the Houston native is a corporate attorney for Exxon Mobil Corp., but she's still writing poetry – rhythmic verse in an uplifting style. She chooses broad themes that speak to the heart and the trials of life tempered by faith and love. Her book, *Reflections from God*, is a compilation of inspirational poetry she has written.

Gladney recalls how adults would come to her with their problems, and she wondered, "I'm a child, why are they talking to me?" She would just start writing, she says, and her words took the form of poetry.

Her late maternal grandmother reaffirmed to her later: "This is a gift; you have to take advantage of it." "I felt like that was sort of my special gift and that I could encourage people and not necessarily tell them what I think they should do," Gladney said.

Her grandmother was eager to see her completed book, which Gladney had talked about doing for 15 years. Her subjects range from the joy found in the miracle of

a premature infant to the need to look to the future rather than relive the past.

Gladney's mother was the inspiration for the last section of the book, which gathers poems that celebrate mothers – their support, their strength and their sacrifice. She said, "My mother always encouraged me to do my best and made many sacrifices to help me to succeed." Gladney says a common thread links her poems: the importance of having spiritual insight into the many changes and challenges that people face in everyday life.

Gladney has faced her own challenges. The pressures of a demanding career that began when she was a briefing attorney in appellate court can at times eclipse other pursuits. In 1994, Gladney joined ExxonMobil, where she practiced litigation and environmental law before moving to the natural gas and power marketing area. An honors graduate of the University of Houston Law Center, she has been president of the Houston Lawyers Association and chair of the African-American Lawyers

Section of the State Bar of Texas.

If she has to leave Houston, it would be a difficult choice. A self-avowed "homebody," she enjoys the closeness of family; most of hers is in Houston. The exception was her late grandmother, who was a pastor in Beaumont for 20 years and the reason Gladney came to Lamar.

She began study in the pre-medical program, having graduated from the Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health Professions in Houston, a rigorous magnet school. But in pre-med, she missed a feeling of challenge. An earlier experience helped change her focus. In 1986, Gladney had been in an auto accident, hit by a drunk driver who later sued her. Although he eventually dropped the case, a sense of injustice stayed with her.

"It's strange how your circumstances can lead you into a certain path without your realizing it," she said. "Subconsciously it always bothered me. I guess after he hit me, he figured, 'She doesn't know the law.' The whole process seemed so unfair." So, she called her mother while at Lamar and said, "I want to go to law school." After that decision, the time on education and career sped by, she said, and "before I knew it. I decided I have to take some time for me . . . I've got to find my passion." Publishing the book became priority one.

Gladney receives energy and ideas from the response to her work. She often gives dramatic readings of her poetry. It's like "I'm painting pictures with words." She receives "tons of e-mails. I've gotten a lot of feedback on the poem called Releasing the Past, people saying they've been dealing with certain things for years, and they've realized they need to let it go."

After publishing her book, Gladney decided to continue her passion for writing. "I started thinking small. 'I'll just do this book, and this is it.' Then I realized, 'Wait a minute, I have many more books to come.' So, I just decided to take a step of faith," she said. She's now working on two self-help books and another book of poetry.

FRIENDLY FIRE FROM FLYBOY TO COWBOY



High above the Gulf, right hand on the stick, left on the throttle. In one pocket, a rosary, the other, a grease pencil. His target — a four-engine bomber — swiftly grows larger against the blue as he swoops down, aligning his gun sight. Closer now. Beads of sweat now roll in rivulets around his oxygen mask. Close enough to see the flashes from the tail guns as the gunner struggles to line up with the fighter. The gunner is either lucky this day, or his training is paying off — bullets ring out against the wing, propeller and windscreen. He banks sharply, breaking off the pursuit ... and, with a wry smile, says to himself: Good job — you'll give it to 'em!

As a pursuit pilot with the once-secret Pinball program, Hank Rodrique '47 regularly flew fighters against B-24s over the Gulf of Mexico, helping train the men who would protect America's bomber crews in the skies of Europe and the Pacific. But long before he was flying in the face of friendly fire, he was dreaming of flight.

Sometimes, young Hank would climb atop the family garage on Thomas Boulevard with a model plane and a tin can. A few turns of the propeller, and the doomed craft was nearly ready. Soon, with its kerosene-soaked tail ablaze, the frail balsa craft would trail thick black smoke on its final flight across the yard.

Rodrique's father — a Louisiana sugarcane farmer — had moved the family to Port Arthur where the prospect of steady work in the plants meant stability through the Depression years. His son would often ride bikes with Peter, an older cousin and boyhood idol — to the old Port Arthur Texaco Airport. One day, the pair were treated to a \$1 airplane ride by their fathers — neither of whom would go up themselves. "They were ol' farm boys," Rodrique said, "but I was in hog heaven." He and Peter grew inseparable.

A few flips of the calendar, and the world was at war. Now, his friends and family were heading away to fly and to fight. For some, there would be a final flight. Yet, the pull of the sky overpowered the prospect of death, and the model maker eagerly joined the line of American youth

volunteering for military service. "If you weren't gung-ho about the service, there was something wrong with you," Rodrique said.

He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1943, and, five days later, at 17, he was sworn into the U.S. Army Air Corps. Inspired by two fellow Eagle Scouts, he had wanted to be a Naval pilot, but the Navy recruiter wouldn't talk to him until he'd turned 18. The Army offered a delayed enlistment.

While waiting for the call, he worked on a survey crew at the construction of a rubber plant in Port Neches, an experience that later blossomed into a desire to earn an engineering degree.

While taking exams for classification at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Rodrique learned of Capt. Peter Rodrique's death when his Douglas A-20 Havoc airplane exploded in flight on a mission to the Marianas Islands — both he and his crew died instantly. It was April 1943. "I just sat there knowing my best friend and idol had been killed," Rodrique said.

Rodrique steeled himself, and, after undergoing many more physical and mental examinations at Lackland, was classified as a pilot candidate and was assigned to the Class 44B, to graduate in February 1944. A simple case of the mumps put him back to the class of 44C, meaning that with successful training, he would graduate on March 12, 1944, receiving his coveted pilot's wings just two weeks after his 19th birthday.

Pre-flight followed classification, which consisted mostly of flight theory, learning Morse Code and a lot of physical training.

Finally, primary flight training began, at the military-run, but civilian-operated, Jones Field in Bonham, Texas, where civilian flight instructors taught fledgling aviators the



basics in the 175-hp Fairchild PT-19 Cornell. After nine hours of flying time in the low-wing, open-cockpit plane, Rodrique's instructor turned him loose. "When I made the first turn out of traffic, I looked back and I saw the back seat empty," he says, "I was flying the airplane by myself?" Still, he was apt to finger the rosary in his pocket.

After completing primary, it was on to basic. The first words Rodrique remembers hearing at Perrin Field in Sherman, Texas, were "Your country club days are over!"

Gone were the genteel civilian instructors — replaced by second lieutenants "upset

because they had to teach basic trainees when they wanted to be in tactical airplanes.” Worse still, Rodrique drew the captain as his instructor: “One of the meanest, red-faced Irishmen you’d ever meet,” he recalls.

“I don’t know if his attitude was intentional, but it sure was memorable,” Rodrique said. On their first flight, the impatient captain launched the 450-hp Vultee BT-13 “Vibrator,” from the grass rather than the paved runway — without the tower’s okay — then gave Rodrique the controls but no instruction other than to climb to 5,000 feet and level off. Soon, “the captain was screaming in my ear, and I couldn’t understand what he was trying to say,” Rodrique said of his first attempt to fly the unfamiliar airplane. Back on the ramp, the captain’s epithets and oaths did little to increase Rodrique’s knowledge or improve his technique. “I learned it, but I learned it the hard way,” he said.

Rodrique finished basic training in January 1944, and headed to advance flying school at Ellington Field, south of Houston. There he plied the skies in an AT-10 twin-engine Beechcraft trainer.

At graduation, “My mother pinned my wings on me,” he said, “but my father had promised that, wherever I was in the U.S., he would be there to celebrate the occasion.” Yet, when the day finally came he was so ill, he couldn’t make the short trip from Port Arthur. “When I arrived home, later that night, tears came to my father’s eyes because he couldn’t keep his promise,” Rodrique said.

Rodrique had seen B-25 Mitchell bombers — the type made famous by General Jimmy Doolittle’s carrier-launched raid on Japan — and that was the plane he wanted to fly. Yet, now another twin-engine bomber was in America’s air armada: the Martin B-26 Marauder.

“Everyone knew the B-26 was the most dangerous,” Rodrique said of the plane known as “The Widow Maker” and “The Flying Coffin.” The plane had been rushed into service without the normal prototype program. Earlier B-26 training took place in Florida, where its many accidents led to the saying “One a day in Tampa Bay.” With 4,000 horsepower and a wing optimized for



high-speed flight, it was a demanding aircraft to fly, but once the problems were overcome, it would record one of the lowest attrition rates of any American combat aircraft in Europe.

Upon graduation from Ellington, Rodrique learned his next assignment was B-26 transition at Laughlin Field in Del Rio. “I wasn’t too pleased,” Rodrique said. The reputation of the plane struck home, he said, having already lost a friend from the Boy Scouts, Jimmy Leahy, in a B-26 crash the previous year. “All of this builds on your mind,” he said.

As they pulled up to the main gate upon arrival in Del Rio, they had to yield to a military flatbed truck leaving the post. On the trailer were the crumpled remains of a B-26. “It was all rolled up,” Rodrique said. “There were no wings left.”

That same day, he was assigned to a barrack — a tar-paper shack sleeping six — dropped his bags and headed to the showers. Soon, he heard a plane preparing to take off.

“It was a Sunday, so it was a maintenance test flight,” Rodrique said. “While I was still in the shower I heard the aircraft, after about 10 minutes of flight, winding up, going faster and faster, making a funny noise. Shortly afterward, the plane spun in and hit right on the edge of the runway. I looked out the window and could see the smoke rising.” Both the pilot and flight engineer were killed in the crash.

“If that didn’t put the fear of God into me, nothing would,” Rodrique said. “I became much more religious after flying the B-26.” While there, another B-26 crashed, killing seven. “That crash left a big burned spot at the edge of the runway that we

would see every time we turned on the base leg,” Rodrique said.

Rodrique graduated from Del Rio three days before D-Day, with orders to report to Harlingen Army Air Field where he was assigned in the training of aerial gunners who would later be aboard the B-17 Flying Fortress and the B-24 Liberator in combat units. There, he was to tow aerial targets with the B-26, operating from an auxiliary base on lower Padre Island, meeting up with B-24s 100 miles off shore. Each student was given 2,000 rounds of 50-caliber color-tipped bullets. Accidents, though rare, could be serious. One B-26 tow plane was shot down. “All they ever found was one oxygen bottle and a tire,” Rodrique said.

To better learn the challenge facing the gunnery students, Rodrique went through the course himself, qualifying as an operator of the Martin upper turret. Shooting at banners was helpful, but didn’t represent the real challenge which would face defensive gunners over Europe and the Pacific — targeting much faster aircraft bent on blasting their planes from the sky. As gunnery technology improvements were introduced into the student training program, Bell P-39s were used to fly “camera missions,” whereby the student aimed cameras, instead of guns, at the target airplane. After each mission, instructors and students would review film to keep score. “It was good because there were going to be airplanes coming from every direction in combat,” Rodrique said.

The camera-based training was working well, but it was very time consuming, so a new secret program was developed.

“It would give the student a chance to feel what it was like to shoot a real gun at a

real airplane which was coming at you like the ones over Berlin,” Rodrique said. He remembers well the day he first saw the bright orange RP-63 Pinball, a specialized Bell P-63 Kingcobra. Its leading edges, nose and windscreen had received the thickest armor, with thinner plates along the sides - 1,488 lbs. of additional weight in all. Beneath many plates were sensors that, when hit, would cause a counter in the cockpit to record a hit and flash a light in the propeller spinner where the 37mm canon was normally mounted, giving the student gunner some instant gratification — the “Pinball effect.”

To convince the potential pilots that it was safe to fly the unusually heavy aircraft, Bell Aircraft Co. sent its chief test pilot. To convince the pilots that they’d be protected in it, several hundred rounds of the special lead-graphite 30-caliber bullets were fired at the Pinball plane as the pilots looked on. Not one penetrated the armor.

As for flight safety, it took plenty of power to keep from “dropping like a rock.” Lots of power all the way through touchdown, judicious use of the brakes and special technique to get maximum aerodynamic drag were necessary for safe landings.

On every mission, there were 12 students, each assigned 2,000 live rounds — so the Pinball pilot could expect to fly into 24,000 bullets. A pilot might fly as many as three missions in a day. Rodrique, however, never got more than 30 hits on a mission, and half that was typical. “That’s a lot of misses,” he said.

Still, it wasn’t long before the bright orange planes were pockmarked. “The pinballs were ugly,” he said. “We carried a grease pencil with us. Every time you would see a new hit you would ‘X’ it off.”

By this time, America and its allies had achieved victory in Europe, and the school was gearing up to train gunners on the new remote turrets for the B-29 Superfortress in preparation for the final drive toward Japan. Then, “someone in headquarters realized they had a bunch of B-26 pilots flying fighters,” Rodrique said. Those “26” pilots who had been flying the Pinball were sent to Matagorda Island to qualify for a single-engine rating appropriate to the planes they had already been flying for months.

While completing this exercise, news came of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. A few days later, orders ended all gunnery training at Harlingen, and the use of any tactical aircraft, so Rodrique applied for a job as an instrument check pilot and instructed instrument flying in the T-6 until he separated from the service on Christmas Day 1945.

“As soon as I got home, I enrolled in night classes at Lamar,” he said. There, he met Sally Runte at a school dance. “She couldn’t take her eyes off me, and I couldn’t take my eyes off her,” Rodrique said. The couple married a year-and-a-half later.

He earned his degree in mechanical engineering at UT in June 1950, becoming the first male member of his family to earn a college degree, and went to work immediately for General Electric in the company’s engineering test program, moving through several plants and programs in the first two years. His focus was on jet engine development, and during his career with GE, Rodrique was a part of the design and testing of many of the jet engines that powered America’s air armada — from the B-36 Peacekeeper, an aircraft so large it earned the nickname “Aluminum Overcast,” to front-line fighters like the F-86-D Super Sabre. This program took Hank to Edwards Air Force Base where the development and testing of the J-47-33 engine was being conducted by GE’s civilian test pilots.

After the Edwards assignment, Rodrique was assigned by GE to Perrin Air Force Base — coincidentally, the same base where he had gone through basic flight training in the BT-13 “Vibrator,” back in 1943. There, he was responsible for the engine maintenance of 111 F-86-D Super Sabres. The next assignment was to work on design concepts for a new engine, designated the J-79, being developed by GE in Cincinnati, Ohio. This engine was being developed principally for the B-58 Hustler, the first USAF Mach II supersonic bomber. Subsequent programs Hank managed for General Electric were the development of Regulus II supersonic missiles designed to be fired from a submarine; the General Dynamics 880 and 990 commercial jet transports being produced in San Diego,

Calif.; and the T-38 Talon and F-5 Freedom Fighter being developed by Northrop in Hawthorne, Calif.

In 1964, Rodrique entered the space program, then in its infancy, as America raced to put the first man on the moon. This involved operations performed by the space division of GE, headquartered in Valley Forge, Pa. There he was assigned to the development of the Mississippi Test Facility. This facility was being constructed in the swamps of the Mississippi Gulf Coast by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, but GE was responsible for outfitting the buildings, and providing the equipment to the rocket-powered missiles which would carry the first man to the moon. This work was completed after the first moon mission, and the facility continued in operation as a multi-agency facility, now called the Stennis Space Center. Rodrique took early retirement from GE in 1975 to remain in Pass Christian, Miss., where he made his home until his return to Texas in 2001.

A few years ago, after Sally died, Hank married Erbel (Simmons) Perkins ’67, ’73, his childhood sweetheart. The couple first met on a family outing to Gilchrist Beach. “Six decades later, I married her after she had raised her family, and I had raised mine,” he said. Erbel had dropped out of Lamar College in her second semester to marry and start a family before returning to Lamar University to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English with a Spanish minor. She taught freshman English at Lamar as a graduate assistant while working on her master’s. Then a doctoral fellowship took her to the University of Southern Mississippi, where she taught for several years. A career change took her into higher education administration at Rice University, where she served as human resource director until her retirement to the Hill Country in 1991 to marry Clarence DeBusk, who died in 1998. Hank and Erbel married in 2001.

Today, the flyboy has turned cowboy. On the couple’s Hill Country ranch near Fredericksburg, there is more concern with the stray calf than the stray bullet — a far cry from his younger days over the Gulf of Mexico.

25 candles mark Moncrief's medical milestone

Twenty-five candles: cause for celebration for anyone, but on that special day, Greg (not his real name) not only celebrated his 25th birthday but also a milestone he could not have reached without the love of his parents. Each have donated a kidney for transplant – and their support through long hours of recovery and years of dialysis and treatment. Through it all, he's lived a fairly normal life – from Little League to college studies – yet none of this would have been possible save for a grandmother's impassioned plea when he was only a few days old.

Dr. Jack Moncrief '58 remembers her call from Tennessee. "Her grandson had been born with no kidney function, and his doctors said there wasn't anything to be done," Moncrief said. "They had sent him home and said he was going to die in about a week."

Moncrief told her to bring the baby to Austin. Although the procedure Moncrief would use had never been performed on an infant, his earlier animal trial had shown great promise. There was nothing left but to try. That procedure, continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis, saved Greg's life and sustained him until he was old enough to undergo a transplant and receive his first donor kidney.

Moncrief's practice may be in Austin, but his influence on the profession extends throughout the nation and beyond. With eight medical patents, he has made significant contributions through research, but his real passion is people.

Moncrief sees a full load of patients at his office and in the Moncrief Dialysis Center, which is associated with DaVita, a national dialysis provider. As director, Moncrief manages about 90 patients at the unit that operates from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. At a point when many might be tempted to stash their stethoscopes and rest on their laurels, he still puts in long hours – but that's been his lifestyle from an early age.

"My family ran a grocery store," Moncrief said, "a little mom-and-pop operation." The three Moncrief boys did all the grocery sacking and stocked shelves. "We lived comfortably, but were not wealthy. I simply could not afford to live in a dormitory, so I lived at home. Fortunately for me, Lamar was right there."

While attending Lamar, he continued helping in the family business and also worked nights in a clinical laboratory at St. Therese Hospital in Beaumont. "That is how I got my interest in medicine," Moncrief, a 1983 Distinguished Alumnus, said.

He graduated from Lamar in 1958 with a bachelor's degree in biology and headed to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston to pursue his medical degree. After interning in Detroit, he was drafted into the military, and served two years in the Air Force, doing general practice and pediatrics. Finding he preferred "taking care of patients when they weren't asleep," he shifted his focus from surgery to internal medicine. He returned to Galveston to complete

three years of study in internal medicine, specializing in nephrology, the management of patients with kidney disease, transplants and hypertension, at Georgetown University in Washington D.C.

After completing his fellowship at Georgetown in 1969, he came to Austin as the first nephrologist in the city. "Nobody even knew what that was at the time," Moncrief said. He would do a lot to change that fact.

In dialysis, blood is brought into contact with a saline solution balanced to the patient's own fluid across the semipermeable membrane that does not allow the cellular elements – red blood cells, white blood cells, protein and platelets – to transport. Diffusional force causes only the smaller molecules – kidney poisons as urea – to transport through the membrane into the fluid.

In hemodialysis, the patient's blood is passed through a tube into a machine that filters out waste products. The cleansed blood is then returned to the body. In peritoneal dialysis, a special solution is run through a tube into the peritoneum, a thin tissue that lines the cavity of the abdomen. The body's waste products are removed through the tube.

Moncrief's major contributions would be in peritoneal dialysis, which had fallen from favor. Once the only dialysis technique, dating from the late 1800s, peritoneal dialysis was only done on an intermittent basis – the doctor would "put a tube through the abdominal wall, run fluid into the abdomen, and exchange the fluid every 30 minutes for about 10 hours." After a couple of days passed, the whole procedure would have to be repeated. Then, a semi-permanent access device was created that could be surgically implanted, making peritoneal dialysis possible over an extended period. Even this procedure, however, was not very effective, and by the early 1970s, the technique was largely abandoned in the U.S. as hemodialysis gained favor in the medical community.

Moncrief's most successful patent is Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis. It originated in response to one patient's troubles. "Every time we operated to establish an access to his circulation, he clotted off," Moncrief said. "We were looking for a way to keep this guy alive for a transplant."

As they discussed his case, Moncrief and his associate realized they could use a much smaller volume of dialysis fluid than the two liters typically added and drained every 30 minutes. They determined that four exchanges of two liters every 24 hours would remove the poisons from the patient's blood more effectively. That technique reduced the total fluid used from 30 liters to eight.

"If you use eight liters, then you put two in, and the patient can walk around with it," Moncrief said. The patent's intake of drink and food add another two liters to the equation over the 24-hour period, helping reach the target of 10 liters of fluid that must be



removed to reach acceptable blood levels.

Before peritoneal dialysis of this type, infants without kidney function died. "You can't do hemodialysis on a newborn infant. The vessels are so small that you simply cannot establish an access that you can get into repeatedly," Moncrief said. Peritoneal dialysis is the only method of dialysis for a newborn.

Although hemodialysis is the established method in the U.S., peritoneal dialysis is the preferred method of treatment in most developing countries. In Mexico, 90 percent of dialysis is peritoneal dialysis versus less than 20 percent in the U.S.

Peritoneal dialysis offers benefits for adult patients, Moncrief said. "It is self-dialysis," he said. "It is easier than having a hemodialysis machine in your home, one that not only occupies you, but a family member as well."

A second successful patent, the Moncrief-Popovich Canister, addressed the method of implanting the catheter used for peritoneal dialysis. Moncrief, and his partner Robert Popovich, Ph.D., developed a procedure that greatly reduced the incidence and severity of post-operative infections.

Moncrief also helps manage transplants numbering in the hundreds. "People think of a transplant as a surgical procedure, but it is not," Moncrief said. "A transplant is an immunological event." As a nephrologist, he manages the post-surgical care that seeks to preclude organ rejection.

Moncrief helped manage the first heart transplant in Austin nearly two decades ago, and has trained surgeons in how to use drugs to manage patients' immunological system. With time, cardiologists

began to manage the whole process, Moncrief said. Today, he continues to manage patients not only with kidney transplants but with liver and pancreas transplants as well.

His love for children goes beyond the clinic. In 1980, a Colorado vacation inspired Moncrief and his wife, Betty, to set up a camp for chronically ill children.

"We knew there were a lot of children on dialysis, who had transplants, and other medical diseases that were too ill to go to most summer camps," Moncrief said. Few camps offered medical care in step with their needs. So, together, they created a camp in Lake City, Colo., accepting children on chemotherapy, with lung disease, heart disease and liver transplants. Betty recruited the typical camp staff – counselors, cooks and caretakers – while he recruited the physicians and nurses who provided care.

For 12 years, the camp made high-country camp experiences available to about 50 campers for three- to four two-week sessions, serving as many as 1,500 children before illness at home led the couple to put the camp up for sale. Betty had been diagnosed with cancer and so began a six-year period of surgery and chemotherapy. Today, the couple have cause to celebrate and enjoy participating in arts events whenever possible.

On a Thursday evening, after seeing a full round of cases in the clinic, you are likely to catch the doctor with another case in hand – one containing the alto saxophone that he is teaching himself to play. As a member of a 40-piece band, he finds time to share a little music at charity events. Whether through medicine or music, Jack Moncrief sees life as an opportunity to help others find a cause to celebrate as well.



Gilligan enters Hall of Fame

The good news just keeps rolling in for Lamar baseball coach Jim Gilligan. On the heels of being selected for the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, Gilligan was named the 2004 American Baseball Coaches Association/Rawlings South Central Coach of the Year. He will share Hall of Fame honors with such baseball greats as Astros Jeff Bagwell and Craig Biggio.

"Overwhelmed," Gilligan said when asked about being inducted into the Hall of Fame. "To be in the induction class with Biggio, Bagwell and the other outstanding inductees is a tremendous honor and also a tribute to all the great players that I've coached at Lamar, and I hope they are as excited and proud about this honor."

Gilligan guided the Cardinals to a 41-16 record this season, which included the school's all-time best 10th Southland Conference regular-season title and its second SLC tournament championship in the last three years. Lamar advanced to the NCAA Regional in the Cardinals' third straight appearance. In 27 years at his alma mater, Gilligan has led Lamar to 11 conference championships, 11 NCAA regional appearances and four conference tournament titles. He has a career record of 962-601 (.615), which ranks him as the 16th active and 33rd all-time winningest coach in NCAA history in wins.

The Baseball Hall of Fame ceremony is scheduled Nov. 12 at the J.W. Marriott Houston, 5150 Westheimer, with a reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$50 each. Reservation information is available from George Scroggins at (713) 408-1044 or George.Scroggins@tbhof.org.



Jim Gilligan and his wife, LaVerne

Water: Good for the body . . . and scholarships



In July, Lamar University, FOX News Radio, Entergy, Market Basket and KBTU put on the "Water-A-Thon 2004."

Representatives from the organizations participated at 12 Market Basket locations throughout the Golden Triangle, by giving away water and Lamar athletic gear, a six-hour broadcast with live interviews, and the chance to donate to the Lamar athletics department. The "Water-A-Thon" was a success: Not only did Lamar raise \$7,000 toward athletics scholarships, but LU also had the chance to get out into the community and show how important it is to support the hometown university and give students a chance to get an education.

Millar, Lucas back student athletes

The athletics department hosted its third annual Verizon Wireless Cardinal Club Classic July 12 at Brentwood Country Club, with all the proceeds going toward athletic scholarships and facility improvements. This year's winner

was the team of Terry Garth, Brian White '89 (assistant golf coach), Robert Verde and Andy Ternes '02 with a collective score of 54. After the tournament, supporters of Lamar athletics gathered for a dinner and live auction. Kevin Millar, a former Cardinal baseball player now with the Boston Red Sox, and former NBA great John Lucas were the celebrity speakers. Millar and Lucas spoke on the importance of supporting university athletics to create scholarships and provide the tools student athletes need to succeed in life. The dinner and live auction helped raise more than \$23,000 for the university's athletics scholarship fund.



No blarney for Stroud at Ballybunion

As Chris Stroud '04 continues his journey into professional golf, he stopped to make one last showing as an amateur at the 2004 Palmer Cup and proved again that he is one of the top collegiate golfers of 2004.

Aug. 6, Stroud began play with the other U.S. teammates at the Ballybunion Golf Club in County Kerry, Ireland. He and his teammate Jason Hartwick, from the University of Texas, won the only four-ball match for the U.S. team. Aug. 7, Stroud was paired again with Hartwick and they again captured a victory over the Europeans. Later that day, Stroud earned a match-play victory by defeating Alex Noren. Overall, Europe won the cup, but Stroud said he was happy with just being part of the experience. "Ireland was a beautiful country with very friendly people," he said. Stroud said the course reminded him of the Pebble Beach course in California with the 100-foot cliffs dropping off into the ocean.

Now that Stroud has graduated from Lamar, he plans to pursue a career with the PGA. He plays golf every day to keep sharp and volunteers with the Lamar men's golf team. His next step toward the PGA is qualifying school at the Blackhorse Golf Course in Houston.



Palmer Cup presented by Monster.com.

Photos courtesy of the Golf Coaches Association of America.

Be part of the club

Don't miss out on becoming part of the 2004-2005 Cardinal Club. With your help and support, Lamar University can attract the best and brightest athletes, first-class facilities and a high-quality education.

Become part of the team and sign up for your membership today!!

For additional information about the Cardinal Club, contact the Athletic Development Office at (409) 880-2319, e-mail us at bigredclub@hal.lamar.edu or check out our web site at <http://dept.lamar.edu/athletics>.

Major players in the minors

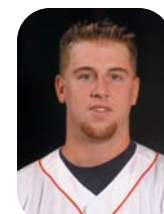
Summer 2004 started off with a bang! Coming off its third consecutive year of being the Southland Conference champions is one of the many accomplishments of the Lamar Cardinal baseball team. In fact, seven former Cardinals are now playing on minor league baseball teams across the country. With all the exciting success in 2004, next year's season can't come fast enough.



CHRISTOPHER BUECHNER
Tri-City Dust Devils,
Colorado Rockies



BENJAMIN COX
Vermont Expos,
Montreal Expos



JORDAN FOSTER
Gulf Coast League Tigers,
Detroit Tigers



RYAN FINAN
Bluefield Orioles,
Baltimore Orioles



JOSH HARRIS
Burlington Indians,
Cleveland Indians



JONATHAN HUNTON
Boise Hawks,
Chicago Cubs



KYLE STUTES
Arizona League Padres,
San Diego Padres

CARDINALS

Tues., Nov. 23	Jarvis Christian	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 27	North Texas	Denton	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 4	Univ. of Houston	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 7	Texas Pan Am	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 11	Arkansas Tech	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 13	USAF Academy	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 16	Rice University	Houston	7:05 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 18	Wiley College	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 22	Tulsa	Tulsa, Okla.	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 28	Arkansas State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 30	Central Okla.	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.

CONFERENCE

Wed., Jan. 5	Southeastern La.	Hammond, La.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 8	Texas State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 12	McNeese	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 15	Open		
Wed., Jan. 19	Southeastern La.	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 22	Stephen F. Austin	Nacogdoches	6:15 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 26	Nicholls State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 29	Louisiana Monroe	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 3	Northwestern State	Natchitoches, La.	7:45 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 5	Texas-San Antonio	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 10	Sam Houston	Huntsville	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 12	Texas-Arlington	Arlington	7:00 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 16	Northwestern State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 19	Texas State	San Marcos	6:30 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 23	Texas-San Antonio	San Antonio	8:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 26	Sam Houston	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 2	Louisiana Monroe	Monroe, La.	TBD

LADY CARDINALS

Mon., Nov. 22	Wiley College	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 27	Loyola-New Orleans	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 29	Texas College	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 2	Oklahoma	Norman, Ok.	7:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 5	A&M-Corpus Christi	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 8	LeTourneau	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 11	Centenary College	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 16	Prairie View	Beaumont	6:00 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 22	Louisiana-Lafayette	Lafayette, La.	6:00 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 30	Oral Roberts	Beaumont	5:00 p.m.

CONFERENCE

Mon., Jan. 3	South Alabama	Mobile, Al.	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 6	Southeastern Louisiana	Hammond, La.	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 8	Texas State	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 13	McNeese State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 20	Southeastern Louisiana	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 22	Stephen F. Austin	Nacogdoches	4:00 p.m.
Thurs., Jan. 27	Nicholls State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 29	Louisiana Monroe	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 3	Northwestern State	Natchitoches, La.	5:45 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 5	Texas-San Antonio	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 10	Sam Houston	Huntsville	5:15 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 12	Texas-Arlington	Arlington	1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 17	Northwestern State	Beaumont	7:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 19	Texas State	San Marcos	4:00 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 23	Texas-San Antonio	San Antonio	TBD
Sat., Feb. 26	Sam Houston	Beaumont	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Mar. 2	Louisiana-Monroe	Monroe, La.	TBD

All Times Central and Subject to Change



Be part of the home team with Lamar University Basketball. Purchase your 2004-2005 season tickets and see Billy Tubbs and Leonard Drake lead the Cards in conference play. Catch us if you can! Order your season tickets today by calling (409) 880-1715.



LU to host tourneys

Lamar University will host the 2004 Southland Conference tournaments for women's volleyball and cross-country teams. The SLC volleyball tournament will be Nov. 19-21 in the Montagne Center. The SLC cross-country tournament will be at Idylwild Golf Club Nov. 1. More information is available at the Athletic Ticket Office at (409) 880-1715.

Come out and support your 2004 Lady Cardinals volleyball team! For season ticket information, please call the ticket office at (409) 880-1715. Matches are in the Montagne Center, and their schedule, along with slates for cross-country and baseball, are available on the web at <http://dept.lamar.edu/athletics>

Class Notes

We hope you enjoy reading about former classmates. If you have news to share — a position announcement, milestone, achievement, wedding, baby — or know the whereabouts of a lost alumnus, we want to hear from you. Send us your news: Write to Cadence, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, TX 77710, email hickscl@hal.lamar.edu or call (409) 880-8421.

40s

James H. George '47, A.A. pre-med, earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Sam Houston State University. He and his wife, Martha, are both retired and live in Fredericksburg.

Raymond A. George '49, A.A. chemistry, received his bachelor and master of science degrees in chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin. He is retired and lives in Denton with his wife, Shirley.

received a graduate degree in 1995. She retired from teaching and co-owns Younique Boutique in Montgomery, where she lives with her husband, Michael. They have three children and six grandchildren.

Barney E. Smith Jr. '55, B.B.A. accounting, retired as manager of safety and security from International Specialty Products. He lives in Pearland with his wife, Ruth, who retired as an executive secretary from Rockwell.

Charles G. Snoek '55, B.S. commercial art, retired from the UPJOHN Company in Kalamazoo, Mich. He and his wife, Lunella, recently moved from Onalaska, Texas, to Spring Hill, Tenn.

Lionel A. DeRouen '56, B.B.A. management, lives in Missouri City, Texas, with his wife, Donna Kaye. Both are retired.

Peggy J. (Biddle) Dodson '56, B.A. English, earned an M.A. in education and has taught Texas history for 47 years at Cleveland Junior High School. She has been married for 47 years to her husband, Glen, who is a columnist and photographer for the Cleveland Advocate. They have three sons, five grandsons and a fourth granddaughter on the way.

James A. Henderson '56, B.B.A. general business, received his law degree in 1965 and is now a partner in Henderson & Kemp law firm in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Jan.

James A. Jackson '56, B.B.A. marketing, received an M.S. in marketing in 1976 and is now marketing educational coordinator for Texas City school district. He lives in Texas City with his wife, **Patsy (Skipper) '58**, B.S. elementary education, who also works for the district.

Charles D. Jones '56, B.B.A. general business, retired from Burlington Northern Foundation and lives in Shawnee Mission, Kan., with his wife, Ruth, who is also retired.

Robert D. Kanoy '56, B.S. sociology, is retired and lives in Jasper with his wife, Billie.

Bernard "Bernie" Lake '56, B.S. sociology, lives in Placentia, Calif., with his wife, Ann. Both are retired.

Shelby C. Pierce '56, B.S. electrical engineering, is president of Pierce Consulting Services in Flossmoor, Ill., where he lives with his wife, Marguerite.

Helen B. (Shelley) Shaw '56, B.S. elementary education, lives in Pflugerville with her husband, Charles. Both are retired.

Darwyn L. Johnson '57, B.S. electrical engineering, retired from Lockheed Martin and lives in Granbury with his wife, Norma Jean.

Bobbie L. Felder '57, B.S. elementary education, is a retired elementary school teacher who has worked for Crossroads Home Heath for five years. She has been

married for 51 years to her husband, Tom, a professor at Victoria College. They have four children and three grandchildren.

Robert L. Miller '57, B.S. history, is retired and lives in Whitehouse, Texas, with his wife, Dee.

Felix P. Ortega Jr. '57, B.B.A. accounting, lives in San Antonio with his wife, Maria. Both are retired.

Patricia H. Roach '57, B.S. elementary education, taught for 25 years before retiring to become self employed. She lives on Lake Livingston with her husband, **Ken Roach '57**, Certif. industrial electricity. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Robert O. Stuart '57, B.B.A. industrial management, is president of SixSigma Inc. in Indianapolis, Ind., where he lives with his wife, Pam.

Phillip H. Taylor Jr. '57, B.B.A. general business, is a retired professor who lives in Fayetteville, Ark., with his wife, Gloria.

Kelvin B. Tibbetts '57, B.S. math, is retired and lives in Panama City, Fla., with his wife, Louise.

Larry M. Frank '58, B.S. electrical engineering, is married and lives in Beaumont.

Forrest J. Sarver '58, B.S. sociology, received his M.S. from Michigan State University in 1971. He retired from the U.S. government, where he worked for the Department of Defense. His wife, Misuzu, is a retired bank officer. They have two children and live in Gresham, Ore.

Harold Wallace Johnson '59, B.S. electrical engineering, is retired and lives in Village Mills.

Edward Kern '59, B.S. mechanical engineering, retired from Westinghouse Foundation where he worked as an engineering manager. He lives in Sarver, Pa., with his wife, Christine.

60s

Marvin D. Blanton '61, B.S. mechanical engineering, retired from the Department of Army in 1999, where he worked as an operation research analyst for 34 years. He moved to Groves and lives there with his wife, Wanda, who is also retired.

Harold M. Browning '61, Certif. machine tools, is a machinist for Union Carbide. He lives in Port Lavaca.

Mitchell L. Clemmons '61, B.S. chemical engineering, is retired and lives in Glen Ellyn with his wife, Nancy. They have one grandson and two more grandchildren on the way.

Carolyn Garner '61, B.A. elementary education, lives in Dallas with her husband, Clayton, who retired from Bank One. They have been married 41 years and have two children and two grandchildren.

Felice M. (Jeansonne) Girouard '61, Certif. secretarial science, lives in Fort Worth with her husband, Marvin, who is president of Pier 1 Imports.

Howard T. Horton Jr. '61, B.S. chemical engineering, is a consultant for Horton Engineers Inc. and lives in Katy.

Sally G. Hosea '61, B.S. elementary education, is a retired teacher for Henderson school district, where she lives.

Noel R. Jones '61, B.B.A. accounting, lives in West Monroe, La., with his wife, Mary Elizabeth. Both are retired, have two children and one grandson, and are expecting a granddaughter in October.

Thomas W. Jones '61, B.A. general business, lives in Houston with his wife, Wanda.

Jerry B. Nichols '61, B.S. kinesiology, lives in Colleyville with his wife, Dorothy. Both are retired.

Forrest D. Nuckols '61, B.B.A. general business, is retired and lives in Waco with his wife, Sherry.

Bennie C. (Walker) Rienstra '61, B.S. elementary education, is retired and lives in Fort Worth.

John C. Sigona '61, B.S. graphic design, is retired and lives in Groves.

Dona K. (Criss) Terry '61, Certif. office administration, retired as an administrator for IBM Corporation, after a 30-year career. She lives in Houston.

George J. Thorn '61, B.S. chemistry, retired as regional hospital manager for CIBA-Geigy. He lives in Alpharetta, Ga., with his wife **Doris '60**, B.A. history, a retired teacher for Fulton County Schools in Atlanta.

Harold J. Trammell '61, B.B.A. general business, lives in Texarkana with his wife, Carolyn.

Frank L. Carter Jr. '62, B.S. chemical engineering, '63, M.S. math, retired as senior research engineer for Shell Development and lives in Houston.

Charles P. Damon '62, B.S. civil engineering, retired from the Federal Highway Administration and lives in Denver with his wife, Mary, who is a management analyst for the Federal Highway Administration.

Henry A. Landrum '62, B.S. chemical engineering, retired as chief process engineer for CF Industries in Donaldsonville, La., after a 27-year career. He lives in Baton Rouge with his wife, Patricia.

Robert R. Creason '63, B.S. electrical engineering, retired as a principal engineer. He lives in Las Cruces with his wife, Betty.

James L. McKenna '63, B.S., '64, M.A. English, has been teaching for 40 years. He is a professor at San Jacinto College in Pasadena, Texas, and lives in Seabrook

with his wife, **Mary Lee (Larson)** '66, B.S. elementary education, who taught for 26 years before retiring.

Max D. Miller '63, B.S. secondary education, is professor emeritus at the Medical College of Georgia. He lives in Augusta, Ga., with his wife, Melva.

In May, **Dewey Mosby** '63, B.S. graphic design, retired and was named director emeritus of the Picker Art Gallery at Colgate University. He has written several books, including *Across Continents & Cultures*. He lives in Hamilton, N.Y., with his wife, Rebekah Presson Mosby. In addition to playing a lot of golf, he is currently curating an exhibition on Alexandre-Gabriel Decamp for the French National Museums. In 1974, after serving in the army and earning an M.A. at UCLA, Mosby became the first African-American to earn a doctorate in fine arts at Harvard and was later the first black curator of European art at a major American museum (Detroit Institute of Art). The Cultural Ministry of France named Mosby Knight and then Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters. Other honors include serving as guest curator for major, traveling retrospective exhibitions of the work of Henry Ossawa Tanner for the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. The catalogues for these exhibitions are among Mosby's numerous publications on the work of 18th- and 19th-century French artists and African-American artists who lived in France. He has lectured extensively at art museums and universities across the United States.

Marylyn (Duhon) Munsterman '63, B.S., '72, M.S. speech, recently moved back to Beaumont after a two-year hiatus in Houston.

Joe W. Scarborough Jr. '64, B.A. political science, retired as administration manager for KBR. He lives in Houston with his wife, **Patricia (Crabtree)** '65, B.A. history, who received her master's in library science in 1991 and worked as a librarian for Pasadena school district before retiring.

Katherine (Brandt) Tonato '64, B.A. history, is an English teacher at the University of Perugia in Italy, where she lives with her husband, Maurizio, a doctor at Monteluce Hospital.

Harold N. Baker '65, B.S. chemistry, is senior scientist for Luminex Corp. in Austin, where he lives.

Madeline (Hill) Mowery '65, B.S. kinesiology, attended Texas Women's University, where she received her master's in 1966. She is a contract specialist for the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command in Warren, Mich., and lives in Southfield with her husband, Ralph, a retired chemist.

Michael C. Waters '65, B.S. sociology, has been president of Hendrick Health System for 23 years and recently announced his plans to retire in November 2004. The

American Hospital Association presented its highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, to Waters in May, and he was the winner of the Texas Hospital Association's Earl M. Collier Award for Distinguished Hospital Administration in 1995. He lives in Abilene.

Sandra (Broussard) Gilliland '66, B.S. speech/hearing, is a speech-language pathologist for Blue Island School District in Orland Park, Ill., where she lives with her husband, Paul.

Jim D. James '66, B.B.A. marketing, is general manager for Tim's Toyota in Prescott, Ariz. He served one year in Vietnam and lives in Santa Fe Springs, Ariz., with his wife, Oma Anne. They have been married 41 years, have two children and three grandchildren, and are thinking about retiring in a couple of years.

Claudia Ludwig '66, B.S. geology, earned an M.S. in geological oceanography in 1971 from Texas A&M. She lives in Houston and serves on the Lamar Geology Department Alumnae Advisory Committee. She has been a member of the Houston Geological Society since 1974. In 1994, she received the HGS Distinguished Service Award and in 1989, the HGS President's Award.

Michael Mason '67, B.S. sociology, '77, M.P.A. public administration, is now executive director of Guide Dogs of Texas in San Antonio, after retiring from the Texas Department of Human Services in 1997. He lives in Garden Ridge with his wife, Cristina.

Vicki B. (Davis) Sutton '67, Certif. secretarial science, is lead human resources specialist for the Internal Revenue Service in Austin. She lives in Austin with her husband, Clyde, who is the president of Sutton Roofing Co.

Demetrius F. Loukas Jr. '68, B.S. biology, received his medical degree in 1971 and is the president and oncologist for Southwest Regional Cancer Center in Austin. He lives in Austin with his wife, Janis.

Doug Boone '69, B.S. health education, recently retired after 35 years of teaching in Brazosport school district, where he coached track and football and taught science for 21 years until he became the school's principal in 1995. He lives in Freeport with his wife, Joan.

Jan (Barry) Dollinger '69, B.S. elementary education, earned an M.A. in elementary education from the University of Houston in 1996. She is a child development consultant and lives in Houston with her husband, Jerry.

James A. Guest '69, B.A. biology, attended medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, graduating in 1973. He practiced for 25 years and retired in January 2003 to become a Methodist minister. He lives in Amarillo with his wife, Karen, who works for Blackburn Shaw Funeral Home.

Danny Lynn Kelley '69, B.S. biology, received his doctorate in medicine from the University of Texas Medical School in 1973. He worked as a self-employed family physician before retiring and becoming medical director for the University of Texas Medical Branch. He lives in Pleasanton with his wife, **Jeanette (Gregg)** '69, B.S. education, who is a retired teacher and owner of Dusooso Ranch.

Robert A. Nelson '69, B.S. sociology, is president of RAN Enterprises in Garland, where he lives with his wife, Karon.

70s

Sheri (Barrett) Baden '70, B.S. elementary education, is a kindergarten teacher at All Saints Episcopal School in Beaumont. July 12, she received the I Teach K National Kindergarten Teacher Award. Staff Development for Educators (SDE) presents the annual award to an individual who demonstrates an outstanding ability to create a child-centered kindergarten environment that makes learning an adventure for students. The candidate must show exceptional educational talent and promise, distinguished achievement in innovative teaching methods, as well as a commitment to professional development.

Donna W. (Harrison) Hubbard '70, Certif. vocational nursing, earned an M.S. in nursing from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton and is now an assistant professor there.

Eugene Washington '70, B.S. physical education, is retired and lives in Galveston.

William J. Kampe '71, B.S. electrical engineering, is engineering supervisor for Bechtel Corp. in Houston. He lives in Katy with his wife, Sylvia.

Judy A. Hammond '72, B.S. mass communication, '82, M.S. speech, is a highway safety specialist for the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, Va., and lives in Alexandria.

Bonnie J. Reeves '72, B.S. secondary education, is a junior high language teacher for Catahoula School District in Louisiana. She lives in Monterey with her husband, Herschel.

Patricia (Galbraith) Kell '73, B.A., '72, M.A. history, was a principal before she retired. She lives in Baytown with her husband, **Ed** '61, B.S. electrical engineering, who is a retired maintenance supervisor.

Larry Norwood '73, B.S. chemical engineering, was recently promoted to vice president of operations for Lubrizol in Wickliffe, Ohio. He lives in Willoughby with his wife, **Cynthia (Smesny)** '72, B.S. history.

John E. Nilsson '74, B.S. mathematics, is senior scientist for Computer Sciences Corp. in El Segundo. He lives in Galveston.

Craig D. Parrish '74, B.B.A. accounting, is a pipeline controller for Chevron Texaco in Houston. He lives in Katy with his wife, Dianna, who is an accounts clerk for Pepper Lawson.

Michael G. Hayes '75, B.S. environmental sciences, is environmental manager for Sasol North America Inc. in Westlake, La., where he lives with his wife, Natalie, a senior engineer for DuPont in Orange.

Danny Reible '77, B.S. chemical engineering, earned a doctorate from California Institute of Technology in 1982. He is an endowed professor of chemical engineering and director of the Environmental Research Center at Louisiana State University. He lives in Baton Rouge with his wife, Susanne.

Hector DeLaRosa '78, B.B.A. mangement, is a bankruptcy advisor for the Internal Revenue Service for the United States Treasury Department. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, **Yolanda (Lopez)** '76, A.D. nursing, '90, B.A. liberal arts, '99, B.S. nursing, who was graduated from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in December 2003 with an M.S. in nursing. She was named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities for the 2002 academic year and plans to work as a family nurse practitioner.

Phyllis (Lovett) Petri '78, B.S. music, earned a M.A. in music and has taught music education for 23 years. She is now the junior high-middle school vocal chair for Texas Music Educators Association/University Interscholastic League Region 17. She lives in Missouri City, with her husband, Michael, who works for the Sugar Land Police Department. They have a daughter who will graduate in 2005 from the Houston School of Performing/Visual Arts.

Alan Webb '78, B.S. marketing, is an account representative for Halliburton Foundation Inc. in Burleson, where he also lives with his wife, Julie, who is the regional training manager for Mohawk Industries.

Stanley A. Spooner '79, B.S. industrial technology, works for the unit rate contract administration for ExxonMobil in Beaumont. He lives in Beaumont with his wife, **Denise (Wallace)** '92, B.A. elementary education, who is Title 1 curriculum coordinator for Beaumont school district.

Holland A. Young Jr. '79, B.S. physics, lives in Austin with his wife, Helen.

80s

Larry Haynes '80, B.S. health education, is head football coach for Eisenhower Senior High School in Houston's Aldine school district. He lives in Crosby with his wife, Peggy Sue.

Chaichan Ariyapinyopas '81, B.A. industrial engineering, now lives in Bangkok, Thailand, after moving from Gadsden, Ala.

Mark Lynn Roberts '84, B.S. criminal justice, '84, A.A.S. law enforcement, and was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Marine Corps. He was assigned to the 3rd Force Service Support Group in Okinawa, Japan, and now lives in Camp LeJeune, N.C., with his wife, Shizue.

Donna Gunter '85, B.S. communication disorders, is president and chief visionary officer for SOHO Business Solutions. She owns WomensBizCoach.com, a virtual company offering training, coaching and consulting for women business owners. She was recently named a coaching partner for the International Virtual Women's Chamber of Commerce and lives in Little Rock, Ark.

Chia-Sheng James Hwang '87, Eng. D. electrical engineering, worked as an engineer for 15 years with NASA, where he designed robots for space applications. He is now senior pastor of Clear Lake Chinese Church in Houston after earning an M.S. from Dallas Theological Seminary. He lives in Houston with his wife, Berling.

Jerry A. Jordan Jr. '87, B.B.A. accounting, is controller for Austin Industries in Houston and lives in Devers.

Kimberly (Puryear) Recio '88, B.S. mass communication, '95, M.Ed. special education, is coordinator of special education for New Braunfels school district. She lives in Canyon Lake with her husband, **Jack** '75, B.S. health/physical education, '84, M.S. kinesiology, who retires this year after 29 years in education as a teacher, coach and principal. He is the publisher/editor of Texas High School Baseball Magazine and will soon open New Braunfels Baseball Academy.

Jane E. Richardson '88, B.M. music education, '94, M.M.Ed. music education, is a music teacher at Bill Sybert Elementary in El Paso, where she lives.

James C. Fufts '89, B.B.A. accounting, recently moved from Kingswood to Nederland after accepting a new position as assistant controller with Brock Enterprises in Beaumont. He and his wife, Robin, have three daughters.

Gary Squyres '89, B.S. industrial technology, received his doctorate from the University of Texas Dental Branch in Houston in 2004 and was also graduated from the Musicians' Institute as a professional guitarist, specializing in fusion. He lives in Houston with his wife, **Sonya (Broussard)** '89, A.A.S. child care technology, who is a secretary at Langham Creek High School for Cypress-Fairbanks school district.

90s

Meredith (Weeks) Barnes '91, B.B.A. accounting, is vice president and controller of ENGlobal Engineering Inc. in Beaumont. She has worked for the company for 15 years and lives in Orange with

her husband, Les.

Dimitar Rangelov '92, B.S. mechanical engineering, is a manufacturing engineer for Visteon Corp. in Sterling Heights, Mich. He lives in Macomb with his wife, Lisa.

Darice (Jackson) Farris '93, B.A. applied arts and sciences, is the human resources coordinator for Goldstar EMS in Jasper, where she lives with her husband, John, who is the director of operations for GoldStar EMS in Port Arthur.

Lara (Nicklebur) Lee '93, B.B.A. marketing, lives in Port Neches with her husband, John.

Blaine M. Goins '94, B.A. political science, received his law degree from the University of Houston. He is an attorney with Frazier & Goins LLP in Orange and lives in Mauriceville with his wife, **Melissa (Matlock)** '95, B.S. chemistry and biology, who is controller for Modern Manufacturing in Beaumont.

Glenn R. Tidwell '94, B.S. criminal justice, is administrator for Green Acres Development Center in Bridge City. He lives in Lumberton with his wife, Lisa, who is a real estate assistant for Dana Archibald Real Estate.

Cristal (Dorman) Fertitta '95, B.S. home economics/nutrition, received her elementary teaching certificate in 2000 and teaches second grade in the Lumberton school district. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, Frank, an engineer for Helena Labs.

Robert K. Otero '95, B.S. kinesiology, teaches physical education for Forney school district, where he also lives.

Vicki (O'Dell) Oubre '95, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is assistant vice president of member services for Texaco Community Federal Credit Union in Port Arthur. She lives in Groves with her husband, Stephan.

Montri Vichailak '92, M.S. engineering science, '95, Eng.D. chemical engineering, is the process development specialist for ABB Lummus Global in Houston, where he lives.

Tiffany S. Knobloch '96, B.B.A. accounting, lives in Houston, where she is an accountant for Reliant Entergy.

Matthew G. Mayes '96, B.S. computer and information sciences, lives in League City and works for Lockheed Martin.

Laura E. Akins '97, B.S. sociology, '00, M.Ed. counseling and development, is program director for Georgia Mountains Community Services in Gainesville, Ga., and lives in Alpharetta.

Shelley (Hudson) Friesz '97, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, teaches for Nederland school district, where she lives with her husband, **Gordon** '97, B.S. political science.

David Stokely '97, B.S. civil engineering, is a project engineer at Huntsman in Port Arthur. He lives in Lumberton.

Timeca Allen-Shaheed '98, B.B.A. office administration, is a donor services associate for the Medical Benevolence Foundation. She plans to pursue an M.B.A. focusing on healthcare administration, and she and her husband are starting their own business, representing a healthcare company. They live outside Houston with their son, Travis.

Pam (Blakelock) Caswell '98, B.S. elementary education, lives in Orange with her husband, Cecil.

Robin R. Lindsey Jr. '98, B.A.A.S. applied arts and sciences, is an agent for Farmers Insurance and lives in Buckeye, Ariz. He has a daughter, born in March 2000.

Lisa J. Maddux '98, B.S. sociology, received an M.S. in social work from the University of Houston. As part of her graduate course work, she created, developed and implemented a three-day forum on racism. The event involved students and teachers from 10 school districts and 18 area schools and was facilitated by the Anti-Defamation League and the Center for the Healing of Racism. She was recently appointed executive director for the Julie Rogers' Gift of Life program in Beaumont. She lives in Houston.

Erin E. Mason '98, B.A. English, teaches for Spring Branch school district. She lives in Houston with her husband, Derek.

Melinda A. Philen '98, B.A. psychology, '02, M.Ed. counseling and development, lives in Beaumont and is a counselor for Hardin Chambers Center in Liberty.

Leah (Adams) Sutherland '98, B.S. communication, moved from Beaumont to Aberdeen, Scotland, with her husband, Kevin, and works in medical sales for Abbott Laboratories in London. He is an engineer with Schlumberger.

Randy W. Charrier '99, B.M. music, '03, B.S. biology, is a laboratory analyst for the Sabine River Authority in Orange.

Brian C. Hurtado '99, B.S. chemistry, is lab coordinator for Huntsman Petrochemical. In June 2001, he wed **Randa (Tooke)** '97, B.S. interdisciplinary studies, '02, M.Ed. counseling and development, who teaches at Stephen F. Austin Elementary School and Middle School in Port Arthur. They live in Beaumont.

Bryan E. McEachern '99, B.A. French, received his law degree from Texas Southern University and is an attorney for Judith Brokaw and Associates P.C. in Houston. His wife, **Jennifer (Carter)** '00, B.A. criminal justice, received her law degree in 2003 from the University of Houston, where she graduated summa cum laude. She is an attorney with Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. in Houston.

Christy (Thrower) Mellen '99, B.A. Spanish, worked at the St. Elizabeth Health and Wellness Center for seven years, the last three years as their operations director. She is now executive director for Girls' Haven Inc. in Beaumont, where she lives with her husband, Doug.

Mentor a Lamar University student

Have you ever wished you knew then what you know now? Would you like to share the kind of knowledge that only comes through experience with someone who can benefit from it?

The Lamar University Office of Alumni Affairs is partnering with the LU Center for General Studies to provide mentors for students in the General Studies program. If you want to become involved in the life of a current LU General Studies student and can share some of your time, your experiences and your expertise, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (409) 880-8921 or (800) 298-4839.

Students may get a guess from friends and may not always listen to parents, but they can learn from mentors.

- develop a supportive, professional relationship with students and assist them in exploring their educational goals
- foster an exchange of ideas, friendship and expertise

The guidance and support that a career professional can offer will help a student focus time and energy in productive directions, avoid pitfalls and make more educated decisions. And alumni gain the satisfaction of helping a soon-to-be fellow graduate – and strengthen their ties to the Lamar University community.





UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

EVENT INFORMATION • BECOME A MEMBER • VOLUNTEER
www.lamar.edu/alumni • (409) 880-8921 • (800) 298-4839

Oct. 19

Dinner and Twelve Strangers. President and Mrs. Jimmy Simmons host music majors for this dinner, one of a continuing series sponsored by Alumni Affairs. Music majors may reserve seats by calling the Career Center, 880-8879

Jan. 18

Dinner and Twelve Strangers. Host a dinner! If you would like to host a dinner for students in your career field—whether at your home or another site—let us know. alumni@lamar.edu or (409) 880-8921

Feb. 21-26

Red, White & YOU Homecoming Week. Get your red on! Reunion events welcome Lamar alumni back to campus with special events planned for alumni of the College of Engineering and the Class of 1955

Mar. 22

Dinner and Twelve Strangers

Nov. 4

Red, White & YOU Regional Club Reception honoring Coach Jim Gilligan. J.W. Marriott–Galleria, Houston. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 12

Red, White & YOU Alumni Reception. Pre-basketball game. Dallas



Feb. 25

Red, White & YOU Homecoming Celebration Beaumont



Apr. 19

Dinner and Twelve Strangers

Nov. 12

Baseball Coach Jim Gilligan inducted into Texas Baseball Hall of Fame. J.W. Marriott Houston, 5150 Westheimer. Reception 6 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m. Tickets \$50. Reservations (713) 408-1044 or George.Scroggins@tbhof.org

Feb. 19

Red, White & YOU Alumni Reception. Pre-basketball game. Austin



Feb. 26

Homecoming Honoring: College of Engineering alumni and class of 1955. All Alumni welcomed back to campus! Events all day long. Basketball: Cardinals vs. Sam Houston

May 13

Distinguished Alumni Awards reception and dinner. The LUAA's most prestigious award to alumni. 7 p.m. University Reception Center. Reservations (409) 880-8921

Nov. 16

Dinner and Twelve Strangers. LU Alumni host dinner for students studying a particular major to meet professionals in that field. Information alumni@lamar.edu or (409) 880-8921

Feb. 20

Dinner and Twelve Strangers



Class Notes

Paul J. Meredith '99, M.B.A. marketing, is administrative assistant for Merrill Lynch in La Jolla, Calif., and lives in San Diego.

Amy (Ellender) Moore '99, B.S. chemical engineering, '02, M.B.A., is a business analyst for Chevron Phillips Chemical Co. in The Woodlands and lives in Houston with her husband, Michael, whom she wed in May 2004.

Sherry (Cooley) Mullin '99, B.S., '01, M.S. family and consumer sciences, is an administrative associate for Lamar University and lives in Nederland with her husband, Joe.

00s

Brittnie (Seaman) Coveney '00, B.S. English, lives in Houston with her husband, **Alex** '99, B.B.A. marketing, who is a manager for Enterprise Rent-A-Car. They wed in 2000 and have two sons.

Richard L. Fox '00, B.S. computer science, is a software engineer for Dynacs Engineering in Houston and lives in League City.

Stacey (Robichau) White '00, B.B.A. marketing, works for Life Share Blood Center and lives in Miami Lakes, Fla., with her husband, **Ryan** '98, B.A. general studies, who is a file clerk for Smith & Thome and director of community concerns for Catholic Charities.

Gary D. Calcote '01, B.B.A. management information systems, is technology specialist for Metlife Financial Services in Houston and lives in Webster.

Jeneishia D. Green '01, B.B.A. business pre-law, works for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where she lives with her husband, Cairo.

Tanya V. Soto '01, B.S. communication, is assignment editor for KENS-TV in San Antonio, where she lives.

Phelicia (Colone) Williams '01, B.B.A. accounting, was an I Have a Dream graduate and is now senior auditor for Ernst & Young in Houston. She lives in Beaumont with her husband, Veryl, who works at DuPont.

David R. Green '02, B.S. computer and information science, is a software developer for Sage Automation Inc. in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, Jamie.

O'Shaunna La'Shaun Griffin '02, B.S. health, is a health technician for Galveston County Health District in La Marque. She lives in Webster and is pursuing a graduate degree at Prairie View A&M University.

Dwight D. Jones '02, M.S. deaf education, teaches special education at McNeil High School in Round Rock, where he lives. He married in July in Austin.

Michael M. Lucia III '02, B.B.A. finance, is account executive for WebMD Practice

Services and lives in Dallas.

Travis W. Poe '02, M.S. theatre, earned a bachelor's in theater from the University of Texas in 1985. He lives in Mont Belvieu, where he is an 18-year theater director at Barbers Hill High School.

Adrienne (King) Whitman '02, B.A. history, is a middle school history teacher in the Beaumont school district. In June 2004, she wed **Nathan** '03, B.S. geology, a lab supervisor and geologist for Southwestern Labs.

Michael J. Adix '03, B.S. electrical engineering, is an electrical engineer for ICS Firestone in Orange. He lives in Orange with his wife, Marsha, an abstractor for Security Abstract & Title in Orange.

Heather (Ruff) McAdoo '03, B.S. dance, is a new member of the 2004-2005 Houston Texans cheerleading squad. She lives in League City with her husband, Justin.

Sommer (Di Dio) Reynolds '03, B.S. political science, works for Germer Gertz and lives in Vidor with her husband, **Danny Ray** '98, B.S. kinesiology, who is an assistant principal for the Vidor school district.

Bobby N. Smith '03, B.B.A. accounting, is a staff accountant for EFG Companies in Irving and lives in Dallas.

Tiffany R. (Hidalgo) Ashcraft '03, B.B.A. marketing, earned a master's in education in 2004. She and her husband, David, live in Austin.

Ronie George '03, M.E.S. electrical engineering, is a Ph.D. freshman in the Optical Sciences Center at the University of Arizona. He lives in Tucson.

Chanicka L. Griffith '03, B.A. psychology, is a C.P.S. specialist with child protective services in Houston.

Angela K. Woodford '03, B.S. family studies, is a children's protective services specialist with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

Clyde B. Heslep III '04, B.S. industrial technology, is activity coordinator for DuPont Dow Elastomers in Beaumont, where he lives with his wife, **Jennifer (Bates)** '02, B.S. nursing. She is a registered nurse for Gentiva Health Services in Beaumont. Clyde is pursuing a master's degree in industrial distribution at Texas A&M University.

Deborah (Adams) Smith '04, B.A. management/human resources, is an administrative assistant at MehaffyWeber in Beaumont, where she lives with her husband, David.

CORRECTION

Carl Coleman '86 was incorrectly listed in the obituaries in the June-Aug. 2004 issue of Cadence. He earned a B.S. in kinesiology from Lamar and is head trainer for Marble Falls High School. He and his family live in Dripping Springs.

We will miss...

Frances (Forsythe) Dean '59, B.A. English, died June 1, 2004. Born in San Antonio, she taught in the Orange school district for eight years before relocating to Bryan in 1966 to be assistant director of Programa de Educacion de Interamericana at Texas A&M. She earned her a master's degree in English in 1968 and received the second doctorate in English ever awarded from Texas A&M in English linguistics in 1972. She taught at Rhode Island College from 1973 to 1978 before retiring to Alexandria, Va. Survivors include her life partner, Richard Perrotti; her children, Diana Paradise, Elizabeth Dean, Caroline Thornburgh and Charles Dean; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Patricia Delay Hall '82, B.B.A. accounting, died July 5, 2004. She graduated with honors and worked as area superintendent of accounting for DuPont Sabine River Works for 33 years. Survivors include her husband, Miles; daughters, Kathryn Finch, Linda Bukom and Beck Rutledge; two sons, A.C. Barber III and Miles Hall III; and sixteen grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Florence "Nezzie" (Tanner) McCollum '42, A.A. secretarial science, died July 5, 2004. She was a member of the Women's Service League of Port Arthur and spent the majority of her life as a homemaker, but worked for Provost-Umphrey Law Firm before retiring. Survivors include sons, Mike and Kelly; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

David G. Miller, 19, died June 30, 2004. A 2002 graduate of Nederland High School, he was attending Lamar University. Survivors include his parents, David T. and Karen Lynn Miller, and his brother, Joshua Caleb Miller.

Margaret Wilson Mullenix '66 died July 6, 2004. She earned a master of education degree from Lamar State College Technology and taught first grade in the Hamshire-Fannett school district for 21 years. Survivors include her husband, Bobby; daughter, Carroll Munson; two grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Preston H. Smith '57, B.B.A. accounting, died June 7, 2004. He was executive vice president, chief financial officer and the director of the Aviation Office of America. He served his country from 1954-1958 as senior training officer at Lackland AFB in San Antonio for the U.S. Air Force. Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Lucia; three children; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Wallace L. Weber Jr. '76, B.B.A. general business, died June 28, 2004. A resident of Port Neches, he retired as head shop supervisor with Gulf Oil where he worked for 41 years. He served in the U.S. Army for two years and in the reserves for 30, before retiring in 1987 as command sergeant major with the 353rd Transportation Battalion. Survivors include his wife, Jo Ann; and daughters, Melody Richard '86, B.A. finance, and Laurie Flurry '78, B.S. medical technology.

Bryan Parker Windham, 21, died June 2, 2004. A graduate of Excel Academy, he was attending Lamar University and NorthStar Academy in Bend, Ore. Survivors include his parents, Morris and Paige Windham; sisters, Keely and Jennifer, and brother, Christopher. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parker Windham Memorial Scholarship Fund benefitting Lamar University Theatre, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, Texas, 77710.

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Virginia K. Jardell, 71, died June 15, 2004. She emigrated from Krakow, Poland, in 1920 and spent most of her career as a legal secretary in Beaumont. She retired from the Mary and John Gray Library in 1996. Survivors include her husband, Preston; five children; five grandsons; and two granddaughters.

Nancy (Jebbia) Lampson, 94, died June 6, 2004. She was active in the Beaumont community, providing countless organizations with years of service. She received the Good Neighbor Award, a proclamation from the city of Beaumont with the key to the city, as well as an Honoris Causa Diploma from Lamar University. Survived include her six children, Mary Jo Ford, U.S. Rep. Nick Lampson, Jimmy Lampson, Dr. Gene Lampson, Frances Breaux and J.J. Lampson; 23 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Lamar University Scholarship Fund, in Memory of Nancy Lampson, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Gloria Choate Sellers, 79, died June 14, 2004. She attended Lamar College and was married 49 years to her husband, Joseph, who attended Lamar from 1941 to 1943 and died in 1996. Sellers completed the two-year secretarial program at Lamar and was secretary for the Department of Political Science from 1976 to 1986. Survivors include daughters Diane Blanks and Jo Anne Huber '74, B.A., '80, M.A. history, and two granddaughters. Memorial contributions may be made to the Joe Sellers Memorial Scholarship fund, Lamar University, P.O. Box 10011, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Richard L. Shorkey, orthopedic surgeon and philanthropist, died June 20, 2004. He endowed the Lois M. Shorkey Memorial Scholarship in Nursing in memory of his wife. He became the medical director of Christus St. Elizabeth Hospital in 1985 and served there until 1992. Survivors include four daughters, seven granddaughters and four great-grandchildren.

Walter A. Sutton, 70, died May 30, 2004. He taught history at Lamar University from 1963 to 2003, having earned a doctorate from UT Austin in 1964. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth, and his son, Allen. Memorial contributions may be made to the Walter Allan Sutton Endowed Scholarship in History, Lamar University Foundation, P.O. Box 11500, Beaumont, Texas 77710.

Two from LU create musical milestones in New Sousa Band



Wayne DYESS

Raul ORNELAS

The music of John Philip Sousa – America’s march king – hits a high note as inspirational Americana. Today, Sousa’s arrangements and other beloved tunes of the era are being kept alive under the baton of Keith Brion, with a little help from two Lamar faculty members.

Trombonist Wayne Dyess and cornetist Raul Ornelas have traveled far and wide with Brion’s New Sousa Band, bringing such patriotic standards as *The Stars and Stripes Forever* and *The Washington Post* to appreciative audiences, including a three-week tour of Japan in 1996.

From memorable all-star performances in venues of the Minnesota Orchestra, Seattle Symphony and other prestigious ensembles to a celebration of late composer Meredith Willson’s birthday in Mason City, Iowa, (Willson’s birthplace and town model for *The Music Man*), the Lamar musicians have created nostalgia and collected admiring fans. Destinations this year include a March tour to the Chicago area, a weekend resort stand in Lake Tahoe in July and, come October, a trip to sunny Pensacola, Fla.

“Raul and I have performed all over

the United States, from east to west and north to south,” Dyess says. “Usually, the band will have a core of key musicians, and locals are added to make up the full band. I am proud to report that both Raul and I are in Keith’s elite roster of musicians. Quite a feather in Lamar’s cap!”

Ornelas adds: “Since Wayne and I have been with the band from the beginning, Keith considers us core members; consequently we always get first call on all the engagements.

“Performing with the New Sousa Band has given me great musical experiences, many opportunities to travel all over the world and, most importantly, an opportunity to meet and make friends with many of the band members.”

The New Sousa Band is a realization of director Brion’s dream to reincarnate the Sousa Band and once again tour America’s towns and cities. Its musicians are chosen – by invitation only – for their



Keith BRION

ability to transmit the original style, spirit and ensemble sound of Sousa’s Band, which performed for four decades beginning in 1892. Musicians for the New Sousa Band are selected from major orchestras, military bands, university faculties and freelance musicians.

Band members wear exact replicas of the original Sousa Band uniforms of the 1920s; each navy-blue coat is fitted with a velvet collar and sleeves and sports 35 yards of swirling black braid in the pattern Sousa used. Brion, a former director of bands at Yale University, dresses the part of Sousa, complete with makeup and hair styling.

Brion chooses the band’s repertoire primarily from works programmed in Sousa’s lifetime. Each concert includes classical selections, light music, virtuoso solos and novelties. Sousa’s marches are performed only as encores – eight to 12 for each program, selected from the 55 marches in the band’s repertoire.

This year, the New Sousa Band is celebrating the 150th anniversary of Sousa’s birth with performances of Sousa’s Sesquicentennial March – written in 1926

for the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Ornelas and Dyess caught Brion’s attention during the conductor’s travels to Southeast Texas, which began almost two decades ago. He has returned in recent years to guest-conduct Lamar bands for the *Lamarissimo!* Concert Series.

Ornelas and Dyess met Brion when he conducted the Lamar University Band in 1985. “I performed a cornet solo with the band, and, during the intermission, he told me he was planning on forming an all-professional band to re-enact the old John Philip Sousa band and programming,” Ornelas recalls. “He asked me if I would be interested in joining his band. I quickly accepted.”

A few years would pass, however, before he and Dyess donned their vintage uniforms as Sousa bandmen. Brion paid his second visit to Beaumont in the early 1990s as guest conductor of the Symphony of Southeast Texas.

“When he conducted the Lamar group, Raul had been the cornet soloist and obviously made a lasting impression with Keith,” Dyess said. “By his return visit, this time with the symphony, I was asked to solo on *Blue Bells of Scotland*.”

Shortly thereafter, in 1994, Brion asked Dyess to join the band for a week’s run at the Christi Lane Theatre in Branson, Mo., the group’s first theatrical engagement. In addition to playing trombone, Dyess now serves as the band’s archival recording engineer.

Ornelas joined the band in 1995 for a Gulf Coast tour that took the group from Galveston to New Orleans to Pensacola. “I knew at the time that it was going to be a great idea,” Ornelas said. “I didn’t realize that it was going to become an incredible experience, playing with all the wonderful musicians from all over the country. Keith has assembled some of the finest musicians

he could find. The results were fabulous.”

The band has toured extensively throughout the United States. All the tours hold special memories. In Japan, Lamar musicians toured the SONY recording studios in downtown Tokyo. After an outdoor concert, they visited with Lamar alumnus Neil Herndon, an Air Force musician stationed there at the time. “The Japanese people were just incredible,” Dyess said. “They love band music.”

In Iowa, the band rode on the back of a flat-bed trailer in the annual Music Man Parade. “They have a town square, a Music Man Museum, and it is, indeed, quite the middle America you saw in the musical,” Dyess said. “We stayed in local community college dorms, and that was an experience. Dorm food, community showers. Oh my! But through it all, we laughed and had a great time.”

The New Sousa Band has come a long way and traveled thousands of musical miles since the birth of Brion’s dream. First simply a concept, the band came into being with its first recording, *The Sousa Legacy*, in 1983. Next came a 1986 PBS television special, *The New Sousa Band on Stage at Wolf Trap*. The band’s first public appearance took place at the 1987 Conference of the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles before a crowd of 10,000 at Boston City Hall.

“We are committed to the band, to the memory of John Philip Sousa and to the hard-working conductor who makes it all happen: Keith Brion,” Dyess said.

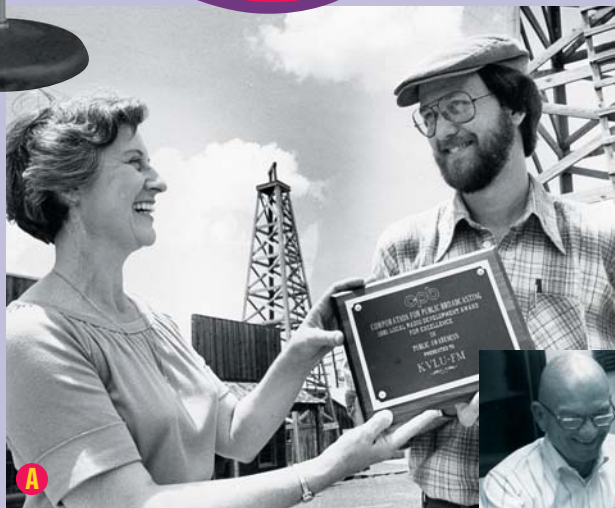
For Brion, the feeling is mutual. “There is a strong core of regular and very devoted professional players,” the conductor says. “We have a way with Sousa’s marches that many have never heard. Like Sousa’s own band, for our players, every note is a labor of love . . . and folks say it shows.”





HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, KVLU.

Radio Days



A



B



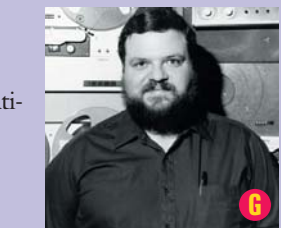
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L

Lamar's public radio station went on the air the afternoon of April 30, 1974, with *All Things Considered*. Now – 30 years, 10,950 days, 262,800 hours, 15,768,000 minutes or 9.4608 billion seconds later – KVLU continues to bring entertainment, enlightenment and information to Southeast Texas.

With support of members, corporate sponsors, Lamar and other sources, KVLU achieves milestones and enriches the community. KVLU earned a national award in 1981 for its live re-enactment of the play *Spindletop!*, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Lucas Gusher. On Jan. 10, 2001, a hearty KVLU team braved the chill for a four-hour live broadcast of the centennial celebration and gusher re-enactment, including commentary and dozens of interviews.

Since sign-on, the station has also staged two *Big Broadcasts*, aired an array of musical and special events and completed dozens of successful membership campaigns – now raising an average of \$50,000 from humble beginnings in the \$3,000 range. Its musical library has grown from a few hundred to almost 20,000.

Bob Crockett hosted a nightly country-

music program called *Off the Barn Wall* when KVLU went on the air. Station manager George Beverley began its classical music tradition. Genres

Snopes is in his 24th year at the boards of *Saturday Night With the Folks* and “music we can all sing and dance to.”

“It’s gratifying to see the station continue to grow and mature, to find there is a place for this station, despite the odds,” said station manager George Beverley. “In ’74 when we started,

we probably had two listeners trying to find us on the air. Now, we have letters from listeners who say we’re the only thing they listen to on the radio dial, and that’s very heartening.”

from jazz, folk and new age to blues, “garage band” and soul have seasoned the mix.

“We have such diversity,” said program director Byron Balentine ’79. “I’m delighted that people have wanted to stay with us and get to know us.”

Broadcasting legend Gordon Baxter crackled the airwaves on Friday nights for six years with *The Gordon Baxter Show*, and his Gulf Coast Weekend commentaries aired on National Public Radio. Veteran broadcaster Les Ledet served as station manager, development director and jazz host, while John Stevens, broadcaster and advertising/public relations executive first known to many as Black Bart on the Cowboy John (Garner) Channel 4 kiddie show, continues to enchant listeners with *Make-Believe Ballroom*.

Jazz saxophonist Ed Dix hosted the popular *Jazz Profiles* and *Jazz Matters*, while your amiable host Corndodger

A Then development director Joanne Scarborough presents program director Darrell Brogdon with a plaque from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting recognizing KVLU with its 1981 award for excellence in public awareness. The award honored KVLU for its 1981 live broadcast of *Spindletop!* – a radio play celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Lucas Gusher. The performance, before a Jefferson Theatre audience, re-created DuPont’s 1951 *Cavalcade of America* broadcast from Beaumont.

B The late Gary Hinson ’76 stars with Cecile Burandt in the vintage radio drama *The Shadow*, which aired live from the University Theatre during the *Big Broadcast of 1994*, a musical-variety show that was part of KVLU’s 20th anniversary. Another *Big Broadcast* crossed the boards in 1996. Hinson was at KVLU from 1977-79, as production director, news director and jazz host. He was an announcer at KFDM-TV, Channel 6, until his death in 2000.

C Dick Estelle – NPR’s *The Radio Reader* – lends his famous voice as on-air pitchman for a KVLU membership campaign. Estelle assisted with fund-raising in 1981 and 1991.

D “The first time I met Al Dugan,” Byron Balentine said, “he came in during the fundraiser with ice cream he had flown in from Philadelphia. I don’t know why he had it flown in, but it was delicious.” As a volunteer, Balentine says, Dugan “was just one of those people who was always around. Eventually, we put him to work.” Dugan now hosts *Dugan on Classics*.

E The late Bonnie Goldstein epitomized the spirit of KVLU, beginning as a volunteer about 1980 and later as membership coordinator before her death in 2000. “She was our most dedicated volunteer,” Byron Balentine said. “She probably had the greatest love of public radio.” Her daughter, Abby Goldstein ’87, hosted KVLU jazz programs and is now program director at public radio KERA in Dallas.

F “I’m Bob Fox, and this is *All That Jazz*.” For more than two decades, it was a Sunday night ritual: Fox’s mellow voice brought entertainment, knowledge of the genre and the complete lowdown on all things jazz from Lake Charles to Houston. Its volunteer host was a talented musician (saxophone, flute, keyboards) who in real life was an operator at DuPont in Orange. “Bob knew jazz inside and out and was the standard everyone else tried

to meet,” Byron Balentine said. When he retired in the late 1990s, Fox disappeared into the sunset on a motorcycle, bound for California.

G David Harrington ’82 hosted the classics on KVLU from 1986 until the mid-1990s, when he joined KUAT-FM at the University of Arizona in Tucson, where he is now senior announcer.

H Program director Byron Balentine, in 1980

I Producer Steve Holmes interviews Lynda Bond Bristol, a native of England who was a KVLU classical music host and now works for BBC. Others have included Sara Penny, Aviva Enoch and Susan Newton.

J Station manager George Beverley, in 1976.

K Music director Joe Elwell, on stage at *The Big Broadcast of 1994*.

L Byron Balentine ’79, program director and assistant station manager, and from left, George Beverley, station manager, pose in KVLU master control, joined by development director Melanie Dishman ’88; membership coordinator/webmaster Stacey Haynes; music director Joe Elwell ’97, and chief engineer Ken Wilson. Beverley has been with the station since it went on the air in 1974. Balentine joined the KVLU staff in 1978; Wilson, in 1984; Elwell, in 1986; Dishman, in 1994; and Haynes, in 2000.

ArtNotes

Lamar’s literati are on the move again, this time to prestigious national and state book festivals. The resident paens of poetry and prose – English professors **R.S. “Sam” Gwynn** and **Jim Sanderson** – will join the elite at the October sessions. Gwynn is one of 70 authors – and one of just seven poets – invited to attend the National Book Festival, hosted Oct. 9 by the Library of Congress and First Lady Laura Bush. He’ll be in the company of such authors as Barbara Taylor Bradford, Joyce Carol Oates, Robert G. Parker, Lawrence Block and Nicholas Sparks. Meanwhile, the Texas Book Festival has invited Sanderson to be a featured author at the 2004 festival Oct. 30-31 at the state Capitol in Austin. As a featured author, Sanderson will read from his work, participate in a panel discussion and sign copies of his books, including the recently published *Nevin’s History*. . . Lamar Theatre has four new stars on its Wall of Fame, which spotlights individuals for their contributions to Lamar University’s award-winning theatre program. The 2004 honorees are **Angela Phares**, LU-llaby of Broadway chair in 2003 and 2004; **Fred Simon**, a veteran of the LU-llaby of Broadway cast and area musical performances; **Doug Fierce**, LU-llaby cast member and volunteer; and **Frank Messina**, longtime Lamar supporter, for his contributions to the LU-llaby reception. Each honoree received a plaque – featuring a star and his or her name – that will be permanently displayed in the lobby of Lamar’s Studio Theatre. Awards were presented at the 12th annual LU-llaby performance June 8. The event raises funds for theatre scholarships, this year attracting 450 patrons and raising \$24,000. . . A poignant LU-llaby moment came with the presentation of the first **Lowell Scribner Award** to freshman theatre major **Chris Murray**, a graduate of Beaumont Ozen High School, “for outstanding achievement and dedication.” Scribner was a longtime LU-llaby cast member who died in August 2003. “He was always there with a smile, a huge laugh and singing his heart out,” said theatre director **Adonia Placette**. Scribner’s partner, **Joe Shamberger**, established the award as a way to “do something special for Lamar students,” Placette said, while perpetuating his memory. The award will be presented annually to an outstanding freshman.

Graduation can wait . . . for progress

As president of the Lamar Student Government Association, Diztorsha Jefferson is ready to take on any challenges she may face, as well as those she has set for herself. She has already achieved one milestone. Her hard work has earned her the distinction of being the first black woman to become SGA president.

Jefferson is a senior English and political science major from Orange. She chose to attend Lamar because of its closeness to home and the strength of the political science program. Her younger brother, Herman Jefferson, also attends Lamar and is a sophomore biology major.

Her passion for politics fuels her participation in student government. In the past three years, she has worked on behalf of her fellow students as freshman class senator, committee chair for the community outreach committee, senator of the College of Arts and Sciences and secretary/treasurer of SGA.

Jefferson was scheduled to graduate in May 2004 after completing her degree in political science but decided to postpone her graduation a year. "Midway through my third year, I decided running for SGA president was something I really wanted to do," she said.

By holding the executive office of secretary-treasurer last year, Jefferson was able to make major decisions with the president and vice president, see how the office is run and form relationships with administration – all good things to have under your belt when stepping up to the presidential

plate. And, her active participation in the Pre-Law Society, the Black Students Association, the African Students Association, the Friends of India and Phi Alpha Delta has added dimension to her leadership skills.

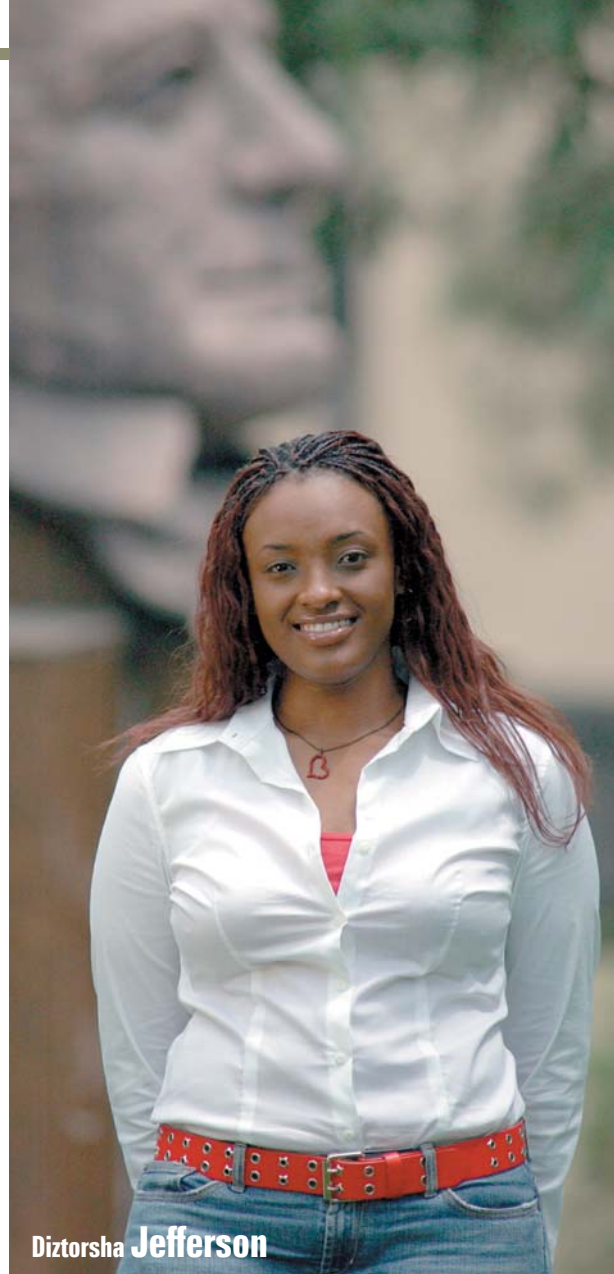
As president, Jefferson plans to improve campus life. "All students should be able to get the whole college experience," she said. She plans to address that goal by scheduling a live performance from a prominent figure for Homecoming.

"Students should not have to leave campus to have a good time," Jefferson said. "Students at Lamar should receive the same services and accommodations as students from larger universities."

She would also like to attract local businesses closer to Lamar. With that access, students could shop closer to campus and avoid the need to make arrangements to get to stores across town.

Jefferson's other goals for her term include expanding current programs. "I want to continue the campaign that was started last year to strengthen the relationship between Lamar and the city of Beaumont," she said. She would like to see Lamar as the center of Beaumont, much like other college towns.

Jefferson hopes to expand the volunteer program with the Beaumont Independent School District in which Lamar students act as mentors to elementary school students. "We want to move it up to junior high and high



Diztorsha Jefferson

school, then use it as a recruitment tool," she said.

Each former SGA president has left his or her mark in some way. For example, Alisa Hicklin started Big Red Benefits, a program that allows Lamar students to receive discounts at participating businesses. Josh Daspit focused on community outreach and formed relationships with city officials. Immediate past president Brian Bean pushed for community service and started the mentor program with BISD. Jefferson plans to be just as productive as her predecessors and, in turn, leave a legacy of her own.

"I take my position as SGA president very seriously," she said. "I want to address all of the student concerns."