Index:

Value of a Bryan Education – Page 2

William Jennings Bryan, Christian Statesman
Page 6

Campus News
Page 8

Fall Athletic Honors
Page 11

Vision 2020: Under Construction
Page 12

Income Through Contribution
Page 14

Faculty/Staff Notes – Page 16

Center For Law and Public Policy – Page 17

Closure – Page 18

Lion Tracks – Page 20

Remembering Bryan – Page 24

Cover Photo: Justin Smith sophomore
Obying the scriptural mandate to give honor where honor is due, we give special recognition in March to our namesake, William Jennings Bryan, as we celebrate his 149th birthday! We owe so much to this giant in the faith who embodied what we desire of our students. Our mission is to encourage among our students vocational excellence coupled with a fervent desire to use their calling to live out Jesus Christ in a culture that increasingly does not know Him.

I know you will rejoice with me as you read in this edition of Bryan Life the influence and accomplishments of our students across the vocational spectrum—from state music honors to public policy discussions in Washington, D.C., to embracing the challenge of the genocide in Sudan. Our God continues to provide outstanding opportunities for our students as we launch the new Center for Law and Public Policy and celebrate groundbreaking for our new entrance and road to campus.

On a beautiful February 6, a new chapter was initiated in the 79th year of Bryan’s history. The long-awaited groundbreaking near U.S. Route 27 became a reality and launched Bryan toward an exciting new era. The entrance and roadway are crucial elements for our realizing the plans for Vision 2020, our master plan for Bryan in the next decade.

All of the new programs and facilities that are necessary for Bryan to thrive in 2020, to more effectively live out our mission, and to expand our influence as a leader in Christian higher education are now becoming a reality. In addition to enhanced access and visibility for the campus, the new entrance provides opportunities for a new theatre, a physical home for the five Centers of the Bryan Institute for Critical Thought and Practice, a new athletic complex, a new administration building, and other facilities that will enable us to serve 1,200 students on campus by the year 2020.

During a time of recession and disheartening economic news, isn’t it just like our God to demonstrate His power and sovereignty to move His work forward? It is to Him that we give all the glory, for only He could have opened this new chapter in our future during times such as these. Even as the measure and stature of that great Christian statesman and our namesake, William Jennings Bryan, continues to grow in the life of our college, even more so we marvel at the goodness of our great God as He fulfills the plans He has for all of us.

I hope you will plan to return to campus soon and see what God is doing in the lives of our students—followers of Christ learning to live out the gospel wherever God leads them with an active and authentic faith.

Stephen D. Livesay

I wish for a college that would put Christ first. W. J. Bryan, July 1925
More than 100 years after William Jennings Bryan pointed out the critical importance of moral values to education, the college named in his memory is firmly committed to that standard.

Historically, the concept of a “noble purpose”—one could say “Christian education”—was not unusual. But today, only a small percentage of the 3,500 colleges and universities in the United States even claim to be Christian. Bryan College is among the few that intentionally challenge students to live their faith in every aspect of their lives, including their academic disciplines.

Bryan President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay said, “The greatest challenge I see in Christian higher education is that many have adopted the concept of educating the mind, leaving a Christian worldview relegated to the ‘spiritual’ realm. Bryan is distinctive in that we believe true education is more than just expanding our base of knowledge; that education involves the whole person.”

Guests to campus often notice this. When Robert Walker, producer of a documentary on genocide in Sudan, visited Bryan in February, he told President Livesay, “There are only a couple of schools like Bryan; you have a heart for people and are faithful to the Scriptures. You’re not trying to be just an educational institution.”

In his visit, Mr. Walker caught a glimpse of Bryan’s commitment to education which touches the mind, heart, soul, and strength of students.

In surveys we do see this by-in-large in most of our graduates.”

Academically, the value of a Bryan education begins with the quality of teachers in the classroom.

“Our strong preference is that (new professors) come with their doctorates in hand,” Dr. White said.

“Of the 18 people I’ve had a hand in hiring, 13 came with their Ph.D. or terminal degrees, and three are in the process. We need people with degrees who can communicate well, who can relate to students.”

Spiritually, close attention is paid to a prospective faculty member’s faith.

“We ask them to clearly articulate their faith in Christ and how that will have an impact in the classroom,” Dr. White explained. “People who apply have a very clear understanding about what we are. There can’t be any doubt about their faith. That’s too big a risk to hire someone who could be a misfit spiritually or from a worldview standpoint.”

A professor’s Christian faith becomes a bridge to encourage students spiritually in cooperation with, or in addition to, efforts from the Office of Spiritual Formation.

Dr. White, in fact, credits Matt Benson,
dean of spiritual formation, with being a major factor to bring the academic branch of the college closer in tune to efforts in the office of student life. Mr. Benson, on the other hand, sees the growing relationship as a natural outgrowth of a correct understanding that Christ’s redemption extends to every aspect of a person, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

“We want to develop in faculty, staff, and students an awareness of our redemptive place in the world,” Mr. Benson said. “Frankly, that is what we are about as a college.

“At Bryan, it has always been our desire to embrace not just the philosophy of truth and the defense of truth, but rather the God Who is truth; incarnate truth lived out in integrity, humility, and compassion drawing those around us to a relationship with Jesus Christ.”

In one of the cross-departmental efforts that new students experience first, students take a Christian Life Formation 101 class “as an introduction to Bryan and the values behind it,” said Ben Norquist, assistant director of spiritual formation. “We want them to anticipate more than topical mastery at Bryan. They already are looking forward to having their minds on the table for shaping, but having college affect their hearts, their values, their character is a new idea to most. We want them to be open to a whole-life transformation. That’s a task, because the typical freshman is anticipating college touching only his or her mind.”

Mr. Benson said in light of the state of Christendom today, “I’m concerned with the emphasis on loving God with our minds. We think we’ve figured out how to love God with our hearts, and now we’re taking on our minds. But I question whether we really know how to love God in light of our deep fallenness in all aspects.

“Students today are not asking ‘is it true?’ but ‘does it work?’ ‘Is it big enough?’ They see people saying one thing but see their lives crumbling. They want to see lives of integrity.”

“Lifetime” is a concept that comes up in discussions about a Bryan education again and again. Rachel Welch, a senior communication studies major who also serves as president of the Student Government Association, said the liberal arts emphasis “encourages us to look at life as an opportunity to learn, instead of concentrating on one thing to prepare for a job.”

Mr. Norquist said even the traditional ministries of Practical Christian Involvement are being strategically positioned to encourage students to cultivate a lifetime of service and ministry. “PCI is more than an opportunity to serve others. It is producing some goads for those of us...”
who are all too comfortable staying within the walls of the church. PCI is cultivating values that propel us into outward kingdom living for a lifetime.”

Certainly activities and programs are important in this holistic approach, but students are engaged in developing their minds and hearts in activities as simple as watching a movie with friends, Miss Welch said.

“When students watch a movie at open dorm, rarely do they turn it off and just leave. So many times someone will comment about the movie based on what they have learned in class or something they have been meditating on. There are good discussions about things students care about.”

A professor’s ability to communicate comfortably with students one-on-one, not just in a classroom, is critical to this process as well.

“Most professors seek to make themselves available to students,” Miss Welch said. “They offer themselves. You can go into the cafeteria and see students meeting with professors, talking about class or other things.

There is not so much an attitude of ‘I’m the professor and you digest what I tell you,’ but an invitation for co-scholarship. That happens a lot, and it’s a critical distinctive for Bryan College.”

This close student-faculty bond is important for programs such as the Italy Abroad Semester, where students travel to Saints Bible Institute in San Lorenzo, Italy, and take 19 hours of classes in a modular format. Bryan professors travel to Italy for a week or two to teach their classes and spend time with the students, helping them deal with life in a foreign setting, in a culture that knows very little about evangelical Christianity.

But it also is appropriate as faculty and staff are invited to lead CLF courses with students throughout the year, reading and discussing “how should I live?” Mr. Benson said. “We are trying to hit people where they are living, and where they will be living in 10 years. Our goal is to see 60 years of fruitful living. We have to pay attention to what Christ is about, what a relationship with God is about, living in community, about fruitful living.”

Although this is a long-term goal, it has short-term ramifications.

“The atmosphere at Bryan encourages a holistic education,” Miss Welch said. “When I hear Dr. Livesay share these things I respect his leadership. That attracts students who want this experience. We come here to learn that way, and this allows us to do that.”

As the college grows, the administration is committed to maintaining the personal touch that fosters this type of educational experience. “This is not just based on size,” Dr. White said. “As we have gone from 500 to 750 (traditional students) we have been able to maintain this, and I think we can do it at 1,200 as well. The people make the difference. I think all the Bryan professors have bought into the idea that being a Christian and being a Christian scholar are not separate things, but are intertwined.”
There’s a lot to consider...

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adult Conferences</th>
<th>Student Conferences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 05–10</td>
<td>July 05 – July 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July 19 – July 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The student of American history would be hard pressed to name anyone who more completely embodied the identity of a Christian and a statesman than William Jennings Bryan. There have been outstanding Christian spokesmen—evangelists, revivalists, and authors, and there have been statesmen—those who dedicated their lives to serving America by trying to make it a better place in both foreign and domestic affairs. But when a search is made to find someone who combines the two, Bryan would first come to mind.

When Bryan arrived in Dayton, Tenn., in the summer of 1925, to join the prosecution of John T. Scopes for allegedly teaching evolution in the public school contrary to state law, many considered Bryan to be the leading fundamentalist Christian in the nation. He was considered a fundamentalist in that he openly stood for the fundamental teachings of the faith—the inerrancy of Scripture, salvation by faith in the divine Christ, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit, among others—at a time when modernists were attacking one or more of these doctrines. But beyond that, he also was one of the most highly esteemed political figures in the country, particularly for one who never rose to the presidency.

In looking at his record in all of these public service endeavors, it is clear that his views and stands were determined by what he saw as true fidelity to Biblical principles.

The roots of Bryan’s Biblical beliefs may be traced back to his fourteenth year when he attended a revival, accepted Christ as his Savior, and was baptized. He had attended church and Sunday school faithfully up to that time, but he regarded this as the true beginning of his walk with the Lord.

Late nineteenth century and early twentieth century America was a cauldron of competing and contentious doctrines and ideologies. Darwinism already was making an impact in the public arena, with Social Darwinists believing that government should not upset the natural order and become involved in economic affairs, and Reform Darwinists viewing government as the best vehicle to create a more equitable society. Manifest Destiny supporters and later Imperialists believed the U.S should expand its borders and willingly get involved in foreign matters, such as supporting the uprising of the Cubans against Spanish rule in 1898, and by bringing the former Spanish-held Philippine Islands under American territorial rule, as was done in the U.S. suppression of the Philippine Insurrection of 1899-1902. Supporters of laissez-faire economics backed freedom for wealthy financiers and industrialists to earn high profits, even at the expense of downtrodden laborers and hard-pressed farmers. Defenders of the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages were at odds with prohibitionists who increasingly saw liquor as the basis for a seemingly mounting tide of corruption and immorality in America.

In each of these conflicts, Bryan consistently sided with those he believed Christ would have identified with—labor and particularly farmers against big business, anti-imperialism against imperialism, abstinence from the use of alcohol against the liquor industry. Each of his three presidential campaigns highlighted one of the first two of these conflicts.

The presidential campaign of 1896 in many ways is the best known of the three—Bryan also ran for president in 1900 and 1908. But in the first of these—at just 36 years of age—he electrified the nation, bringing about an almost revival-level fervency among his supporters and creating equally intense fear among his opponents at what might result from his presidency. The hallmarks of his campaign that year were support for free silver—which would have expanded the currency and helped debtors, such as farmers—and the nationalization of the railroad industry, also in an effort to aid farmers. His opponent, Republican
William McKinley, won the popular vote only by a few percentage points, and the turnout of eligible voters in the election—while not the highest in U.S. history—has not been surpassed since. Over three-fourths of those who could vote, cast their ballots in the presidential election of 1896.

In 1900, Bryan ran again against McKinley, but this time the issue focused more on imperialism. As mentioned, the U.S. had acquired the Philippines from Spain in the Spanish American War, but a number of Filipino insurgents, and a number of Americans including Bryan, did not think that a country that had begun in a rebellion against foreign colonial rule, the United States, should reverse roles and acquire colonies of its own. Again, McKinley prevailed. But an interesting dimension of Bryan’s Christian thought developed about this time. He increasingly focused on Christ’s Sermon on the Mount as a guide to ideas about foreign policy. Bryan was becoming more pacifistic in his Biblical interpretation. He developed a friendship with Russian Christian pacifist Leo Tolstoy and even traveled to Russia to visit him at one point.

In the presidential election of 1908, in which Bryan opposed the Republican William Howard Taft, a dominant issue was control and regulation of business trusts. Both agreed in the basic premise, differing more on how it should be done.

After Bryan lost the 1908 election, he soon became affiliated with the man who would become the next president, Woodrow Wilson, for whom he served as secretary of state beginning in 1913. But again Bryan’s increasing distrust of military means to settle foreign policy disputes dictated his actions, as he resigned his cabinet position in 1915, believing Wilson was taking a pro-British stand in the expanding World War. Subsequent events proved Bryan right.

During the last decade of his life, Bryan devoted much of his energy to the support of prohibition, which became national policy in 1919, and to a defense of Biblical creation, which led him to come to Dayton to participate in the Scopes Trial.

Critics of Bryan sometimes point to his seemingly inconsistent positions on various policy issues. And while those can be found in his life and the lives of nearly every public figure, what stands out more clearly is his consistency in applying Biblical principles as he saw them to the important issues of his day. From the time he made his commitment to Christ as Savior at age 14, to his death in Dayton shortly after the Scopes Trial at age 65, he seems to have carried this out quite consistently.

For further study:


Dr. Jack Traylor is professor of history at Bryan College.
Two New Vice Presidents

Two vice presidents have been named at Bryan, one to the new position of vice president for enrollment management and one as vice president for advancement.

Michael Sapienza, who most recently served as director of enrollment management, is the new vice president for enrollment management, and W. Blake Hudson is vice president for advancement, President Livesay announced.

Dr. Livesay said Mr. Sapienza, “will be working actively with many departments on campus, coordinating a campus-wide effort in attracting students and maximizing our retention efforts.”

Mr. Sapienza came to Bryan five years ago as director of financial aid, and was named director of admissions and financial aid before taking the enrollment management post.

While he will retain responsibilities in admissions and financial aid, “I will have a more big-picture focus. Because of the economy and economic uncertainty, the president and the cabinet felt this was a good time to examine what we do and why we do it. The challenge is for Bryan to take a holistic approach to how we interact with students. We want to make sure that at every touch point we give the best possible service.”

Mr. Sapienza is a graduate of Franklin Pierce College with a degree in financial management. He is nearing completion of a Master’s degree in communication leadership from Spring Arbor University. He and his wife, Claudia, live in Evensville, Tenn., with their children Cammie, 5, and Colin, 2.

Mr. Hudson will lead the advancement department’s efforts in fund-raising, alumni relations, public relations, and publications, Dr. Livesay said.

Before coming to Bryan, Mr. Hudson served as vice president for advancement at Patrick Henry College in Purcellville, Va., and was director of development for the Bagley College of Engineering at the Mississippi State University Foundation.

He is a graduate of Mississippi State University with a degree in industrial engineering. He worked as an industrial engineer with the Memphis Light, Gas and Water Co. before serving as associate director of fund development for the Southeast region for Campus Crusade for Christ.

“Blake brings a strong record in the development field and shares a passion for high-quality Christian higher education that defines Bryan College,” Dr. Livesay said. “I believe he will provide leadership in the advancement office that will help us take critical steps toward reaching our campus development goals as well as enhancing current initiatives at the college.”

Mr. Hudson said, “I am excited by the opportunity to join with Dr. Livesay and others at Bryan College to achieve the goals of Vision 2020,” the college’s long-range development plan. Mr. Hudson and his wife, Karla, are the parents of five children.

Students Attend D.C. Conference

Eight Bryan students attended the 53rd annual Christian Student Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., in January as part of Dr. William Ketcheersid’s Federal Seminar course.

During their four days in Washington the week before the presidential inauguration, students and Dr. Ketcheersid attended policy briefings, visited the Pentagon, and heard presentations about faith and public life.

The students:
- Toured Central Union Mission, met some of the clients, and listened to speeches about poverty from CUM staff.
- Heard a speech from retired Sen. Dan Coats in the Cannon House Office Building on how evangelicals can affect national policy.
- Met and asked questions of President Obama’s Director of Religious Affairs.
- Heard presentations on the threat of nuclear terrorism.
- Visited the Hart Senate Office Building where they heard Sen. Sam Brownback speak about the
need for keeping religious views in politics, and Senate Chaplain Rev. Barry Black, who stressed the importance of diligence and prayer in public service.

- Toured the Pentagon and visited the September 11, 2001, memorial.
- Toured the Federal Reserve, where economist Patrick McCabe talked about the government bailout of banks.

**Student Paper Shows Writing Center Ideas**

Stephen Hill, a sophomore English major from Lakeland, Fla., recently became the first Bryan College Academic Support Center consultant to present a research paper at a regional academic conference, Center Director William Harle said.

Stephen, who also has a deep interest in the ancient Greek language, serves as a Greek tutor in the center and developed his presentation from his experience as a consultant.

“Last semester he took English 420, advanced composition theory and pedagogy, the class writing consultants normally take in their junior or senior year,” Mr. Harle said. “He read an article on minimalist tutoring, the idea of creating better writers rather than better writing, and started applying that to Greek tutoring, to make better translators instead of better translations.”

Stephen submitted an abstract of his paper to the Southeastern Writing Center Association on the use of writing center pedagogy in ancient language tutoring, and “they responded almost immediately,” Mr. Harle said. “They gave him the second presentation on the first day of the conference.”

“Better Readers, Not Better Translations: Applying Minimalist Tutoring to Ancient Languages,” the topic of his paper, was presented in a session that included papers by students from Duke University, with discussion following between presenters, their supervisors, and the audience.

“I enjoyed the opportunity to see what other people are doing and compare it with what we are doing in our writing center,” Stephen said. “My paper was essentially taking writing center theory that has been around about 30 years and used mostly by younger people in contemporary situations and applying it to older things such as Latin and Greek.”

Mr. Harle said this kind of experience is good for undergraduates. “I’d like to see us doing more of this, giving our students this kind of exposure.”

And Stephen added, “I’d love to do it again. I’m already thinking about what I can do.”

**Day of Prayer Focuses on “Faith in Action”**

“Faith in Action,” theme for chapel services this semester, resounded throughout the Day of Prayer Feb. 19, as the Bryan community was challenged to respond to genocide going on in Sudan today.

A special feature of the day was a showing of the documentary “With Open Eyes.” The film, produced by Frank Harrison and Robert Walker of Charlotte, N.C., shows the ravages of war and the enduring faith of Sudanese Christians oppressed by their Muslim countrymen.

Mr. Walker challenged students to pray for the needs in Sudan, to join the “SudanCan Campaign” (visit the website at sudancan.com) to support relief efforts and raise awareness to pressure American intervention in the crisis, and to ask friends and relatives to get involved in the same way.

Mr. Harrison said the window for international intervention is narrowing as Sudan approaches the time for elections to be held in 2011. “All the people I have talked with about the peace treaty say there will not be an election in 2011, that a year or so before there will be war because there is too much oil in the south for the Khartoum government to allow that region to secede.”

“My hope is that young people will stand up and come up with creative ways to do something for Sudan.”

Dwight Sell, student government vice president for men’s ministry, said Day of Prayer activities also included a 24-hour prayer and scripture reading marathon the day before, a sunrise hike, a prayer walk in Dayton with students praying for the community, and a worship and prayer service to conclude the day.
The Day of Prayer continues a longstanding tradition for the college to set aside one day each semester for students, faculty and staff to pray for the needs of the college and community.

Annual Scholars Weekends Show Promise

Bryan College got a preview of the Class of 2013 in February, as nearly 150 prospective students gathered for the annual Presidential Scholars and Music Performance Scholarship weekend Feb. 6-7, and the Dean’s Scholarship competition Feb. 26-27.

Michael Sapienza, vice president for enrollment management, said Presidential Scholar candidates interviewed with faculty members and Music Performance candidates auditioned for the nine Presidential Merit scholarships and one Music Performance scholarship that will be awarded. Dean’s Scholarship candidates interviewed with faculty committees for the eight to 10 Merit awards to be presented.

A new feature for the Presidential weekend was a campus activities fair on Saturday. Twenty-four campus organizations showcased opportunities ranging from rugby to Students Stopping the Trafficking of Persons. “It was fantastic,” Mr. Sapienza said. “We appreciate so much the students giving up their time on Saturday. It was a great opportunity for parents and students to see what is available at Bryan.”

At Friday night’s banquet Student Government Association President Rachel Welch told the students and their families that Bryan “is an excellent place to attend. Bryan is a place that effectively balances academic rigor with authentic Christian values,” she said. “I can see the discipline I am studying in the light of the Gospel.”

Decosimo Lecture Wins Faculty Kudos

A recent lecture series presentation has won high praise for its stimulating effect on students and the partnership which brought it about.

Dr. Sebastian Vaduva presented the Decosimo Lecture on Global Business at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga (UTC) and spoke at Bryan College in February, addressing the topic “The Integration of Romania into the European Union.” Dr. Vaduva is dean of the Griffiths School of Management at Emanual University of Oradea, Romania and managing partner of Advanced Solutions, Ltd., a business consulting and training firm in Oradea.

A UTC business professor called his lecture “one of the outstanding events to ever take place on our campus. Nothing has generated so much conversation. The students wrote papers on the lecture. Without a doubt, these are the best papers for a lecture I have ever received. It is obvious that they not only listened but were inspired by Dr. Vaduva.”

Dennis Miller, Bryan’s executive director of external relations who arranged the presentation, said the lecture series highlights the increasing interconnectedness between business people worldwide, as well as the increased trade and commerce interdependence among nations.

“I have been involved in organizing numerous international educational projects since 1991,” he said. “I realized early on that American students are disadvantaged in many ways because we are geographically separated from the rest of the world by two oceans. My idea behind starting this lecture series was to expose students to a broader world of business and to help motivate and energize them to learn even more.

“The Decosimo Lecture Series on Global Business is a program offered through the Bryan College International Development Center. Through this series we have been able to offer Bryan and UTC students the opportunity to learn from individuals who have a personal history of outstanding success in their areas of business or business education.”

127 Receive Diplomas in December Graduation

The location was different, but the results were the same as 127 graduates joined the ranks of Bryan College alumni on Dec. 19.

Bryan’s second fall graduation was moved from campus to Chattanooga’s Tivoli Theatre to accommodate the approximately 1,400 family and friends who celebrated with the 13 MBA and 114 Bachelor’s degree candidates.

Graduation speaker Dr. David Banks, a 1990 Bryan graduate and president of M pact Concepts, Destiny Institute, and pastor of The Empowerment Church, told graduates, “I challenge you not to graduate and find a job, but to find something that can allow you to live with purpose, passion and potential. You were created not just to make a living but have an impact, to make a difference.”

He encouraged them to remember the college motto, Christ Above All, and to keep Christ at the center of their lives.

College President Dr. Stephen D. Livesay congratulated the graduates for completing a course of study that was not easy. He added, “My enduring prayer for you is that you keep in mind the mission of the college, to see Jesus Christ at the very center of your lives. If you do that, we will have done our job well.”

During the ceremony, Dr. Robert Andrews, dean of graduate and professional studies, presented the award for the best Aspire research project to Jennifer Saunders of Chattanooga. Dr. David Luther, chairman of the Bryan faculty, presented the award for the traditional student with the highest academic average to Bethel Ragland of Hodgensville, Ky.
Take the Opportunity!

Bryan College will host the second annual William Jennings Bryan Opportunity Program fund-raising dinner Thursday, April 16, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Convention Center.

Proceeds from the dinner support the William Jennings Bryan Opportunity Program, which provides financial aid to help deserving students from low-income families attend Bryan College. Some 30 students are enrolled at the college this year as a result of assistance through the program.

Michael Gerson, Senior Fellow with the Council on Foreign Relations and former speechwriter and assistant to President George W. Bush, will be the featured speaker.

For more information, for reservations, or to support the William Jennings Bryan Opportunity Program, contact Steve Keck, director of development, by email at steve.keck@bryan.edu or by phone at 423-775-7581 or online at www.bryan.edu/wjbop.

Thank You, William Jennings Bryan Opportunity Table Sponsors (as of March 18):

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Christ Above All     11    www.bryan.edu
Bryan’s long-awaited new entrance took a major step toward reality Feb. 6, as college and community officials broke ground for the first phase of the project, and the Bryan family is anticipating the Phase II groundbreaking April 17.

President Livesay reminded the audience in February that the occasion was a historic day in the life of the college, giving new impetus to the dream expressed by William Jennings Bryan in 1925 that Dayton might have “a Christian liberal arts college that puts Christ first. I am pleased to say that at Bryan College, ‘Christ Above All’ is not just words on paper but it is what we strive to live out every day.”

He paid tribute to those who have labored for the entrance, remembering former Trustee Don Efird who told him that “I and others have prayed for 40 years that God would give us a new entrance.”


Sen. Yager said, “We are beginning to change the face of Bryan College by offering the community and the world a new glimpse of the college through this entrance. Bryan College has adhered to the principles of putting Christ first while maintaining commitment to rigorous academic standards. While the face of the college is changing, the heart of the college is not.”

Student Government President Rachel Welch said students are excited about the new entrance and are grateful to those who have made it possible. Echoing Sen. Yager, she called Bryan “a great marriage of academic excellence and authentic Christianity.”

Dr. Livesay said the entrance is being made possible by the gifts of alumni and friends of the college, including faculty and staff who contribute more than $3,000 monthly through payroll deductions.

Alumni Director David Tromanhauser, ’80, who has spearheaded fundraising efforts for the entrance since he took his position in 2008, said he is excited about the way alumni have responded to calls to support the entrance. “From competition between classes, from special class projects to individual gifts, I have been thrilled with the way alumni have realized that the new entrance is going to happen and that it is the key to more exciting steps at the college,” he said.

On this page is a list of the top 10 gifts by class. “I’m impressed that the Class of 2008 has already given or pledged more than $6,300 for this project,” Mr. Tromanhauser said. “They’re fresh out of school and are way ahead of most other classes.”

Classes—or individuals—who contribute $25,000 to the new entrance project may have a concrete lion, with their information on it, mounted in a tasteful manner along the half-mile drive from U.S. 27 to campus.

“Karen Warren came to Bryan in 1979, and spent two years here before she had to leave to pursue her major,
speech pathology, elsewhere,” Mr. Tromanhauser said. “She loved Bryan, and still does. When she attended an alumni meeting at the home of Janet (Ardelean) Schmidt, ’81, in Houston, Texas, she was so excited by what she heard that on the way home she called and asked if she could fund a lion, or at least cover the balance for the Class of 1981 to get a lion. She hasn’t been back to campus in many years, but now she’s planning to come for homecoming. I think she’ll enjoy the drive up the hill.”

Rather than a lion, the Class of 1974 has accepted the challenge to raise $35,000 to pay for the brick gateway that will mark the entrance close to the highway. Dave Seera, class president and husband of Trustee Betty Ruth (Barrows), said some of his classmates were hesitant about the “lion thing,” but he jumped at the chance to promote the gateway project.

“He was going to write a letter encouraging his classmates to come back for their 35th reunion,” Mr. Tromanhauser said. “But then he wanted to include the gateway funding as part of the letter. Class members are hard at work to make sure that part of the entrance is ready in October.”

Actually, David Barbour, ’81, has given the gateway a boost by donating all precast concrete for that project through his architectural precast concrete manufacturing company.

Competition, lions, and projects are part of the fund-raising efforts; individual gifts are the bedrock upon which the project is built.

“We have an alum from the late ’60’s who has given $25,000 as a matching gift, and is considering another gift in that amount,” Mr. Tromanhauser said. “Individual gifts, no matter what the size, are important for two reasons. First, there are a number of ‘finishing touches’ that were not included in the basic construction plan and funding, and we would like to see the entrance finished in all its beautiful details.

“Second, alumni giving is a critical measure of the health of a college. I have heard some alums say they have not given because they have not been asked. Well, I want you to know that we need your support for this new entrance and other projects. Your gift is a vote of confidence in the future of Bryan College. It is so important that when we ask foundations and major donors to contribute large amounts, we are able to tell them that our alumni are on board.

“The new entrance is a project that has started Bryan moving toward the goals of Vision 2020, and we need your help to accomplish this ambitious plan.”

To see regular updates on construction progress, visit the Bryan web site at www.bryan.edu/phaseone.
Family and friends and a desire to contribute to the Lord’s work made purchasing a Charitable Gift Annuity a good idea for James and Monica Craig.

Mr. and Mrs. Craig knew about Bryan because of his work as a high school counselor and through the testimony of a friend, the late Bonnie Pratt, ’58. “She recommended Bryan, and that was one of the reasons we decided on Bryan for our son,” Mr. Craig said.

Dan Craig, ’83, came to college and “met his wife at the Bryan match factory,” his father said, and Dan and Linda (Lambert), ’82, “have given us three wonderful grandchildren.”

Mr. Craig never attended Bryan, but spent 21 of his 33 years in education as a high school counselor and researched colleges carefully so he could recommend schools to his students. His research, the testimony of Miss Pratt, and his son’s experience convinced him Bryan is a good choice.

“We’ve visited there a few times and were inspired by the college, and by what I read in Bryan Life. I recommended Bryan to students who would benefit there,” he said.

While he worked in education as a teacher—“I taught every grade from fifth through 12th”—counselor, and assistant principal, he also worked Saturdays and summers as an immigration inspector at O’Hare Airport in Chicago. After he retired from teaching in 1993, he worked full-time until 1999, when he recorded his 30th year with the immigration service.

A bout with prostate cancer led to his decision to retire, and the immigration service retired his badge. “That is like a baseball team retiring a player’s jersey,” he explained. “It’s quite an honor.”

But retirement did not diminish his interest in Bryan.

He and Mrs. Craig determined that they wanted to support the college in a lasting way, so they decided to purchase a Charitable Gift Annuity.

“We didn’t do this for financial gain,” he said. “We did it to help Bryan. It’s a good way to save money, get a little money, and help the Lord’s work. Give to the Lord, save a little, get a little income; what more could we ask for? It’s a win-win situation.”

Jim Barth, Bryan’s director of planned giving, said Mr. Craig’s explanation of the value of a Charitable Gift Annuity is right on target. “A Charitable Gift Annuity is a great way to make a lasting contribution to Bryan College while at the same time locking in investment income at a rate that is much better than what is available through most other sources and not having to depend on the ups and downs of the market. There also can be significant tax savings from both the purchase of the annuity and on the quarterly payments.”

For more information about charitable gift annuities or other planned giving opportunities, contact Mr. Barth at barthji@bryan.edu or call 423-775-7280.
Are you tired of being blown by the winds of a fluctuating market?

**Find security through a Charitable Gift Annuity.**

Consider the following $10,000 cash example: (one-life rate; lower two-life rates are available)

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<thead>
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With fixed income for life, you no longer need to watch the markets. Help Bryan and have security.

- **Secure fixed income for life**
- **Higher income based on age**
- **Charitable deduction/tax savings**
- **Bypass of capital gain on gift**
- **Tax-free income portion**
- **Remainder to Bryan**

For more information and a free proposal, please call our Office of Estate Planning at 1-800-552-7926

**Jim Barth**
**Director of Planned Giving**

721 Bryan Drive
Dayton, TN 37321
BarthJi@bryan.edu
www.BryanGift.org
Mr. Bernie Belisle and Dr. Mel Wilhoit took a group of 29 students and friends of the college to London for 10 days after Christmas on a theater and fine arts tour.

Dr. Paul Boling, Dr. Jud Davis, Dr. Scott Jones, Dr. Doug Kennard, Dr. Drew Randle, and Dr. Ken Turner attended the Evangelical Theological Society meeting in Providence, R.I., in November. Papers were presented by Dr. Davis—“Acts 2 and the Old Testament: The Pentecost Event in Light of Sinai, Babel, and the Table of Nations”; Dr. Kennard—“Instances of Covenant Nomism in Second Temple Judaisms”; and Dr. Turner—“Moses on the New Perspective: Does Deuteronomy Teach Covenant Nomism?”

Mr. Tom Davis was interviewed by a reporter from the Time magazine web site about the college’s and community’s response to the bicentennial of Charles Darwin’s birthday in February.

Mr. Bill Harle presented a paper, “Sharpening the Whale Bone of Change: Transforming Traditional Intellectualism through Organic Writing Center Practice,” at the Southeastern Writing Center Association’s annual conference in February.

Mrs. Kim Keck successfully defended her dissertation proposal at Boston University in December. In January, she presented a paper to the Georgia Music Educators Association in Savannah, Ga., based on her dissertation project, “Secondary Music Teacher Preparation on the Changing Male Voice: An Examination of Methods and Materials in the Vocal Track Music Education Degree Program of Seven Tennessee State Universities.”

Dr. Doug Kennard received his third published professional review of his book Messiah Jesus: Christology in His Day and Ours (2008) in New Testament Abstracts 52:3(2008): 613. He also has published a peer-reviewed and requested article: “Hebrew Metaphysic: Life, Holy, Clean, Righteousness, and Sacrifice,” in Answers Research Journal 1(2008): 169–196. This article was requested from parts that made up two academic papers presented this past summer.

Dr. Bill Ketchersid’s book review of Noah A. Trudeau’s Southern Storm: Sherman’s March to the Sea, is scheduled to appear in the spring edition of the Journal of Southern History. He and Mr. Tom Davis were interviewed by a BBC Radio correspondent concerning the Scopes Trial for the network’s coverage of the Charles Darwin bicentennial.

Dr. Ray Legg and his wife, Margie Legg, led a retreat, “Fireproofing your Marriage,” for members of Garrison Baptist Church in Dayton in January. Dr. Legg also attended a conference, “The Poetics of Conflict and Reconciliation,” at Bridgewater (Va.) College in October. He read a paper titled “The Devil’s Advocate? The Vanity of Human Wishes from Solomon to Al Pacino.”

Dr. Jeff Myers was keynote speaker for the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) in Chicago; for the National Catholic Educators Association Deans Conference in San Francisco; and for a Passing the Baton program at Dade Christian School in Miami in February. In January, he spoke to the K-Life annual staff retreat in Branson, Mo.; the Young Emerging Leaders retreat and the ACSI in Minneapolis, Minn.; and the Educational Policy Conference for the Constitutional Coalition in St. Louis, Mo.

Mrs. Tami Tullberg attended the Tennessee Association of College Stores conference in Chattanooga, Tenn., and was asked to serve another year on the board of directors. She also published her first book, geared to young mothers, And Baby Makes Three…and Four…and Five…and Six.

Dr. Ken Turner has published an article: “The Kindness of God: A Theological Reflection on the Meaning of Min, ‘Kind,’” in Genesis Kinds: Creationism and the Origin of Species. CORE Issues in Creation, no. 5. He read a paper with the same title at the Genesis Kinds conference in Hertfordshire, England, sponsored by the Center for Origins Research, in February. Also attending the conference were Dr. Todd Wood, Dr. Roger Sanders, Mrs. Connie Sanders, and Miss Stephanie Mace. Dr. Wood presented a paper titled “Natura Facit Saltum: The Case for Discontinuity,” and Dr. Sanders’ paper was titled “Oceanic Islands and their plants as a test of post-Flood speciation.”

Dr. Mel Wilhoit directed the Bryan Brass Chorale and the Flute Ensemble in a program at the Hunter Museum in Chattanooga to open its Christmas season, and sang with the Chattanooga Opera Chorus in a performance of Pucinni’s opera “Turandot,” in November. In December he played trumpet in the Symphony of Praise Orchestra for the Christmas concerts at First Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga.

Dr. Gary Fitsimmons has been named director of library services and professor of information literacy. He comes to Bryan from Cisco Junior College, Cisco, Texas, where he served as director of library services.
From “economic stimulus” to “homosexual marriage,” a host of issues confront Americans, and news media provide a range of commentary and analysis across the political spectrum.

Missing from that discussion, in the view of Prof. Kevin Clauson, is a voice speaking “from a legal, ethical, constitutional, and biblical perspective.” That voice is what he hopes to provide through the new William Jennings Bryan Center for Law and Public Policy. New at Bryan this spring, Dr. Clauson said he hopes the new center can emulate the contribution William Jennings Bryan made at the turn of the 20th century and beyond.

“William Jennings Bryan was one of the most significant statesmen of his time, and he lived among giants such as Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. He was an outstanding statesman who believed what he was doing was applied Christianity. That’s what we want to say we are doing,” he explained.

Unlike Mr. Bryan who was a partisan political figure, the Center for Law and Public Policy will approach issues in a non-partisan manner. “What we want to get out to the public is a Christian view, a ‘worldview view,’ not a Republican or Democratic party or even a conservative or liberal view (ideologies which are vague and changeable over time, though their oldest definitions each had good aspects), but a thoughtful, logical, Christian view of an issue. The thing that is hard to establish in print and speech is being an advocate of evangelicalism and constitutionalism instead of any party or candidate. We’re not attaching ourselves to a particular label or agenda. We will look at these issue by issue and analyze them from the perspective of a Christian worldview and the constitution.”

Prof. Clauson pointed out that Mr. Bryan “would be an anomaly today. He probably would not fit with either major party. He was against imperialism, so he probably would have opposed the Republicans on the Iraq war, and he would not have supported the Democrats on issues such as abortion.

“We want to be an analyst in the same way, in that we are not trying to fit into one niche or another. We will say what we believe based on what we believe is right. Arguing from a constitutional perspective, many people will make the assumption that we are conservatives. That is not necessarily true, though we might end up on that side on a given issue. Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law are historically Christian concepts and practices that hold governments in check and help to insure true liberty.”

This “third way” offers Bryan College a way to engage culture without falling into a partisan pigeonhole. “Evangelicals used to be independent of parties so they could be an almost ‘prophetic’ voice to the culture. But people like Jerry Falwell saw problems and saw the Republican party as the party to deal with.”

In ensuing years, the “religious right” became identified with the Republican party, losing its ability to speak in a non-partisan manner, even becoming so entangled with one political party that one might argue that the national party co-opted it. By commenting from a biblical and constitutional perspective, Dr. Clauson hopes the center can critique issues without having to defend a partisan position.

“We have had so many years of no (Supreme Court justices) following the constitution no matter who appointed them,” he said. “There is a whole collection of decisions handed down which the justices feel they can’t overturn because they feel that would create chaos or animosity toward the court. For example, one of the areas the Supreme Court let Congress and Presidents get away with things has had to do with war. There has not been a declaration of war since World War II, but there have been vague resolutions, and much Presidential discretion (and a number of wars, large and small) instead of Congressional deliberation and votes on whether to go to war or not. I think that is one area liberals (and a few “old-style” conservatives) agree with us, that we need to hold Congress and Presidents accountable.”

Prof. Clauson has set down a five-point plan to bring the center into prominence:

• One conference per year with a major public policy theme such as health care or economic bail-outs.
• One presentation per year by a significant policy maker or expert (not topical).
• A forum for Bryan professors to discuss an issue in depth.
• A speakers bureau, providing individuals able to articulate the center’s position on particular issues. “This means,” he said, “we have to develop our perspectives.”
• A “substantive” newsletter addressing issues rather than events and doing it in an easy-to-understand style and format (online and/or in-print).

“A lot of these activities are designed to appeal not just to the outside world but to challenge students. I would like to see mass participation by students, to help them develop their thinking abilities—and then maybe go into public service with applied Christianity.”

For more information about the Center for Law and Public Policy, visit the center’s website at http://www.bryan.edu/CLPP.
I saw my brother Bill last week. He went to Bryan for a year—fall of 1980 through spring of 1981. He was lucky to finish the year. My brother intentionally broke every rule in the Handbook, or at least tried. He got most of ‘em, for sure. Full of energy and full of himself, he had many friends on campus.

Today is a different story. Three major back surgeries have left him permanently disabled. He is facing a total hip replacement. Personal trials have left him alone. Because of that, he rarely takes a trip down Memory Lane. Too much pain there.

Being the loving older brother, I took him back to his days here. I threw out the names of Bo Clem, “Sauce,” Mary Tucker, Dean Ropp, Jeff Ryan, and more. A smile appeared. He wanted to know where they were, what they were up to, that kind of thing. All of a sudden, he was enjoying Memory Lane.

Then he said something profound. If you know Bill, he and “profound” rarely collide in the same sentence. He said, “David, when I left, I left too soon. I left too quickly. I never got to say goodbye. I never got closure.”

That tugged at my heartstrings. How many of us have felt that same way? We never got to say goodbye like we wanted. I never got to tell Jim Soyster how much I appreciated his example on and off the soccer field. I never told Doc Spoede, Dr. Traylor, and Dr. Ketchersid how much I appreciated their approach to teaching. Very different, but very complementary. I never thanked Coach Reeser for letting me play soccer, even though I had never played before. Shoot, I never told Anna Barth how much I admired her! (Made up for it later—much later!)

Oh, sorry. I forgot to tell you about those friends. David “Sauce” Salyer is an attorney in Ohio. Mary Tucker Simcic is married and raising two daughters in Los Gatos, Calif. She left Bryan and went into nuclear medicine. She married a man who is an expert in that field. Bo Clem is VP at a bank in Harlan, Ky. He has two daughters, ages 10 and 16. He was just ordained as a deacon in his church. Jeff Ryan is partner in a law firm of 25 attorneys in Dallas. He is married to a wonderful lady and has two children. (Yes, he still loves the Cowboys!) Dean Ropp married Cherie Watkins, is pastor of Midway Community Church in the Atlanta area, and has three children. Still leading by word and deed.

Are you looking for “closure?” I have a better idea. Come to Homecoming this year, and “un-close” those friendships. There is no need to close them; just turn the page and go to the next chapter in your life, bringing your friends with you. Pull up your reserved seat at the table of fellowship at Bryan College. From what I hear, this Homecoming is going to be something special.

In His Grace,

David Tromanhauser
Alumni Director

UPCOMING ALUMNI MEETINGS

April
Atlanta, Charlotte

May
DC, New Jersey, New York

June
Indianapolis, Chicago, Detroit, Columbus, Grand Rapids

July
Orlando, Miami, St. Petersburg, West Palm Beach

August
Dallas, Houston

For more information go to www.bryan.edu/alumni
Mark your calendars to join your classmates in this once-in-a-lifetime celebration. You will be honored with a Golden Diploma during the Bryan College Commencement.

For more information go to www.bryan.edu or to the online community at bryanalumni.org. Reservations are required and we encourage you to make hotel reservations early.
1950’s

EILEEN (MELLIICK), ’51x, and Harold JONES celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 31, 2008. Eileen and Harold have four children, and their granddaughter, Heather Jones, is a sophomore at Bryan this year.

SHIRLEY (SMILEY), ’57, and Ted KLINGSMITH celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 27, 2008, with a reception hosted by their children in Denver, Colo.

1980’s

RICK and SUSAN (BENNETT) BURBY, both ’83, live in Westerville, Ohio. They have two boys, Will, a sophomore in college, and Ethan, a fifth grader at Worthington Christian Elementary School. In spring of 2008, Will attended Saints Bible Institute in Italy with 15 Bryan College students and loved it. Last year Ethan’s teacher was LUCAS GANTZ, ’05. KELLY BURBY, ’89, and TRACY (BURBY) RETTSTATT, ’84, also teach there. Rick owns insurance agencies in Columbus and Newark, Ohio. Susan is a director of student services at Worthington Christian Middle School. Rick has really enjoyed connecting with old friends at homecoming and through Facebook. Worthington Christian Schools has a few BC alums on staff. High School principal TOM ANGLEA ’84; middle school PE and former high school soccer coach CHUCK GRANT, ’76; middle school health and PE and former high school volleyball coach MARTHA (ARDELEAN) WEYGANDT, ’83; pre-school teacher CARYLEE (GILMER) MEYERS, ’85; assistant baseball coach DOUG MEYERS, ’85; high school math and former basketball and assistant volleyball coach KARY (BURBY) BARNES, ’91.

CHERYL BRYANT, ’84, and Mario Giguere were married Oct. 7, 2006, and announce the birth of their son, Elliot Joseph, on Sept. 7, 2008. The Giguere family lives in Brossard, Quebec, Canada.

BETH (BRANSON) WOOD, ’87, visited Bryan with her husband, Tim, and children, Jonathan and Sarah, after Thanksgiving. They serve in Mozambique with Africa Inland Mission and are on home assignment living in Arlington Heights, Ill.

1990’s

JAMES PROUT, ’92, was promoted to vice president of sales.
for MagnaServe Enterprises in 2008. His company provides a variety of MRI and CT services to hospitals, imaging centers and asset management companies across the U.S. He and his wife, DENISE (TRUSSLER), '91, have five children: Hannah, 16; Sarah, 15; Trenton, 9; Abigail, 7; and Aedan, 5. Denise is entering her 25th year of coaching high school gymnastics in Northeast Ohio where they live. Hannah, Sarah, and Abby are competitive gymnasts and Trenton and Aedan are soccer players. The Prouts live near his brother and sister-in-law, STEVE and SHELBY (BECKETT) PROUT, both '94, and see them and their children, Kirsten and Lydia, regularly.

SHONDA (TOMPKINS), '96, and Jeremy KNOWLTON announce the birth of their son, Shrade Joseph, on Nov. 27, 2008. Shrade weighed 9 lb., 13 oz. and was 21 inches long. The Knowltons live in Tacoma, Wash., where Shonda is a stay-at-home mom after 12 years of teaching, and Jeremy is employed as a quality control technician for McFarland Cascade Lumber Co.

MELINDA (SNEAD), '98, and Matt ROWAND announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Joy, on Nov. 9, 2007. Olivia weighed 6 lbs., 5 oz., and was 19 3/4 in long. The Rowand family lives in Suwanee, Ga., where Melinda works part-time at North Point Community Church as an event planner, and Matt works at SunTrust Bank in the corporate office.

MATTHEW, '99, and Kristin GILMAN announce the birth of their son, Jude Matthew, on Nov. 8, 2008. Jude weighed 8 lbs., 5 oz., and was 20 inches long. He joins big brother Blake Alden, 2 1/2. The Gilmans live in Richmond, Va., where Matthew is operations manager at Richclean and Kristin is a senior financial analyst and CPA at Ukrop’s Super Markets.

MARINA (CRUZ), '99, and Kevin KRESS announce the birth of their son, Joshua Andrew, on Oct. 27, 2008. Joshua weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz. He joins big brother Matthew, 3. The Kress family lives in Ooltewah, Tenn., where Kevin continues to work at CIGNA Healthcare and Marina is a full-time mom.

2000’s

JOSH, '00, and CHRISTA (NEELEY), '01, MULLINS announce the birth of their son, David Robert, on Dec. 15, 2008. David weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz., and was 21 inches long. The Mullins family lives in Hixson, Tenn.

MOISES DRUMOND, '01, was named girls’ soccer Coach of the Year by the Chattanooga Times Free Press in
December. Moises, in his eighth year as coach of the Soddy-Daisy Lady Trojans, led his team to the state sectionals and earned an 18-2-1 record. The Lady Trojans were District 6 and Region 3-AAA champions.

SHANNON (KILGORE), ’01, and Pete GALYON announce the birth of their son, Memphis Dominic, on April 14, 2008. Shannon is a second grade teacher at Silverdale Baptist Academy in Chattanooga, Tenn., and the Galyon family lives in Soddy-Daisy, Tenn.

SAM, ’02, and Stephanie KOSTREVA announce the birth of their second daughter, Gretchen Holly, on Oct. 24, 2008. Gretchen weighed 8 lbs., 8 oz., and was 21 ½ inches long. She joins big sister Hannah, 2. The Kostrevas live in Monroe, N.C., where Sam works for Wall Watchers as a database administrator and research associate, and Stephanie is a stay-at-home mom.

DAVID and ANNA (KELLOG) HENDERSON, both ’02, announce the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Khary, on March 31, 2008. Mackenzie joins big brother Gavin, 2. Also, David received his Ph.D. degree in philosophy from Texas A&M University in August 2008, and is teaching at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C.

KATIE WHITE, ’04, and Caleb Wiles were married Nov. 18, 2006, in Huntsville, Ala. The couple lives in Fayetteville, Tenn., where Katie teaches Spanish and English as a Second Language while working on a Master’s degree in Spanish at Middle Tennessee State University. Caleb is a full-time college student.

LINDSAY WOODS, ’08, and Grant Taylor were married Nov. 8, 2008, in Wacahoota, Fla., near Lindsay’s home of Ocala. Her sisters, current student Taylor Woods and Delaney Woods, served as maids of honor. BLAKELEY (SPENCER) EDGERTON, ’07, was a photographer, and AUDREY PORTER, ’07x, assisted with the wedding. Grant serves in the U.S. Air Force and is cross-training from gunner to pararescue jumper under the Air Force Special Operations command. Lindsay teaches at St. John Lutheran School. They expect to relocate to Albuquerque, N.M., in May to be stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base for the next two years. While there, Grant will attend medical school and Lindsay will pursue a Master’s degree.
ROBERT MCCORMICK, ’44x, of Murphysboro, Ill., died in November 2008.


EDNA (JACOPS) GARDNER, ’51x, of Fremont, Ohio, died March 28, 2008.

FRANK PARKER III, ’52x, of Warsaw, Ind., died June 5, 2008.

FLOYD KELLEY, ’64, of Dayton, Tenn., died Nov. 17, 2008.


DELANO COCHRAN, ’71x, of Dayton, Tenn., died Feb. 17.


Keep in Touch

Just made an exciting career move, added a member to your family, or tied the knot? Let us know by submitting news to Lion Tracks.

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Officers: Karin Warren Chase, ‘83
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Barry Gilman, ’69

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Officers: Sylvia Maye, ’78
Scott Hooker, ’82

Washington, DC
Officer: Lisanne Boling, ’03

For information about your alumni chapter or to help organize a chapter in your area, contact the Alumni Office by email at alumni@bryan.edu or by phone at 423-775-7297.
My Bryan memories are many and varied and seem to become more vivid as time passes. Since the recent home-going of my husband, I have made a concerted effort to contact former classmates which has brought back many memories.

My earliest memory upon arriving on campus with my sister, Sandy, returning for her junior year, were the girls running screaming past me to greet Sandy. I felt a little left out, but learned in the years to come that I would become part of that excitement with the great reunion of friends as we arrived on campus from all parts of the country.

I almost did not return after that first Christmas break as I nearly succeeded in failing Old Testament Survey taught by Dr. Rader. The saying went, “if you dropped your pencil in her class you would lose a whole page of notes.” It was quite embarrassing later in life as a pastor’s wife for over 30 years, to admit that I nearly flunked Bible 101.

I became a Biological Science major and studied under Dr. Rouch (botany) and Dr. Henning (zoology). Due to a limited budget and Dr. Henning’s frugality, he would bring in road kill for us to dissect; from those humble beginnings grew his museum. We once dissected a dead pregnant cat with three unborn kittens. I was also his assistant my senior year and he captured frogs which I had to force-feed bits of liver to keep them alive until their turn to be dissected. He was a great teacher and a Godly man.

Miss Rouch, who later became Dr. Woughter, used her students in her ecology class to help gather facts for her doctorate. We went into the Smoky Mountains, laid a transect, then recorded all the growth from ground cover to mature trees for several feet on either side of the line. I had the greatest fun and learning experiences in those science classes. We even went spelunking, and disturbed a mess of bats that tried to beat us back out the opening. I think we won! Due to Dr. Woughter’s encouragement and challenge to be a Christian teacher in the public school system, I taught junior high science in my home town.

Part of Bryan life was the intramural sports. There was great competition and good fun. In my freshman year, our class was out to beat the junior class which was extremely athletic, and of course, my sister was among the best. We were a challenge to them, but in the end they came out ahead.

The most useful and practical education that saw me through the church-ministry years of my life were the Bible classes which were required each quarter, the practical Christian education assignments in the public schools, the chapels and speakers, spiritual emphasis week, missionary emphasis week, and the prayer groups that focused on different fields across the world. These were taught by Godly men and women who were serious Bible scholars, and truly cared for the students and their spiritual life.

Thank God for my Bryan education in all areas of my life.

If you have been graduated from Bryan for more than 50 years and would like to share memories of your time on the Hill with Bryan Life readers, please write between 300 and 400 words and send them to Bryan Life, Bryan College, P.O. Box 7000, Dayton, TN 37321 or email to alumni@bryan.edu. Please include a current picture of yourself. While we can’t promise to publish every submission, we will consider all for publication in future editions of Bryan Life.
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