

December 2012

Samford University

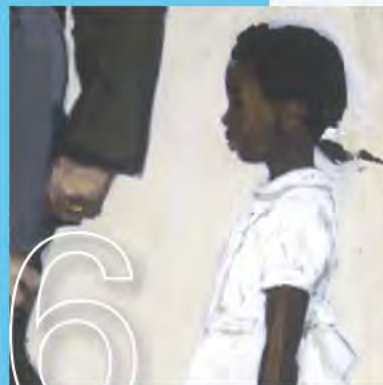
Seasons



December features

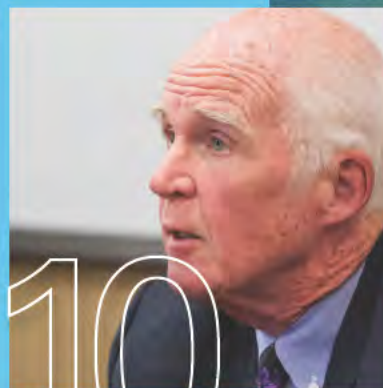
6 Studying Rockwell Landscapes

While Norman Rockwell paintings tend to draw viewers to the faces of his subjects, many of his works offer rich cultural landscapes as well. Samford geography professor Jennifer Speights-Binet '94 and her class used Rockwell's landscapes to study the history of American cities and suburbia this fall.



10 Reflecting on 1963

Taylor Branch learned about the reality of the segregated South growing up in 1950s Atlanta. The experience "started me thinking" and led to his interest in writing about Martin Luther King, Jr. Branch reflected on Birmingham's pivotal 1963 role in civil rights history as this year's Davis Lecturer.



21 Not Just Pill Counters

For more than 80 years, Samford-trained pharmacists have helped supply the health-care needs of their community. They help people understand their health, and provide immunizations and other preventive health services. Learn more about Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy in this special section.

29 An International Approach

Michael Johnson '87 speaks six languages, practices international law and serves as Honorary Consul of Germany for Alabama. His career is intertwined with other countries, languages and cultures, "to my great benefit," he says.



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Scan the QR code at left to view this issue of Seasons on your mobile device.

Cover: Samford biology professor Larry Davenport and student Autumn Combs, background, help complete a Habitat for Humanity home Dec. 8. About 90 Samford students, alumni and staff took part in the annual pre-Christmas effort, Davenport for the 10th straight year.

Keep Up with Samford News

Now there are more ways than ever to keep up with Samford news between issues of *Seasons* magazine.



Daily—News and feature stories are posted almost daily at www.samford.edu.



The Samford Chronicle—Samford's video newsmagazine is produced bimonthly and distributed at www.samford.edu and YouTube:

www.youtube.com/user/SamfordCommunication.



The Chronicle is hosted by Samford alumnus Brad Radice '99.



The Belltower—Samford's weekly electronic newsletter is distributed on Wednesdays and includes up-to-date campus news and alumni information.

To subscribe, contact bltwr@samford.edu or follow online at <http://www4.samford.edu/communication/beltower.html>. *The Belltower* is edited by Chandra Sparks Splond.



WVSU-FM 91.1—You can follow WVSU online at www.samford.edu/wvsu. Also enjoy sports, jazz and a weekly pharmacy feature, *Healthy Dose*, on WVSU.



Keep up with alumni news, events and other information at www.samford.edu/alumni.



Samford also is on Facebook, Twitter and other social media sites. To stay connected with what is happening on campus and to find out more, go to www.samford.edu and follow the links.

Have photos you would like to share with your friends and classmates? Send high-resolution digital photographs to samnews@samford.edu.

March 25 Wright Center presents Garrison Keillor, 7 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, samford.edu/wrightcenter

March 26 Faculty recital: Christina Villaverde, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts

March 28 Cabaret: *The Good, The Bad and The Old*, presented by Randall Richardson and students, 7:30 p.m., Bolding Studio, Swearingen Hall, samford.edu/arts

For a complete academic calendar, go to www.samford.edu/groups/sturec/acadcal_current.html.

For ticket information, performance details and schedule updates on all arts events, go to samford.edu/arts.

For schedules and information on Samford athletics, go to samfordsports.com.

For a list of Samford After Sundown classes, go to samford.edu/sundown.

For a list of Lay Academy of Theology classes, go to beesondivinity.com. ■

Information was compiled from the main university calendar as of Nov. 21, 2012. Dates, times and details are subject to change. Please go to www.samford.edu for a complete university calendar and updated information.

McGuire, Gettys Join Alumni Staff

Two Samford graduates have been named to posts in the university's alumni office.

Molly McGuire '10 joined the staff as associate director of alumni programs in September of 2012. She worked previously in the Samford admission office as an admission counselor and coordinator of orientation and special programs.

In her current role, she manages and oversees logistics related to on- and off-campus events, communication, student development and special programs. She also helps coordinate homecoming details.

A native of Newburgh, Ind., McGuire holds the bachelor of science in education degree from Samford.

Elizabeth Gettys '12 was named assistant director of alumni programs in October of 2012. She gained experience in alumni relations as an undergraduate through her service as a Samford Ambassador, serving one year as president. She earned Samford's Outstanding Service Award as a senior.

Gettys coordinates and trains alumni volunteers and manages logistics related to local and regional church conferences. She also assists in building regional alumni chapters.

A native of Alexander City, Ala., Gettys holds the bachelor of science in business administration from Samford.

David Goodwin, director of alumni programs, announced the appointments. ■

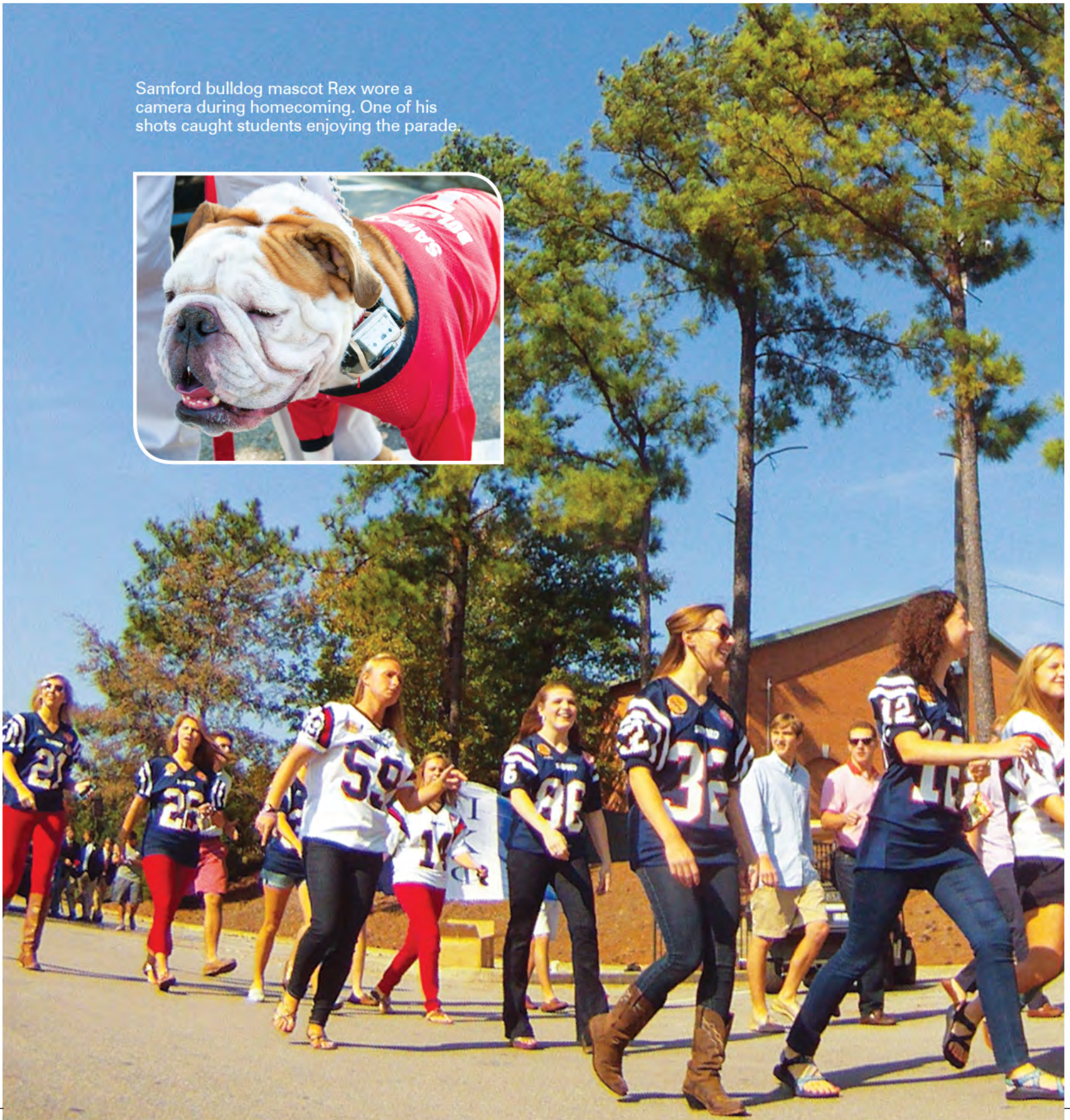


Molly McGuire



Elizabeth Gettys

Samford bulldog mascot Rex wore a camera during homecoming. One of his shots caught students enjoying the parade.



Samford Trustee Joe Godfrey '75 loosens up to run in this fall's Legacy League Sunset 5K, which raises scholarship funds for Samford students.



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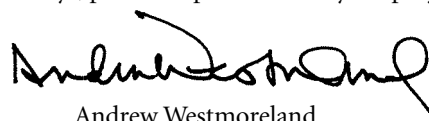
Celebrating a Legacy of Health-care Education

Members of the Samford University community are very familiar with the scope and depth of our academic programs. Yet, it is quite unusual for an institution of our size to offer such a diversity of curriculum options; 135 majors, minors and concentrations within ten undergraduate degree plans. Samford also offers 56 graduate and professional degree programs. Among the oldest of these programs, organized in 1927, is our pharmacy school.

Now named the McWhorter School of Pharmacy, the school awards approximately 120 Doctor of Pharmacy degrees each year and continues a distinguished legacy of health-care education. Here are a few things for us to celebrate about the McWhorter School of Pharmacy:

- All of the pharmacist faculty members in the department of pharmacy practice hold board certification, advanced residency training, and/or fellow status in their respective specialties. Members of our pharmacy practice faculty are among the most highly credentialed among pharmacy schools nationally.
- Pharmacy faculty and alumni are represented on the board of directors or other leadership positions of the American Pharmacists Association, the National Community Pharmacists Association, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacy, the Hematology-Oncology Pharmacists Association, the Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group, as well as state and local organizations. This is an exceptional level of professional involvement and is a testimony to the high esteem others within the profession hold Samford pharmacy graduates.

- Earlier this year, the pharmacy school was awarded its largest ever federal grant, just over \$865,000, through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation as a partner with the Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation.
 - The school has been recognized for its emphasis on providing opportunities for students interested in entrepreneurship and independent pharmacy ownership. About 30% of all Samford pharmacy graduates either have owned or currently own a pharmacy or related business.
 - Forty members of the pharmacy class of 2013 have completed or are scheduled to complete at least one academic course overseas. Through international partnerships and sending of students and faculty, Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy is Preparing Pharmacists Who Transform Lives all around the globe!
- As always, please keep Samford in your prayers.



Andrew Westmoreland
President

Dr. Westmoreland shares thoughts weekly at http://president.samford.edu/monday_mission.aspx.



report

Kiplinger's Ranks Samford a Best Value . . . Again

by Philip Poole

Samford University continues to rise on the annual list of best college values published by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine. In the 2012 list of top 100 "Best Values in Private Colleges" recently released, Samford was number 63, up two places from its number 65 ranking in last year's list and significantly higher than the number 80 rank two years ago.

Kiplinger's rates universities in five areas: cost and financial aid; student indebtedness; competitiveness; graduation rates; and academic support, which includes freshmen-to-sophomore retention rates and student-to-faculty ratio.

"The areas that *Kiplinger's* considers in determining its rankings are areas that are very important to Samford's constituents," said Jason Black, Samford's dean of admission. "To have this level of national recognition for our affordability and academic success is important to our students, their parents and our entire university community. It affirms the outstanding value of a Samford education."

The largest factor in the ratings is cost and financial aid, which helps Samford, Black noted. According to *Kiplinger's*, the most points go to "schools

with the lowest total cost—tuition, fees, room and board, and books—with equal points to schools that knock down the price through non-need-based aid."

Samford's total cost per year—\$34,400—was among the very lowest of the schools ranked. Only Brigham Young (\$17,552) and Indiana Wesleyan (\$31,964) universities were lower.

Samford compares favorably with its peers in this latest ranking. It is the only Alabama university on the private schools best values list. Earlier this year, the University of Alabama (89) and Auburn University (90) were ranked on *Kiplinger's* list of best public universities. Elon University (22) and Samford are the only two Southern Conference members in the *Kiplinger* top 100 rankings.

The list is available at www.kiplinger.com/reports/best-college-values and is published in the December print edition of the magazine. ■



Business, JMC to Offer Joint M.B.A. Degree

Samford University's Brock School of Business and Department of Journalism and Mass Communication [JMC] have formed a partnership that will allow JMC graduates with a business minor to remain at Samford and earn an M.B.A. during a fifth year. The program leading to an M.B.A.-JMC degree is one of about 10 such partnerships in the U.S.

"The goal is to give JMC students a better understanding of the business side of journalism, public relations and advertising," said Bernie Ankney, chair of the JMC department. "We hope when students graduate with this degree that they will look for jobs on the business side of journalism or even start their own businesses."

Ankney added that the launch of this partnership comes at a good time with recent trends and changes in newspaper, magazine and other media businesses. "There are a number of public relations boutique firms that are now beginning to offer niche PR, media and marketing services in industry-specific areas to their clients," he said. "The newspaper industry is on its way to becoming a smaller business that focuses on local news and that offers a whole range of media products to their subscribers and advertisers."

"Being marketable in several different areas will be key for our JMC students who will be graduating and looking for jobs in the next four to five years," said Howard Finch, dean of Brock School of Business. "Knowing the principles of business and how to run a business also are key skills they will need in our ever-changing job market." ■

Samford 13th Nationally in Study Abroad Participation

The Institute of International Education [IIE] ranks Samford 13th out of the top 40 master's-level institutions for the university's undergraduate participation in study abroad programs. Approximately 276 Samford students participated in Samford's International Programs for the 2010–11 period of the ranking.

Participation has increased dramatically even since that period, and Samford

currently offers more than 50 international study opportunities.

"Since 2010, we have increased study abroad participation at Samford by 30 percent," said Samford international programs director David Shipley. He said the growth of Samford's international programs runs counter to a national trend, which saw such participation "flatline at approximately a 1.3 percent increase."

Founded in 1919, the IIE is a private nonprofit leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. In collaboration with governments, foundations and other sponsors, IIE creates programs of study and training for students, educators and professionals from all sectors. These programs include the flagship Fulbright Program and Gilman Scholarships administered for the U.S. Department of State. ■

Helton-Crawford Scholarship To Benefit Nursing Students

by Mary Wimberley

Throughout her long career, Ima Joan Helton Crawford represented the gold standard of a nurse.

“Nursing was her life,” says Nelda Helton Jernigan of her late sister, who studied under legendary nurse educator Ida V. Moffett at Birmingham Baptist Hospital [BBH] and graduated in 1956. BBH was the forerunner of Samford’s Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing.

Crawford earned a master’s degree in nursing at the University of Alabama before working as a nurse in her hometown of Atmore, Ala. She returned to Birmingham to teach at BBH and “under Ida V. Moffett’s guidance,” says Jernigan, was instrumental in setting up the nursing education program at Jefferson State Community College.

After her marriage in the early 1970s, Crawford lived in Alaska and Illinois, where she continued her profession as a nurse and studied toward a doctorate degree while in Springfield, Ill. When she returned to Alabama as a widow in the 1980s, she supervised nursing homes in the Montgomery area until her retirement.

“She was a most giving person who continued her nursing skills and helped people throughout her life,” said Jernigan, adding that in retirement Crawford tirelessly volunteered through her church and community. “She is well remembered.”

Now, thanks to Jernigan’s desire that her sister’s legacy continue, and through the generosity of the late Mrs. Crawford’s estate, future generations of Moffett nurses will benefit from enhanced scholarship opportunities.

After Crawford’s death earlier this year, Jernigan learned of her sister’s wishes to assist Samford nursing

students. Through proceeds from an IRA that Crawford had designated to Samford and other monies from her will, a significant financial addition has been directed to an existing family scholarship fund at Samford.

The fund, which now totals almost \$100,000, surpasses a goal set recently by Jernigan, who wanted to see the fund reach \$90,000 in time for the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing’s 90th anniversary gala in October. The nursing program at Crawford’s BBH alma mater became a part of Samford in 1973.

The fund had its beginnings in the 1980s, when the two sisters sought a way to honor their late father, F. M. Helton, who had been a farmer in Atmore.

“He was not educated, but he loved education and wanted us educated,” Jernigan said of her father’s desires for his six children. “He believed in education.”

Jernigan, a retired teacher in Montgomery, Ala., holds degrees from Huntingdon College and Auburn University at Montgomery. Her late husband, Chester Jernigan, was a 1952 Samford graduate.

She is pleased that the F. M. Helton and Ima J. Helton Crawford Endowed Scholarship Fund will help future nurses to follow in her sister’s career path.

“My sister’s only legacy is her nursing,” said Jernigan.

“Through the scholarships, each time a student receives one, she will be remembered.” ■

For information on how to contribute to this fund or to create a similar one, contact Samford director of gift and estate design Stan Davis, J.D. '78, at 205-726-2807 or csdavis@samford.edu.



Ima Joan Helton Crawford

Walker Ministry Scholarship Honors Family Devoted to Samford

by Jack Brymer

Dr. Gerald Walker grew up three blocks from the old Howard College campus in East Lake. His family took in student boarders for income. Walker was determined to become a preacher and entered the ministry after earning his degree in 1948.

Over the years, he pastored churches in Kentucky, Florida, Alabama and Georgia. His gifts were in preaching and church planting. While a student at Howard, now Samford University, he was president of the Baptist Student Union and his fraternity.

He and his wife, Martha Lou Fagan Walker, were members of a family devoted to Samford. Earlier this year, family members established the Walker Ministry Scholarship with the Samford Legacy League in honor of Gerald and Martha Walker, and the more than 20 family members spanning three generations who attended Howard or Samford.

The scholarship was given also to honor Samford University for "superior Christian education" and to help students pursuing ministry as their life vocation.

The Walkers' only daughter, Cynthia Walker Watts, a 1971 alumna and Legacy League member, said the family remains grateful for Samford, and it is their desire to continue to be a part of the excellence in education provided by the university. "Samford meant so much to our family," she said.

The scholarship was established to help provide for students pursuing ministry as their life vocation "when other means are not available," said Watts. "And I mean ministry in its many definitions and directions," she said.

Watts' daughter, Daria Parker Wilson, and her husband, Stephen Henry Wilson, graduated from Samford in 1998. Another daughter, Tara Hilderbrand of Leeds, is pursuing a degree at Samford in nursing.

While a student at then-Howard College, Martha Lou Fagan was active in the Baptist Student Union and was known as a talented pianist. Until her illness confined her to her home, Mrs.



Martha Lou and Gerald Walker

Walker provided music and accompaniment for Samford University Auxiliary (now the Legacy League) events over the years. She was an officer in the auxiliary and a life member until her death in August 2012.

Mrs. Walker's two sisters, Mary Elizabeth Fagan Gann and Sarah Jo Fagan Smith, both attended Howard College and married preachers, Jesse Lee Gann and Charles Byron Smith, Sr. Her brother-in-law, L. Reed Polk, Sr., served on the board of trustees. Her nephew, L. Reed Polk, Jr., was in the first graduating class on the Lakeshore campus.

Dr. Walker's older brother, O. Lafayette Walker, was president of his class and went on to be dean of the Department of Religion at Stetson University in Deland, Fla.

Three sisters also attended Howard

College: Katherine Walker went on to work for the Florida Baptist Convention; Mary Elizabeth Walker married Howard alumnus Lonnie W. Funderburg, M.D., who later became dean of the anesthesia department in Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing at Samford. Their daughter, Rebecca Elizabeth Funderburg From, is an alumna of the nursing school. Martha Ann Walker married alumnus Billy Austin Shepherd. Their daughter, Sharon Shepherd Greeley, is an alumna of Samford University's school of education. ■

For information on how to contribute to this fund or to create a similar one, contact Samford director of gift and estate design Stan Davis, J.D. '78, at 205-726-2807 or csdavis@samford.edu.

Studying *the Faces of America*

Norman Rockwell Art Draws Viewers into the Lives and Landscapes of Ordinary Americans

by William Nunnelle



Rockwell images used with permission

Every mature nation has its symbolic landscapes,” wrote American geographer Donald Meinig. The U.S. has its Mount Rushmore and Lincoln Memorial, Paris its Eiffel Tower and London its renowned bridge.

But ordinary landscapes like suburbs, shopping malls and Main Streets can become symbolic through use, imitation and evolving meaning over time, according to Samford geography professor Jennifer Speights-Binet. And Norman Rockwell, who created 323 *Saturday Evening Post* covers between 1916 and 1963, is the perfect artist to illustrate this principle.

When people look at a Rockwell painting or illustration, they tend to focus on the faces, the exchanges happening between the people, said Speights-Binet. But many of his paintings also have rich and complex settings as well.

Students in Speights-Binet’s geography course this fall had the opportunity to study Rockwell’s creation of ordinary landscapes through the assistance of the Birmingham Museum of Art, which hosted a spectacular exhibition of Norman Rockwell’s America. The exhibition, which continues through Jan. 6, 2013, includes all the *Saturday Evening Post* covers and 52 original paintings and drawings by the artist.

“Geography is an intensely visual discipline, and it isn’t just about maps,” said Speights-Binet. “Geographers use visual methods to interpret the world around us, and representations of that world. American artists, especially someone like Norman Rockwell, whose work chronicles the twentieth century, can be invaluable in creating a visual history of the United States.”

One of Rockwell’s most famous illustrations is *The Problem We All Live With*, the first cover he did for *Look* magazine in January 1964 (see facing page). The illustration of Ruby Bridges being escorted into an all-white school is an iconic image of the Civil Rights Movement.

Pepies Truck in Alley with Onlookers and Frightened Dog (1949)



A study for *The Problem We All Live With* (1964)

However, Speights-Binet noted that Rockwell continued to challenge social norms that were being upheld by his largest fan-base—working-class, white America. Illustrations such as *Southern Justice* (1965) show three young civil rights workers seconds before they are murdered. Also, *New Kids in the Neighborhood* (1967) portrays two African-American children encountering white children as their family moves into a suburban home.

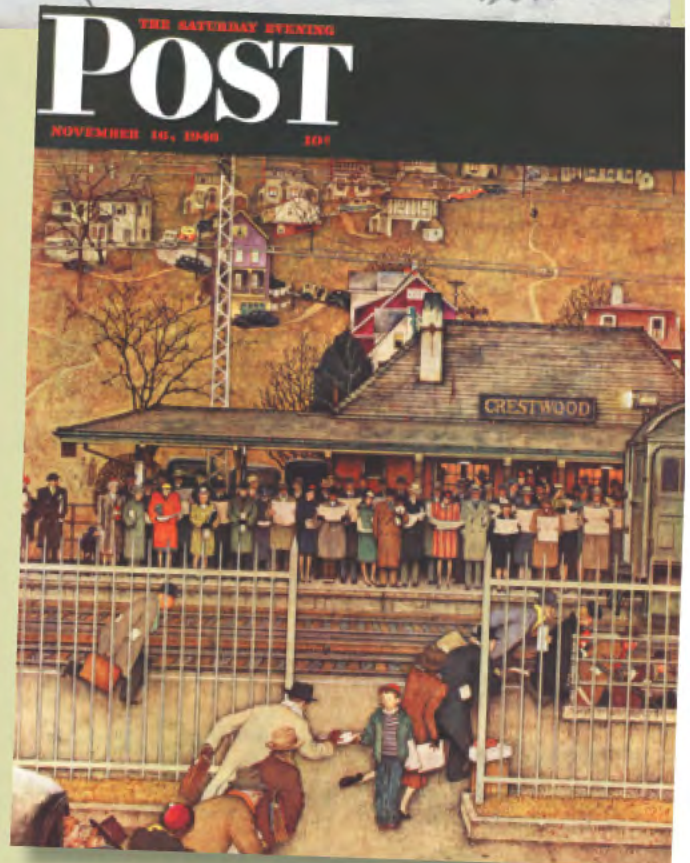
“Rockwell recognized that the battle for civil rights was playing out against a suburban backdrop,” said Speights-Binet. “This significance of *New Kids* is even more compelling when you realize that *Look* magazine was essentially targeted toward white suburban America.”

Rockwell’s earlier portrayals of American landscapes were perhaps less controversial, but no less significant, she said. “For example, consider the 1949 *Post* illustration, *Pepie’s Truck in Alley with Onlookers and Frightened Dog* (see facing page). The traffic jam caused by the dog is the first layer of the illustration, but when you consider the setting you can see that the neighborhood is urban, the family is multigenerational, and they seem to be crowded.”

These are distinctive characteristics of presuburban America, she noted. As the students studied the history of American cities and suburbia, they were able to situate the setting of this Rockwell cover into that history. As part of their final project, they had to choose a Rockwell painting and interpret it as a cultural landscape, then connect that interpretation to the course content.

Another illustration that Speights-Binet’s students connected to was *Commuters* (1946).

“At first glance, this is about American suburbanites catching a train to get to work in the city,” she said. “The students recognized that this type of commuting was associated with the Northeast where railroad suburbs were more common. In other regions of the country, automobile suburbs were dominating the landscape. Upon closer reflection, the viewer notices that the commuters seem to be standing at attention—a clear commentary on ‘good’



Commuters (1946)



Americans transitioning from the military workforce to the postwar economic workforce.”

“The Education Department of the Birmingham Museum of Art offers an ongoing program that enables students to explore works of art to help them develop 21st-century skills,” said Suzy Harris, assistant curator of education for the museum. “The museum was pleased that Samford’s class could study the many landscape depictions in Rockwell’s work.”

Alabama teachers had the opportunity to learn more about Norman Rockwell and *Ordinary American Landscapes* in a workshop and webinar taught by Speights-Binet for the Birmingham Museum of Art and the Picturing America Project in December. The Picturing America Project was established by the National Endowment for the Humanities in 2007 to bring masterpieces of American art into classrooms and libraries nationwide.

A 1994 graduate of Samford, Speights-Binet returned to teach at her alma mater in 2008. She holds an M.S. degree from the University of Edinburgh–Scotland and a Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. ■

To view Jennifer Speights-Binet’s webinar on Norman Rockwell and Ordinary American Landscapes, go to www.artsbma.org or contact Suzy Harris, associate curator of education at sharris@artsbma.org.

Samford geography professor Jennifer Speights-Binet, left, and Birmingham Museum of Art associate curator of education Suzy Harris are surrounded by Norman Rockwell *Saturday Evening Post* covers at the museum exhibit.

Avoiding a Sense of Desperation

by Sean Flynt

Don't trust anyone over 30? That may have been the rallying cry of some activists in the 1960s, but historian David L. Holmes might take issue with that advice. The author of books on the faiths of presidents and other leaders suggested that a personal sense of purpose and direction often arrives only after reaching that once-suspect age.

The Walter G. Mason Professor of Religious Studies, emeritus, at the College of William and Mary, Holmes has written *The Faiths of the Postwar Presidents: From Truman to Obama* (2012), *A Brief History of the Episcopal Church* (1993) and *The Faiths of the Founding Fathers* (2006).

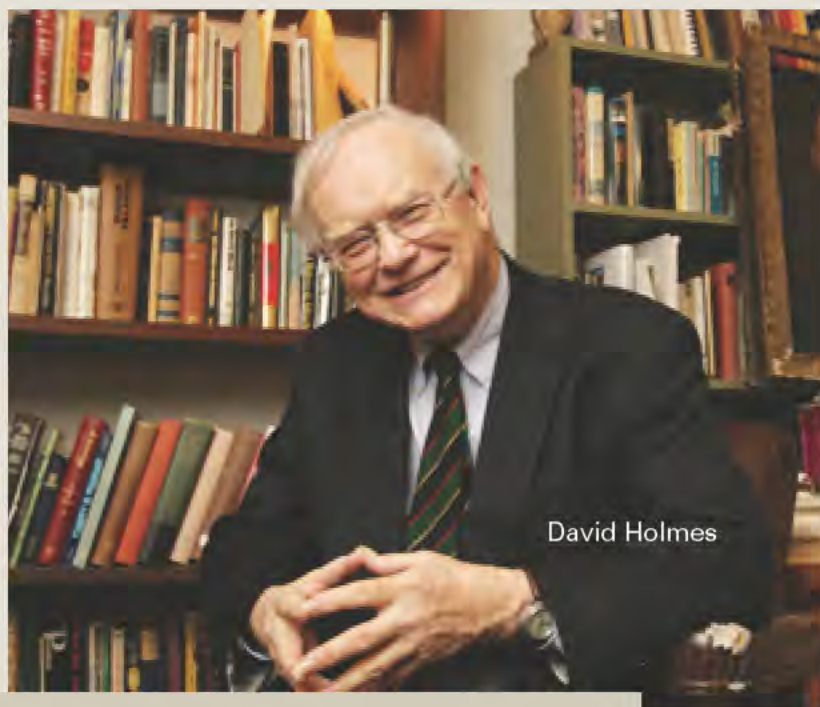
Hosted by the Department of Religion, he spoke at Samford Oct. 4 on the topic "An Avalanche of Premature Choices: Trusting in Age Thirty." He warned students against rushing into relationships and careers soon after the challenging and vibrant college years. Getting clear of that tumultuous time allows the real person to emerge, he said.

"The evidence indicates that most of us fail to know who we are, and hence what we want to do with our lives, until we are at least 25," Holmes said. "If Henry David Thoreau's aphorism that 'the mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation' is true—as I think it is—then premature choices may represent the principal cause of that desperation."

Holmes noted that many influential historical figures—Albert Schweitzer, Ronald Reagan, Dianne Fossey, Margaret Sanger, Malcolm X, C. S. Lewis and John Donne, to name a few—didn't find their calling until midlife. Even Buddha, Augustine of Hippo, Martin Luther and John Wesley fit that model. Holmes pointed out that Jesus is said to have begun his ministry at about the age of

30, in keeping with rabbinical requirements and traditions of the period.

The influence of these figures is well known, but Holmes lingered on the fictional portrait in Sinclair Lewis' 1922 novel *Babbitt*, an indictment of American culture and conformity. The book describes the life of George Babbitt, a man lacking the courage to truly follow his heart, who enters a loveless marriage



David Holmes

"The novel [*Babbitt*] embodies a critical truth for college students, and that truth is that we must follow our hearts and do what we really want to do in life, or else we may live lives of quiet desperation."

—David Holmes

and lives vicariously through his son before finally admitting his own emptiness. "The novel embodies a critical truth for college students, and that truth is that we must follow our hearts and do what we really want to do in life, or else we may live lives of quiet desperation," Holmes said.

One could waste life in the other direction, too, Holmes warned his

audience. "This convo talk is intended to be a license for exploration, not for play," he said. "But if your vocational vision has not yet come, then remain serenely confident that it will come, and perhaps around age 30." ■



Reflecting on 1960

by William Nunnolley

Taylor Branch remembers going to minor league baseball games in Atlanta, Ga., with his father, Franklin, and his father's friend, Peter Mitchell, when he was seven or eight. They would head out to Ponce de Leon Park not far from downtown to see the Atlanta Crackers play one of the other Southern Association teams, maybe the Birmingham Barons or the Chattanooga Lookouts. But they had to be careful not to appear too friendly with Mitchell, because he was African American and this was Atlanta in the 1950s, the segregation-era South. Blacks and whites didn't fraternize too openly during these times.

When they got to the field, Branch and his father went to the white section,

the better seats around the infield and near home plate. Mitchell walked down to the "colored" entrance and sat in a separate section down the right-field line.

"I don't like this," his father said during one of these excursions. That's all he said, but the youngster knew he was voicing his disgust with the South's system of segregation. "That was my earliest political memory," Branch said recently at Samford. His father and Mitchell worked together in Franklin Branch's dry-cleaning business, and they had "a unique bond" of friendship. When Mitchell died several years later, Branch and his father went to his funeral in an African-American church.

Branch, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his biography of civil rights leader

Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered the J. Roderick Davis Lecture Oct. 16 at Samford, where he was inaugurated in 1943. He painted a picture of the world of segregation that drew a college-aged audience of students whom were born after the dual system was dismantled.

"This was a different world," he said. Blacks and whites were "checked" as city cops enforced segregation in all aspects of society. "If you attended a meeting with members of the other race, your name would be written down. This was Alabama and the South in the 1950s. That's how I grew up."

Branch grew up in a system "steeped in thinking," and ultimately led to his interest in writing

about King. He said much of King's success in leading the Civil Rights Movement was forged in Birmingham thanks to the courage of the city's African-American high school students.

Even though King had conducted campaigns against segregation for several years when he came to Birmingham in April 1963, the system of separatism was as strong as ever. "Not a single public official across the South had advocated the end of segregation laws," said Branch, and the Civil Rights Movement was losing momentum.

Blacks began marches against segregation in downtown streets, and King was arrested on Good Friday for marching without a permit, a law that segregationist public safety commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor stringently enforced. King went to jail, and his hope was this would produce pressure on Birmingham officials to moderate their tone and also result in contributions to the Civil Rights Movement from around the nation. He remained incarcerated for eight

days, producing his famous "Letter from Birmingham Jail." After making bail, he issued an invitation for high school students to join the street demonstrations.

"King's 'Letter from Birmingham Jail' drew a great yawn across the country," said Branch, adding that it was taken as just another speech by the civil rights leader. "What charged the movement were the high school students that were willing to march."

The parents of the students were fearful for their safety in the face of Connor and his forces, but the students marched anyway. When the nation saw "kids marching against dogs and fire hoses," President John Kennedy was forced to initiate some action against segregation laws.

"The breakthrough in Birmingham changed the conditions of segregation" and other forms of discrimination, said Branch. "We are the beneficiaries of that nonviolent protest."

Branch had thought about going to medical school, he said, but more and more during his college days at

the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he was drawn to writing and reporting. He forged a career as a writer and editor for such publications as *The Washington Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Esquire*, *The New York Times Magazine* and *Texas Monthly*. But King and his crusade continued to fascinate him.

He began a study that evolved into a trilogy of some 2,912 pages, "America in the King Years," and required more than two decades to complete. Branch said his study of King taught him about hope, and quoted King as saying, "What is democracy but a cathedral of hope?" Branch said Birmingham's past "was a key to hope for America."

Branch won the 1989 Pulitzer Prize for his 1988 volume on King, *Parting the Waters*. His trilogy also includes *Pillar of Fire* (1998) and *At Canaan's Edge* (2006). "They are long," he admitted, "but I wanted to do some story-telling in the books, to make them human." ■

Birmingham Civil Rights Institute photo

'Kids marching against dogs and fire hoses' energized Birmingham's 1963 civil rights demonstrations, said Taylor Branch.

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE

TAYLOR BRANCH
AUTHOR OF PILLAR OF FIRE AND AT CANAAN'S EDGE

PARTING
THE
WATERS

AMERICA IN THE KING YEARS 1954-63



Fournier Study Details Mobile's Role in Trailblazing Ullman History

by Mary Wimberley

Edward Ullman may not be a household name, but several generations of geographers can thank the late professor for identifying critical concepts now accepted as basic tenets of economic geography.

Samford University geography professor and department chair Eric J. Fournier used a Samford Faculty Development Grant to chronicle a portion of Ullman's trailblazing research so that current and future geographers can know the genesis of these concepts.

Dr. Fournier wrote a chapter about Ullman in the book, *The Role of the South in the Making of American Geography*, published by the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers.

In the chapter, "Edward Ullman, the Port of Mobile and the Birth of Modern Economic Geography," Fournier outlines how Ullman's five months in Alabama's third largest city in 1940 lay a foundation for his later contributions to the field of economic geography. Much of Fournier's research was done at the University of Washington in Seattle, where Ullman taught for several decades.

Fournier acknowledges that Ullman, a Midwesterner who studied at Harvard and the University of Chicago before joining the University of Washington faculty, seems an odd subject for inclusion in a volume about the South's contribution to American geography.

However, Fournier writes, Ullman's doctoral dissertation on Mobile and his observations from the months he spent there influenced much of his later thinking and writing about cities, transportation and economic geography.

"Ullman's ways of looking at things are still used," said Fournier, who regularly cites Ullman in an upper-level globalization course he teaches at Samford. "Many basic concepts of economic geography were first described by Ullman."

For instance, Ullman's analysis of Mobile's traffic and transportation flows is considered a precursor to his later influential work on spatial interaction. "Mobile does not exist in a vacuum; it draws its support from surrounding areas," wrote Ullman.



Geography chair Eric Fournier chats with student Catherine Skewes.

His transportation-related observations, including speculation on the eventual construction of the Tennessee-Tombigee Waterway, inspired much of his later studies of regional networks, railroads and highways.

In 1940, little geographic work had been done in Mobile, or in the South in general, says Fournier. This meant that much of Ullman's study was based on firsthand information that involved the gathering, compilation and analysis of data from many sources.

Ullman's studies of newspaper circulation, retail trade and wholesale trade led to new concepts related to port hinterlands and tributary areas. He used data, such as out-of-town charge accounts for the city's leading department stores and the distribution of banks with deposits in Mobile financial institutions, to compile a map that showed tributary areas for the city. The widely reproduced figure shows how

different categories of goods have different trade areas.

Ullman's time in Mobile may have inspired his later research on physical characteristics such as climate being a factor in regional growth. While he found that "the greenness of the vegetation is striking, especially if one has come from the North in winter," Ullman noted the area's high humidity as "the most unpleasant feature of an otherwise comfortable climate."

Fournier called Ullman's dissertation, which was published as the book *Mobile, Industrial Seaport and Trade Center* in 1943, "a model study." He added, "It is clear that the Southern city of Mobile provided the inspiration for some of Ullman's later work, and by consequence inspired much of the past century's innovative work in economic geography." ■

Fisk to Represent Samford in Myanmar Initiative

Samford University professor Rosemary Fisk will participate in an Institute of International Education [IIE] initiative to develop partnerships with universities in Myanmar and to assist in rebuilding higher education capacity in the country. Nine U.S. colleges and universities are taking part in the initiative known as the International Academic Partnership Program [IAPP], although Samford is the only one from the South.

The IIE announced its plans on the heels of President Obama's historic trip to Myanmar Nov. 17–20 as the first American president to visit the southeast Asian nation also known as Burma.

Dr. Fisk, associate dean of Samford's Howard College of Arts and Sciences, will travel with the IIE

delegation to Myanmar in February to meet with the Ministry of Education—now headed by civilians rather than military officers—to discuss how strategic partnerships might help the country's new government rebuild its higher education infrastructure after years of closed or suppressed educational systems.

“If the universities can begin educating graduates to compete according to international standards, many will choose to become teachers and bring the reforms to the secondary level within a very few years,” said Fisk. “Thus, the ripple effect will impact the entire system.”

The delegation also will explore formal institutional partnerships that might benefit the U.S. universities as well.

Fisk spent a semester in 2011 as a Fulbright Scholar in Hong Kong, helping the city's public universities advance from three-year to four-year curricula. In

previous years, she has visited Myanmar as the leader of Samford travel study courses. The February visit will be her fifth to Myanmar in just over a decade.

In presentations in Yangon and Mandalay during the upcoming February visit, she will address the Hong Kong reforms that might apply to a range of schools

and professional programs in Myanmar. She will also showcase Samford's curriculum built around a core and additional general education courses.

Samford was selected as one of the IAPP schools based on its application that outlined its ability to develop linkages with institutions in Myanmar and its interest in providing capacity building services. Having faculty with experience in Myanmar was also a factor. The other schools selected were American University, Arizona State, Ball State, Hawaii Pacific, Northern Illinois, Northern Arizona, the

“If the universities can begin educating graduates to compete according to international standards, many will choose to become teachers and bring the reforms to the secondary level within a very few years.”

—Dr. Fisk

University of Massachusetts, Lowell and the University of Washington.

The IIE is an independent nonprofit organization headquartered in New York City that designs and implements international exchange programs for students, educators, professionals and others. Founded in 1919 and now with more than 1,000 member institutions, it works closely with the U.S. State Department and consulate officers through a network of 18 offices worldwide. ■



Rosemary Fisk



Tailgating, parade, bonfire and football highlight homecoming.

SAMFORD 2012 HOMECOMING



Alumni and Friends Transform Quad into a Giant Reunion of Happy Faces

by Mary Wimberley

A plain concrete bench brought back memories from 50 years ago for Cordell Harrison '63 and his wife, Alma McKee Harrison '63, at Homecoming 2012. It was a Homewood Lions Club bench like the one they were sitting on when Cordell gave Alma an engagement ring.

"It was our senior year, and the bench was outside her dorm, Vail Hall," said Harrison. They married the next year. The Harrisons are now retired after careers in ministry and education. They posed on the bench for photos snapped by his brother, Phil Harrison '68, and

sister-in-law Beth Harrison, of Shelby County.

Samford alumni enjoyed a host of such memories on a glorious October homecoming Saturday. Hundreds of graduates from various decades and time zones packed the campus quadrangle Oct. 13 for a day of tailgating and camaraderie.

Kate Bullock Speulda '06 and family came from Oregon. "I wanted to show them the campus," said Speulda, nodding to her husband, Nathan, and 1-year-old son, Benjamin. The religion major was looking forward to the

football game and the barbecue that was promised at the arts and sciences tailgate tent.

Lee and Holly Angel Dymond, back for their 20-year class reunion, claimed prime viewing spots along the parade route. The Montgomery, Ala., residents were joined by Craig '94 and Lisa Stokes Hyde '93 of Hoover, Ala., whose daughters Ali, 9, and Ella Jayne, 7, were game-ready in their red-and-blue Samford cheerleader outfits.

The 28-unit parade was led by a fire truck bearing the grand marshals, members of the 2011 and 2012 Southern



Conference women's basketball champions and Coach Mike Morris. The Zeta Tau Alpha float was judged best of all the units, many of which encouraged victory over the Appalachian State Mountaineers. Samford lost the hard-fought heartbreaker, 28-25, before more than 9,700 fans.

Kevin Kranzlein '87, with his wife, Kim, and their teenage daughter, Jessica, enjoyed the parade. "I came for my 25th class reunion, and also to introduce Jessica to the campus," said the marketing and finance major from Marietta, Ga., who had also enjoyed the morning "sing" with the A Cappella Choir in Reid Chapel.

In addition to class and organizational reunions, Homecoming 2012 included new elements that added a fresh vibe to the annual event.

The Orlean Bullard Beeson School of Education and Professional Studies tailgate tent offered a nod to Samford's growing contingent of Chinese students. Future Samford alumnus Yifan Yan, who is pursuing a master's degree in

education, served "real 100 percent Chinese tea" to thirsty alumni. "Homecoming is an exciting activity. I have enjoyed it," Yan said of his first such event.

"We wanted to give the Chinese students a feeling of involvement," explained education professor Jane Cobia, who had baked cookies using Alabama-grown pecans. It was a blend of Chinese and Southern cultures, she pointed out.

Culinary treats were served from many tents. But only one featured a live radio cooking show with executive chef Erik Holdo, a Samford dad whose daughter Dominique is a freshman, and on-air host Kevin Jenkins. The "Chef and the Fat Man" show has listeners in 42 states and 31 countries.

Many alumni were drawn to the Samford Memories tent, where historians collected written and oral history for inclusion in a new Samford history being written by university historian Jonathan Bass.

MKs Reunite

About 50 missionary kids—students whose parents were foreign missionaries—returned for a series of events, beginning with a Friday afternoon reception at the president's home hosted by Drs. Andrew and Jeanna Westmoreland. Brian Harper '88, M.Div. '93, of Seattle, Wash., recalled that he was one of 20 MKs who were freshmen in 1984 during a time when there were often almost 100 in the student body. He and others enjoyed visiting with Jay Tolar '94 of Charlotte, N.C.

"It has been wonderful to see people I haven't seen in many years," said Tolar, who reported he was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease in 2009. "Samford played a vital role in all our lives.

"When I got off the plane to enroll, I had never been here, but it was like I had 100 brothers and sisters," Tolar said of the special kinship felt by MKs.

Tim Tcherneshoff '82 agreed that MKs had much in common, "like two peas in a pod," regardless which part of the world they had lived with their

missionary parents. "We were like foreigners thrown into a foreign land," said Tcherneshoff, who spent much of his childhood in Brazil. He helped start a Samford soccer club that was comprised mostly of MKs who had played the sport as children.

The MKs enjoyed visiting with former administrator Tom Cleveland '60, who had helped many with the admission process, and former religion professor and missionary Bill Cowley and his wife, Audrey, who were like surrogate parents to many.

One of the older MKs at the events was retired medical missionary August Lovegren '42, whose parents were missionaries in China when he was a student.

That the MKs enjoyed the weekend was evident on Saturday afternoon when, well into the third quarter of the football game, peals of laughter rang out from under a tree on the quadrangle. It was MKs lingering after their tailgate lunch, still recalling good times.

Nursing at 90

Hundreds of graduates of Samford's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing and its precursor diploma program at Birmingham Baptist Hospital enjoyed events that capped a year-long 90th anniversary celebration. A Cap and Cape

Society brunch brought many early graduates together.

Guest speaker Regina Yarbrough, M.S.N. '08, focused on the contributions those alumni have made to the nursing profession. "They are the foundation of Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing," said Yarbrough, who as chief nursing officer at Princeton Baptist Hospital has been associated with many Ida V. Moffett nurses.

Class of 1948 graduate Juanita Page Lewis attended classes in the nursing school building on Birmingham's Southside. She recalled that Ida V. Moffett, the legendary nursing educator for whom the school is named, taught her nursing ethics class. Lewis later taught nursing at Samford.

Nursing events included a gala Living Legacy banquet at The Club in Birmingham. See <http://www.samford.edu/nursing/legacy-nominations.aspx>.

Opening and Closing Notes

Music and worship were a part of beginning and ending events at homecoming.

A choral vespers service on Friday evening featured participatory song and spoken prayer led by the A Cappella Choir and other Samford musicians.

At the popular annual Hymn Sing on Sunday afternoon, alumni were

joined by members of the community and area churches for congregational hymn singing with special music from the University Chorale.

The program included hymn requests from the congregation. Afterward, 1973 alumna Lynn Hazlegrove Stepleton said she especially appreciated one selection, "There is a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place."

"It was popular during our college years," said Stepleton, who remembered the hymn from Christian Emphasis Week and other programs. She enjoyed the Hymn Sing with her husband, Stan Stepleton '73, and her mother, Anne Hazlegrove. ■

Challenge of Classes Winners Recognized

One highlight of the homecoming alumni banquet was recognition of the 2012 Challenge of the Classes honorees who have shown special leadership through financial support of their alma mater. Alumni Association annual giving board president David Spurling '98 congratulated the leaders and givers.

Honored Classes

Class of 1942, highest percentage of donor participation (50 percent)

Class of 1961, highest amount contributed (\$1,045,939)

Class of 1970, largest number of donors (70)

Class of 2001, young alumni highest percentage of donor participation (8.84 percent)



Enjoying homecoming are, from left, Abby Sander and Tim Foote, queen and king; former football players Kelly Pool, Jim Ridgeway and Larry Cox; and the Samford Marching Band.



Class of '62 Enjoys Reunion Onstage

by Sean Flynt

Samford's Golden Anniversary Class of 1962 was literally at center stage for Homecoming 2012. The members dined and shared memories under the spotlights of Leslie S. Wright Concert Hall. The structure was named for the president who came to Howard College when they did and who helped shape their experience as students, alumnus Joe Dean reminded his classmates.

The 50-year alumni took their own turn in shaping the university with an anniversary gift of more than \$62,174, going their \$50,000 goal one better by

matching (and surpassing) their class year.

The alumni laughed over their adolescent foibles—playing in the snow in swimsuits and other hijinx for which the statutes of limitation have expired—and caught up on the intervening decades.

For many, their undergraduate experience was just the beginning of their orbit around their alma mater. Barbara Crider and husband, Bob '61, married during spring break of her senior year. A kind-hearted professor let her take a midterm exam early so she could rush to Dothan, Ala., in time for the rehearsal. The couple soon departed for the mission field in Spain, but children Todd, Stephanie and Tim attended Samford. The Criders returned to serve as missionaries in residence in the late 1980s, when Stephanie was serving on the Spanish language faculty. Barbara eventually

replaced Stephanie in that role.

Former voice major Frank Jacobs came to Samford as an older, married student with a dream of studying music for the first time. His only experience of performance was in "the peanut fields of lower Alabama," where soloists always "qualified the pianist" by asking if he or she could play a given selection. Auditioning for admission to Samford's vocal program with his green gospel songbook in hand, he timidly walked up to Howard's Steinway concert grand piano, where professor Witold Turkiewicz waited to accompany him. "Can you play this?" Jacobs asked. Turkiewicz grinned and said, "Yes, can you sing it?" Jacobs could, and did, and set out on the path that carried him around the world as a tenor soloist.

The Class of '62 recalled such moments of transformation, friendship and love, until they joined voices in a spontaneous verse of "Blessed Assurance." One of their number reminded them that when a professor was late to class, the students sometimes would sing to pass the time, "and it sounded like the A Cappella Choir." It still does. ■

Reliving memories of 50 years ago.



Golden Bulldogs

Share Stories from East Lake, '50s

by Mary Wimberley

The Golden Bulldogs, members of classes from 1962 and earlier, kicked off homecoming weekend with their traditional brunch in tents that afforded a special view of the campus and Shades Mountain. Some recalled that the grassy campus quadrangle was often a sea of red mud during their first year at the new Samford campus of the 1950s.

Many of the Golden Bulldogs attended Samford when it was Howard

College in East Lake, and shared memories from those days. Patti Mullins Donaldson '49 recalled the day she registered for her freshman classes. "I met Frank, who was a senior, and we had a date that same week," she said of 1947 graduate Frank Donaldson, her husband of 63 years.

Sigurd Bryan '46 remembers the trepidation he felt as a freshman. "I wondered if I could make it at Howard College and was pleased to find that I could," said Bryan. He not only thrived as a student, but returned in the 1950s with a Ph.D. and taught for 46 years on the religion faculty.

Brunchgoers from the 1962 reunion class included Elaine Brooks Alberson, who

recently moved to Brunswick, Ga., after many years as a county extension agent in her hometown of Butler, Ala. She recalled that she had been accepted to another college in the state, but visited Samford with a high school friend who was interested in the Birmingham school.

"Everyone was so friendly as you walked across campus," said Alberson. She decided then that Samford would be a better fit for her. Five decades later, she senses the same friendly spirit. "I can tell that the feeling continues on campus today."

Bryan and Patti Donaldson received the Lockmiller Clock awards as the male and female representing the earliest classes in attendance. A tie between Donaldson and Pat Trent Scofield, also a 1949 graduate from Birmingham, was settled good-naturedly as Donaldson confessed she was one month older than Scofield.

The Donaldsons are a two-clock family now; Frank won as the most senior representative at a previous homecoming brunch. ■

Left, Joy Blouin Chandler, Wilmer Baker and B. Glenn Chandler enjoy reunion on the Quad. Below, President Andrew Westmoreland chats with Sigurd and Sara Bryan and friends.



At the end of the Watergate movie *All the President's Men*, a series of *Washington Post* articles about the break-in and subsequent events scrolls across the screen. Ten stories appear about the scandal that brought the downfall of President Richard Nixon. Eight had the same byline: Tim Robinson.

Robinson was in the right place to cover one of the major stories of the 20th century. He was the U.S. District Court reporter for *The Post*. He covered

part of a civil rights protest in Selma in 1964. He died two days after the attack.

Robinson joined *The Washington Post* as assistant city editor in 1969 and shifted to the district courts beat in the early '70s. He covered Watergate in the early and mid-1970s before being named a Ford Foundation Fellow to Yale University in 1978. He left *The Post* in 1982 to edit the *National Law Journal* in New York City, and later edited another legal publication, the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*.

Jerry Jenkins Christian Writers Guild of Colorado Springs, Colo., in 2003 as admission manager.

Atcheson said he was surprised when he was asked to interview for the Billy Graham Library post in 2006 at age 63, when many of his friends had retired, but was excited when he got the job. "My evangelism upbringing fits well there," he said. ■

Robinson, Atcheson Added to Journalism Wall of Fame

Watergate thoroughly as it played its way through the courts, and one year had more front page bylines on the story than any other reporter.

Robinson and Wayne Atcheson, a communication specialist who became the first director of the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, N.C., were named to the Samford University Department of Journalism and Mass Communication Wall of Fame during homecoming activities Oct. 13. Selection to the wall is considered the highest honor the department can bestow on a graduate, according to department chair Bernie Ankney.

Both honorees worked their way through Samford and graduated in 1964.

Robinson, a native of Dora, Ala., worked on the state desk of the *Birmingham Post-Herald* and on weekends at United Press International [UPI] wire service while attending Samford. These assignments opened the door for him to cover another historic chapter of American history, the Civil Rights Movement.

Robinson got a national exclusive during his civil rights coverage—the only photograph of the Rev. James Reeb being taken to the hospital after being beaten by white thugs in Selma, Ala. Reeb, a 38-year-old white Unitarian minister from Washington, D.C., was

Robinson died at age 58 in 2003 following complications from surgery. Samford's Timothy Sumner Robinson Forum, which has brought nationally known journalism speakers to campus and provided an annual two-week summer fellowship to *The Post* for Samford journalism students, is named in his honor.

Atcheson, the son of a preacher from Clanton, Ala., worked his way through Samford handling sports information for the school. After graduation, he worked in the University of Alabama sports information office while completing a master's degree in journalism.

Atcheson became interested in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes [FCA] as a student, and worked for the national offices of the organization for 12 years in the 1960s and '70s. Later, he wrote a history of the FCA's first 40 years, one of six books he has written.

Following a short stint with the University of Richmond, Atcheson was hired by University of Alabama football coach Ray Perkins to direct sports information for the nationally prominent program. Atcheson worked for 20 years at Alabama in sports information, producing award-winning publications, and Tide Pride, the nation's most successful donor program for athletics.

He then joined the international



Wayne Atcheson



Tim Robinson

Living Legacy honorees gather at The Club.



GALA

Nursing Presents Living Legacy Awards

90th Anniversary

by Katie Stripling

Samford University's Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing honored 50 alumni with Living Legacy Awards during its 90th anniversary gala Oct. 13. The program capped a 10-month observance of the nursing school's founding in 1922.

The honorees "were selected for the impact they have had on the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of others," said nursing dean Nena F. Sanders. "These individuals have perpetuated Mrs. Moffett's legacy of academic excellence, caring, compassion and service around the world in order to make a significant impact on humanity."

The award recipients all hold degrees from the school of nursing or its forerunner, Birmingham Baptist Hospital. They represent a variety of specialties within the nursing profession, entrepreneurship and missions.

More than 425 attended the homecoming weekend program at The

Club in Homewood. Samford President Andrew Westmoreland said he was moved by the stories of the honorees and noted that the night was also about numbers—the school's 90-year history and the 50 outstanding alumni who represent the more than 6,000 Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing nurses around the world.

Teresa Stanford, a 2010 graduate of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, was typical of the award recipients, saying, "I am deeply honored to have received such a prestigious honor and gratified to have been able to enjoy the event with family and friends. I am so proud to be able to identify myself as a part of the Samford family."

In addition to recognizing alumni, the Living Legacy Gala raised essential funds for student scholarships. Presenting sponsor was Princeton Baptist Medical Center; gold sponsors included Pete Hanna Charitable Foundation and Money Family Trust. Jo

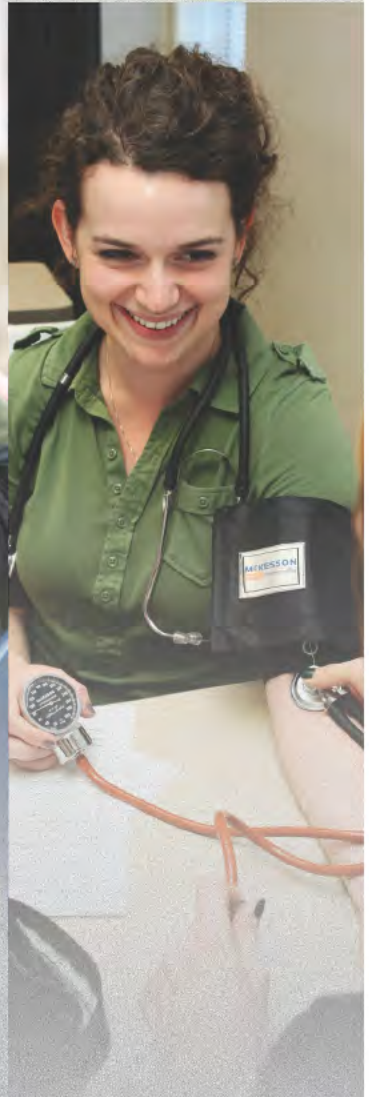
and Robert Kicker were benefactor sponsors.

Patrons included the Alexander, Sheffield and Warr families; Birmingham Baptist Hospital Class of 1959; Birmingham Baptist Hospital Class of 1967; Friends of LeeAnna Cunningham; Sallie and Greg Eagerton; Paula and Kerry Gossett; Frances Watts Johnston; Gretchen and Randall McDaniel; Nurse Anesthesia Class of 2005; Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Pope; Dr. Nena F. and Dr. Tommy J. Sanders; Gloria and Carl Schaefer; Samford CRNAs 4 Kids; Sherlock, Smith and Adams; St. Vincent's East; Trinity Medical Center and UAB Hospital.

Each Living Legacy honoree received an inscribed globe signifying the worldwide impact of Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing nurses. ■

See the complete list of Living Legacy honorees at <http://www.samford.edu/nursing/legacy-nominations.aspx>.

DO YOU THINK A
PHARMACIST
JUST COUNTS PILLS?



Think Again.

Sands



Pharmacists are one of the most trusted professionals and enjoy an average salary that exceeds \$115,000.

A Message from the Dean: 85 Years and Growing

The mission of Samford University's McWhorter School of Pharmacy is to nurture and prepare persons within a Christian environment to be exemplary pharmacists and to improve health worldwide through innovative pharmacy practice, scholarship and service.

Have you considered the important role your pharmacist plays in meeting health-care needs? Pharmacists do more than fill prescriptions. For 85 years, Samford University has provided pharmacy education that goes above and beyond to meet the health-care needs of the individuals served by Samford-trained pharmacists. Our graduates serve in neighborhood pharmacies and local hospitals, caring for the people in their communities. They are transforming lives, helping friends and neighbors to understand their health, providing immunizations and other preventive health services, and helping people to make the best use of their medicines.

From their very first moments at Samford, we help our students explore their calling to serve through the dynamic health profession of pharmacy. We provide unparalleled opportunity to experience everything a career focused on relationships and helping people can offer, with learning experiences in our own metropolitan area, in Alabama's historic Black Belt region—tying us back to the early days of the university—across the United States and in more than a dozen places in Africa, Asia and Europe. Whether across the street or around the globe, Samford pharmacists are making a difference!

In these pages, you will meet some of our graduates and current students who are making a difference, fulfilling the McWhorter School of Pharmacy's motto of "preparing pharmacists who transform lives." That's what we've been doing since 1927, and what we hope to be doing decades from now.

Charles D. Sands III
Dean, McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Samford University

"Pharmacists will be the health-care professionals responsible for providing patient care that ensures optimal medication therapy outcomes."

—Vision statement of the Joint Commission on Pharmacy Practice

Fact: Be a Pharmacist Within Six Years of Entering College

Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy allows students to experience two years of liberal arts education grounded in the sciences in preparation for its four-year pharmacy program.

Mariam Yousif, Second-Year Pharmacy Student

Chelsea High School graduate Marjam Yousif knew she needed to look no further than Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy for a program with a high degree of professionalism and commitment to personal integrity.

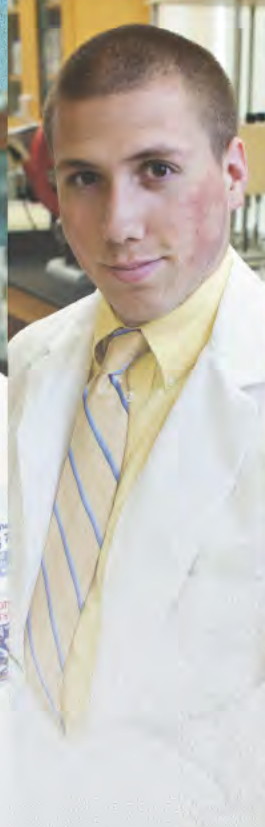
"I fell in love with the school and the campus, and I could pursue my dream career path [in] McWhorter's prestigious program—an all-around perfect situation," said Yousif. "Samford's prepharmacy program left me so well prepared for McWhorter's rigorous program. Less time in school means less school debt and achieving my dream quickly."

As a second-year pharmacy student, Yousif readily answers medical questions from patients, family and friends, demonstrating a commitment to service and sense of patient responsibility instilled in her at McWhorter School of Pharmacy.

"I love that people come to the pharmacy with medical concerns and look to the person in a white coat for guidance," said Yousif. "We are the 'drug expert' profession, and people recognize that. I have heard from multiple employers that Samford students are so well trained, very respectful and hold themselves to a very high standard, which makes them some of the absolute best pharmacists. You can't ask for a better compliment than that."



Yousif



Frydendahl



Jolly

Fact: Work Directly with Patients

Wes Frydendahl, Third-Year Pharmacy Student

Life changing. That's how Morris, Ala., native and Mortimer Jordan High School graduate Wes Frydendahl describes his experience in McWhorter School of Pharmacy. Thanks to the school's commitment to Christian values and patient care, students learn that pharmacists can—and will—make a difference in their local community.

"McWhorter's mission to prepare pharmacists that transform lives has truly enriched my educational experience," said Frydendahl. "I see how a pharmacist can actually change someone's life with the proper interventions. McWhorter has done a phenomenal job in

implementing this mission in the curriculum. While working at my local Walgreens after high school graduation, I was able to see the direct impact pharmacists were able to make on their customers with the broad range of knowledge they accumulated while in school. I plan on being a source of information about pharmacy and other various health topics for my community to use on a regular basis."

Erin Jolly, Third-Year Pharmacy Student

Gardendale High School graduate Erin Jolly sought pharmacy education at Samford to remain close not only to her family but also to her community. By

choosing pharmacy at Samford, she said she didn't have to sacrifice a quality education to stay close to home. She could also pursue a career that allows her to "provide a vital and necessary service to people."

Jolly always knew she wanted a career in a health-related field. "I like the flexibility and variety of options I can pursue in the profession," she said. "Pharmacists can play a vital role in helping patients to understand the importance of preventative health care and correctly following medical advice because of their accessibility to the community. With an emphasis on strong Christian backgrounds, McWhorter produces both mentally able and morally courageous pharmacists."

Anthony Bolus, Fourth-Year Pharmacy Student

When John Carroll High School graduate Anthony Bolus enrolled in Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy, he may not have been looking for a family, but he found one anyway. That's how the pharmacy program operates.

"[Faculty] care so much. It's such a positive environment, and they establish a plan to help you grow based on what

you want. Their support for students is really incredible," Bolus said.

Professors not only educate students, but they also help them set and achieve goals. Bolus experienced faculty support firsthand when he approached pharmacy faculty and Samford's WVSU-FM 91.1 general manager Andy Parrish with an idea for a radio show that allowed him to marry his passion for broadcasting with his chosen profession. With their input

and encouragement, Bolus launched *Healthy Dose*, a weekly radio show that features health tips from a pharmaceutical perspective.

"A lot of people think pharmacists just count pills behind the counter, and I thought this could showcase my profession beyond just filling prescriptions," said Bolus. "If I can somehow get through to one person who has learned something about a health risk, that's huge. It's optimizing patient outcomes to the fullest."

Jennifer Smith Campbell '00 District Pharmacy Supervisor, CVS/Caremark, Birmingham, Ala.

As a district pharmacy supervisor for CVS/Caremark, Jennifer Campbell has an unusual perspective on pharmacy, and she likes what she sees.

"When I graduated [from McWhorter School of Pharmacy] 12 years ago, we received written prescriptions from patients," Campbell said. "Now, technology has allowed physicians to e-scribe [electronically send] scripts to the pharmacy, and the patients are able to

receive a text message when the prescription is ready."

Campbell says that Birmingham is her home and a great place to live. "I wanted to be able to give back to the community that gave so much to me," she said.

Campbell notes that being a pharmacist has been very rewarding for her as she has always been interested in helping people through the medical profession. "You get to see the impact you have on people's lives," she said. "As a community pharmacist, you get to know your patients because you see them every month."

Campbell said one of the reasons she chose Samford was for its Christian roots. She encourages students to go to Samford because of its values and how well prepared students are when they become pharmacists. "It will change you and the people you care for across the counter," Campbell said.

William M. Box '83 Green Valley Drugs, Hoover, Ala.

William Box, owner of Green Valley Drugs, sees an expanded role for pharmacists and for pharmacy. In the future, he sees a more "clinical" role with the patient on how to use the medicine, as well as an education component on what is the role of drug in the body.

Other services for the local pharmacist in the future, Box suggests, are providing immunizations, and working with doctors on the selection of medicines and how they interact.

"Many patients have more than one doctor who may or may not know what the patient has been prescribed for a certain illness by another doctor," Box said. "The pharmacist knows all the medications and how they act and/or interact with each other."

Box believes Samford has blessed his life. "I would encourage any high school student to give Samford University serious consideration," he said.

McWhorter School of Pharmacy graduates achieve pass rates of national licensing exams that exceed national and state averages.

Campbell

Box

Bolus



Fact: Serve Your Community

Cedric Anthony Ngameni '11 Walgreens Pharmacy, Birmingham, Ala.

Cedrick Ngameni discovered Samford while searching the internet from Cameroon, Africa. He saw that McWhorter School of Pharmacy students went on mission trips. "Samford offered more than instruction and knowledge," he said. "It provided an opportunity for service, building character and doing missions."

Being located in a city that is known for its medical facilities is definitely an advantage, said Ngameni. It provides pharmacy students numerous opportunities for growth.

According to Ngameni, the local pharmacist provides many helpful activities for the community as well. For example, he works in a drugstore which is located in a high poverty area. Many people can't afford insurance or medicine, so they come to the pharmacist as their first line of defense. "Many times, I am able to provide reliable medical advice to improve their overall health condition," he said.

As to the future of pharmacy, Ngameni acknowledged that many changes have already taken place, but more are needed as the population increases and demands become greater. He cited the pharmacy's role in providing immunizations for influenza, shingles and pneumonia, "but," he said, "we've got to do more than that in the future."

Alex McNamara, Second-Year Pharmacy Student

Former Oak Mountain High School student Alex McNamara saw firsthand how well the school prepares their graduates.

"I was impressed when I learned that, in addition to challenging course work, McWhorter integrates rotational experiences into the curriculum from the beginning of our first year," McNamara said. "This allows you to gain work experience while also reinforcing the material taught in lecture. Samford is an excellent choice since the faculty and staff fosters the best education for their students and continually produces some of the top graduating classes in the nation for all schools of pharmacy."

Now in his second year of his pharmacy education, McNamara works toward fulfilling the school's mission to produce pharmacists who transform lives.

"Whether [you are] working in a retail, clinical or rural setting, being a pharmacist allows you to help the community as a health-care professional, which is what I wish to do, regardless of my practice setting."

Karlette Stewart, Third-Year Pharmacy Student

Like many Samford students, Ramsay High School graduate Karlette Stewart sought the Samford difference—a quality education in a Christ-centered community. What she discovered is that Samford students also make a difference, serving one another and the community.

"My religion and faith are a large part of my life, and I love the fact that [Samford] prides itself on providing exceptional education in a wonderful Christian atmosphere," said Stewart. "There is so much more to being a great pharmacist than being a master at the clinical aspect. You have to exude professionalism, be caring, and make your patients the number one priority at all times. McWhorter does a great job of making sure that its graduates thrive in each of those areas."

Stewart has participated in health fairs that offer patient education and basic health screenings. "We have been able to really make a difference in many lives by making people aware of potential health issues and getting them to visit their doctors," she said.

Ngameni



McNamara



Stewart



McWhorter School of Pharmacy has nine student organizations with more than 200 members who participated in more than 20 service projects in the last year.

Amy Guillory Boyles, Fourth-Year Pharmacy Student

McWhorter School of Pharmacy encourages students to look beyond the classroom. Alabama School of Fine Arts graduate Amy Guillory Boyles had the unique opportunity to collaborate with other medical professionals.

"It's the only pharmacy school in the area, allowing for a unique perspective when pharmacy students get together with students from UAB medical, nursing and optometry programs for interdisciplinary situations," Boyles said. "These exercises promote teamwork, collaboration and camaraderie to promote well-being for our patients. **Pharmacy is not a 9-to-5 job. Being a pharmacy professional is every minute of every moment of my life.** Serving my community is done daily by bringing the care and consciousness I have looking at a patient's chart to everyday interactions in my community."

Samford exposed Boyles to many different aspects of pharmacy. Former students are actively engaged in educating current students about opportunities that exist beyond pharmacy school. "I'm beginning my job search, and faculty help has been invaluable in connecting me to professionals who I can learn from and who can point me in the right direction for the next step in my career as a pharmacist," said Boyles.

Bethany Gaydosh Davis, Fourth-Year Pharmacy Student

McWhorter School of Pharmacy goes beyond simply filling students' minds with the latest pharmaceutical information, as Vestavia Hills High School graduate Bethany Gaydosh Davis discovered.

"McWhorter focuses on creating well-rounded pharmacists. The emphasis is not only on education, but also communication, leadership and patient care," she said.

"McWhorter School of Pharmacy is training pharmacists who can make a positive impact on patient care in the community. Throughout the four years, we are guided and molded into individuals with the communication skills and education necessary to enhance the lives of others. **It is exciting to be a part of a profession that is centered [on] serving the community.**"

Davis plans to serve patients in the independent pharmacy setting. "I want to educate people in the community on how

to have the greatest effect from their medication regimens. I also hope to be involved in community health fairs to make a difference in patient care," Davis said.

Lea Wolsoncroft '94 KidsMeds Pharmacy, Vestavia, Ala.

From "Navy brat" to pediatrics pharmacists, Lea Wolsoncroft has always been enamored with medicine and how it can make life better, especially for children.

Her curiosity on how drugs work began as a young student in Florida, working in the emergency room of a hospital. "It was pretty amazing how they could give a drug, open the body, fix the problem, sew it, and the person never know it," Wolsoncroft said.

Wolsoncroft worked in the pharmacy at Children's Hospital in Birmingham, but she soon learned that her passion went far beyond dispensing drugs. The local community pharmacist bridges the gap between healing and knowledge of drugs.

"Samford is a great atmosphere for learning," she said. "Not only do the professors get to know their students but many are cofaculty—meaning they not only teach, but also have clinical practices and work in their field."

McWhorter School of Pharmacy has experiential courses for course credit in the United Kingdom, China, Japan, Macau, Indonesia, Zambia, South Korea, Singapore and Vietnam.

Wolsoncroft

Davis

Boyles



Fact: Projected Shortage of Pharmacists by 2020

The future of the pharmacy profession is bright. Pharmacy is the perfect combination of a health-care profession with optimum patient interaction.

Stephen Hill '69 J & J Drugs and Compounding Center, Gardendale, Ala.

H. Stephen "Steve" Hill believes McWhorter School of Pharmacy is a good place to study pharmacy because it is located near many excellent medical facilities that provide job opportunities.

Hill also predicts a bright future for pharmacy. He sees the practice becoming more important as patients depend on pharmacists to counsel them on how to use the medication. "Counseling is greater than ever," he said.

He believes that compounding will become more popular, too. He sees the pharmacy becoming a community entity as it administers immunizations and provides other medical services.

Clint and Amberly Gentry '07 Gentry Health Mart Pharmacy, Vestavia, Ala.

Both Amberly and Clint Gentry were drawn to McWhorter School of Pharmacy because of the faculty, beautiful campus and emphasis on faith. "I absolutely love the school," said Amberly, who completed her undergraduate work in sports medicine in 2002 and the Pharm.D. in 2007.

The Gentrys have maintained their relationship with the school since graduation through continuing education classes, returning annually to Samford for homecoming and recently to



One of every six McWhorter School of Pharmacy students graduated from Birmingham metro area high schools.

the awards ceremony to accept the Shaddix Award.

"The future of pharmacy is bright, particularly for independent pharmacies," said Amberly. "As health care has gotten more complicated and more impersonal, there has been a shift toward the personal caring relationships that can come from local independent pharmacies," she said.

"Pharmacy will be a cornerstone opportunity for health care in the future. It is and will be the key to quick efficient health care, and there is no computer or mail order system that will be able to replace the relationship that you can develop with a community pharmacist."

Bradley Fowler Jackson '98 Rocky Ridge Pharmacy, Vestavia, Ala.

According to Brad Jackson, the pharmacist of the future will have to become more and more specialized. From

immunizations to clinical services in hospitals to compounding, the pharmacist will most likely be called on to do such things as DNA readings.

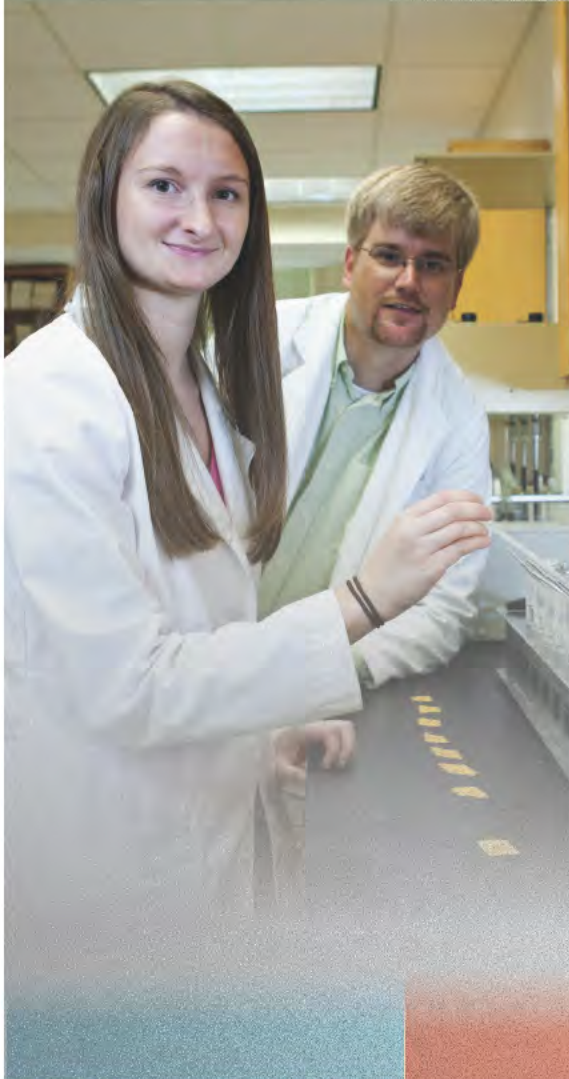
Jackson is convinced as well that both McWhorter School of Pharmacy and its location in Birmingham near many medical institutions is a positive. "Location plays an integral role in helping the students plug into the greater pharmacy field," he said, noting fourth-year rotations off-campus.

The fourth-year experience also helps students decide which field to enter, such as independent pharmacy, nuclear pharmacy, pharmaceutical research, infusion, managed-care pharmacy or a myriad of specialties.

He recommends the profession of pharmacy to prospective students as it provides, among other benefits, the opportunity for one to observe and assist people from all age groups and backgrounds.

BE A PHARMACIST

Rachel Woodall and John Arnold



Howard Hughes Grant Winner Chooses Samford for Research

When Georgetown (Ky.) College student Rachel Woodall received a Howard Hughes Medical Institute-funded research grant to use as she wished earlier this year, she chose to study at Samford's McWhorter School of Pharmacy. She said she had heard good things about the school and its research program.

She spent 10 weeks last summer working with pharmacy professor John Arnold on a project studying transdermal delivery, which enables drugs to be delivered into the body across the skin rather than by being ingested orally.

Dr. Arnold's specialty is pharmaceutics, a science that deals with how dosage forms affect how the drugs work in the body. The ultimate goal of pharmaceutics is to engineer medications that are made in such a way that patients can use them the most effectively.

"Transdermal drug delivery involves passage of drugs through the top layers of skin into the bloodstream," Woodall said. "Samples are extracted to help determine the release and absorption rate of tested drugs."

Woodall tested different anti-emetics (drugs effective against nausea) in topical

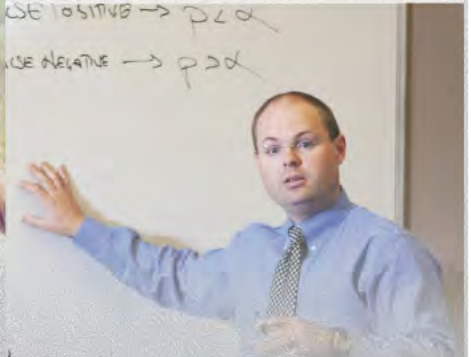
gels to see how quickly and how well the drugs penetrated through the skin. Delivering these anti-emetics through the skin would be expected to be more favorable than having to ingest oral drug formulations that might be objectionable in taste, particularly for patients already nauseated.

While her research was not always definitive, she and Arnold were able to identify several drug dosage formulation factors that enabled the anti-emetic drugs to penetrate the skin more effectively.

Arnold said pigskin was used as a barrier for drug penetration in the research because it most closely resembles human skin. Samford's scanning electron microscope was also used to determine what effects these gel formulations had on individual layers of skin.

Woodall called her summer of research at Samford "a good experience."

A senior majoring in chemistry at Georgetown, Woodall has a goal of earning a pharmacy degree. She already has applied to McWhorter School of Pharmacy and interviewed Dec. 1 for a place in next year's class.



BE A PHARMACIST

For more information, go to pharmacy.samford.edu



Preparing Pharmacists Who Transform Lives

Johnson Stresses the Value of International Education

by Jack Brymer

Michael Johnson speaks six languages, practices international law with the Birmingham firm of Johnston Barton Proctor & Rose, LLP, and serves as Honorary Consul of Germany for the State of Alabama.

He began charting his course in the direction of international business as a Samford undergraduate, earning his bachelor of arts in international relations and Spanish in 1987. While an undergraduate, he also carried out independent studies in Guatemala, spent a semester at the Université de Paris I and studied romance languages at the University of Alabama, with additional studies at la Universidad Complutense in Madrid. He earned a law degree from the University of Miami.

Johnson has worked extensively on trade and investments projects in Europe, Latin America and Africa. He spent five years as director of international development with the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama, recruiting industry and working on expansion projects.

You don't have to speak six languages, but learning another language and spending time abroad can be beneficial at many levels, Johnson believes.

"To truly glimpse one's own culture and native country objectively, one must spend time looking at it from the outside as well as experience a different culture," he said. Learning a foreign language creates many advantages both professionally and personally, he says.

Johnson gives Samford high marks for the international study opportunities it offers students. He noted that the school has both a summer study abroad program and an exchange program with separate German institutions.

"The language programs are excellent, and opportunities to engage in study and exposure to other languages and cultures abound," he said.

Samford has been engaged in exchange programs with Germany for more than a decade, one reason Johnson worked with the new German Consul



**"Alabama has benefited enormously from inward-bound German investment."
—Michael Johnson**

Michael Johnson '87, Honorary Consul of Germany for the State of Alabama, visits with, from left, Samford director of international initiatives Angela Ferguson, and Tanja Laub and Alina Bader, Samford exchange students from Germany.

General to the Southeast, Christoph Sander, to visit the campus this fall.

A career foreign officer who was named to his new post in August, Sander underscored the importance of international study programs during a Nov. 6 lecture. Based in Atlanta, Ga., he represents the Federal Republic of Germany in six southeastern states, including Alabama.

"Germany and the United States have much in common and can learn from each other with more involvement in business and education endeavors," Sander told an audience of students, faculty and others.

He stressed the importance of the Transatlantic alliance between the U.S. and Europe, particularly the European Union. He noted that Germany has considerable investments in Alabama, including the Mercedes Benz assembly plant in Vance, with its supplier network throughout the state, and the Thyssen-Krupp steel plant north of Mobile.

"Alabama has benefited enormously from inward-bound German investment, which creates thousands of highly skilled, well-paying jobs," Johnson said. "The future is certain to bring additional economic, academic, political and cultural ties," he added.

Johnson urged Samford students to think of study abroad and language acquisition as "an investment in one's future, which will likely bring solid returns." He said his own career and personal life are inseparably intertwined with other countries, languages and cultures, "to my great benefit."

Prior to his 2011 appointment as Honorary Consul of Germany to Alabama, he served 15 years as Honorary Consul of Brazil for Alabama (1995–2010). He continues to serve as legal adviser to the Brazilian Consulate General in Atlanta, covering six southeastern states. ■

CLASSNOTES

This issue includes Class Notes received through Nov. 19, 2012.

'53 **Betsy Barber Bancroft** of Vestavia Hills, Ala., is a much-published poet whose recent books include *Green Again* and *Wild Honeysuckle* (Pelican Publishing Company).

'56 **John H. Hayes** of Lafayette, Ala., reconstructs the challenges of daily life for Southern sharecropper families in his first novel, *Abanda* (Wipf and Stock). He is the author of many works of nonfiction, including a collection of essays, *If You Don't Like the Possum, Enjoy the Sweet Potatoes: Some Principles for Travel Along the Road of Life*. He retired from Emory University in 2007 as a professor of Hebrew.

'57 **William W. Givens** is interim minister for pastoral care at Wieuca Road Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga.

'69 **William J. Wynn, J.D.**, is the author of *It's the Law* (Doral Press). He is a retired Jefferson County circuit court judge.

'70 **Carol Ann Tyson** of Anniston, Ala., is a registered nurse at Stringfellow Memorial Hospital.

'72 **Jan Woods Connell, M.S.E.** '75, of Indian Springs, Ala., is a psychometrist with the Shelby County Board of Education.

'77 **William T. "Billy" Coplin, Jr., J.D.**, an attorney in Demopolis, Ala., was appointed to a three-year term on the board of governors of the American Bar Association. He is one of 38 attorneys on the national board.

Palmer Griffin retired after 35 years in public education in Homewood, Albertville, Ala., and Dalton, Ga. He was a classroom teacher, building administrator, director of operations and assistant superintendent for operations.

'78 **J. Mark Hart, J.D.**, of Birmingham has written his first novel, *Fielder's Choice* (Tradeworks Publishing). The book captures the struggle of coming of age in the soaring triumph and tragedy that were the 1960s.

'79 **Buddy Bunch**, a pharmacist in Guntersville, Ala., was appointed by Alabama Governor Robert Bentley to fill the independent practice position on the Alabama State Board of Pharmacy. His five-year term will begin in January.

Brenda Rushing French of Sandy Hook, Va., is polytrauma staff educator at Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Medical Center in Richmond, Va., and online faculty member for University of Phoenix. She is a certified rehabilitation registered nurse, certified brain injury specialist and a certified coach and mentor for the Veteran's Health Administration. She and her husband, Kevin, have two sons, Tucker and Taylor.

Donald A. Sullivan is network administrator for Samford. He and his wife, **Lori Littlejohn Sullivan '79, M.S.E. '82**, have two daughters, **Leigh Sullivan '08** and **Lauren Sullivan '11**.



Stan McFall

'81 **Stan McFall** is executive director of the Transafrican Education Network [TEN], a faith-based nonprofit organization based in Minneapolis, Minn. He was most recently senior pastor at Southtown Baptist Church in Bloomington, Minn.

TEN assists in the networking and foundational training of church leaders in Francophone Africa.

'85 **Susan Elaine Young Darby** is business manager for Birmingham Landmarks, Inc., the nonprofit owner of the Alabama Theatre and Lyric Theatre.



Annesley DeGaris

Annesley H. DeGaris, J.D. '88, was listed among the top 50 attorneys in *Alabama SuperLawyers 2012* in the area of products liability and is listed as a top Birmingham attorney in a peer review survey by *Birmingham* magazine.

He is a founding partner in the Birmingham law firm of Cory Watson Crowder & DeGaris.

Leighann Keesee McCoy of Franklin, Tenn., is the author of two books in her O God, Please series: *Oh God, Please Help Me with My Doubt* and *Oh God, Please Teach Me to Pray* (Freeman-Smith). She is a ministry trainer for LifeWay, a pastor's wife and a cancer survivor.

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'86 **Kerry Leeper Brock** is a social worker with Oconee Medical Center's Hospice of the Foothills in Seneca, S.C. She and her husband, Russell Peyton, have two children, Peyton James and Kathryn Grace.



Phillip Burgess

Phillip E. Burgess is in his 18th year as organist/choirmaster at St. Luke's Episcopal Church (established 1753) in Salisbury, N.C. He is on the keyboard faculty at Pfeiffer University in Meisenheimer, N.C.,

and is instructor of sacred music/collaborative piano at Catawba College in Salisbury. As the founder of the Salisbury Ecumenical Choir, he received a recent Humanitarian of the Year Award and the 2012 Mayor's Spirit Award for his efforts in improving race relations in area communities.



James Dixon

'87 **James Dixon**, pastor of El-Bethel Baptist Church in Fort Washington, Md., and president of the National African American Fellowship of the Southern Baptist Convention, was elected to the board of trustees of Columbia International Seminary

in Columbia, S.C. He also is vice president of the Centre Point Counseling Center in Maryland, and director of the Antioch Institute that trains African-American leaders in establishing self-supporting churches.

Sonya Stewart is processing coordinator at PNC Bank, Realty Services, in Pittsburgh, Penn.

'88 **Andy D. Birchfield, Jr.**, was selected for inclusion in the 2012 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*. He is a shareholder with the Montgomery, Ala., firm of Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C.

'89 **Gigi Burns Hoppe, M.S. '93**, and **Christian Hoppe, M.Div. '01**, live in La Mirada, Calif. He is spiritual director at Talbot Seminary. Gigi, a language arts teacher at Southeast Academy Military and Law Enforcement High School, is the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School

Smith Gets Surprise, Wins Education Oscar

by Mary Wimberley

ALUMNI

Samford education graduate Pamela Yau Smith '03, M.S.E. '08, received a big surprise during an early November assembly at Edgewood Elementary School in Homewood.

She did not know that the school-wide gathering was called to announce that she was the recipient of a Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, the "Education Oscar," and its unrestricted \$25,000 cash prize.

The award honors the exceptional work of educators as a model for the state and nation, and is being given this year to only 32 outstanding educators nationwide. The Milken Family Foundation is the nation's largest teacher recognition program.

Smith's award was presented by National Institute for Excellence in Teaching CEO and Milken Family Foundation representative Gary Stark and Alabama State Superintendent of Education Tommy Bice.

"This recognition of Pam Yau Smith as a Milken Educator is a direct reflection of her unwavering passion to ensure all students have a depth of understanding of math and science, and how that understanding applies to real-world problems needing real-world solutions," said Dr. Bice. "She is a role model for what rigorous and relevant instruction looks like in action."

Smith is a Learning Enhancement and Academic Design [L.E.A.D.] teacher of kindergarten through fifth-grade classes in which she focuses on hands-on math and science instruction. She collaborates with grade-level teachers to design technology-integrated, inquiry-based lessons. She is a National Board-certified teacher and a lead teacher for the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative.

She was one of four finalists for the 2011-12 Alabama Teacher of the Year award and was Elementary Teacher of the Year for the Homewood city school system the same year.

"I truly believe the education system lacks quality hands-on instruction," Smith told a reporter from *The Birmingham News*, explaining her reasoning to provide her students with "an extra dose of math and science each week." Her ultimate goal, she said, is to ensure that her students take what they learn inside her classroom and use it throughout their lives. ■



Pamela Yau Smith

District's 2012-13 Teacher of the Year. They have two children, Burns Allyn and Grayton Brienne.



James Smith

'90 James M. Smith, J.D. '98, joined the Birmingham law office of Wilkins Tipton, P.A. The firm's practice areas include general liability defense, construction defect litigation, the defense of nursing home and long-term care facilities, medical malpractice and product liability defense.

'91 Traci Odum Strom is senior director of marketing, public relations and communication for the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce in Duluth, Ga.

'92 Keith LeVeq Baker is human resources director for BP in Houston, Texas. He and his wife, Roxanne, have two children, Joshua Paul and Jackson Porter.

Stephen Louis Dillard was elected to a six-year term (2013-18) on the Georgia

Court of Appeals. He and his wife, Krista McDaniel Dillard '93, live in Macon, Ga., with their three children, Jackson, Lindley Kay and Mary Margaret.

Nikki Gaither Minoso, M.S.E. '93, of Vestavia Hills, Ala., is a teacher at Vestavia Hills High School.



Jeff Styres

Jeff Styres is senior counsel in the legal department of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company in Jackson, Miss. In October, he was reappointed by Mississippi Supreme Court Chief Justice William L. Waller, Jr., to a three-year term as

a member of the Mississippi Board of Bar Admissions. He also is an adjunct business professor at Mississippi College.

'93 Timothy Dion Bradford is director of pharmacy at Northwest Medical Center in Winfield, Ala. He and his wife, Michelle Shattles Bradford '93, have four children: Logan, Colin, Graham and Luke.

Steven Tynte Brown of Jonesboro, Ark., works in inside sales with Motion Industries.

Angie Darlene Lowe Byles of Rossville, Ga., is credit manager/staff accountant with AMG International/AMG Publishers in Chattanooga, Tenn. She and her husband, William, have a son, William.



Hunter Carroll

Hunter C. Carroll, J.D. '97, joined the Birmingham law office of Wilkins Tipton, P.A. The firm's practice areas include general liability defense, construction defect litigation, the defense of nursing home and long-term care facilities, medical malpractice and product liability defense.

Christopher Wayne Deering, J.D., '97, is an attorney with Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, P.C., in Birmingham. He and his wife, Amy Harrell Deering '93, have two children, Anna Katherine and Michael Christopher.

'96 **R. Todd Epps** is cytogenetics laboratory manager at Cytometry Specialists, Inc., an oncology diagnostics lab in Alpharetta, Ga. He and his wife, **Suellen Williams Epps**, '97, a school librarian in Duluth, Ga., live in Johns Creek, Ga., with their son and daughter.

Steven Lynn Simpson retired in October with the rank of major in the U.S. Army. He served 21 years of active service and nine years of reserve service, including combat tours in Kosovo and Iraq as a chaplain. He and his wife, Patricia, have two children, Keri and Casey.

Leslie Sorrell of Dallas, Texas, is celebrating the 10th anniversary of her political strategy firm, the Magnolia Group. She is a Fox News contributor.

'97 **Elisabeth A. French, J.D.**, is a member of the Class of 2013 of Leadership Birmingham, a group of leaders who look at issues, opportunities and solutions for the betterment of the community. She is a Jefferson County circuit court judge.

'99 **Jeremy Campbell** is an optometrist with Campbell Vision Center, Inc., in Russellville, Ala. He and his wife, Amy, have two children, Emma and Asher.

Bradley Clyde Dailey of Millbrook, Ala., is a business analyst with Regions Bank.

Robert A. Lucas, Pharm.D., clinical pharmacist residency coordinator at Blount Memorial Hospital in Maryville, Tenn., was elected president of the Tennessee Health-Systems Pharmacists Association. He recently retired from the U.S. Army Reserves. He and his wife, **Christy Lucas, Pharm.D.** '99, have three children.

Courtney Lora Craft Reeves of Lexington, Ky., is a clinical instructor at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing. She and her husband, Josh Andrew, have two daughters, Ruby Anna and June Elise.

Hadden B. Smith IV is video manager at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two children, Hadden V and Katelyn.

Julie Dorsch Weber of Villa Rica, Ga., is a nurse practitioner with Elite Healthcare Physical Medicine. She and her husband, Ryan, have a daughter, Ryan, and a son, Davis Reynolds.

'00 **Angela Hataway Trantham** is volunteer coordinator at Birmingham Zoo. She and her husband, Chris, have two children, Hataway Grace and Mary Holland.

'01 **India Baker Gold and Rusty Gold** '02, M.S.E.M. '07, live in Birmingham, where he teaches upper-level science at John Carroll High School and is pursuing a second master's degree from Samford. She is healthy lifestyles director at the Vestavia YMCA and an adjunct instructor at Samford. They have two children, Ruskin, 8, and Mari, 5.



Christopher Shaeffer

Christopher L. Shaeffer joined the Birmingham law office of Wilkins Tipton, P.A. The firm's practice areas include general liability defense, construction defect litigation, the defense of nursing home and long-term care facilities, medical malpractice and product liability defense.

'02 **Jennifer David** is production manager at The DeMoss Group, a public relations firm in Atlanta, Ga., specializing in faith-based organizations and causes.



Tripp Duesenberg III and Katie Conway

Tripp Duesenberg III and Katie Conway '08 married in June. They live in Alpharetta, Ga.

Christi Perkins Hu of LaGrange, Ga., is assistant professor and chair of the psychology department at LaGrange College. She earned a Ph.D. in behavioral neuroscience at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2009. She and her husband, Chi-Hao Hu, have a son, Alexander, 2.

Sharon Settle Mason of Marietta, Ga., is senior vice president, membership division, of the Cobb Chamber of Commerce.

Jill Renee Sampson Stone of Thompsons Station, Tenn., is a physical therapist. She and her husband, Jacob, have a son, Levi, 1.

Lindsay Schoenfeld Wells lives in Jonesboro, Ark., with her husband, Sutton, and their three children, Sutton, 6, Colt, 4, and Bentley, 2.

'03 **Kelli Renae Parrish Muncher** of Alexander City, Ala., is a response to

intervention/behavior intervention specialist at Central Middle School. She and her husband, **Michael Muncher** '02, have two children, Zoey and Abigail.

'04 **Amalee Smith** is a physician assistant at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Taylor Ashley Brooks Spratt of Trussville, Ala., is manager of fundraising and special events, Alabama/Mississippi, American Diabetes Association.

'05 **Katherine Ball** of Suwanee, Ga., is an auto claims adjuster with State Farm Insurance.

Scott Boyken and Katherine Bryan '07 married in Reid Chapel in May. They live in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Courtney Blair Worley Carlisle earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Alabama in August. She and her husband, **Nick Carlisle, Pharm.D.** '06, live in Wetumpka, Ala.

Kelsey Gilreath Graves of Chicago, Ill., has launched a community-focused website for sharing party ideas: www.weheartparties.com. She and her husband, **Joseph Graves** '06, have a daughter, Kate.

Mary-Wilkes Harris teaches English as a second language in Charlotte, N.C.

Andrew Kurek is an exercise specialist at Beyond Therapy TN, a Shepherd Center program in Franklin, Tenn., that works with spinal cord and other neurological injuries. He holds a master's degree in exercise science from Middle Tennessee State University and is pursuing a master's in occupational therapy at Tennessee State University. He and his wife, Maren, have two sons, Andrew Sullivan and William Finley.



Brian Bauman

'06 **Brian Bauman** is a mortgage loan originator at Aliant Bank in Birmingham, working at the Meadowbrook Corporate Park regional main office. He is a certified mortgage planning specialist.

Elisabeth Ruth Cook Knight of Louisville, Ky., is a case manager with New Hope Services.

Allison Provine, Pharm.D. '10, is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy in Nashville, Tenn.

'07 Britni M. Bradshaw graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in May. Her honors included the award given to the female in the top 25 percent of the class who is pursuing pediatrics. Her residency appointment in pediatrics is at Greenville Hospital System/University of South Carolina in Greenville, S.C.

Valerie Marie Higgins recently earned a master of business administration degree at the University of Maryland. She works at JL White and Associates, Inc., in Manassas, Va.

Casey A. McIntosh graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in May. His residency appointment in emergency medicine will be at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham.

Lindsay Eubank Oakley is co-owner of Lila & G, a customizable children's clothing line in Birmingham. She and her husband, **Todd Oakley '08**, have two daughters, Lila Kate and Anna Banks.

Tish Pilkerton Picklesimer is a physical education teacher and coach at The Ensworth School in Nashville, Tenn. She recently earned a master's in early childhood, elementary education and special education at Lipscomb University.

Ben Schmidt is market sales manager with the Golf Channel. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Franklin, Tenn.

William R. Stroud III graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in May. He received the obstetrics/gynecology award recognizing outstanding clinical work in patient care and communication with faculty and house staff. His residency in obstetrics/gynecology will be at University of South Alabama Hospitals in Mobile, Ala.

'08 Jonathan Christopher Bunio is implementation consultant with Callidus Cloud, a software company. He and his wife, Haley Christine, live in Hoover, Ala.

Kaley Renee Childs is an attorney with Abrams Garfinkel Margolis Bergson, LLP, in New York, N.Y. She graduated from Pace University School of Law in 2011.

Lauren Steele Ivy is director of brand ambassadors for Emory Group, LLC. She and her husband, William Langston, live in Nashville, Tenn.

Allison Nicole T. Lott graduated from the University of South Alabama

College of Medicine in May. Her residency in internal medicine/pediatrics will be at University of South Alabama Hospitals in Mobile, Ala.

Cody Hunter Penrod graduated from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in May. His honors included the community service award for public service. His residency in pediatrics will be at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

Luisa K. Reyes, J.D., an attorney in Hartsville, Ohio, tied for first place in the adult category of the Golden Voices of America international vocal competition. A scheduled early November performance with other winners in New York City's Carnegie Hall was postponed due to Hurricane Sandy.

'09 Michael Alec Phillips is a case manager with IMPACT family counseling in Birmingham. He and his wife, Carson, live in Gardendale, Ala.

Lindsey Vaughan married Britt Doss in May. They live in Birmingham.

Kelli Winn married Michael Andrew Johnson in May. They live in Birmingham.

'10 Eric Austin Bergquist is an associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers in McLean, Va. He recently earned a master's degree in accounting at the University of Alabama. He and his wife, **Megan Fitzpatrick Bergquist '09**, live in Arlington, Va.

Jason Michael Gossett, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, is a C-17 pilot/tactics officer with the 15th Airlift Squadron Joint Base Charleston in South Carolina. He and his wife, **Corrie Driggers Gossett '12**, live in Charleston.

Stephen Robert Moss is on the campus staff of Reformed University Fellowship in Knoxville, Tenn.

Audry Miles Bailey Munn, Pharm.D., is a pharmacist at River Oaks Hospital in Jackson, Miss.

Walton Reed is an internal auditor with BBVA Compass in Birmingham.

Julie Elizabeth Wilbeck, Pharm.D., is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn.

'11 Lauren Michelle Sharpe Denton is an editorial associate with Meredith Xcelerated Marketing in Des Moines, Iowa. She and her husband, Brett, live in Ankeny, Iowa.

Matthew Thomas Dixon is chief financial officer and accountant with Rick's Barbecue, Inc., in Leoma, Tenn.

Peter Allen Haley, M.M., is director of music at First Presbyterian Church in Anderson, S.C.

Denetra N. Hartzog, J.D./M.B.A., is a first-year associate with the Birmingham office of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP. She is a member of the firm's real estate and corporate and securities practice groups.

Jillian Nicole Laisure, Pharm.D., is pharmacy manager at Publix in Enterprise, Ala.

Madison Rene Hall Perkotiy is director of Harvest and Hope, an advocacy group for orphans around the world. She and her husband, Yuriy, live in Birmingham.

'12 Charles David Hopper III, M.S.E.M., of Weaver, Ala., is a wildlife biologist/conservation enforcement officer with the State Lands Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in Montgomery, Ala.

Clara Rustin, D.N.P., received the 2012 Nena F. Sanders Award from Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. The award, named for the Samford nursing dean, recognizes leadership, service and academic excellence. Rustin is a nursing faculty member at Mississippi University for Women and a family nurse practitioner at the university's campus health center.

Jennifer Lynn Taylor is an assistant at InStyle.com, a part of the Time, Inc., Style Network in New York, N.Y.

Lissa Anne Lehman Price is a registered nurse at Children's Hospital of Alabama in Birmingham. ■

newarrivals



Isaac Hurst Nation



Collin Peter Mantooth



Gabrielle Sloan Guice



Ruby Hart Lucas



Merritt Anne Goff



Hallie Ann James



Dianne Marie Thorn



Davis Garrett Holloway



Madelyn Marcella Godfrey

'88 Jonlyn Denise Nation of Brentwood, Tenn., a son, Isaac Hurst, born Jan. 8, 2011.

'94 Mark and Rachel Dwyer Mantooth '95 of New Orleans, La., a son, Collin Peter, born Sept. 11, 2012.

'96 Edward, Pharm.D., and Michele Lamb Guice, Pharm.D. '97, of Decatur, Ala., a daughter, Gabrielle Sloan, born Aug. 22, 2012.

Eric and Shelley White Lucas of Austin, Texas, a daughter, Ruby Hart, born Aug. 9, 2012.

'98 Jason and Jennifer Lynn McLean Arndt of Germantown, Tenn., a daughter, Rebecca Marie, born June 26, 2012.

'99 Frank and Carla Dorsch Cole of Panama City, Fla., a son, Christian Grant, born July 6, 2012.

Holly Hughey Goff and Josh Goff '00 of Birmingham, a daughter, Merritt Anne, born Sept. 12, 2012.

Ryan and Julie Dorsch Weber of Villa Rica, Ga., a son, Davis Reynolds, April 19, 2012.

'00 Chad and Tara Bourque James '01 of Birmingham, a daughter, Hallie Ann, born April 27, 2012.

Richard and Jenni Bearden Thorn of Jackson, Tenn., a daughter, Dianne Marie, born Oct. 25, 2011, welcomed home Dec. 16, 2011, adoption finalized June 25, 2012.

'01 Christopher Lee and Brianne Yvonne Mertens McIntyre of Tucson, Ariz., a daughter, Allie Marie, born Jan. 8, 2011.

Craig and Heather Goldman Newland of Madison, Ala., a son, Henry Alvin, born Dec. 20, 2011.

'02 Jacob and Jill Sampson Stone of Thompsons Station, Tenn., a son, Levi, born Oct. 18, 2011.

'04 Garrett and Ashley Lysette Rundall Holloway of Murfreesboro, Tenn., a son, Davis Garrett, born Sept. 23, 2012.

'05 Austin and Amy Henderson Godfrey of Jefferson, Ga., a daughter, Madelyn Marcella, born July 27, 2012.



Anya Chastine Lancaster



Ryan Phipps Thompson



Kiara Susan Paxson



Madelyn Elizabeth Matthews



Sally Paciencia Wolfe



Amelia Blake Ansley



Willis Mack Lassiter



Corban Bates Mullins



Tegan Jo Stanton

Ryan Wesley and Kara Jackson Lancaster of Streamwood, Ill., a daughter, Anya Chastine, born May 26, 2011.

Ryan David, J.D. '09, and Kate St. Clair Thompson of Birmingham, a son, Ryan Phipps, born Dec. 29, 2011.

'07 Lindsay Eubank Oakley and Todd Oakley '08, of Bessemer, Ala., a daughter, Anna Banks, born Nov. 21, 2011.

Justin Michael and Katrina Elizabeth Rodger Paxson of Louisville, Ky., a daughter, Kiara Susan, born Aug. 22, 2012.

'08 Chris and Brooke Matthews, Pharm.D., of Decatur, Ala., a daughter, Madelyn Elizabeth, born Dec. 20, 2011.

Jeff and Charlotte Sonne Wolfe, J.D., of Nashville, Tenn., a daughter, Sally Paciencia, born Oct. 31, 2011.

'09 Tim and Kendall Baker Ansley of Birmingham, a daughter, Amelia Blake, born July 12, 2012.

Jennifer Willis Lassiter and Eric Lassiter, Pharm.D. '11, of Mobile, Ala., a son, Willis Mack, born Feb. 10, 2012.

'10 Clayton and Amanda Rypel Mullins of Birmingham, a son, Corban Bates, born Sept. 20, 2012.

Kyle and Amanda Rice Stanton of New Port Richey, Fla., a daughter, Tegan Jo, born June 6, 2012.

Do you have a new arrival to your family? Send the information, along with a high-quality photo if you'd like to do so, to samnews@samford.edu. We'd like to know the child's name, the parents' names and Samford class year(s), the current city, the date your new arrival joined your family and any other pertinent details that you would like to share. ■

inmemoriam

ALUMNI

'39 **Ellen Ruth Isbell Smith**, age 95, of Homewood died Oct. 14, 2012. She was a longtime physical education teacher and guidance counselor at Ensley High School, where she also coached the cheerleading squad.

'40 **Nina T. Strickland**, age 94, of Oakhurst, Calif., died Oct. 26, 2012. She was a high school teacher and a founder of service and book clubs.

'42 **Francis "Nash" Collier, Jr.**, age 95, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Oct. 26, 2012. He taught chemistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for 25 years. He was the author of five books of poetry. During World War II, he taught in the Naval Officer Training Program and worked in the Chemical Warfare Service. He taught chemistry and math and was physics department chair at Samford during the 1940s and 1950s while pursuing a Ph.D. degree at Ohio State University.

Mary Elizabeth Walker Funderburg, age 93, of Birmingham died Oct. 10, 2012. She was religious education director at Birmingham's Southside Baptist Church and other churches, and a church organist. She met her husband of 67 years, the late Dr. Lonnie W. Funderburg '42, at Samford. The operating room that provides training for students in Samford's nurse anesthesia program is named in their honor. Memorials may be made to the Funderburg Nurse Anesthesia Scholarship, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

'43 **Frances Galbreath McDonald Locke**, age 90, of Birmingham died Oct. 2, 2012. A lifelong learner, she earned a private pilot's license in the 1970s and later earned a law degree. She was a longtime math teacher in Birmingham schools.

'46 **Carl Joseph Saia**, age 91, of Birmingham died Sept. 19, 2012. He managed tire companies and his family's shoe store, Carl's Bootery, in Ensley, Ala. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

'47 **James Noel Pittman**, age 86, of Roswell, Ga., died Nov. 12, 2012. He retired from Graybar Electric Company as manager of the Atlanta Zenith Division, and later retired as senior vice president of Hart-Greer Corporation. He served as a U.S. Navy lieutenant during World War II and the Korean War. He was a math

major at Samford, where he played varsity football and was vice president of the Student Government Association.

'50 **Hugh C. Bailey**, age 83, a member of the Samford faculty from 1953 until 1975 and later president of Valdosta State University, died Oct. 5, 2012, in Valdosta, Ga. Dr. Bailey earned a doctorate in history from the University of Alabama in 1953 and was the author of seven books, six on Southern history. A popular lecturer, he won Samford's John H. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching and various other awards. Bailey was named dean of Samford's Howard College of Arts and Sciences in 1970, serving until 1975, when he became academic vice president and dean of faculties at Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C. He was named president of what was then Valdosta State College in 1978. He was president of the south Georgia school until 2001, leading it to achieve university status in 1993. He led numerous campus building projects and oversaw the creation of Valdosta State's intercollegiate football program. He met his wife, Joan Seever Bailey '62, M.S. '67, at Samford.

Benny R. Gattis, age 93, of Columbia, Tenn., died Aug. 1, 2012. A pharmacist for more than 60 years, he retired from Holland's Apothecary in 2011. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

William L. Hacker, age 87, of Hartselle, Ala., died Aug. 12, 2012. He was director of missions for the Morgan County Baptist Association and a pastor in Decatur, Ala., and Centre, Ala. He was a U.S. Navy radio operator during World War II.

Ralph D. "Zeke" Isaacs, age 88, of Trussville, Ala., died Oct. 26, 2012. He was a businessman and co-owner of Vestavia-Bluff Park Hardware. He served in the European Theatre with the U.S. Army during 1943-46.

Glenn Milton Morton, age 90, of Vestavia Hills, Ala., died Dec. 25, 2011. A pharmacist, he retired from Parke Davis & Company after 30 years as a drug representative. After retirement, he worked at various drug stores until he was 84. He attended Samford after serving in World War II as a U.S. Navy pilot.

'51 **James R. Abernathy**, age 86, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Sept. 3, 2012. A

biostatistics professor at University of North Carolina, he was an international demographer who wrote many statistical papers. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Frances Manning Meeks, age 83, of Mobile, Ala., formerly of Sylacauga, Ala., died Sept. 9, 2012. A speech pathologist, she was an early director of the Speech and Hearing Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She owned several Sylacauga businesses and was a realtor and broker.

'52 **Doris Smith Ford**, age 80, of Georgetown, Ky., died Sept. 15, 2012. She was a retired school teacher and legal secretary.

Chester Jernigan, age 81, of Montgomery, Ala., died July 21, 2012. He served Baptist churches in Alabama and Florida, and was vice president for development of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama and director of development for the First Baptist Church Foundation in Montgomery.

'52 **B. H. Nunnelley, Jr.**, age 92, of Alabaster, Ala., died Aug. 6, 2012. He worked for the Alabama Army Ammunition Plant in Childersburg, Ala., and the State of Alabama Medicaid Agency. He was stationed in France and Germany during World War II.

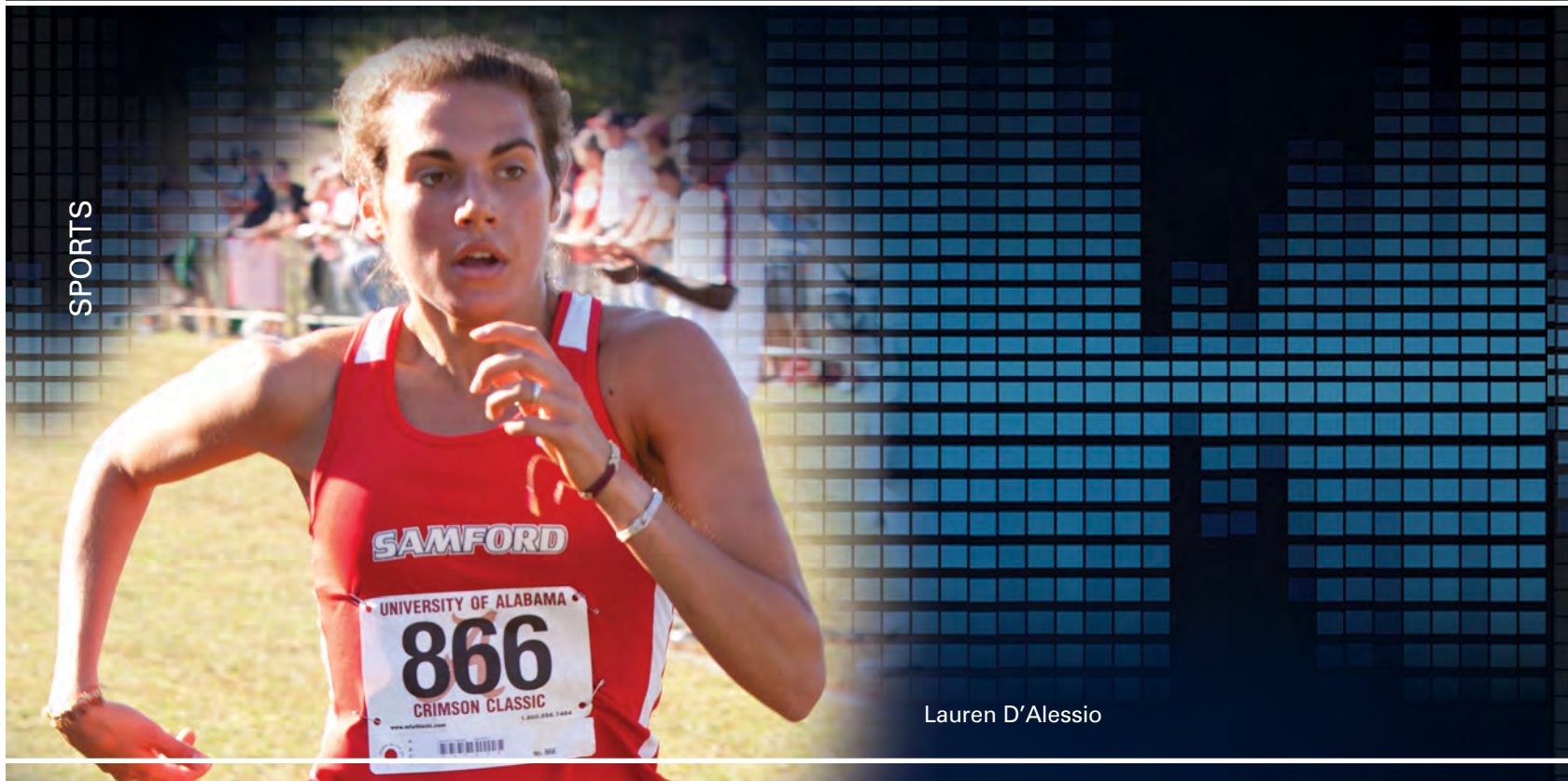
Winifred Abernathy Rodgers, age 84, of Beaufort, S.C., died Aug. 8, 2012. She was a dietician at Beaufort Memorial Hospital for more than 40 years.

'53 **Louise Royston Baker**, age 81, of Chapel Hill, N.C., died Sept. 24, 2012. She taught school in New York and Pennsylvania, and was executive director of the Women's Forum of North Carolina. She was a specialist in aging-related aspects of insurance, housing and consumer matters.

Bettye Ann Fletcher Gill, age 80, of Birmingham died Aug. 7, 2012. She was an organist, choir director and piano teacher who was active in music and arts societies. As a Samford student, she was chapel organist and a member of the A Cappella Choir and Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Memorials may be made to the School of the Arts, Division of Music, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.

Charles Roy Vance, age 86, of Vestavia Hills, Ala., died Oct. 10, 2012. A hospital administrator, he retired from Lloyd Nolan Hospital and later assisted in the Samford athletics department. He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War.

- Novella Elizabeth Jackson Vickers**, age 91, of Carbon Hill, Ala., died Oct. 6, 2012. She was a teacher at Carbon Hill High School and Wallace State and Bevill State community colleges, where she taught English and literacy to nonreaders. She retired at age 83. At Samford, she sang alto in a traveling quartet.
- '54 John Lee Armstrong**, age 79, of Birmingham died Nov. 1, 2012. He coached and taught at Samford for 32 years, posting the second highest football winning percentage in school history. He coached high school ball before and after his Samford coaching career, and was named Jefferson County Coach of the Year in 1976–77. He rejoined the Samford faculty in 1978 as assistant professor of health, physical education and recreation, retiring in 2006. He helped organize the first Alabama Special Olympics, and was president of the Kenny Morgan Scholarship Foundation Executive Committee, which raises scholarship funds for Samford students. Memorials may be made to the John Lee Armstrong Scholarship Foundation, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229.
- '55 Mary Patricia Powell**, age 79, of Birmingham died Sept. 14, 2012. She was a copy editor at *The Birmingham News* for many years and participated in international mission trips.
- '57 Joyce Ray Wheeler**, age 86, of Birmingham died Nov. 2, 2012. The wife of Samford research professor and former vice president of academic affairs, Dr. Ruric Wheeler, she was active in many aspects of campus life, including the Faculty Women's Club and Samford Auxiliary [now Legacy League]. She was a gracious hostess to Samford faculty and friends. Most recently, she enjoyed writing her memories for *Our Senior Times* newspaper.
- '60 Janice Wood Whitmire Brunbauer**, age 89, of Leeds, Ala., died Sept. 7, 2012. She was a teacher and music program specialist for Birmingham schools.
- B. Hicks Harwell, Jr., J.D.**, age 79, of Florence, S.C., died Sept. 9, 2012. He practiced law in Florence until his election as circuit court judge in 1995. After retiring from the bench in 2005, he practiced law until his death. He was a president of the Cumberland Student Bar Association.
- Connie Mack Perdue**, age 78, of New Port Richey, Fla., died Aug. 28, 2012. He was a minister of music before serving 25 years as a public school teacher. His choral music program at Gulf Comprehensive High School earned national recognitions. He served in the U.S. Navy before entering Samford, where he sang in the A Cappella Choir.
- Jerry Maxwell Ward**, age 76, of Valdosta, Ga., died Oct. 5, 2012. He was a football coach in Alabama and a school administrator in Georgia. He attended Samford on a football scholarship.
- '61 James David Prewett**, age 73, of San Diego, Calif., died Oct. 15, 2012, of prostate cancer. He was a counselor, chaplain and human relations trainer, consultant and businessman in commercial real estate and property management.
- '62 William Bryan Heard**, age 90, of Huntsville, Ala., died Oct. 23, 2012. He was a civil engineer at Marshall Space Flight Center. He participated in mission trips, donated many hours in construction and mechanical work, and was a hospital volunteer for 20 years. He was a bombardier in the Army Air Corps in World War II.
- '63 Cyril George Swatek, Jr.**, age 73, of Boaz, Ala., died Sept. 12, 2012, of cancer and kidney disease. He owned Leisure World Pools in Albertville, Ala.
- '64 Edith Schimmel Irwin Estes McMillan, M.A. '67**, age 90, of Birmingham died July 10, 2012. She was an English teacher and chair of the humanities division at Miles College. In retirement, she volunteered at the Vestavia Hill Library and in an adult education program. She earned her Samford degrees while raising her 10 children.
- '65 Billy Reid**, age 76, of Warrior, Ala., died Oct. 22, 2012. He was owner of Warrior Pharmacy and R & R Drugs. He was a member of the Alabama National Guard.
- '67 Beverly Jean Perry Wood**, age 89, of Birmingham died Aug. 18, 2012. She worked for the Social Security Administration.
- '68 Robert John Juster, M.B.A.**, age 85, of Auburn, Ala., died Oct. 24, 2012. A city planner, he was the first director of the Birmingham Regional Planning Commission and was research director for the Center for Urban Affairs at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He was author of *Municipal Planning in Alabama*. A native of London, England, he served in the British Royal Army in Germany during 1946–48.
- '69 William Elbert "Bill" Cash, Jr.**, age 65, of Birmingham died Oct. 25, 2012, of brain cancer. He founded three hospital pharmacy management companies: Pharmacy Resources, PharmaSource Healthcare and Principle Pharmacy Group. He was founder and executive director of the Gaining Life Initiative Foundation for brain cancer research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He served as chair of the McWhorter School of Pharmacy advisory board and was a Samford Alumnus of the Year in 2006.
- '70 Sandra Nicholas Taylor**, age 74, of LaGrange, Ga., died Oct. 17, 2012. She was a nurse and physician assistant for 40 years in Birmingham and Carrollton, Ga. She served in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard.
- '71 Neale Edward Rhea, Sr.**, age 74, of Bessemer, Ala., died Sept. 2, 2012. He retired from Wheel Truing Tool Company.
- '74 James D. Busey**, age 61, of Bedford, Ky., died July 27, 2012, as the result of a motorcycle accident.
- '77 Dale Elizabeth Quin, M.A. '82**, age 57, of Birmingham died Aug. 30, 2012. She taught for 31 years at Vestavia Hills High School, where she sponsored the yearbook and other activities. She taught English as a second language at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church. At Samford, she was one of the first women inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society.
- '79 Guy Edmund Reisz**, age 61, of Owensboro, Ky., died Sept. 3, 2012. He was a pharmacist at Mayfair Pharmacy and a board member at Independence Bank.
- '83 Sarah Louisa Manning, J.D.**, age 56, of Lexington, Ky., died Oct. 29, 2012. She was a prosecutor and chief felony prosecutor for Fayette County Commonwealth. At Cumberland School of Law, she was editor-in-chief of the *Law Review*.
- '96 James "Jim" Robert Hayes, M.Div.**, age 71, of Birmingham died Sept. 4, 2012. He was a minister.
- '08 William Redding Solomon, J.D.**, age 36, of Birmingham died Sept. 22, 2012. He was an attorney with the law firm of Shealy, Crum & Pike. ■



Lauren D'Alessio

Cross Country Champ D'Alessio Stresses Being Mentally Strong

Lauren D'Alessio has enjoyed running since she began playing soccer as an 8-year-old. She started running track in middle school, but it was not until she was a junior in high school that she took it seriously.

"That was the year I figured out I really had a passion for running competitively and could potentially be pretty good at it," said the junior distance runner for the Samford cross country and track team.

D'Alessio proved she could be better than "pretty good" by winning this fall's Southern Conference championship in the 5,000-meter run. That performance earned her SoCon Women's Runner of the Year honors and a trip to the NCAA Regional Championships. She finished 14th in the regional to qualify for the NCAA Championships in Louisville, Ky.

D'Alessio is Samford's first SoCon cross country champion and a three-time All-SoCon first-team selection in cross country and track.

Her formula for success is hard work and goal setting. She runs twice a day "to get in mileage every week," she said, and performs different "interval workouts at least twice and

sometimes three times a week." In interval workouts, she does exercises and several 1,000-meter runs at race pace between 3-mile and 2-mile runs.

Goal setting "gives me that extra drive to give 100 percent during training," she said. She sets specific times she wants to hit and other goals as well. For example, one of her goals was to make it to the NCAA Championships.

D'Alessio says the most difficult aspect of the sport is "your mentality as a runner." Not only do you have to physically train your body, "being mentally strong is crucial," she said. Running has taught her a lot, she said. "It has helped instill in me dedication and perseverance like nothing else could." She said it is "incredibly rewarding" to see the results of her hard work.

The nutrition major hopes to combine her interest in food and exercise in a career teaching the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. ■

For more information on Samford athletics, go to www.samfordsports.com.

Pat Sullivan

Sullivan Co-Coach of the Year as Bulldogs Go 7-4

Samford football coach Pat Sullivan was named Co-Coach of the Year in the Southern Conference after guiding his team to a 7-4 record this fall, the school's best since 2003. The Bulldogs also put together a 5-3 conference mark for their highest finish in league play since joining the SoCon in 2008. The Bulldogs tied for fourth in the league.

Samford wrapped up conference play with a 26-15 win at Elon Nov. 10. Running back Fabian Truss led the victory with a 219-yard performance that included a 75-yard touchdown run.

"This was a great win," said Coach Sullivan. "Fabian did a wonderful job. Also, I can't say enough about the job our defense did."

Truss finished the season with 1,063 yards and 11 touchdowns rushing and led the conference in all-purpose yardage. The junior from Birmingham also returned 23 kickoffs for 624 yards and a touchdown, and caught 35 passes for another 291 yards. His all-purpose yardage total was 1,978.

Quarterback Andy Summerlin directed the Bulldog offense, passing for 2,269 yards and 10 touchdowns. Wide receiver Kelsey Pope caught 68 passes for 552 yards and four touchdowns. Truss and place-kicker Cameron Yaw led the Bulldogs with 72 points each, and Yaw finished his four-year career with a school-record 303 points scored—all by kicking.

Safety Jaquiski Tartt and linebacker Darion Sutton led the defense in tackles with 94. Tartt also led in interceptions with

four returned 132 yards and pass breakups with 10. He returned two fumbles a total of 80 yards.

Four Bulldogs—center Ryan Dudchock, defensive end Nicholas Williams, Tartt and Yaw—were named to the Coaches All-Conference first team. Three others—Truss, Pope and offensive tackle Jacob Kirschenbaum—were named second-team All-Conference. Tight end Tony Philpot and defensive backs Trey Wesley and James Bradberry were named to the All-Freshman team.

Tartt was also named an All-American by Sports Network and College Sports Madness.

Bulldogs Jeremy Towns and Michael Prendergast were named to the Capital One CoSIDA All-District Academic Team. Towns, a defensive lineman, holds a 3.85 grade point average in sports medicine. Prendergast, a safety, has a 3.88 average in biochemistry.

Among Samford's victories were a 24-17 overtime win over Wofford and a 38-7 decision over The Citadel. The Bulldogs came close to beating perennial SoCon champion Appalachian State, but lost to the Mountaineers, 28-25, on a touchdown pass with 22 seconds left. Wofford and Appalachian finished in a three-way tie for first in the SoCon with Georgia Southern. ■

Volleyball Goes 23-9, Wins SoCon North

The Samford volleyball team won its fourth Southern Conference Northern Division title in five years this fall. But the Bulldogs lost their bid for a second consecutive SoCon title, dropping a 3-1 decision to College of Charleston in the conference tournament semifinal round.

Coach Derek Schroeder's team finished 23-9 overall, going 14-2 in SoCon regular season play.

Sophomore Michaela Reesor and senior Lauren Hutchinson were All-Conference first-team selections. Junior Katie Murphy made the second team.

Reesor, an All-Freshman selection last season, was the only underclassman on the first team and one of only two underclassmen on either the first or second team.

"What a great breakout year for Michaela," said Coach Schroeder. "I'm so proud of her improvement. She will be a foundation for us retooling next season."

Reesor led Samford in kills with 439. She broke the single-match school record with 33 kills in a five-set win at Wofford, earning SoCon Player of the Week honors. In addition, she ranked second on the team with 314 digs.

Hutchinson, earning her second first-team accolade, led Samford in blocks (102) and was second in kills (331) and hitting percentage (.348). Murphy made her second appearance on the second team. She led Samford in hitting percentage (.360), ranked second in blocks (70) and third in kills (283). ■



Trine Taule

Michaela Reesor

Soccer Falls in Tournament After Strong SoCon Season

The Samford soccer team put together another strong showing in Southern Conference play this fall, going 8-1-2 to finish second in regular season standings. But the Bulldogs stumbled in the first round of the SoCon tournament, losing to College of Charleston, 2-1, to end their season with an 11-7-2 overall mark.

"I'm proud of our players this season," said Yelton after the tournament defeat. "Overall, I thought they battled. Hopefully, the sting of this loss motivates us to be better next season."

"It's a cruel game we play," he added. "Sometimes you create tons of chances and you come away with nothing from them."

The score was tied, 1-1, before Charleston scored a goal in the 84th minute of the tournament game.

For the season, Samford outscored opponents, 32-25. Trine Taule led scoring with 14 points. Adrianne Mancino and Brittany Hoffman added 12 points each, Michelle Moll 11 and Lindsey Hansen 10.

The Bulldogs return eight starters

next season, but will be without the play of graduating seniors Mancino, Sabbath McKiernan-Allen and Kaley Blanton.

Mancino, McKiernan-Allen and Moll were named to the All-SoCon first team, and Hoffman and Taule to the All-Conference second team. Alissa Hansen was named to the SoCon All-Freshman team.

Yelton completed his 11th season as head coach. His teams have posted a 135-60-30 record. ■

Samford AFROTC Named Best in Alabama

by Sarah Waller

Samford University's Air Force ROTC Detachment 012 received the Most Outstanding Unit Award from the Air Force Association, recognizing it as the best detachment in the state of Alabama.

Along with the award, which was presented at a Nov. 7 ceremony at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala., the detachment received a cash donation for its booster club and the honor of providing a home for a traveling trophy for the next year.

Outranking larger detachments at schools such as the University of Alabama and Auburn University, Detachment 012 was recognized for its excellence in training, commitment to service and relationship with Samford. The detachment's mission is to produce second lieutenants for the United States Air Force.

"We knew the detachment was the best; we were just waiting for confirmation," Samford President Andrew Westmoreland said in a congratulatory email to the detachment.

Over the past year, the detachment has undergone a complete reorganization of its training program, according to Col. Brian Landry, detachment commander. With a stronger focus on developing leaders of character, the new structure allows older cadets to practice leading younger cadets through a multitude of training and service projects.

The new training structure paid off because the detachment earned a 100 percent pass rate at last spring's physical fitness assessment, a difficult task for an



Samford's AFROTC detachment serves six area colleges.

entire detachment to achieve.

The award also recognizes the detachment's efforts in community service with organizations such as Wounded Warriors and Habitat for Humanity, and it commends Samford for the support it gives to the detachment and its cadets. The cadet wing worked more than 2,000 hours in community service projects last year.

Senior cadet Jenny McBride said she has always felt supported by Samford in her decision to join Air Force ROTC, but she saw the visualization of it at May's commencement ceremony.

Four cadets were commissioned

into the Air Force a day before the ceremony. As the four students walked the stage to receive their diploma, they were asked to remove their graduation gowns to reveal their service uniforms underneath. "They all received standing ovations," McBride said.

Located at Samford, Detachment 012 serves the entire Birmingham area with 56 cadets representing six area schools: Samford, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Miles College, Jefferson State Community College, the University of Montevallo and Birmingham-Southern College. ■

Samford pharmacy professors, from left, Rachel Slaton, P.J. Hughes and Maisha Freeman will serve as coprincipal investigators.



Pharmacy Gets \$865,568 Grant To Help Reduce Avoidable Hospitalizations

by Mary Wimberley

Samford University's McWhorter School of Pharmacy will receive an \$865,568 federal grant to assist with an initiative to reduce avoidable hospitalizations among Medicare-Medicaid dual enrollees in 23 Alabama nursing home facilities.

The grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [CMS] is part of a program led by the Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation [AQAF], one of seven organizations that will partner with CMS to improve quality of care and reduce hospitalizations among nursing home residents at 145 sites nationwide.

In Alabama, the Samford pharmacy school and nine other health-care-related partners will provide enhanced on-site services and support to nursing facility residents. The nursing homes are located in 14 counties in central and north central Alabama.

Pharmacists at Samford's Global Drug Information Service [GDIS] will provide evidence-based decision support for health-care providers and educate health-care professionals regarding the rational use of

medications, said GDIS director Maisha Kelly Freeman, Pharm.D.

"The pharmacists will implement quality improvement projects to reduce the risk of adverse events and avoidable hospitalizations related to use of high-risk medications," said Dr. Freeman. "They will also provide continuing education seminars on the appropriate use of medications, facilitate training sessions with nursing personnel and evaluate the success of the educational initiative."

Freeman and pharmacy professors P. J. Hughes, Pharm.D., and Rachel Slaton, Pharm.D., will serve as coprincipal investigators on the project.

The initiative will be run collaboratively by the CMS Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, both created by the Affordable Care Act to improve health-care quality and reduce costs in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Nearly two-thirds of nursing facility residents are enrolled in Medicaid, and most are also enrolled in Medicare. Research has found that about 45

percent of hospitalizations among Medicare-Medicaid enrollees receiving either Medicare skilled nursing facility

services or Medicaid nursing facility services could have been avoided. Total costs for these potentially avoidable hospitalizations were estimated to be between \$7 and \$8 billion for 2011.

In addition to Samford, other partners in the AQAF-led project are the Alabama Department of Senior Services, Alabama Department of Public Health, Alabama Medicaid Agency, University of Alabama Center for Mental Health and Aging, University of Alabama at Birmingham Department of Gerontology and Palliative Medicine, Alabama Nursing Home Association, Alabama Hospital Association and Alabama Medical Directors Association. AQAF received a total of \$15.2 million in grant money from CMS for the project.

AQAF serves as Alabama's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization. Other organizations receiving CMS grants to pursue the initiative are Alegant Health (Nebraska), The Curators of the University of Missouri, Greater New York Hospital Foundation, Inc., HealthInsight of Nevada, Indiana University and UPMC Community Provider Services (Pennsylvania). ■

George Speaks at Vatican



Pope Benedict XVI greets Dean George.

Dr. Timothy George underwent an intensive refresher course in Latin this fall. It occurred as the dean of Samford's Beeson Divinity School participated in a three-week assembly of Roman Catholic clergy and representatives of other Christian groups at the Vatican in Rome.

Dr. George attended the 13th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops Oct. 7–28 as chairman of the Doctrine and Christian Unity Commission of the Baptist World Alliance, addressing the group Oct. 16. He has been active in the ecumenical dialogue between Baptists and Catholics for years.

Pope Benedict XVI greeted George the day after his address. George spoke to the Pope in Latin, telling him that many Baptists around the world “prayed for him and his witness for Jesus Christ.”

As a fraternal delegate to the meeting, George and other delegates were invited to take part in theological discussions with the 285 Roman Catholic bishops in attendance from around the world.

“We worked 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., six days a week, including Saturday,” George told *Birmingham News* reporter Greg Garrison. “The Puritans couldn’t teach the Catholics anything about work ethic. My Latin really improved those three weeks.”

Among the topics under discussion were the role of technology in spreading the gospel and the violent situations in which some Christians are being called on to live out their faith. George told Garrison the discussions resulted in “greater mutual understanding,” adding, “We’re very candid about where we disagree on scripture. Dialogue does not mean compromise.” ■

To read George’s remarks delivered at the assembly, go to www.beesondivinity.com and click on “From the Dean.”

Lectureship Named for Bunch by Loyola Chicago Medical School

Samford philosophy professor Wilton Bunch was honored this fall by Loyola University Chicago’s Stritch School of Medicine with the naming of a new annual lecture in his honor. The lectureship was funded by alumni and faculty.

The school invited him to deliver the inaugural Wilton Bunch Lecture in Medical Ethics in Orthopaedic Surgery Oct. 11 in Chicago. “I was tremendously pleased with this great honor,” he said of the event, “but what meant the most to me was how many former residents and faculty came back for the event.”

Bunch chaired Loyola’s Department of Orthopaedic Surgery from 1975 to 1985, having previously held an endowed chair of a surgical department at the University of Virginia. He went on to serve as dean of medicine at the

University of Chicago and Dean of the College of Medicine at the University of South Florida before a divinity degree led him to a second career in philosophy.

Bunch, who holds B.A., M.B.A., M.Div., M.D., and Ph.D. degrees, joined Samford’s faculty in 2000. He has focused on ethics for Beeson Divinity School, Howard College of Arts and Sciences and the University Fellows honors program.

His medical career is impressive. His orthopaedic research included studies of muscle cell membranes, the biomechanics of the human spine, changes in blood flow during anesthesia and changes in electrical activity of the spinal cord during the correction of spinal deformity. He also has been an innovator in the development of surgical procedures. ■



Wilton Bunch

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highlights

- Jan. 3** Jan Term classes begin
- Jan 5** 7th Annual Samford Honor Band, samford.edu/arts
- Jan. 12** Alabama Symphony SuperPops concert: The Music of Ray Charles, 8 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, alabamasymphony.org
- Jan. 21** Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, no classes, offices closed
- Jan. 22** The Avalon String Quartet, presented by the Birmingham Chamber Music Society, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall
- Jan. 24** Jan Term classes end
- Jan. 25, 27** Opera Birmingham presents *Madama Butterfly*, Wright Center Concert Hall, operabirmingham.org
- Jan. 28** First day of classes for spring semester
Wright Center presents Ed Asner as FDR, 7:30 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, samford.edu/wrightcenter
- Jan 28–Feb. 28** Exhibit: Recent Works by James Joshua Pickens, Samford Art Gallery, samford.edu/arts
- Jan. 29** Opening convocation, spring semester
- Jan. 31** Legacy League Scholarship Luncheon, speaker: Karen Kingsbury, 11:30 a.m., Vestavia Country Club, samford.edu/legacyleague
Birmingham Art Music Alliance presents Duo Gastesi-Bezerra, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 1** Vespers featuring A Cappella Choir, 5:30 p.m., Hodges Chapel
- Feb. 2** University Fellows interviews, samford.edu/fellows
Preministerial Scholars Day, samford.edu/premin
- Feb. 5** Faculty recital: Kristin Kenning, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 5–7** Biblical Studies Lectures, speaker: Bruce Winter, research professor and director, Institute of Early Christianity, Queensland Theological College, St. Lucia, Australia; hosted by Beeson Divinity School, beesondivinity.com
- Feb. 8–10** Freeman Theatre Series presents *Shout! The Mod Musical*, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 12** Morris Guest Artist Series presents Lowell Lieberman, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 14** Davis Architects Guest Artist Series presents Jon Kimura Parker, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 14–16** Step Sing
- Feb. 18** Hodges Lectures in Ethics and Leadership, 6 p.m., Bolding Studio, Swearingen Hall, samford.edu/manncenter
- Feb. 19** Alabama Symphony Concertmaster and Friends, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, alabamasymphony.org
- Feb. 22–23** School of the Arts audition weekend, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 22–24** Alabama Ballet presents *Sleeping Beauty*, alabamaballet.org
- Feb. 26** Davis Architects Guest Artist Series presents Ritz Chamber Players, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- Feb. 27** Black History Month presentation: “The History of the Divine Nine,” speaker: Lawrence Hall, cosponsored by National Pan-Hellenic Council and Samford’s Office of Greek Life, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 28–March 2** Freeman Theatre Series presents *The Trip to Bountiful*, Harrison Theatre, samford.edu/arts
- March 1** Vespers featuring A Cappella Choir, 5:30 p.m., Hodges Chapel
- March 2** Alabama Symphony SuperPops concert: Linda Eder, 8 p.m., Wright Center Concert Hall, alabamasymphony.org
- March 4–14** Exhibit: Visual Arts Achievement Program, Samford Art Gallery, samford.edu/arts
- March 5** Samford Orchestra concert, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- March 5–7** Conger Preaching Lectures, speaker: Mark Jeske, pastor of St. Marcus Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Wis., hosted by Beeson Divinity School, beesondivinity.com
- March 10** Clarinets for Conservation recital, 3 p.m., Bolding Studio, Swearingen Hall, samford.edu/arts
- March 12** Faculty String Quartet recital, 7:30 p.m., Brock Recital Hall, samford.edu/arts
- March 15–17** Opera Birmingham presents *The Magic Flute*, Wright Center Concert Hall, operabirmingham.org
- March 17** Harlem Globetrotters, 4 p.m., Hanna Center, samford.edu/ops/hanna
- March 18–22** Spring Break