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# ALUMNI LINK

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Your Alumni Connection to Union University

## Record-breaking crowd turns out for Homecoming 2003

By Staff



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More than 300 alumni and guests turned out for Union University's annual Alumni Awards Luncheon, the largest in the history of the event, according to Gary Williams, associate vice-president for Institutional Advancement - Alumni Services.

Students and alumni discovered "There's No Place Like Home" through a number of special events and activities that were scheduled throughout Homecoming 2003 weekend.

The Founder's Day Chapel honored the Class of 1953 with 50-year reunion medallions and featured Fisher Humphreys, professor of divinity at Beeson Divinity School of Samford University.

Humphreys outlined the history and development of Christian doctrine and denominations, emphasizing the contributions of Union alumni

and faculty who have impacted Baptist life.

Thirty-five participants in Union's football program, which last fielded a team during the 1952-53 academic year, attended the Feb. 15 Alumni Awards Luncheon and Homecoming basketball games where they and coach Robert Jelks were honored. Jelks, a former player himself, was Union's final football coach.

On Feb. 12, 2003 Christian recording artist Bebo Norman performed during chapel and at a coffeehouse in Coburn Dining Hall that evening. The show was attended by more than 600 students, faculties, staff and alumni.

A tailgate party sponsored by the Freshman Council preceded the basketball victories on Feb. 13. The Bulldogs defeated Lambuth University 74-59 and the Lady Bulldogs defeated the Lady Eagles

82-66. Following the games, students enjoyed the traditional bonfire complete with hot chocolate and s'mores.

All-Sing performances drew a packed house Feb. 14, in the G. M. Savage Memorial Chapel. Zeta Tau Alpha sorority won the large group competition and Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity took first place in the small group category.

At halftime of the Lady Bulldogs 116-54 victory over Blue Mountain College, Reagan Carfield was crowned Homecoming Queen 2003, and the Presidential Cup was awarded to the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority for outstanding performance in the week's activities. Later, the Bulldogs defeated Hannibal-LaGrange College 66-51.

*(Editor's Note: With additional reporting by Tracie Holden, '04)*



## Jerome Teel: Your gift makes an impact



Jerome Teel  
NAA President

I am excited and humbled about the opportunity to serve as president of the Union University National Alumni Association. Our alma mater is a wonderful institution of which we can be proud, and I trust that you will continue in your support of her. I greatly appreciate the work my friend, Steve Maroney, did as President of the Alumni Association for the last 2 years. As an association, we have made great strides under Steve's leadership, and if you get the opportunity, please express your appreciation to Steve as well.

Many thanks to Gary Williams and his staff for making Homecoming 2003 a huge success! We had 320 alumni and guests at the Alumni Awards Luncheon which is the largest attendance in the history of the luncheon.

The annual Founders' Day Chapel has become one of the highlights of Homecoming week. This year we were honored to have the Class of 1953 on campus to receive their 50-Year Reunion Commemorative Medallions followed by a tour of the old campus. Class of 1954, begin your planning for next year's reunion!

On Homecoming Day, we had the opportunity to recognize Union University football players including returning members of the final team fielded in 1952, and made a special presentation to former coach Bobby Jelks and his wife, Martha. If you were unable to attend this year's homecoming events, I hope that you are already making plans for Homecoming 2004.

Over the next 2 years, I will be challenging you in several areas. One of those areas will be participation in the annual fund. I encourage those of you who have given to the annual

fund in the past to make a commitment to giving on an annual basis. To those of you who perhaps have not participated in the annual fund, I encourage you to donate at least \$25 to the annual fund.

You may not realize the impact a gift of this size can have on the University. Many foundation and corporate gifts to colleges and universities hinge on the level of participation of the applicant's alumni. Your participation in the annual fund increases our position in the eyes of these large institutional donors.

We witnessed a tremendous and generous outpouring of gifts from alumni following the tornado which damaged the resident complexes last fall. To those who gave, please accept our heart-felt gratitude. The money you gave was timely and was utilized in many needed areas. It is reassuring to know that the Union University Family always comes together in a time of need.

Thanks again for the privilege of serving as President of the National Alumni Association and I look forward to seeing each of you at upcoming alumni events. Look for Alumni Events in your area.

## Meet the 2003 Alumni Award Recipients



Alumni Award Winners Recognized – The 2003 Homecoming Alumni Award winners were recognized at a Feb. 15 luncheon at Union University. Pictured, from left to right, are Teresa Luna, Kevin Troy Sheilley, Greta Pearson, Wayne Pearson, Jane Betts, and Russell Wayne Mayfield. (UU)  
Photo by Jim Veneman

Russell Wayne Mayfield, who attended Union during the 1940's, received the Distinguished Service Award. Mayfield is retired from a 51-year family medicine practice and resides in Bells with his wife Carrie. The award is based on service to mankind and/or to Union University by an alumnus of the university.

Jane Betts, a 1974 Union graduate and registrar for the university, received the Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award. Betts has also served as records clerk and assistant registrar at Union. The award is a salute to long and meritorious service to Union University by an employee.

Teresa Luna, a 1979 graduate of Union, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. A high school teacher, Luna resides in Jackson, Tenn. with her husband Tony. The award is based on distinction in one's profession and for

bringing honor and recognition to Union University through that profession.

Kevin Troy Sheilley, a 1994 graduate of Union, received the Outstanding Young Achiever Award. Sheilley, the executive director of "Team Taylor County" resides in Campbellsville, Ky. with his wife Lisa and their two sons. The award is presented to an individual, age 35 or younger, who shows a record of significant accomplishment in professional life and for service to Union University or the world.

Wayne and Greta Pearson from Powell, Tennessee received the Honorary Alumnus/Alumna Award and our members of the "Twenty-first Century Society." The award is presented for outstanding service to the university by one who had not attended Union. The Pearsons began supporting Union 25 years ago.

## Alumni Board members elected

The Union University National Alumni Association elected five new board members at its annual meeting during the Feb. 15 Homecoming Alumni Awards Luncheon. Elected to serve a three-year term from 2003-06 are:

Judy Fletcher, '88, Humboldt, Tenn.  
Angela James, '93, Paris, Tenn.  
James Carter, '59, Marietta, Ga.  
Jerry Kuykendall, '65, Memphis, Tenn.  
Dr. Michael Hayes, '74, Yulee, Fla.

Jerome Teel, '89, was elected to serve a two-year term as president of the National Alumni Association. Teel is an attorney based in Jackson, Tenn.

Other board members include:

Term expiring Spring, 2004:  
Rev. Paul B. Clark, Jr., '75, Franklin, Tenn.  
Virginia Dickinson, '49, Denmark, Tenn.  
Melinda Leake, '89, Jackson, Tenn.  
Eddie Yaun, '77, Germantown, Tenn.

Term expiring Spring, 2005  
John Barnes, '70, Little Rock, Ark.  
Marquetta Hunt Beard, '97, Jackson, Tenn.  
Bob Cummings, '61, Medon, Tenn.  
Debbie Dunaway, '90, Jackson, Tenn.  
Michael Johnston, '98, Jackson, Tenn.

Reminder: The next meeting of the NAA Board of Directors is May 2-3.

## Kids

Corner



### Baseball Camp

Session I-II – June 2-6  
Sessions III-VI – June 9-12  
Call 731-661-5130 for info.

### Community Arts Program: "Meet the Masters"

Grades 1-12 – June 9-13  
Grades 1-12 – June 16-20  
Ages 3-Kindergarten – June 23-27  
Call 731-661-5076 for info.

### Community Music Center

Private instruction in voice, piano, and other instruments upon request.  
June 2 - July 25  
Includes eight 30-minute lessons during term.  
Cost: \$135

Kindermusik camps  
"Creatures in My Backyard"  
Ages 1/2-3years, offered one hour daily  
June 9-13  
Cost: \$100

### "Confetti Days"

Ages 3-5 years, offered 1 1/2 hours daily  
June 16-20  
Cost: \$140

There is a \$10 registration fee per family to participate in the Programs.  
Call 731-661-5234 for info.

### Summer Enrichment Program

Adventures in Physics  
Students in Grades 7-9  
June 9-19, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$150  
For applications contact Dr. Kyle Hathcox, 731-661-5249 or Dr. David Ward, 731-661-5241 for info.



### Cheerleading Camp

July 9-12  
Cost: \$55  
For Ages 4-14  
Call 731-661-5299 for info.

### Bulldog & Lady Bulldog Basketball Camp

Girls' Fundamental/Girls' Shooting – June 2-6  
Boys' Fundamental/Boys' Shooting – June 9-13  
Pee Wee Camp for Ages 4-6 – June 16-19  
Lady Bulldog Boarding Camp – June 22-27  
Bulldog Boarding Camp – July 13-18  
Bulldog Position Play Camp – July 20-22  
Lady Bulldog Position Play Camp – July 23-25  
Call 731-661-5130 for info.

Check out Union's online store at [www.uu.edu](http://www.uu.edu) and click on the "Bulldog Shoppe."

