



Office of Alumni Services  
1050 Union University Drive  
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# THE+LINK

Your Alumni Connection To Union University

Spring 2006 Volume V, No. 2

## A Message From Your Alumni Association President



Judy Fletcher

Time passes so quickly. My first year as president of the National Alumni Association has flown by. The Saturday Homecoming events in February were cancelled due to inclement weather but that only gives us more time to anticipate and to participate in Homecoming this November. Yes, this will be the first time in several years that Union's Homecoming will take place in the fall. I hope you will plan now to come back to Union and be a part of all the activities. As time approaches, you will receive further details. If you do not regularly visit the Union website, I encourage you to set your default web

browser to [www.uu.edu](http://www.uu.edu). The website is a wonderful place to keep up with what's going on at your alma mater. There is an excellent presentation on Union 2010 - "A Vision for Excellence". It provides not only an overview of what the Vision is, but has videos, webcams, and pictures so you can experience real time what's being accomplished. We can all participate in Union 2010 by praying for the success of this project, by giving towards its financial requirements and by taking time to tell others of our University.

**Judy Fletcher**  
*Union University National Alumni President*  
**Class of 1988**

## Where's Buster?

Buster the bulldog has made a resurgence after recovering from a knee surgery which sidelined him from attending Union games. In addition to returning to serve as Union's mascot, Buster has a new caretaker. Union Enrollment Counselor, Rob Dixon adopted Buster from former owners, Todd and Amy Brady. Buster will celebrate his ninth birthday this year which will put him well into his golden years



Buster

for an English Bulldog. Buster enjoys attending Union basketball and soccer games because he loves the attention from his fans. His main hobbies include sleeping, eating, and slobbering

on floors and furniture. Buster loves younger Bulldog fans so remember to bring your children over to meet him at the next Union event!

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## Save The Date!

Bring a prospective student with you and call your friends to make sure they've signed up! Contact 1.800.338.6644 or Gary Williams ([gwilliam@uu.edu](mailto:gwilliam@uu.edu)) to tell us you hope to attend.

### GIBSON COUNTY

Date: Tuesday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.  
Location: Trenton, TN  
Hosts: Mack and Beverly Youree

### DYERSBURG / DYER COUNTY

Date: Thursday, April 20, 6:30 p.m.  
Location: Dyersburg, TN  
Hosts: Leo and Tonya Arnold

### LOUISVILLE AREA-WIDE

Date: Monday, April 24, 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Louisville, KY  
Hosts: Wayne and Lealice Dehoney

### PADUCAH AREA-WIDE

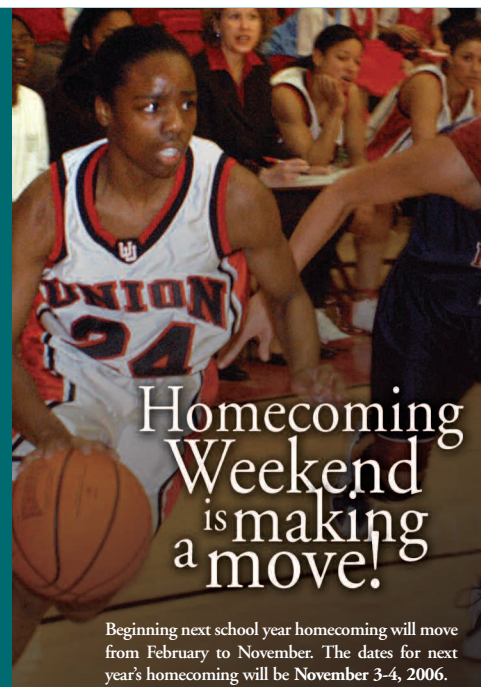
Date: Monday, May 1, 6:30 p.m.  
Location: Paducah, KY  
Hosts: Gary and Beth Bodnarchuk

### JACKSON / MADISON COUNTY

Date: Friday, May 12, 6:30 p.m.  
Location: Jackson, TN  
Hosts: Jerome and Jennifer Teel

### SBC ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DESSERT RECEPTION

Date: Tuesday, June 13, 8:30 p.m.  
Location: TBA



Beginning next school year homecoming will move from February to November. The dates for next year's homecoming will be November 3-4, 2006. Join us in November and help us make the move!



## Join Our Email List!

The LINK will soon be available as an online publication. The first 100 people to join our email list will receive a FREE Union keychain! Go to <http://www.uu.edu/resources/alumnifriends> and click "Join our email list". Stay connected!

## Union License Plates



Have you ever driven down the road and seen a license plate from a college or university and wished you could show pride for your alma mater in the same way?

If you live in Tennessee, display your school spirit by contacting your local county clerk office for a Union University license plate. Drive with pride!

## Alumni Spotlight

One Union alumna is making her dream come true by combining her artistic flair with an inspired motivation. Holly Schnaubelt Couch, a 1994 graduate, began creating unique handcrafted



jewelry in 2003 with a single goal in mind -- to give the opportunity of a lifetime to a deserving young person. A percentage of proceeds from her jewelry sales are donated to the Holly Couch Scholarship Fund. Upon her husband's post-doctoral graduation in 2007, one hundred percent of Holly's profits will fund her scholarship and other charities. "I have held dear the opportunities and experiences I was blessed with at Union. My goal is to provide those same opportunities for students who desire higher education but are financially unable. I want to help make that happen for them." Holly's heart and soul goes into each piece of her collection. "I absolutely love what I

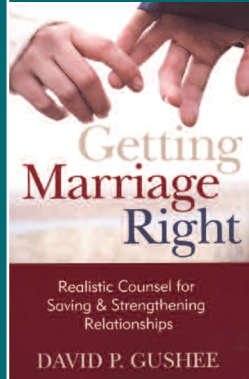
do and the idea of being able to express myself artistically for a meaningful cause is so exciting to me." You can visit Holly's website and purchase her jewelry at <http://www.thehollycouchcollection.com>.

## The Union Bookshelf

### Getting Marriage Right:

#### Realistic Counsel for Saving & Strengthening Relationships

by Union Professor David P. Gushee, Ph.D.



Getting Marriage Right explores what has happened to the increasingly frail institution of marriage. This book calls the church to rethink marriage and divorce. It offers a theology of marriage around the themes of creation, covenant, kingdom, and community. It is an important resource for starting a marriage ministry in local churches and is full of concrete ideas for strengthening marriage relationships. It provides both theological and practical clarity about how Christians can "get marriage right" in these tough times.

Available from Baker Book House and amazon.com. Sold locally at Lifeway Christian Store.

## Bulldog Pups!



### Hailey Elizabeth Jackson

Future Class of 2020 -  
Daughter of Paul (Adjunct Professor) and Janet Jackson  
Sister of Garret Jackson ('04) and Lindsey Nicole Carson (graduating this May)

## UU SPORTS

The 2005 fall athletic season at Union ended with some major successes. The men's and women's cross country teams won the TranSouth Conference Titles for the second straight season. Both teams also finished third in the NAIA Region XI Meet with three individuals qualifying for the NAIA National Championship. The men's soccer team advanced further than any other team in Union's soccer history. Union advanced to the NAIA Region XI Tournament championship game before losing to eventual national champion, Lindsey Wilson College. Union volleyball completed their first season under new head coach Steven Gream, who led the team to a winning record and an appearance in the TranSouth Conference Tournament. After many hours of preparation and planning, Union completed their inaugural season of women's varsity soccer. Head Coach Brandon Boylan led the group to four wins (4-11-1) in the season.

Union wrapped up a very successful basketball season. The men won their second straight TranSouth Conference regular season title, while the women earned a runner-up finish in the regular season. Both the men's and women's teams combined spent 23 of a possible 24 weeks ranked in the NAIA Top-10. The men earned a No. 1 ranking in the NAIA polls for a week in January - marking the first time a Union men's basketball team reached the top spot. The men are looking to defend their 2005 TranSouth Tournament Championship and will compete in their eighth NAIA National Tournament appearance in nine years. The Ladies, in a season following their 2005 NAIA National Championship, are putting up yet another sensational year and are geared up for another run at the title. This season will mark the 17th all-time appearance in the national tournament for the Union Lady Bulldogs. Only one team has made more appearances.

Spring sports are off and running! In addition, the completion of the new varsity soccer field, along with the progressing construction on the new Athletic Field House, soccer grandstands, and soccer press box, bring even more anticipation to the upcoming months at Union. For athletic news, stats, schedules, results and more, visit [www.uu.edu/athletics](http://www.uu.edu/athletics).



Bill Smith ('70), minister of music at Woodland Baptist Church in Peoria, Ill., has helped recruit Union students for more than 30 years. "I think our first recruit was Susan Craig Ray ('79). There were lots more but I will certainly miss names if I try to get everyone." Bill's love for Union began after a high school guidance counselor suggested he check out a school whose name he had never heard. After 30 years, he has not lost his passion for telling prospective students about Union. Even this fall, a young lady will start her freshman year at Union because of Bill's continuing message.



Back row, L to R: Brett Smith ('93), Janeen Jones Smith ('91), Dusty Hughes ('03 & '05), Jennie Smith Hughes ('03), Bill Smith ('70), Sally Smith ('69), Clay Smith ('95), Jay Gibson Smith ('95). Front row: Children of Brett and Clay Smith.

Can you think of a student that needs to hear about Union? Go online to [www.uu.edu](http://www.uu.edu) and click on "Be a Dawg Catcher" YOU are our best recruiter!

## Glimpses of '06 Homecoming



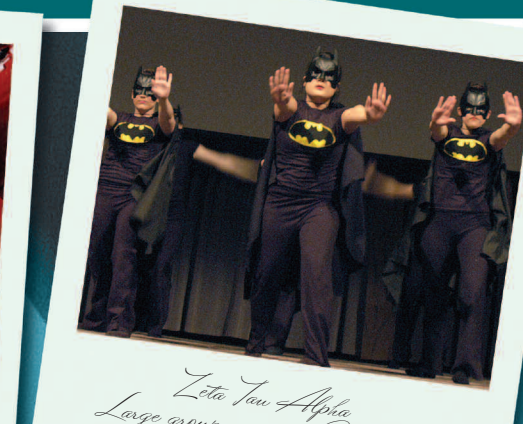
Class of 1956 reunite at their 50 year reunion



Homecoming Queen, Kari Bachman, and her court



Supportive fans cheering on the Bulldogs



Zeta Tau Alpha Large group winners at Variety Show



Bulldogs pause as they prepare for the game against Mountain State University