A Message From Your Alumni Association President

The holidays are always a time for families to carry on traditions. My wife, kids and I made the trips to both sets of grandparents over Christmas—visiting with grandparents, uncles, aunts and cousins. But Jennifer and I also make a priority of having Christmas dinner at our own home as a family. Every Christmas Eve we gather around the dining room table, just the five of us, and eat a traditional Christmas dinner. Then, we open one Christmas present each before loading in the car to tour the city and look at Christmas lights. Our children are beginning to realize the importance of these special traditions and have come to anticipate them from year to year.

Our alma mater has a rich heritage that is filled with traditions, as well. Some of you may have fond memories of the downtown campus while others may have more recent memories of the current campus. Either way, we all share the same heritage and one of our traditions is Homecoming. It’s a special time set aside for our Union University family. If we haven’t seen you here in the past few years, I encourage you to renew this tradition. If you have never attended Homecoming, why don’t you make plans to start a new tradition and attend this year! See you there!

Jerome Teel
Union University, National Alumni President, Class of 1989

Alumni Spotlight

Union has announced the plans to move forward with the Roy L. White Science Hall and one alumnus was behind initial stages. For Keith Dismuke (’70), it was more than just plans on a table. He felt so strongly about it that he has been investing his time and resources to ensure the quality of education at Union. Dismuke played a key role in the initial campaign stages of the Roy L. White building—serving on the Building Campaign Advisory Committee. He showed his support on the front-end by being one of the first financial supporters.

(continued inside)
The Emeriti Club has announced your 2005 Homecoming Alumni Award recipients!

Can you guess the remaining four? This is a true blast from the past! We hope you will be here to congratulate these deserving individuals.

UU Sports

Union’s Cross Country season came to a close with a strong finish. After winning the TranSouth Tournament Championship, the girls went on to take second place at the NAIA Region XI meet. The men’s team won their fourth TranSouth tournament championship and went on to place third in the NAIA Region XI meet.

Union’s Bulldog soccer team earned a spot at the NAIA regional tournament for the first time in the history of the program. They went to the NAIA Region XI tournament as the No. 5 seed. With only two seniors graduating from this year’s team, the Bulldogs will have a large group of returning players to look forward to next year’s team.

The Lady Bulldog volleyball team won the TranSouth Tournament Championship and Region XI Tournament to move forward to their first ever appearance at the NAIA National Tournament. The ladies finished their season as 9th in the country. The 2004-05 season has been very successful for both the men’s and women’s basketball teams.

The Lady Bulldogs entered the season ranked No. 24 in the NAIA pre-season rankings. With a 1-0 start, the Lady Bulldogs earned a No. 1 ranking in the NAIA as of December 14. This marks the first time since the National Championship Season in 1994 that the Lady Bulldogs have been ranked No. 1. For the Bulldogs, Union entered Christmas break with a 10-3 record, with their only losses coming to teams ranked in the Top 20 of the NAIA. The Union Bulldogs found themselves No. 15 in the Dec. 14 NAIA rankings. This season, Union has defeated three teams ranked in the NAIA’s Top-25, and will have more opportunities as they play through one of the toughest schedules in the country.

To keep up with the successes of both the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs, visit www.uu.edu/athletics.

Save the Date!

MISSOURI BOOTHEEL
Date: April 8, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Rochell’s Delli, Sikeston

NORTHWEST TN
Date: April 5, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Dyersburg
Hosts: Leo and Tonya Arnold

LOUISVILLE, KY
Date: April 11, 7:00 p.m.
Location: trayton Oaks Towers
Hosts: Wayne and Lealice Dehoney

CHATTANOOGA, TN
NEW CHAPTER!
Date: April 12, 5:00 p.m.
Location: Central Baptist Church, Hixson
Host: Ken Hartley

KNOXVILLE, TN
Date: April 16, 4:00 p.m.
Location: Knox County Baptist Association
Hosts: Walter and Linda Taylor

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

Alumni Spotlight, Cont.

As a student, Keith stayed involved. He participated in Prexy Club, SAE, Phi Mu Alpha, Nestor Club, Symphonic and Stage Band. He was also selected as a Class Favorite. After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree from Union, he went on to earn his PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Florida. He and his wife, Lin (’70), have stayed involved by attending Houston Chapter meetings, Homecoming and Union science symposia.

Recently, Dismuke was named Vice President of Corporate Opportunities and Director of Research and Development with Benchmark Energy Products, L.P. in Texas. Keith and Lin’s two children, Craig (’98) and Leigh, both followed in their parent’s footsteps by attending Union.

Alumni involvement and support, like Keith and Lin Dismuke, are key ingredients to helping Union University move forward as a leader in quality Christian higher education. “I encourage Union’s alumni to think about Union’s impact in today’s challenging world,” says Dismuke. “This is an excellent opportunity to give back.”

Inside the Bubble

At December’s graduation ceremony, the School of Nursing graduated its first 46 students from the new 12-month accelerated BSN program.

During Winter Term, 60 students are participating in GO Trips to Seattle, Thailand, Tanzania, Central Asia, Botswana, and North Africa. Over 200 more students will participate in GO Trips during Spring Break and summer.

If you’re a ’05 or ’06 graduate, you can now order a copy of Hf, year in review.

This full color, hardcover yearbook is a great way to stimulate memories and help recall your days at "Union, dearest Union.” Editions are now available for the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 school years for $15 each. Visit http://www.uu.edu/Hf to get a preview and place your order!

In November more than 800 students, faculty and staff participated in Union’s second Day of Remembrance. This day is Union’s way of giving back to the community for its assistance after the tornado damage in November 2002.

Union Trustees voted to move forward with construction of the Roy J. White Science Building. This three-story building will include biology and chemistry departments, as well as the School of Nursing.