The Spring semester of an academic school year often connotes feelings of relief and anticipation as the chill of winter slowly fades along with the workload of classes, reminding students that summer vacation is just around the corner, and that one more year of their education will soon be complete.

At the outset of Spring 2003, Union students had pretty much settled into a state of normalcy in the wake of the November 10th tornado, driving their dimpled cars around a once-again peaceful Jackson community. Though trees and dorm roofs reminded the campus of the destructive twister just six months earlier, most of the faculty and student body of Union University looked forward to wrapping up another academic year. No soothsayer could have predicted that just a few months after the November tornado yet another storm of even greater magnitude would trounce the south side of the city. But on the night of May 4th, a deadly tornado ripped through downtown Jackson, taking lives and destroying homes. With supreme calmness and humility, Union students girded themselves and sacrificed their time and energy to the clean-up efforts and restoration of downtown Jackson in the days following the disaster. Many prospective graduates put their remaining academic responsibilities on hold for the cause of others in the community, and with graduation just a few weeks away, Union became a vital source of aid to the victims of the storm.

Though the storm of May 4th drew much of the semester’s attention, Union University welcomed an exciting bouquet of orators and artists to campus in the Spring of 2003, as well as numerous opportunities for students to grow and flourish in their communities and world.

“A successful person is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him.”
David Brink
Sophomore Michael Palmer (42) elevated for two in 66-51 win over Hannibal-LaGrange during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 815)

Senior Reagan Carfield was crowned Union Homecoming Queen by President David S. Dockery during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 847)

Juniors James Layton and Carlyn Reeves enjoyed swing dancing at the Cardinal Ball. (ID: 1314)

Junior Lisa Whiffen and Freshman Jennifer Winfield celebrated after they accepted the Presidential Cup for Zeta Tau Alpha during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 845)

Recording artist Bebo Norman performed at SAC and National Alumni Association sponsored coffeehouse with special guest Jeremy Camp during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 871)

Students cheered the Bulldogs on to victory against Hannibal-LaGrange during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 1016)

Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority entertained the audience at All-Sing during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 856)

Homecoming 2003 blended tradition, heritage and worship, producing a uniquely Union experience.

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, 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, staff and alumni. The eleven song set included tracks from each of Norman’s studio releases, including the Dove award nominated “Myself When I Am Real.”

A tailgate party sponsored by the Freshman Council preceded Thursday’s basketball victories. 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 Friday 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 on Saturday, 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.

The closing event of Homecoming weekend was the annual Cardinal Ball, which was held at the Four Points by Sheraton in Jackson. This traditional ball had an 18-piece band followed by a deejay.

Recording artist Bebo Norman performed at SAC and National Alumni Association sponsored coffeehouse with special guest Jeremy Camp during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 871)
For Union alumni, Homecoming 2003 was a time to reminisce and to honor those who have achieved great success since graduating from Union.

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.

In his “Institutional Ways of honoring the Fifth Commandment” address, 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 Saturday 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.

Saturday’s events included the recognition of this year’s Alumni Award winners during the Alumni Reunion luncheon.

Russell Wayne Mayfield, who attended Union during the 1940s, received the Distinguished Service Award. Mayfield is retired from a 51-year family medicine practice and resides in Bells with his wife Carrie.

Jackson resident 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.

Teresa Luna, a 1979 graduate of Union, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award. A high school teacher, Luna resides in Jackson, Tenn. with her husband Terry.

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.

Wayne and Greta Pearson from Powell, Tenn. received the Honorary Alumnus/Alumna Award.

Saturday evening members of the Classes of 1978 and 1993 celebrated their 25 and 10 year reunions at the Carnegie Center for the Arts.

Union alumni enjoyed looking at old team photos from Union’s football days. (ID: 832)

The alumni/student jazz band performed during the Homecoming 2003 basketball games. (ID: 849)

Dr. Doyle & Bettye Alexander (’50 & ’56) of Nacodoches, Tex. poured over their yearbooks while taking a driving tour of the old Union campus during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 824)

Members of the Class of ’53 gathered for a photograph at their luncheon to commemorate their 50-year reunion during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 827)

Former Union football players Jack Hilliard (’50), Bill Gregory (’50), and Buford Matlock (’50) fellowshiped after the Homecoming 2003 awards luncheon. (ID: 870)

Alumni Marvin & Gene Fitts of Bartlett, Tenn. examined SAC’s Homecoming 2003 display. (ID: 837)

Blake Johnson (right) fielded questions from broadcasting majors with assistant professor Steve Beverly at the Communication Arts department’s Wisdom from the Trenches during Homecoming 2003. (ID: 855)

Union’s Student Tennessee Education Association held Bulldog Camp again this year at Homecoming 2003. Here future Unionites enjoyed some pizza. (ID: 911)
Greg Baylor, director of the Christian Legal Society’s Center for Law and Religious Freedom, presented an address to Union University’s Mars Hill Forum. (ID: 1062)

NFL Hall of Famer and Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page presented a chapel address on education, character and race relations shortly before his address at the Union Forum. (ID: 1006) (ec: 274)

One of the benefits of attending Union is the chance to hear nationally acclaimed speakers in chapel services and conferences. There were many opportunities throughout the spring semester for the Union community to learn from such speakers as John Leo, James Merritt, Bob Reccord, James Sire, Alan Page, and Greg Baylor.

At the February ? Union Forum, columnist John Leo delivered a speech titled “Cultural Decline and What We Can Do About It,” which outlined the current condition of American culture and what can be expected in coming years. He cited extreme violence in popular music and drama as occurrences which would have been unthinkable in years past but have become common practice today.

James Merritt, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church in Snellville, Georgia, spoke to a group of pastors and ministry professionals at a February 25 PreachingPoints conference.

Bob Reccord, president of the North American Mission Board, spoke on answering God’s call in chapel on February 28.

James Sire led Union University’s Scholar-in-Residence Lectures Feb. 27–March 11. The series, “Habits of Worldview Thinking,” focused on the importance of developing a Christian worldview.

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice and National Football League Hall of Fame member Alan C. Page presented the Union Forum with a message of hope March 14, encouraging each person to play a role in making the future better and brighter by investing in education, developing character and improving race relations.

“We can’t afford another generation of children disconnected from the educational process,” said Page.

Greg Baylor, director of the Christian Legal Society’s Center for Law and Religious Freedom, presented an address on “Culture Wars: Making Sense of the Battles Over Church and State” to Union University’s Mars Hill Forum April 16.
Global Outreach

During Spring Break, Union sent seven teams of students and faculty to participate in the university’s Global Outreach trips. Students traveled to Boston, Mass., Charleston, Ill., Irving, Texas, Memphis, Tenn., and Battle Creek, Mich. There was also GO pray trip at Big South Fork in Oneida, Tenn., and one international trip to Honduras.

In Boston, Union students worked with other college students at the Baptist campus ministry centers in the area. Students also prayer walked around the campuses and worked with inner-city children. Mosley said on the last day, students worked with a nonprofit organization and served lunch to 750 people infected with AIDS.

The Illinois trip was similar to the Boston trip. Students worked with University Baptist Church that is connected to the Eastern Illinois University campus. Students ministered to local students by prayer walking and visiting EIU students in their dorm rooms.

“In the mornings we would take faith surveys with the college students and later on in the day, we would hang out with them and hold worship services,” said sophomore Stacey Storey, Spanish major.

This was Union’s seventh year to travel to Irving, Texas. They once again worked with Bear Creek Church. While in Irving, participants completed various community service projects including volunteering as teacher’s aids and working with homeless men.

The Memphis group worked in the inner-city areas of Memphis, serving meals to homeless and engaging in some light construction around the local Baptist church they were partnered with. Also, they volunteered at the Moriah House, a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

Battle Creek participants worked on a local Habitat for Humanity house in the community of Bear Creek, Mich. While working on the house, students had the opportunity to minister to other community members.

This year male students traveled to Big South Fork in Oneida, Tenn. On this trip, participants prayed for other GO trips in progress while also encouraging each other in their faith.

Twenty-seven Union students and seven students from the University of Washington traveled to Honduras to work in an orphanage.

Nursing students worked in clinics gathering charts, while everyone else spent time with the kids and helped to clean up the area where they live.
Tornado 

Freshman Kathleen Lokey and other Union students assisted Jackson resident and Union alumnae Dianne Payne with the removal of downed trees in her yard. (ID: 1066)

Juniors Jonathan Miller and Melinda Eckley surveyed the damage to homes, vehicles, and land in the downtown Jackson area. (ID: 1113)

With their power off and a deadline to meet, the Jackson Sun set up camp in the university relations office to put out their first two issues after the storm. (ID: 1104)

Union University provided technical assistance and space to the Red Cross in the Fred Delay Gymnasium for a temporary disaster relief headquarters. (ID: 1381)

Sophomore Jonathan Blair helped salvage bricks from St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in downtown Jackson. (ID: 1069)

Students Valerie Burnett, Sam McMinn and Erin Heter used the McAfee commons to prepare sandwiches for victims of the tornado. (ID: 1111)

Jennifer Winfield, Lindsay McBride, Jennifer Kalinoski and Josh MacDonald worked on a temporary fix for this roof which suffered damage from the tornado. (ID: 1286)

Director of Discipleship Ministries Jay Bedsole distributed food donated by caring individuals to multiple families during Tornado Relief efforts. (ID: 1118)

There were no sodas or snacks being sold from what once was a convenience store on the corner of East Chester and Cartmell, but the Union grad organizing a relief effort from the parking lot was helping to make sure residents had food and water. Julie Boyer spent May 6 coordinating the efforts of dozens of Union students with a desire to assist the residents of the East Jackson neighborhood hit hardest by Sunday night’s tornado.

A member of Union’s Class of 2001, Boyer is now the student outreach minister at Jackson’s Evangelical Community Church where she runs a tutoring program for urban youth. After the tornado, she contacted some of her students, then came downtown to help meet needs in their neighborhoods.

According to Boyer, several elderly East Jackson residents were without transportation and simply could not walk the mile or more from their homes to a shelter. Others stayed to protect what was left of their belongings, she said.

On Tuesday, students began packing sack lunches at Union’s McAfee Commons about 7:30 a.m. Hundreds of lunches and bottles of water were packed and taken to the East Jackson residents who were without power or clean water as a result of the tornado. Union’s Campus Ministries shuttled volunteers on university vans throughout the day, with a new crew arriving every hour.

Walking through East Jackson, students encountered homes without roofs, downed trees and smashed vehicles. Area resident Betty Haynes said she and her three sons spent Sunday night in their hallway with a mattress over them for protection.

“One day you have everything you need, and the next day it’s all gone,” said freshman Shaurdra Bloomberg after seeing the destruction.

Liddon Street resident Ronald Pettis was grateful for the food and water. “I sure appreciate it. This has been rough, and every little bit helps,” he said. “I just thank God we’re living.”

The tornado which hit Jackson May 4 caused power outages throughout the city and left dark the offices of the local chapter of the American Red Cross. On May 7, Union University began providing technical assistance and space in the Fred Delay Gymnasium for a temporary disaster relief headquarters.

Union’s administration offered facilities to the Red Cross as a way of showing thanks for their services, according to Gary Carter, senior vice president for business and financial services.

On Tuesday, students began packing sack lunches at Union’s McAfee Commons about 7:30 a.m. Hundreds of lunches and bottles of water were packed and taken to the East Jackson residents who were without power or clean water as a result of the tornado. Union’s Campus Ministries shuttled volunteers on university vans throughout the day, with a new crew arriving every hour.

Walking through East Jackson, students encountered homes without roofs, downed trees and smashed vehicles. Area resident Betty Haynes said she and her three sons spent Sunday night in their hallway with a mattress over them for protection.

“One day you have everything you need, and the next day it’s all gone,” said freshman Shaurdra Bloomberg after seeing the destruction.

Liddon Street resident Ronald Pettis was grateful for the food and water. “I sure appreciate it. This has been rough, and every little bit helps,” he said. “I just thank God we’re living.”

The tornado which hit Jackson May 4 caused power outages throughout the city and left dark the offices of the local chapter of the American Red Cross. On May 7, Union University began providing technical assistance and space in the Fred Delay Gymnasium for a temporary disaster relief headquarters.

Union’s administration offered facilities to the Red Cross as a way of showing thanks for their services, according to Gary Carter, senior vice president for business and financial services.
Dr. Ann Singleton, associate professor of education and chair of the education department, was the recipient of this year’s Faculty of the Year. This year’s recipient for Staff Member of the Year was awarded to Juanita Cotner. Cotner works in College Services as a print graphics technician. She has been at Union for 10 years.

“She is one of the funniest and most tender-hearted people you will ever meet,” said Linda Taylor, campus-mail services clerk and close co-worker of Cotner’s. “She is a deeply committed Christian woman and truly deserves this award.”

Singleton began teaching at Union in 1981 as an adjunct instructor and then became a full-time professor in 1990. Prior to teaching at the university level, Singleton served as a special education teacher and later as Supervisor of Special Education in the Jackson-Madison County school system. Her area of expertise lies in behavioral disorders, instructional design and mathematics instruction for students in inclusive settings. Her on-campus participation includes: Leading U Leadership Conference, Klemata Faculty Sponsor and Union Auxiliary, just to name a few. Her off-campus involvement includes being a member at the First Baptist Church in Jackson where she is a Sunday school teacher, first grade choir director, first through third grade Children’s Hand Chime director and a member of the Adult Hand bell Choir and Sanctuary Choir. She is also a West Tennessee Special Ministries Consultant and a member of the Tennessee Development Disabilities Planning and Policy Council.

Teagle Grant Recipients
- Brad Green, Christian Studies
- Ruth Chatlain, Melanie Matthews and Nancy Dayson, Nursing
- Gail Coleman, Nursing
- Sally Henrie and Randy Johnston, Chemistry/Physics
- Carol Weaver, Biology
- Tom Rosebrough and Ralph Leveeet, Education
- Melissa Clarke and Rachel Watson, Communication Arts
- Cathy Parent and Tharon Kirk, Nursing
- Jim Kirk, Computer Science
- Walton Padelford, Business

Newell Innovative Teaching Award
- Dr. Chris Hail, “Union Math Students Partner with Homeschoolers in the Jackson Community”

2002 Faculty of the Year Lee Benson passed the mace to 2003 Faculty of the Year Dr. Ann Singleton at the Spring Awards Ceremony. (ID: 1319)

Staff Member of the Year Juanita Cotner worked diligently at her computer where she serves as a print graphics technician for college services. (ID: 1321)
Senior Rebekah Crane did her student teaching at Bells Elementary in Crockett County where she worked with the ESL program. (ID: 1048)

Jeremy Scott, a senior from Memphis, Tenn., spoke with Nashville's News Channel 5, WTVF. He and other Union students helped with clean up at Unity Park. (ID: 1067)

Senior Meah Hearington spread the love of Christ in Northern Africa on a Union GO trip this summer. (ID: 85)

Mr. and Miss Union, Casey Stafford and Reagan Carfield, goofed off with Rachael Lovelace (center) during New Student Orientation 2002. (ID: 337)

Tara Stover, senior, checks a patient’s blood sugar by pricking a finger for a blood sample. (ID: 471)

Senior Sherryl Schrock was the winner of the Young Alums sponsored “Road Trip to Nowhere.” Schrock stayed in the Union van almost 28 hours, outlasting all her competitors. (ID: 1293)

According to student teacher Alison Oshel, working with students one on one and giving them individual attention is a quality every teacher should possess. Here Rachel Garrison worked diligently on her work while Savannah Melton read a book to Oshel. (ID: 950)

Seniors Breanne Oldham and Sara Webster look at material on missions opportunities during GO Week 2002. (ID:278)

On Wednesday, May 7, 2003, students and faculty gathered in the G.M. Savage Memorial Chapel for the annual Awards Day Ceremony. Awards Day is designed to recognize academic excellence on Union’s campus.

The Betty Hillix Foellinger Memorial Award went to Janaé Daniels recognizing her as the editor of the campus newspaper, the Cardinal & Cream. Amber Hibbs won the Chi Omega Award which honors the woman of the junior or senior class who has distinguished herself in the behavioral sciences through class contributions and scholastic achievement. The class of 1962 recognized Lee Holt, Derek Moore, Sherryl Schrock and Stephen Wilson as seniors who attended Union for their entire college career with the highest grade point average. Other award winners included: Charles Russell Mitchell, the Broadman and Holman Award; Jennifer King, The Dr. Bill Bouchillon Psychology Excellence Award. Philip Nebbett, The Curtis E. Scott Business Excellence Award; Jill Cooper, The Georgia Wilson Memorial Award for Clinical Nursing; Joanna Stillman, The Helen Blythe Creative Writing Award; Joseph Webster, first place, Joshua Moore, second place, and Matthew Collier, third place, The Professor James Alex Baggett History Research Award; Alison Oshel, Breanne Oldham and Bethany Rossler Vickery, The Nora Smith Baker Student Teachers of the Year. Casey Stafford and Reagan Carfield were named Mr. and Miss Union.

Senior Sherryl Schrock was a write up during the Awards Day ceremony. Schrock stayed in the Union van almost 28 hours, outlasting all her competitors. (ID: 1295)
Academic Excellence Awards

Art: Amanda Sampson Bland  
Biology: Lee Christopher Holt  
Accounting: Allison Joy Cole and Sherryl Lynne Schrock  
Economics/Finance: John Campbell Rubas  
Management: Derek Scott Moore  
Management Information Systems: Jenny Leon Capel  
Marketing: Amanda Renee Russell  
Organizational Leadership: Paul Nicholas Butler  
Chemistry: Nathan Joseph Crand  
Christian Studies: Valerie Beth Burnett  
Christian Ethics: James Brody McMantry  
Biblical Languages: Joshua Thomas Moore  
Philosophy: James Brody McMantry  
Broadcasting: Heather Renee Moubray  
Communication Arts: Renee Allison Nolan  
Digital Media Studies: Rebecca Lynne McDonald  
Journalism: Erin Elizabeth Faulkner  
Public Relations/Advertising: Alexis Anne Abney  
Learning Foundations: Roxanne Lyn Carlisle  
Education: Bethany Jane Dennis  

English: Catherine Ashley Guinn and Joanna Lee Stillman  
History: Joshua Thomas Moore  
Spanish: Annette Michelle Miller  
Teaching English as a Second Language: Always Florine Priester  
Computer Science: Amy Denise Miller  
Mathematics: Elizabeth Browning Chittum  
Music with a Bachelor of Arts: Erik Glenn Maple  
Music with a Bachelor of Music: Stephanie Rae Wisdom  
Nursing: Stephen Christopher Wilson  
Physical Education and Health: Charles Joseph Salley  
Sport Management: Nathan Ken Scott  
Sports Medicine: Stephanie B. Smith  
Health Education: Jennifer E. Kang  
Psychology: Brooke A. Bailey, Marya Rose Davis, Jennifer E. Kang, and Jason Daniel Murphy  
Family Studies: Jennifer Lee Perry  
Human Studies Minor: Valerie Beth Burnett, Rebecca Elise Carlson, Allison Marie Clark, and Elan Price  
Sociology Minor: Michelle Louise Hackman  
Social Work: Rebecca Elise Carlson, Amber Renee Hibbs, and Emily Price  

Graduates processed to their chairs on the Great Lawn at spring graduation. (ID: 1131)

Many family and friends attended spring graduation to show support for the students. (ID: 1290)

English major Ashley Guinn at spring graduation. (ID: 1132)

Class of 2003 President Casey Stafford presented President Dockery with plans for an amphitheater as the senior gift at Spring Graduation 2003. (ID: 1139)

Graduates processed toward the Great Lawn for spring commencement. (ID: 1316)

Management major Josh Gilmore at spring graduation. (ID: 1137)

As part of Union University’s 178th graduating class, 360 students received their degrees during the 2003 Spring Commencement Services May 24.

In an address entitled “Declaration of Dependence,” Lloyd John Ogilvie, chaplain of the United States Senate, encouraged graduates with a message from 2 Timothy 1:7. According to Ogilvie, the fear Paul writes about can be best described as “refusing to take the tremendous opportunity which is given.”

“If we might make any mistake tonight, it would be to underestimate the calling of God,” Ogilvie said. “He’ll always give you something only He could accomplish through you.”

Senior class president Casey Stafford presented the gift from the Class of 2003, an amphitheatre which will be constructed on the North side of the Miller Clock Tower. Stafford thanked the university for the “wedding of faith and learning” he and his class experienced at Union.

This year’s University Academic Achievement Awards went to Paul Nicholas Butler, Lee Christopher Holt, Derek Scott Moore, Sherryl Lynne Schrock and Stephen Christopher Wilson. The awards recognize members of the graduating class who have the highest academic achievement and have completed a minimum of 56 hours in residence at Union. Rebecca Carlson received the 92nd Elizabeth Tigrett Award for the outstanding senior in each graduating class. Since 1912 the award winner has been selected by the faculty based on the citizenship, character, leadership, scholarship and service of a student who has completed an entire undergraduate program at Union.

Graduates processed toward the Great Lawn for spring commencement. (ID: 1316)

Management major Josh Gilmore at spring graduation. (ID: 1137)