

### Union's Gushee wins *Christianity Today* award for ethics textbook

*Kingdom Ethics: Following Jesus in a Contemporary Context*, by David P. Gushee and Glen H. Stassen, received the top award in the theology/ethics category in *Christianity Today's* Book Awards 2004.

"Over the last decade David Gushee has become recognized as one of the finest Christian ethicists in this country," Union University President David Dockery said. "The recent recognition by *Christianity Today* is only further testimony to his gifts as an insightful writer and brilliant thinker for the challenging times in which we live."

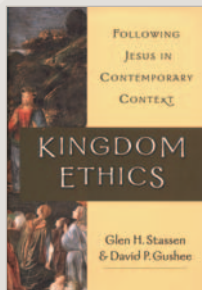
In the preface to the book, the authors state their intent to "let Jesus, and especially the Sermon on the Mount, set the agenda for Christian ethics." Through this decision, they have applied Jesus' teachings to a range of contemporary issues including peacemaking, just war, marriage and divorce, sexuality, gender roles, race, economics and politics.

Judges for the *Christianity Today* award described the book as "a highly readable textbook on Christian ethics intimately tied to the Sermon on the Mount."

Ease in readability was the authors' objective.

"The primary audience is people who are being introduced to the subject of ethics for the first time," Gushee, Graves professor of moral philosophy at Union University, said. "We have freshmen and sophomores who are using it here and in other colleges as well. No one has yet complained 'I can't understand it,' as is often the case with academic works."

Although it is presented as a textbook, *Kingdom Ethics* is not meant solely for students of ethics and theology. "It's more than a textbook," Gushee said. "It's a proposal for how to think about the meaning of the Christian faith. It's being read outside of classrooms by scholars, laypeople and pastors."



**Mark Shields**, syndicated columnist and commentator, in his Union Forum luncheon message advises reading, learning and involvement with the presidential elections and the issues, saying "that nothing is more fun than a political campaign."



**David Brooks** meets with a group of Union students prior to Union Forum. Brooks praised the university: "The values are quite distinct here". He noted that the students "...live a lifestyle that's true to their faith."

## Union Forum brings political commentators to Union's campus

The sixth annual 2004 Union Forum featured political analysts Mark Shields and David Brooks, in discussion of the upcoming presidential election. Shields spoke at luncheons on Union's campus, Thursday, March 4, and Thursday, April 1, respectively.

"Politics is important. It is nothing more and nothing less than peaceable resolutions of conflict," political analyst Mark Shields told the gathered luncheon audience.

Shields, a syndicated columnist and commentator, has covered the American political scene for more than 30 years. He is the principal political analyst on *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* on PBS and moderator of CNN's *The Capital Gang*.

"The vote for president is by far the most personal vote a citizen can make," Shields said. He said he admires those who risk public rejection, describing elections as vulnerable experiences politicians go through.

Shields called the middle of an election a "wonderful process," saying he thinks it is wonderful that the leader of the Western world is asked questions by nurses and teachers without TelePrompTers.

"Three enduring issues in American politics are peace, prosperity and subtext of race," Shields said, "and these are key issues in this election."

Other topics to watch include the cost of healthcare and the roles of government and

its sanction. Shields discussed the choice of the Democratic nominee for the 2004 presidential race. He said he believes that John Edwards has a remarkable ability to connect with people, communicates a sense of genuineness and empathy and reminds people of those less fortunate than themselves. However, John Kerry was chosen as the Democratic nominee because he is the candidate with singleness of purpose to defeat President Bush.

Shields advised reading and learning more about the candidates, their issues and encouraged involvement, saying that nothing is more fun than a political campaign.

Brooks, a regular analyst for *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer* and writer for *The New York Times*, focused on how Americans have divided themselves into ideological corners and the affect of this polarization of society on the political landscape for the upcoming elections.

Brooks said, "We talk diversity in America, but we don't live it." Instead, he said, groupings of likeminded individuals separate into communities supporting their chosen values. "There are two different visions of what the country should be."

Brooks provided caricatures of liberal and conservative communities across the country. The audience sounded recognition – and possibly resemblance – of these

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### Union University's newspaper, journalism program, receive high honors from SEJC competition

By Tracie Holden


Union University's student newspaper, the *Cardinal & Cream*, and other students received high honors from the Best in the South competition during the Southeast Journalism Conference, hosted by Troy State University in Troy, Ala., Feb 19 – 21, 2004.

The *Cardinal & Cream* took fourth place in the top 10 of the Best College Newspaper category, behind Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University and the University of Alabama.

Union award winners in individual student competition:

- Justin Veneman, sr., digital media studies major, *1st Place Best Press Photographer*.
- Jenny Eastman, jr., public relations major, *3rd Place Best Sports Writer*.
- Erin Gafford, sr., nursing major, *4th place Best Special Events Reporter*.
- Melinda Eckley, sr., journalism major, *6th place Best News Writer*.
- Kerrie Brooks, sr., art major, *7th place Newspaper Layout Designer*.
- Callie Pritchett, sr., public relations major, *6th place Collegiate Journalist of the Year*.

In the on-site competition at SEJC, the Union University team of Jenny Eastman, Katie Gould and Alaina Kraus won first place in the Public Relations category, with Union placing ninth out of ten overall in on-site competition.

The Southeast Journalism Conference includes 57 colleges and universities from seven southern states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee. 


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stereotypes by their laughter.

According to Brooks, this polarization has “transformed life in Washington.” He described a “Hatfield and McCoy atmosphere” of political feuding in which Republicans and Democrats refuse to communicate. Brooks traces this feud to a difference of values that have created a moral dilemma over how the United States should utilize its dominance on the international scene.


Each spring, the Union Forum hosts

distinguished speakers in an effort to provide opportunities for lively conversation with the nation's leaders and thinkers. The 2004 Union Forum was sponsored by West Tennessee Healthcare, First Tennessee Foundation, TLM Associates and The Jackson Sun.

“We are grateful for the support of the Jackson community for the Union Forum and count it a privilege to serve our neighbors and friends in this informative way,” said Dockery. 

## Forty-seven have served the university for 20 years or more.



**First Row** (L to R): Donna Latham, *Nursing*; Teresa West, *Psychology*; Phyllis Davenport, *Student Services*; Walton Padelford, *Business Administration*; John David Barham, *Computing Services*; Katrina Bradfield, *Advancement Services*; Beverly Fisher, *Business and Financial Services*; Bobbie Bishop, *Financial Aid*; Jimmy Davis, *Office of the Provost and Chemistry*; Linn Stranak, *Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport*; Shari Douglas, *Business Office*; Jane Betts, *Academic Center*; Brad Sargent, *Facilities Management*. **Second Row** (L to R): Sandra Brown, *Nursing*; Marjorie Richard, *College Services*; Don Richard, *Mathematics and Computer Science*; Melanie Matthews, *Nursing*; Dwayne Jennings, *Mathematics and Computer Science*; Connie Magers, *Computing Services*; David McClune, *Music*; Carroll Griffin, *Admissions*. **Third Row** (L to R): Charles Baldwin, *Chemistry*; Joseph Blass, *Music*; Carla Sanderson, *Provost and Nursing*; Michael McMahan, *Biology*; Robert Cox, *Facilities Management*; Don Morris, *Athletics*; Patricia Morris, *Library Services*; Elsie Smith, *Biology*; Cynthia Jayne, *Language and International and Intercultural Studies*; Howard Newell, *Business Administration*. **Fourth Row** (L to R): David Blackstock, *Athletics and Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport*; Max Blackman, *Safety and Security*; Richard Dehn, *Mathematics and Computer Science*; Kyle Hathcox, *Physics*; Polly Spencer, *College Services and Mail Services*; Karen McWherter, *Computing Services*; Carol Leslie, *Chemistry*; Stephen Carls, *History and Political Science*; David Vickery, *Psychology*; Paul Veazey, *Institutional Advancement*; Joyce Henderson, *Nursing*; Sandra Williams, *Physical Education, Wellness, and Sport*; Robert Simpson, *Business Office*. **Not available for photo:** Nancy Dayton, *Nursing*; William Hedspeth, *Education* and Ann Singleton, *Education*. 

## Who's new at Union University

Union University will welcome new additions to its faculty and administration when classes begin in August 2004.

“Several gifted new faculty members will join what I believe is the finest teaching faculty at any institution in the country,” said President Dockery, “We have been blessed with some wonderful staff additions as well.”

**Keith Absher**, who has distinguished himself in the world of business and higher education, will serve as dean of the McAfee School of Business Administration at Union, having served as faculty member and department chair for over two decades in the School of Business at the University of North Alabama.

**Daryl Charles** (Ph.D. Catholic University of America) will join the Union faculty as associate professor of Christian studies with a focus in ethics and philosophy. A prolific and well known author, Dr. Charles comes to Union from Baylor University.

Joining the Christian studies department is **Gary Smith**, a prolific author and experienced faculty member. Dr. Smith has taught at Bethel Theological Seminary and at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and holds his Ph.D. from the prestigious Dropsie College of Cognate Learning.

Dr. **Rosetta Washington** is a gifted teacher in education. She comes to Union with a Ed.D. from the University of Mississippi.

**Roland Porter** holds the J.D. from the University of California-Berkley. Porter brings rich experience from the church, classroom and business world. He and Dr. Washington join an increasing number of minority scholars on the Union campus.

Following a lengthy career in public service including four terms in the United States House of Representatives, **Ed Bryant** joins Union faculty as an instructor in the department of political science. Congressman Bryant holds the J.D. from the University of Mississippi.

Dr. **Stanley Warren** will join the Union faculty as associate professor of music. Dr. Warren holds the D.M.A. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and brings rich experience in church leadership and performance as well.

### Other new faculty members include:

- **Randal Schwindt** (Ph.D., University of Illinois) assistant professor of engineering
- **Kevin Cooney** (Ph.D., Arizona State University) assistant professor of political science
- **Keith Bates** (a Union alumnus and Ph.D. candidate at Kansas State University) instructor of history
- **Haifei Li** (Ph.D., University of Florida) assistant professor of computer science
- **Carrie Harvey** (Ph.D., UT Health Science Center—Memphis) associate professor of nursing
- **Judy Leforge** (Ph.D., University of Memphis) moves to full-time positions in history
- **Cindy DeSio** (MSN, Vanderbilt) instructor of nursing
- **Jim Veneman** moves from office of university communications to assistant professor of photojournalism.
- **Voddie Baucham**, adjunct professor of Christian studies
- **Angela Brown** (B.F.A., Belmont University) assistant professor of art
- **Linda Finch** (Ph.D., The University of Memphis) professor of nursing
- **Joshua Veltman** (Ph.D., expected fall 2004, Ohio State University) instructor of music

### New staff members include:


- Beverly Absher, director, human resources
- Andy Pettigrew, campus ministries
- Jared Schuler, residence life
- Kelly Elliot, residence life
- Matt Brunet, director, wellness center
- Morris Abernathy, staff photographer
- Aubry Harris, gifts processing coordinator
- Wendy Veazey, moves to director for alumni relations and annual support
- Rob Dixon, enrollment counselor
- Joe Garner, enrollment counselor
- Crystal Skelton, enrollment counselor
- Crystal Taylor, enrollment counselor
- Lisa Whiffen, enrollment counselor
- Rich Grimm, associate vice president for university relations
- Cristian Murdock, special assistant to the president

### Shadburn, executive director of Union University—Germantown

Dr. Randy Shadburn has been appointed executive director of the Union University Germantown campus. “Randy Shadburn is an outstanding educator who is totally committed to the mission and vision of Union University – Germantown,” Union President David S. Dockery said. “He demonstrated great leadership during the renovation of the Germantown Campus and won the respect of administrators, faculty, staff, and students alike. The growth of the Germantown Campus is exciting for us and having a leader like Dr. Shadburn at this time for that campus is significant in every way.”

As the campus has grown, the need to consolidate administrative leadership has become evident.

Shadburn said, “The role of executive director was designed to help facilitate the operation of the Germantown campus. There needed to be one person handling all the matters of the campus and achieve better coordination and delivery of services to our students.”

Shadburn formerly served as associate professor of education and director of the educational specialist and doctor of education degree programs at the Germantown campus. He joined the Union faculty in August 2002. He will continue to have teaching duties, with a reduced course load, as an associate professor of educational leadership. 

### Following the president in 2004

Union University President David S. Dockery continues to be sought after as a knowledgeable and articulate speaker in the higher education and theological realms. Through his lecture and speaking circuit Dr. Dockery is able to bring insight and strengthening to leaders in the Christian community. Listed are the venues of his engagements for the first six months of 2004:

### January

- Hunter Street Baptist Church; Birmingham, Ala.
- Gardendale Baptist Church; Gardendale, Ala.
- Board meeting, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities; Arlington, Va.

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## Following the president in 2004

### February

- Forest Hills Baptist Church; Nashville, Tenn.
- Plenary Speaker, Polity Conference, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; New Orleans, La.
- Keynote Speaker, PreachingPoints Conference, Union University; Jackson, Tenn.
- Chapel Speaker, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; Wake Forest, N.C.
- Board meeting, Christianity Today International; Phoenix, Ariz.
- First Baptist Church; Jackson, Tenn.

### March

- Keynote Speaker, Spring Lectures, Free Will Baptist College; Nashville, Tenn. (four addresses)
- Speaker, Conference on the Soul of the Christian University; Baylor University, Waco, Texas
- Englewood Baptist Church; Jackson, Tenn.
- Cumberland Missionary Baptist Church; Jackson, Tenn.

### April

- Zion Baptist Church; Brownsville, Tenn.
- Plenary Speaker, Baptist Identity Conference, Union University; Jackson, Tenn.
- Chapel Speaker, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Louisville, Ky.
- Keynote Speaker, Conference on The Southern Baptist Convention, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Louisville, Ky.
- Keynote Speaker, Trustee and Faculty Lectures, University of Mobile (two addresses); Mobile, Ala.

### May

- Homecoming, West Shiloh Baptist Church; Stantonville, Tenn.
- Graduation Speaker, Evangelical Christian School; Memphis, Tenn.
- Baccalaureate Speaker, Lexington High School; Lexington, Tenn.
- Keynote Speaker, Symposium on Undergraduate Research, Union University; Jackson, Tenn.
- Chapel Speaker, Union University; Jackson, Tenn.
- Heritage Lecture, Heritage Society; Union University, Jackson, Tenn.

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## 'MUDNESS': Juniors start tradition

By Bets Deere

Young Alums did it yet again. They planned a second traditional event, this time for juniors.

After hosting the "Turkey Bowl" in the fall for sophomores, Young Alums sponsored "Midnight Mudness," including a mud pit created on the west side of the intramural field.

The event had eight organized teams that worked together in relay races, the wheelbarrow and the three-legged race. One of the relay races featured a student running to one end of the field, putting on a shirt and shorts and then having to run back to the other side. The teams had to switch clothes with fellow teammates who in turn had to put each item on and run back. Ultimately, the winning teams had to compete against each other for the tug-of-war at the end.

Joshua Howerton, a junior biblical studies major, and senior Bethany Davis, learning foundation major and co-leader of Young Alums, organized the event. Students walked off the field at the end of the night dripping with mud, smiling and laughing.

"This night was simply 'mudness,'" said Paul Travis, a junior psychology major.


Kari Barnhart, a junior political science major, said, "I think it's great to get the classes together, because as you get older you forget. 'Midnight Mudness' was the most fun event ever; it was great because you didn't have to care about anything because everyone else was out there having a good time, too."

Although Young Alums just started last spring, they are already taking major strides forward.

Howerton said Young Alums was started a year ago by Gary Williams, the associate vice president for institutional advancement and alumni services, with the "Trip to Nowhere." Williams wanted students to have a good Union memory by providing various fun activities for them to participate in.

"Gary realizes, with tremendous foresight, that if students are being contacted and reached by the Office of Institutional Advancement while they're here, they will continue to communicate with that office when they graduate," Howerton said.

Williams said, "All of the events that we do, being sponsored by Young Alums, seek to draw attention to what it means to be an alum. As people have a strong memory of things, they are more supportive. We want to instill a sense of leadership, loyalty and tradition that leads to involvement and support as alums of Union."

For the future of Union, Howerton said Young Alums is planning to have an event for each class. He explained why the organization started with sophomores and not freshmen. "You are officially alumni when you finish one year of school," said Howerton, noting it is a common misconception that only when a student graduates does he become an alumnus. 

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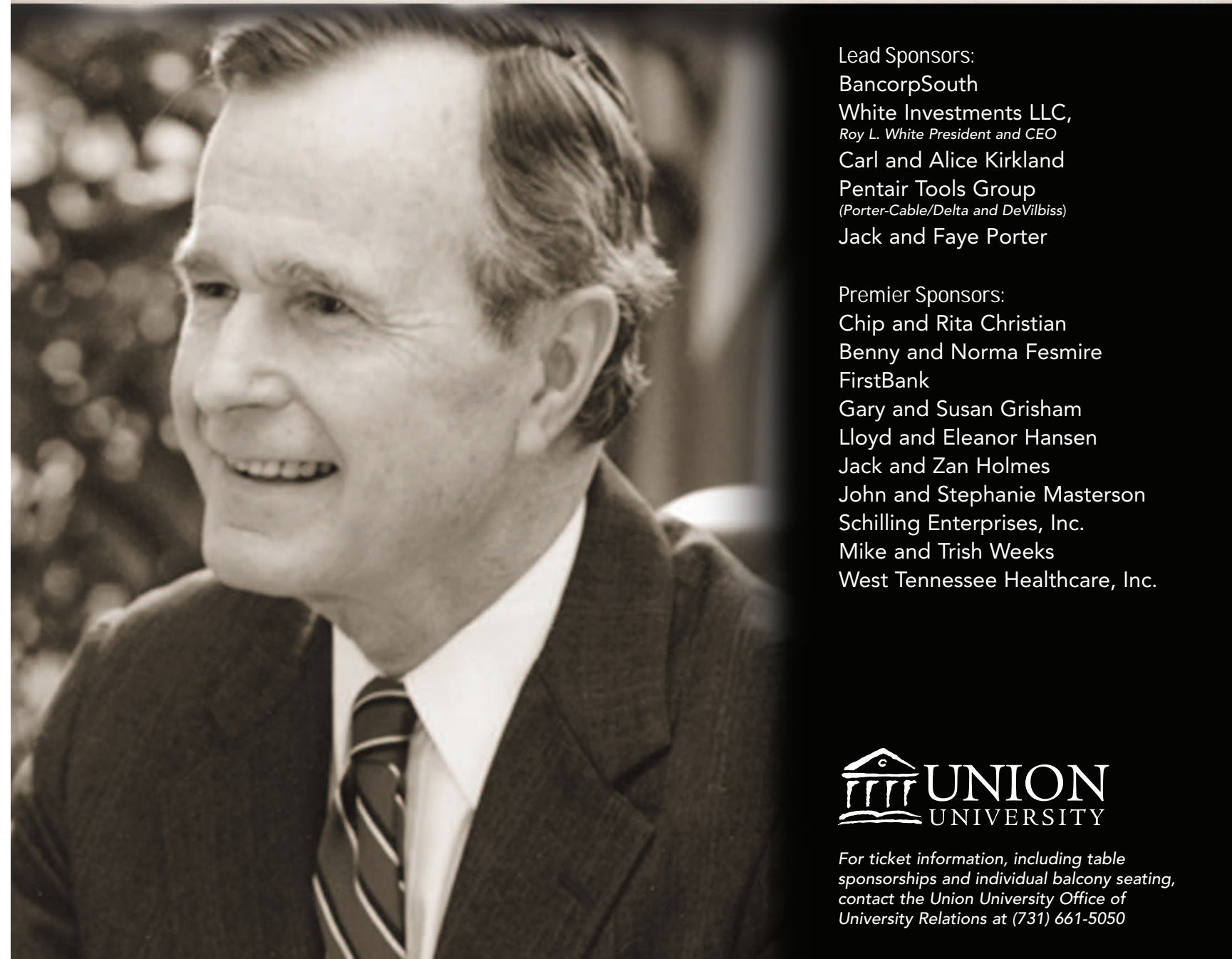
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### Following the president in 2004

#### June

- Hester Lectures, Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools, Franklin, Tenn. 

### Business Through the Eyes of Faith conference

"The world is taken up by what the eye sees and the ear hears, but God looks on the heart," said Dr. Richard C. Chewning, featured speaker at the Second Annual Business Through the Eyes of Faith Conference hosted by Union University's McAfee School of Business Administration.

Union President David S. Dockery said, "Dr. Richard Chewning's words were powerful for all present, calling for us to examine our work in light of God's overarching design and purpose for life. Regardless of one's vocation or occupation, Dr. Chewning's words were instructive and helpful but particularly so as he applied them to the business world."



Chewning's speech, titled "The Heart is at the Heart of Business Ethics," defined the components of the heart that determine how a person handles ethical decisions.

"At the core of every human's heart is a set of beliefs," Chewning said. "They are the rail system upon which your life runs. They guide you whether you are in touch with them or not."

For those whose identity rests in Christ, decisions are made based on biblical truth, but for the post-modernist, feelings rule over knowledge and beliefs.

"When what you know conflicts with what you desire," Chewning said, "you will rationalize." According to Chewning, there is no correlation between what you know and what you do; in the post-modern world, desire rules.

Chewning recalled an instance of a student caught cheating in his Christian ethics class. The student rationalized his cheating by his desire for success, measured by grades rather than competency in the course. "We must be governed by truth," Chewning said, "not by feelings."

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## Retiring faculty and staff members leave lasting mark

The close of the spring semester also brought to a close the careers of several faculty and staff members at Union University. Retiring from the university are Dr. Joseph Blass, university professor of music; Dr. Benny Tucker, professor of education; and Paul Veazey, assistant to the president for planned giving.

Blass began his career teaching sacred music classes and private voice lessons in 1959 on the original Union University campus. This was the beginning of the church music program at the university.

"It is normal for our lives to be lived in several locations and our careers to span several different job titles and responsibilities," said Dr. Richard Joiner, chair of the department of music. "Joseph Blass, however, has spent his career here, in this place."

"I was asked if any other faculty member has been at Union as long, and, speaking historically, I do not know. But we do know that no one on the present faculty comes close to being a part of this university for so many years."

Blass was recently honored by five decades of students, alumni and colleagues at a dinner filled with humor, music and expressions of gratitude.

"As I think about Dr. Blass, the thing that struck me is the number of students who are now in full-time ministry," said Ken Hartley Jr. "They're serving in churches all over America." Hartley is a 1990 Union graduate and currently serves as pastor of worship at Central Baptist Church in Hixson, Tenn.

At the dinner, Union President David S. Dockery announced that an endowed scholarship, the Joseph Blass Vocal Music Scholarship, has been created through gifts of alumni, friends and colleagues.

"It will enable students for generations to come to come and study in this place and to receive an outstanding education," Dockery said.

"Joseph Blass has been a model of excellence in the department of music at Union University for 45 years. His lengthy tenure has offered him the opportunity to put his stamp on the department and his influence on the lives of hundreds of students and colleagues. Dr. Blass is a magnificent musician, a superb teacher, and a gracious Christian gentleman. We wish the best for him in days to come as we celebrate his years of service to this institution," Dockery said.

"Union has been a wonderful place for me to work. The students have been great. I've enjoyed being a part of their lives at such a formative time in their lives. I've worked with some wonderful colleagues, and I will miss all of that." Blass said.

Tucker joined the education faculty at Union in 1989 as chair of the department. During his time as department chair he developed the master's degree program in education, rewrote the teacher licensure program and formed the School of Education and Human Studies, of which he became dean.

"Benny Tucker is a creative educator who has led the School of Education faculty to

expand and diversify their curriculum, particularly in the area of graduate programs," Dockery said. "He has been a faithful colleague to many. His reputation as a teacher and his work as a published scholar will leave a great legacy for years to come at Union University."

In 1997, Tucker resigned as dean in order to devote more time to writing. Tucker is the author of two popular math education texts, most recently *Teaching Mathematics to All Children*. Although he is retiring, Tucker will continue to teach graduate education courses as an adjunct professor.

"I'm one of those people who if I had a hobby it would be the same as my career," Tucker said. "At heart I'm a teacher. Being in a position doing what you would want to be doing even if you weren't earning a living is a true blessing."

Blass and Tucker have been named emeriti professors of music and education, respectively.


Veazey began his work raising denominational support and planned giving in 1983 and considers it a calling.

"If someone requested 'Tell me your dreams,' how would you respond?" Veazey asked. "For 21 years it has been my privilege to ask numerous individuals and churches this question regarding their

financial gifts to Union University. I like to think that in some small way I've helped them achieve their dreams."

"During this time, I've enjoyed meeting some of the most wonderful and dedicated people. I will always cherish their friendship and appreciate their loyal devotion to Union's educational ministry. The support and friendship which I've shared with my co workers have made my days at Union University truly a blessing. I will never be able to thank the Lord enough for this opportunity."

Dockery said, "Paul Veazey has given over two decades of his life to building the best church relationships that I know of at any Baptist college or university in this country. His work in the area of development has helped to advance the cause of Christ-centered education, and his work in planned giving has provided the foundation for fruitful opportunities for this institution for decades to come."

Also recognized for service are Max Blackman, security officer who is retiring after 24 years; Bob Alsobrook, senior vice president for institutional advancement, who resigned to return to work with a private consulting firm; and long-time volunteer, Ramona Mercer. 




### Road Trip to Nowhere

Eighteen volunteers signed up to participate in the Young Alums-sponsored "Road Trip to Nowhere." After a record breaking 29-hour endurance, Justin Cook, a freshman philosophy major, emerged the winner. Cook had outlasted and out-strategized the other road trippers to win the \$100 prize and \$300 for the charity of his choice—The American Cancer Society.

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But Chewning also advised humility to those who consider themselves ethical and righteous. "If I compare myself with Christ," Chewning said, "I cannot consider myself a man of integrity. I have not done something good. I have only done what I ought."

"Christian ethics is not a do-it-yourself process. Stay close to the word of God and seek the face of Christ. I still have to do that in my own life or there is no growth," Chewning said.

Among other titles, Chewning is the author of the book *Business Through the Eyes of Faith*, which is used as the text for graduate and undergraduate courses in business ethics at Union. The book also inspired the name of the conference. 


### Singers annual spring 2004 tour



The Union University Singers and Proclamation ensemble performed March 12 at 7 p.m., prior to the Dallas Symphony Orchestra concert at Mortin H. Meyerson Hall in Dallas. The evening performance was part of the choir's spring tour to churches and schools in Missouri, Arkansas, Texas and Tennessee.

The program included selections by Rachmaninov, Bruckner, Clausen and Stanford, plus hymn arrangements and spirituals.

The University Singers have maintained a reputation for their outstanding performances of choral masterworks, a cappella settings of gospel hymns, Renaissance motets and contemporary anthem literature. They have represented Union University for many years, in performances for major musical organizations, churches and conventions. In recent years, the Singers' concert tours have included Brazil, Germany and England.

The Singers are conducted by Dr. James Richard Joiner, chair of the music department and director of choral activities. 



**B**rian Taylor, junior math major and physics minor at Union University, always wanted to be a teacher. Even in high school, he loved working with children and had a passion for helping them learn. So when he came to Union University in 2001, he enrolled as a math major, with plans to teach high school math after graduation.

Those plans changed last summer when Taylor participated in the Pediatric Oncology Education Program at St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis. Along with five other students from Union and 70 students from across the nation, Taylor worked in the cancer center helping with radiation therapy and diagnostic imaging. The program there combined his love for children with his background in mathematics and physics, and Taylor knew that he had found something he could devote his life to. He decided to pursue graduate work to get a degree in medical physics and radiation therapy.

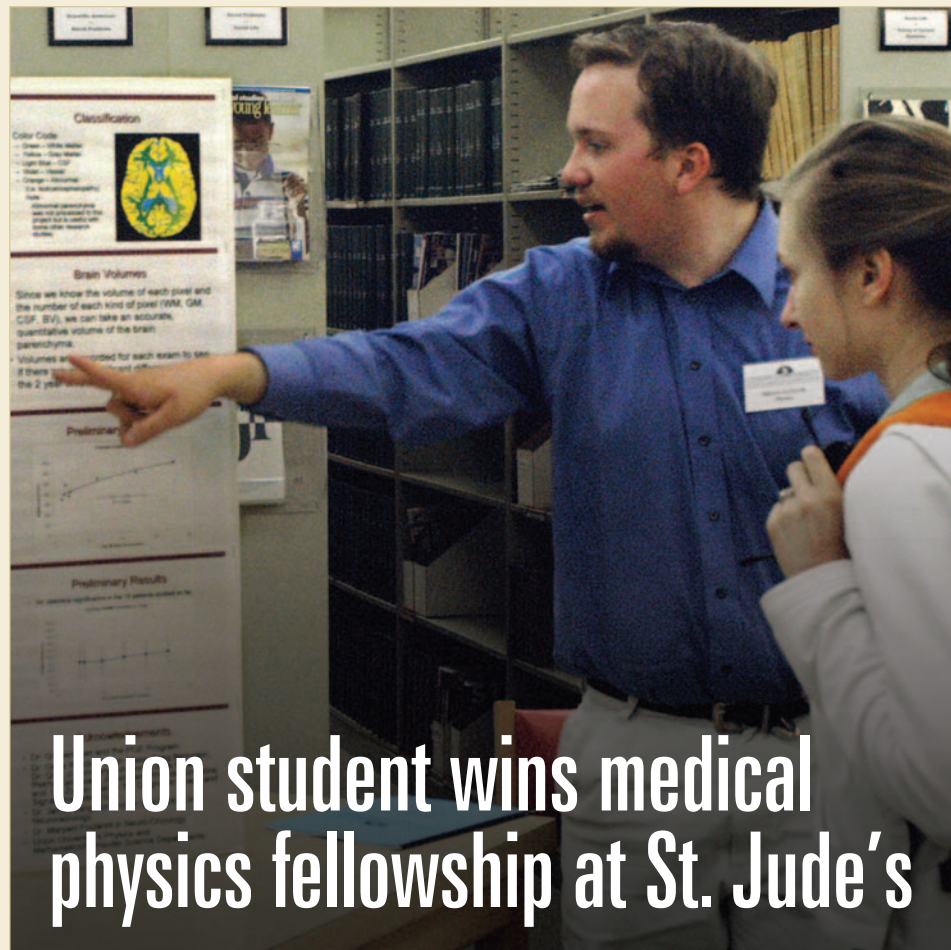
"I knew this was something I wanted to do," Taylor explained as he described his work with cancer patients. "I can use my skill in math and quantum mechanics to help children. After those weeks last summer, I decided to continue my education in medical physics."

Taylor is back at St. Jude's this summer—this time as the winner of an undergraduate fellowship in medical physics. Awarded by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, the \$4,000 fellowship allows its recipients to work for 10 weeks at a distinguished medical facility doing research in medical physics laboratories. The selection process is highly competitive; only eight to 10 fellowships are awarded nationwide, and Taylor's outstanding work at Union University provided the basis for the award.

"This is a highly competitive fellowship, and it is as honor for Brian, but he deserves it," said Dr. David Ward, professor of physics at Union. "He has always been a top-notch student and has both the academic strength and the heart for kids to do this."

Taylor, however, praises the faculty in the mathematics and physics departments at Union and is reluctant to talk about his role in winning the fellowship.

"Everyone in both departments has



## Union student wins medical physics fellowship at St. Jude's

always been there for me," he said.

"This award is more about them than it is about me, because they always take the time to sit down and help me with anything I need help in. Dr. Hathcox was the one who encouraged me to apply and helped me do it."

After finishing the fellowship and getting his degree in medical physics, Taylor plans to work in diagnostic imaging and medical research. Working primarily as a liaison between the doctor and the radiation therapist, Taylor will help develop treatment for cancer patients.

Interestingly enough, Taylor is no stranger to the medical profession, but so far in his life he has been at the receiving end of medical treatment. When he was born, he was deprived of oxygen due to a doctor's error, resulting in cerebral palsy. He was later diagnosed as having spastic quadriplegia meaning that all the motor functions in his body are affected, including his mouth and tongue. Taylor was required to have therapy until he was 15 years old and then again his senior year in high school.

However, Taylor does not let his handicap influence him and declares it is not a factor in his life. Now he even


considers it an advantage, because he is more familiar with the medical terms and will be able to empathize better with his patients.

"I never even think about my disability," he said. "I have been blessed because it could have been much worse. God has been good to me."

He admits going to college was difficult at first, because no one knew him, and many students were unfamiliar with cerebral palsy.

"They had to learn I was like everyone," he explained. "But Union has a very friendly atmosphere, and I have made so many friends here."

Meghan Lang, a junior education major who has become a good friend to Taylor, said, "Brian is a wonderful inspiration to me. He doesn't let anything affect his passion for learning, and he is always so happy and cheerful."

"Brian is an excellent student," said Dr. Kyle Hathcox, professor and chair of the physics department at Union. "He has not let his handicap stop him, and he is conscientious, dedicated and does well in whatever he pursues. We would like to have more students like him, and this fellowship is a real honor." 



### CCCU Presidential Symposium on Intercultural Competencies

The Council of Christian Colleges and Universities Presidential Symposium on Intercultural Competencies met on Union's campuses—Jackson and Germantown—April 22-25, 2004, to provide opportunity for educational leaders to evaluate campus environments and develop strategic plans for improvement of intercultural competency of faculty, staff and students. Pictured L to R: Dr. Herma Williams, associate provost, Gordon College; Dr. Bob Andringa, president, CCCU; Dr. Cynthia Jayne, associate provost, Union University.

## Lady Bulldog pitcher records over 100 career wins


**L**eah Gronberg ('04) has been named to the 2004 NAIA Softball All-American team. Gronberg earned her honorable mentioned selection after posting an overall record of 26-6 in her senior season. For Gronberg, this is her fourth time in four years to be named to the NAIA All-American team, including first team selections as a sophomore and junior.

On the season, Gronberg was 26-6 with an ERA of 1.43 as she helped lead Union to their sixth straight TranSouth Conference regular season championship and their fifth trip to the NAIA Softball World Series in six years. She tallied 201 strikeouts and only 32 walks in 215 innings pitched. Gronberg started 32 games, tossed 30 complete games, 10 shutouts, and recorded one save. She adds this honor to her All-Conference and All-Region honors this season.

Gronberg became one of only four pitchers in the history of the NAIA to record 100 career wins. (Former teammate Rachel Murray (1999-2002) is the national record holder with 126 career wins.) In her four years, Gronberg was 102-19 (.843). She also holds the Union record for best winning percentage in a season with at least 20 decisions with her 23-2 record (.920) in



2002. Other Union records that belong to Gronberg are fewest walks per inning pitched (0.135 in 2002), fewest walks allowed in season (23 in 2002), and saves in a career (3).

In addition to her success on the field, Gronberg has also excelled in the classroom. She graduated summa cum laude this May. Gronberg earned the Fred DeLay Award for the outstanding Union athlete that has excelled in the classroom and on the field. She also earned the major's award for her work in psychology. 

### Winter and Spring Sports Updates 2003-2004

#### Women's Basketball

- Overall Record: 32-5; Conference Record 14-2
- TranSouth Regular Season Co-Champions
- NAIA National Tournament Elite Eight
- Final NAIA Ranking: No. 2

#### Men's Basketball

- Overall Record: 24-10; Conference Record 10-4
- TranSouth Regular Season Runner-Up
- NAIA National Tournament Appearance (sixth in last seven seasons)
- Final NAIA Ranking: No. 13

#### Softball

- Overall Record: 45-16; Conference Record 14-6
- TranSouth Conference Regular Season Champions (sixth consecutive)
- NAIA Region XI Tournament Appearance
- NAIA Softball World Series Appearance (fifth in past six seasons)
- Final NAIA Ranking: No. 9

#### Baseball

- Overall Record: 31-22; Conference Record 8-13

#### Golf

- NAIA Region XI Tournament Appearance