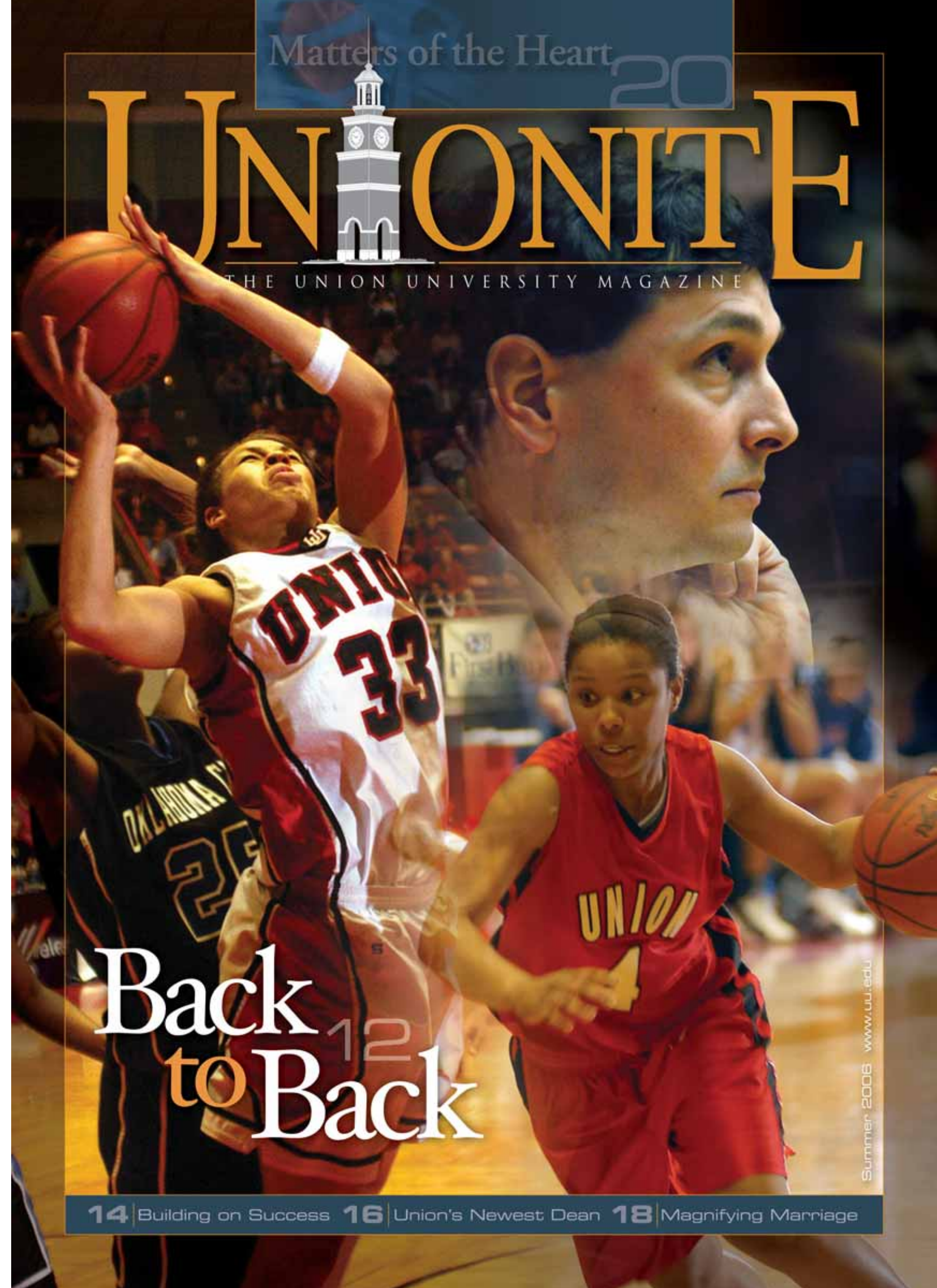


**Going up**  
The Union community enjoyed watching the beginning stages of the steel structure for White Hall during late March and early April of 2006.

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Matters of the Heart

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# UNIONITE

THE UNION UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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## Future Directed: Preparing for the Challenges Ahead

Union University has been blessed of God in amazing ways over the past decade. The qualitative indicators are almost too numerous to mention, but a few quantitative numbers in the chart below provide a quick snapshot.

By God's grace and with His providential enablement, I believe Union University is on the verge of becoming one of the truly outstanding Christian universities in the country. One of the four-fold pillars of Union University is a commitment to a *future-directed* vision for this institution. Thus we must be prepared for significant changes and challenges ahead:

**Globalization:** As we look around the globe we observe a shift among nations that will influence the 21st Century. Futurists suggest that China and India are countries to watch and places like Nigeria, Brazil and South Korea will be sources of strength for a "new Christendom" whose numerical predominance will be located in the Southern Hemisphere. Thus our international work must be strategically focused.

**Technology:** Technology is significantly altering the way education is delivered. We will find it increasingly difficult to keep pace and will have to find ways to make strategic choices among various new technologies for learning.

**Classroom Boundaries:** The interface between traditional education and the rest of society is changing. Internships, classroom consulting, service learning, distance learning, and strategic institutional alliances will force us to rethink traditional classroom boundaries.

**Gender Balance:** More women than men are enrolling in four-year universities, and the number of women attending graduate and professional schools is increasing rapidly. We will need to work hard to keep a gender balance, while monitoring this impact on the larger social setting.

**Tuition/Financial Aid:** Union's tuition remains nearly \$5,000 below the national average for private universities across the country. On top of that, the cost for providing an undergraduate education at Union is anywhere from \$1,000 to \$7,000 more than the full tuition price, depending on the major and subject matter selected by the student. Pressure for increased financial aid support will only increase. We will need to communicate clearly concerning issues of cost, price, and financial aid.

**Student Recruitment:** The competition for recruiting students has never been greater. While we have made huge strides in the past decade we must be aware that

Christian intellectual tradition, the building of authentic community, and our serious efforts toward racial reconciliation, intercultural and international awareness.

**Strategic Planning:** Finding the right emphasis on developing the campus, giving devoted attention to the \$110 million campaign, balancing the right mix of programs (undergraduate and graduate, Jackson and Germantown), making careful enrollment and revenue projections—all of these will be a high priority that will help carry Union University into the second decade of this century.

**Connecting the Past and the Future:** We must continue our commitment to

give priority to serving West Tennessee students, strengthening the strong relationship to Tennessee and Southern Baptists across the region, while developing and expanding the University's emerging national reputation. In order to advance the work of such a strong, vibrant, caring, dynamic and influential Christian academic community, we must enhance our vision for holistic learning that is consistent with our history and our heritage. We believe the future for Union University is very

bright as we carry out our commitments to offer education that is academically rigorous and unapologetically Christian. Union University has a unique opportunity to become both a regional and national resource for serious Christian thinking and scholarship in all disciplines for the 21st Century. We invite you to join us in this important work by offering your encouragement, your prayers, and your gifts for the good of Union University and the glory of God.

*Soli Deo Gloria*

*David S. Dockery*  
David S. Dockery

Union University...	A Decade Ago	Today
Fall Enrollment	1975	2981
Non-Duplicating Enrollment	2200	3600
Annual Donors	under 2000	over 4000
Annual Gifts	\$3.9 million	\$8.1 million
Annual Budget	\$18 million	\$50 million
Annual Graduates	under 400	over 900
# of Faculty	110	161
% of faculty with terminal degrees	69%	83%

there are still many people who are not considering Union because they do not know about us or fully understand our mission. We will need to be focused as we seek to tell the Union story in an effective way.

**Special Interest Groups:** Special interest groups can be expected to offer pressure to conform on issues that could challenge our mission. We must anticipate that issues of sexuality, sexual freedom, and same-gender unions could challenge our hiring policies and other matters in the not-too-distant future.

**Extending Our Mission:** High on our list of priorities for ongoing implementation is the continuation of our commitment to thinking and living Christianly, including our dedication to the advancement of the

# UNIONITE

The Union University Magazine  
Summer 2006, Volume 57, Number 2

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### About the cover

This year's Lady Bulldogs were again cutting down championship nets at the conclusion of the Division I national tournament at Jackson's Oman Arena. A tradition of excellence that started under then-head coach David Blackstock has brought Union University respect and recognition throughout NAIA women's basketball. You can read more about Union's back-to-back national championships and the people who made them possible on pages 12-16 of this issue.





### Faculty Addresses 'Da Vinci Code'

Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code" is full of half-truths, distortions and historical inaccuracies, a group of Union University professors said during a campus forum that was also open to the community.

Christian studies professors George Guthrie and Hal Poe, English professor Gene Fant and art professor Chris Nadaskay addressed Union students and community members about the problems with the book and the way Christians should respond to it.

"Dan Brown has given us a fun read, an interesting counter-history and an exciting opportunity to clarify the real history of the first Christian centuries, but he should not be seen as providing a greater clarity on what really happened in the life of Jesus or the early church," Guthrie said. "For that we must still look, with study and thoughtful reflection, to our earliest texts, the books of the New Testament."

Guthrie gave an overview of Brown's claims regarding the historical facts about the life of Jesus and the validity of the New Testament. For starters, Guthrie disputes the book's claim that thousands of ancient documents exist that present a picture of the life of Christ.

"Is it possible that there could be a trove of thousands of documents out there that were not mentioned anywhere in ancient literature, for which there is absolutely no evidence at all?" Guthrie asked. "Perhaps, but the point is, there is absolutely no evidence to support the idea. It is fiction in every sense of the word."

DVDs of the panel discussion, "Decoding 'The Da Vinci Code,'" are available for \$5. To request a copy, send your name and address along with the \$5 to College of Arts and Sciences, 1050 Union University Dr., Jackson, TN 38305. ♦

### Union graduate featured in Lucado book

When **Lori Neal ('02)** came to Union University as a freshman, she wasn't sure what she wanted to do with her life.

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## Churchill to Address 10th Annual Scholarship Banquet

**W**inston S. Churchill will be the keynote speaker for the 10th annual Scholarship Banquet at Jackson's Carl Perkins Civic Center on Tuesday, Sept. 26.

Grandson and namesake of the former British prime minister, Churchill is an accomplished author, journalist and parliamentarian. He worked as a roving war correspondent in the Congo, Angola, Borneo, Biafra, Vietnam and the Middle East. At age 30, he entered Parliament as the youngest Conservative Party member. He served 27 years, and was named to the Defence Select Committee of the House of Commons.

"Winston Churchill was one of the greatest leaders in modern world history, and his grandson connects us to this eloquent and inspirational statesman," Union President David S. Dockery said. "When he promised the British people 'blood, sweat and tears,' and when he described communism's life behind an 'iron curtain,' Churchill coined phrases that have stood the test of time. It will be an honor to welcome his gifted grandson to Union University."

In addition to his leadership as prime minister, Churchill served as British colonial secretary during the 1920s, playing a major leadership role in the Middle East during that era.

His grandson has studied that contri-

bution and produced significant writings about the region.

"Churchill's book 'Six Day War' has remained the definitive work on that conflict many years after its run on the best-seller list," Dockery said. "He will bring our audience a perspective on world affairs that starts with his grandfather's legacy, but is very much based on personal experience as a journalist and historian."

Previous keynote speakers at Union University's Scholarship Banquet include George H.W. Bush, Mikhail Gorbachev, Lady Margaret Thatcher, Colin Powell, James Baker, Rudolph Giuliani, John Major, Robert Dole and Lou Holtz.

This year's lead and premier sponsors include BancorpSouth, Porter Cable & DeVilbiss, which is now Black & Decker, Harry Smith and Schilling Enterprises, Roy White and White Investments LLC, FirstBank, Benny and Norma Fesmire, Lloyd Hansen, Jack and Zan Holmes, The Jackson Sun, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network/Rod and Amy Parker, Jack and Faye Porter, Mike and Trish Weeks, West Tennessee Healthcare and an anonymous donor.

Sponsorship opportunities are available at all levels. For ticket information, including table sponsorships and individual balcony seating, contact Union's Office of University Relations at (731) 661-5050. ♦



Robert George



Margaret Carlson

## Union Forum Speakers Address Supreme Court Changes

**A** renowned legal scholar and one of the nation's most visible journalists weighed in on the changing U.S. Supreme Court during the eighth annual Union Forum presentations.

Robert George, the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence at Princeton University, focused on the new Bush appointees, John Roberts and Samuel Alito. He said many observers assume new justices will mirror the philosophy of the president who tapped them, but that is frequently not the case.

He cited the example of Dwight Eisenhower, who decided to appoint William Brennan. The National Liberal League opposed Brennan on religious grounds. Brennan, however, turned out to be a "liberal of the strictest observance," George said.

Likewise, the conservative Ronald Reagan appointed the moderate Sandra Day O'Connor, who played a crucial role in preserving abortion and racial preferences. Democrat John F. Kennedy appointed Byron White, who proved to be a conservative.

Margaret Carlson, a columnist for Time magazine and a frequent guest on national television shows, talked about the future of the court in light of the unpredictability that permeates Washington.

"That's what makes my job so much fun," Carlson said. "Every day there is something to learn."

George is considered a conservative observer, while Carlson is a self-described liberal. That balance helps make Union Forum one of the university's most anticipated events each year.

Both speakers ventured some

Washington predictions.

Carlson said she thinks U.S. Senator Hilary Clinton might win the democrats' nomination for President in 2008, but she will not win the general election because she is too polarizing as a public figure. She also thinks Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will choose not to make a presidential run.

"She's Secretary of State," said Carlson. "It's a better job!"

George observed that the U.S. Supreme Court is still one vote short of overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion. Until a new justice provides that fifth vote, George expects the four justices in the minority to welcome cases that will slowly chip away at the structure of Roe v. Wade.

Both speakers addressed more than 300 luncheon guests, and also met separately with faculty and students. George focused his student discussion on natural law and the role Christians play in politics.

"I especially enjoyed his discussion with the students," said Union senior Natalie Treece. "I thought it was interesting and relevant for 2006. He's a very brilliant man."

He is the author of "In Defense of Natural Law," "Making Men Moral: Civil Liberties and Public Morality" and "The Clash of Orthodoxies: Law, Religion and Morality in Crisis." He has published numerous scholarly articles and book reviews.

Carlson became a columnist for Time magazine in February 1994. Her column, "Public Eye," made Carlson the first woman columnist in the magazine's 76-year history. ♦

continued from pg.4

A gifted athlete, she came to the university on a softball scholarship. Her first thoughts centered on a career in sports.

But an evaluation Neal completed during her college years pointed her instead to art. This spring she completed a master of fine arts degree from the University of Georgia.

"I'm one of the only Christians in my program," Neal said. "Just to be able to be very confident in who I am and who (God) made me to be gives me the confidence to go out into a dark world."



Neal's story caught the attention of best-selling Christian author Max Lucado, who included a section about her in his latest book, "Cure for the Common Life."

Lucado wrote about Neal, who through the Discovering My Design assessment realized her gifts and how she could use them for God's glory.

"Within three years the confused, softball-playing freshman was a focused and recognized college senior," Lucado wrote. "The prestigious 'Ceramics Monthly' published her writings, and the world's premier ceramic school, Alfred University, invited her to study on their campus."

Neal spent one year studying at Alfred before transferring to Georgia.

Lucado told of his conversation with Neal, in which she described her passion for her art work. He asked how a career in art can "make a big deal out of God," to which Neal gave two answers.

"The art world has few Jesus followers," Neal said. "When I do my best, they notice, not just me, but my Lord."

Neal also told about working at a rehab center one summer, when one of her jobs was to draw pictures on balloons for handicapped children.

"When the work of my hands makes little girls smile, that's where my heart is," Neal said.

A native of Mansfield, Tenn., Neal and her fiancée, Clay Nolen ('99) plan to return to West Tennessee this summer. She says she doesn't yet know what the next chapter in her life will hold, but she

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continued from pg.5

is sure of one thing.

"God gave me all of these gifts, and it's my gift to give back to him, to use my gifts for his purpose," she said.

### Union Choir Selected to Perform at Educators Meeting

Union's Voices of Proclamation performed the feature concert March 30 at the joint meeting of the Tennessee Music Educators Association and the Tennessee chapter of the American Choral Directors Association in Nashville.

As the feature concert, Proclamation was the only group that presented an evening concert during the meeting.

"It was the only event which was attended by hundreds of music educators, conductors and all-state choir members at the conference," Proclamation director Richard Joiner said.

Joiner said most of the program was a *cappella*, consisting of masterworks in German, Latin and English. It also included some American folk hymns and a piece in gospel/blues style, accompanied by Union music professor Ronald Boud.

The meeting was held at First Baptist Church in Nashville.



## Summer Completion Date Expected for New Fesmire Field House

Inclement weather delayed its completion, but the 18,000 square-foot Fesmire Field House should be ready for tours in the summer and athletes in the fall.

The facility will include a 9,000-square foot turf room suitable for varsity indoor practice sessions. Also included in the plans are locker rooms and showers for each home and visiting team, coaches' offices and an athletic training room. It will serve baseball, softball and soccer teams.

Benny and Norma Fesmire, long-time

supporters of Union University athletics, gave a \$500,000 lead gift to support the project. Associate Athletic Director Tommy Sadler says when finished, the facility will rank among the very best in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Heavy rains earlier in the construction phase slowed the work, but Sadler estimates a possible completion date in July. Watch the Union athletics Web site ([www.uu.edu/athletics](http://www.uu.edu/athletics)) for information about the grand opening and building tours.

## Union 2010 Capital Campaign Tops \$80 Million

"Union 2010: A Vision for Excellence" has already exceeded \$80 million in gifts and pledges.

The capital campaign was launched at the 2005 Annual Scholarship Banquet in September. Since then, Union has set records for donors contributing in a single month, and highest dollar figure in a single month. Both marks were set in December.

"We are on target to reach \$110 million by 2010," says Charles A. Fowler, senior vice president for university relations. "Our

alumni and friends are embracing this vision, and responding in wonderful ways."

The campaign targets three key areas of opportunity: New and enhanced campus facilities; endowment growth; and operations support.

Call 1-800-338-6644 to find out more about joining this historic effort. Online, log on to [www.uu.edu/union2010](http://www.uu.edu/union2010). The campaign Web pages provide news on the latest developments, multimedia presentations and a variety of opportunities for participation.



## Union Class of '06 Ready to Make an Impact

Graduation from college does not mean a freedom from requirements in life, Paul Corts told a group of nearly 400 Union University graduates at spring commencement on the university's Great Lawn.

"Most of you graduates probably thought that with commencement you find yourself free from having to worry about fulfilling requirements," Corts said. "Your time at a great Christian university like Union has been preparing you to live your life in accord with God's requirements for you. As the Scripture has reminded us, to whom much is given, much is required."

The rain-shortened service saw 400 students receive their degrees, bringing to nearly 900 the number of Union University graduates for the 2005-2006 academic year.

"It was one of the most memorable commencement services in the history of Union University," Union President David S. Dockery said. "We salute the graduates of the class of 2006 for what they've accomplished in the past, and look forward to what they will do in the future."

Corts is the newly elected president of the Council for Christian Colleges and

Universities. He has served as assistant attorney general for administration for the U.S. Department of Justice since 2002 and previously was president of Palm Beach Atlantic University for nearly 12 years.

Using a text from Micah, Corts told graduates they were required to do three things: do justice, love mercy and walk humbly.

"The world needs a fresh touch, a new infusion of mercy," Corts said. "Put into action what you've been taught here. Follow in the footsteps of Jesus."

Following his address, Corts was inducted as a fellow for Union's Carl F. H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership.

Political science major Josh Dougan, of Gadsden, Tenn., received the Elizabeth Tigrett Medal from Union. The award, created by Tigrett's son to honor his mother, has been awarded since 1912 by vote of the entire Union faculty to an outstanding member of the senior class.

Earlier in the month, English professor Pamela Casey Sutton was named Faculty Member of the Year, and Karen Miller, coordinator of the Department of Continuing Studies, was named Staff Member of the Year.

### Social Work Students Again Win National Award



For a second consecutive year, social work students at Union have won national acclaim for a program proposal that could benefit thousands of people across Tennessee.

Brandon Bailey, Lindsey Lawrence, Amanda Thedford and advisor Theresa Blakley won the national award in the annual Influencing State Policy competition, sponsored by the Council on Social Work Education. The award was presented at CSWE's annual meeting in Chicago earlier this year.

The project, entitled "Tennessee Can't Wait! Professionalizing the Child Welfare System Through Student Loan Repayment," is a proposed program that would provide loan forgiveness for students who commit to serving vulnerable children and their families in Tennessee's state child welfare system. The students produced a video documentary and policy brief to support their proposal, which they took to state lawmakers and top administrators.

Just last year, a team of Union students won the same national competition for a project entitled "Rights of Incarcerated Women: Movement toward Gender-specific Guidelines and the Protection of Unborn Children."



### Union Students Spend Spring Break Helping with Katrina Relief

When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast last fall, Union University sophomore Kirby Maxwell knew she wanted to help.

"I had my heart hurt for the people down there," said Maxwell, a Memphis native. "It was such a bad thing, I just wanted to help in any way I could."

Over spring break, Maxwell had her opportunity. She and 12 other Union University students spent the week of March 19 in Gulfport, Miss., helping the North Carolina Baptist Men's disaster relief group by painting houses and doing other jobs as needed.

The Gulfport team was one of 11 Global Opportunities teams Union sent out worldwide over spring break to such places as France, Romania, Honduras, North Africa, Guatemala, Canada, Boston, New York and Chicago.

Lisa Whiffen, an enrollment counselor who led the Gulfport team, said the students learned a valuable lesson about service. They wanted to do some of the more difficult jobs, like gutting houses, but instead spent much of their time painting and doing other "easy tasks."

"One of the things they learned and I learned was that we really just needed to do what they told us to do," Whiffen said. "Those small tasks really do fit into the bigger picture of getting those homes completed."

"The last couple of days we got to work in areas where we could really see the disaster, and see how the hurricanes affected people," said Union sophomore Blake Waggoner, of Louisville, Ky.

One couple appreciated the work of the Union students so much they sent a letter to the university praising the students.

"Today a group of students from your university arrived and were very helpful in cleaning and painting our home," wrote Chris and Fay Stainbrook, of Biloxi, Miss.

"Anything they lacked in experience, they made up in enthusiasm. It was great to find young people who are polite, motivated and respectful in their work." ❖



Juniors Cara Yates & Keely Hart help categorize donated goods at West Jackson Baptist Church to assist Hurricane Katrina victims

## Hurricane Katrina Victims Find a New Home at Union

Like thousands of other residents of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, Christy Denney fled ahead of Hurricane Katrina's path. She and her parents made their way to Alamo, Tenn., to stay with Christy's aunt and uncle.

"We only usually get to see them during hurricane season," Denney joked.

What Denney didn't realize at the time was that she'd be staying much longer than she expected. A freshman in college, Denney originally planned just to take some online courses this semester until she could return home to Moss Point, Miss., and finish her schooling there.

But Denney soon decided to enroll as a full-time student at Union University. Now she's decided to stay and graduate from Union in four years.

"I love the school," Denney said. "I love the atmosphere. I feel like I've been here for years instead of just two months. It just kind of fits."

Denney is just one of 11 college students who transferred to Union University in the fall because of Hurricane Katrina. To accommodate students who had been affected by the hurricane, Union extended its enrollment deadline and offered to help such students academically, socially and financially.

Steve Tien, of San Jose, Calif., previously attended Louisiana State University. A computer engineering major, Tien isn't sure yet what his long-term plans will be.

But he knows if he stays in Jackson, Tenn., he'll stay at Union.

"Union is like a small family where everybody knows everybody and everybody is very helping," Tien said. "If you need help they're willing to help you. It's a very nice place to be. It's a good study environment, and the professors are very helpful."

Chrissy Esnault of New Orleans echoed that assessment of Union's professors. A nursing student who heard about Union from a friend, Esnault said Union's faculty members have been "outstanding."

She specifically cited the help of nursing faculty members Tharon Kirk and Jill Webb, who have helped Esnault by soliciting donations and providing her with gift cards to purchase some necessities.

"They've been helping in a lot of ways," Esnault said. "Hopefully, if everything works out, I might just stay to graduate from Union."

Naomi Larsen, chair of sociology and family studies at Union, and her husband Jonathan opened their home to students who had transferred to Union.

"We have empty rooms upstairs, so we thought that was a way we could help," Larsen said.

With an empty nest, Larsen said having two college students living with her has taken some adjustment. But it's also been a good experience, because it's given her a chance to interact with people from a different background and culture. ❖



Senior Kimberly Brown, of New Orleans, one of 11 students who transferred to Union in the fall because of Hurricane Katrina, selects a quilt made by Kindred Spirits Quilters, from Hyewood Park Baptist Church in North Plainfield, N.J.

## New Jersey Group Focuses on Katrina Victims at Union

Students who transferred to Union University as a result of Hurricane Katrina attracted the attention of some New Jersey women they don't even know.

Kindred Spirits Quilters, from Hyewood Park Baptist Church in North Plainfield, N.J., made and sent 13 quilts to Union, one for each of the students displaced by Hurricane Katrina, and two for the students' children.

"I sent them an e-mail once I received the quilt, and I told them that the group is really a spiritual group to think of other people," said senior Kimberly Brown of New Orleans, who graduated from Union this spring. "It's really good to know that there are other people in your corner when you are at your worst."

Kimberly Thornbury, Union's dean of students, said her mother, Carolyn Carmichael, who lives in New Jersey, told Mary Lou Kirtland about the students who had transferred to Union because of the hurricane.

Kirtland is involved with Kindred Spirits Quilters, and said the group had been looking for a way to help the hurricane victims. When she heard the story from Carmichael, she knew her group

had found its project.

"I asked the other members of Kindred Spirits Quilters to produce either throw-size or bed-size quilts," Kirtland said. "We'd get them quilted, bound and sent to Tennessee as soon as possible. We added a label to the back of each quilt with a Scripture verse of promise – and to let the recipients know that there are strangers who care for them and are praying for each of them."

The verse attached to each quilt was Psalm 91:4, "He shall cover thee with his feathers and under his wings shalt thou trust."

Thornbury's office handled the quilt distribution, as students came by to pick out items crafted by women they'll probably never meet.

"They just took all semester to work on the quilts and pray over the students and everything," Thornbury said.

Brown loved her quilt, and said she greatly appreciated the thought behind it. A tragedy like Hurricane Katrina "kind of messes with your spirit," she said.

"But God sends people in your life to let you know that what you're going through is just a test. And eventually you will come out better than you were before." ❖

### Undergraduate Research Showcased

Is there a scientific basis for how coffee-loving chemistry students should select their favorite blends? Can engineering students build a better robot for Federal Express? How can global positioning systems be used to get pizza delivered more efficiently?

These and scores of other questions were answered with solid, quantitative student research at Union's third annual Scholarship Symposium.

Sometimes the research involves everyday situations such as ordering coffee or pizza. Other projects delve into subjects such as a lymphoma that primarily attacks African-American children, an in-depth survey of computer ethics studies on the nation's college campuses, or the benefits of becoming bilingual.

More than 100 students from 18 departments participated in the event, presenting significant research conducted alongside a faculty adviser during the 2005-06 academic year.

It's the type of serious exploration usually reserved for graduate study at most institutions. Faculty members say completion of such work often makes Union students stand out on employment or graduate school applications.

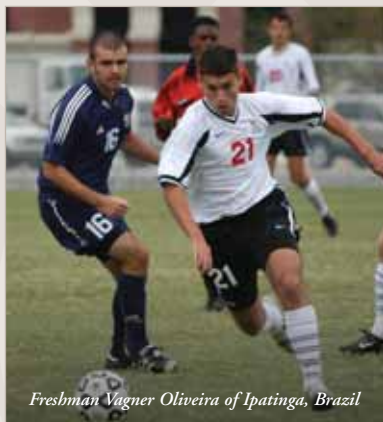
Kolo Goshi ('05) gave the keynote address at a reception after the day of presentations. Goshi was in the first engineering class at Union and now works in the aerospace industry in California. ❖



Engineering student Josh Shrewsbury points out the features of a robotic design.



### Union Soccer Wins Values Award



Freshman Wagner Oliveira of Ipatinga, Brazil

Men's Soccer was awarded the Buffalo Funds Five Star Award this season for exemplary demonstration of five key character traits. The national recognition is accorded to one team in each of the 23 sports represented in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

In the areas of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership and sportsmanship, the program was judged to be a top example of those attributes in action.

In the area of sportsmanship, for example, the team reduced its number of yellow penalty cards by 72%, and head coach Darin White received numerous communications from game officials praising the graciousness, class and positive attitudes of his players.

"We put a high premium on being leaders on our campus and in our community, says White, who just completed his 12th season as head coach. "This translates into success in a number of ways."

Union soccer received the prestigious National Soccer Coaches Association of America National Team Academic Award, signifying an overall team grade-point average in the top 3% of all men's soccer teams across all divisions in the United States.

On the field, the 2005 squad advanced further in intercollegiate play than any other Bulldog soccer team, meeting the defending region champions and six-time national champion Lindsey Wilson (Ky.) in the Region XI Title Game. The team earned runner-up finishes in the TranSouth regular season, TranSouth Tournament and NAIA Region XI Tournament. ❖

## Union Men Take TranSouth Golf Title

Cole Floyd took first place individual honors in the 2006 NAIA Region XI golf championship, leading Union to a third place team finish just days after the Bulldogs captured the TranSouth conference title.

Floyd, a sophomore from Milan, earned an automatic bid to the NAIA National Golf Tournament in Kansas as an individual qualifier. In the regional tournament, Floyd led after two rounds and then fired a 70 for a three-day total

of 211. That was four strokes better than the second place finisher.

In the conference tournament, sophomore William Boyd took third place overall to lead Union to its ninth TranSouth title.

Several post-season honors came home with Union, including Head Coach Don Morris being named the TranSouth Coach of the Year. Boyd, Floyd and sophomore Drew Cannon were each named to the TranSouth All-Conference team. ❖

## Union Men Finish Memorable Season atop TranSouth

For a second straight year, the Union University Bulldogs won the TranSouth Conference Tournament championship, their fifth such title in nine years.

Union, which finished 28-6, clinched the tournament title with a 92-79 victory over Trevecca Nazarene in Nashville, and finished the regular season No. 5 in the NAIA men's basketball rankings.

For much of the season, Mountain State (W.Va) University was the top-ranked team. The Cougars lost only two regular season games, and Union accounted for both of those defeats. The first victory over MSU put Union atop the men's national poll for the first time in school history.

In addition to Mountain State, Union defeated several other top non-conference opponents, picking up wins over NAIA powers Houston Baptist, Oklahoma City and Lindsey Wilson.

The Bulldogs even threw a scare into

NCAA Division I Middle Tennessee State, leading the Blue Raiders by as much as 14 in the first half and trailing by only a point with three minutes remaining. MTSU went on to a 95-82 exhibition win.

The season ended with a first-round loss to eventual national champion Texas Wesleyan at the NAIA tournament in

Kansas City, Mo. It was the second consecutive year that an unseeded team started a Cinderella-style run to the national championship with a win over Union.

But as they remember the 2005-06 season, Bulldog fans will savor all those big wins, and some outstanding individual performances. Kinley Sellars, Corey Burkett and Ben Frederick were first-team selections for the TranSouth All-Conference squad. Dewayne Lee made second-team, and Sellars was named Newcomer of the Year.

Bulldog Head Coach Ralph Turner took Coach of the Year honors in the conference. ❖



# Homecoming Weekend is making a move!

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!



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## Union Moves to November Homecoming

One key reason for moving Union University's annual homecoming celebrations from February to November is the unreliable weather that is possible during a west Tennessee winter.

The point was illustrated dramatically during the final February event.

Forecasts of ice and snow on Friday, Feb. 17 forced the University to cancel scores of homecoming events.

"We did get in all the Friday activities," says Gary Williams, associate vice president for alumni services. "But almost everything on Saturday had to be canceled."

The men's basketball game set for Feb. 18 was played, but Homecoming Queen Kari Bachman of Louisville, Ky. and her court were not introduced until the following weekend.

The switch to November means there will be a second homecoming weekend in

the calendar year 2006. It has been scheduled for Nov. 3-4.

The alumni awards luncheon canceled on Feb. 18 has been rescheduled as a dinner on Nov. 3.

Among the accolades to be awarded that night:

- **Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award**, Jimmy H. Davis
- **Distinguished Service Award**, Donald R. Webb
- **Distinguished Alumnus Award**, Raymond A. "Buddy" Boston
- **Honorary Alumnus Award**, David S. Dockery
- **Outstanding Young Achiever Award**, Andrea McDaniel

The potential for better weather in early November should lead to some new activities on future Union homecoming schedules. Tailgate parties, barbeques and

outdoor activities for families are in the planning stages.

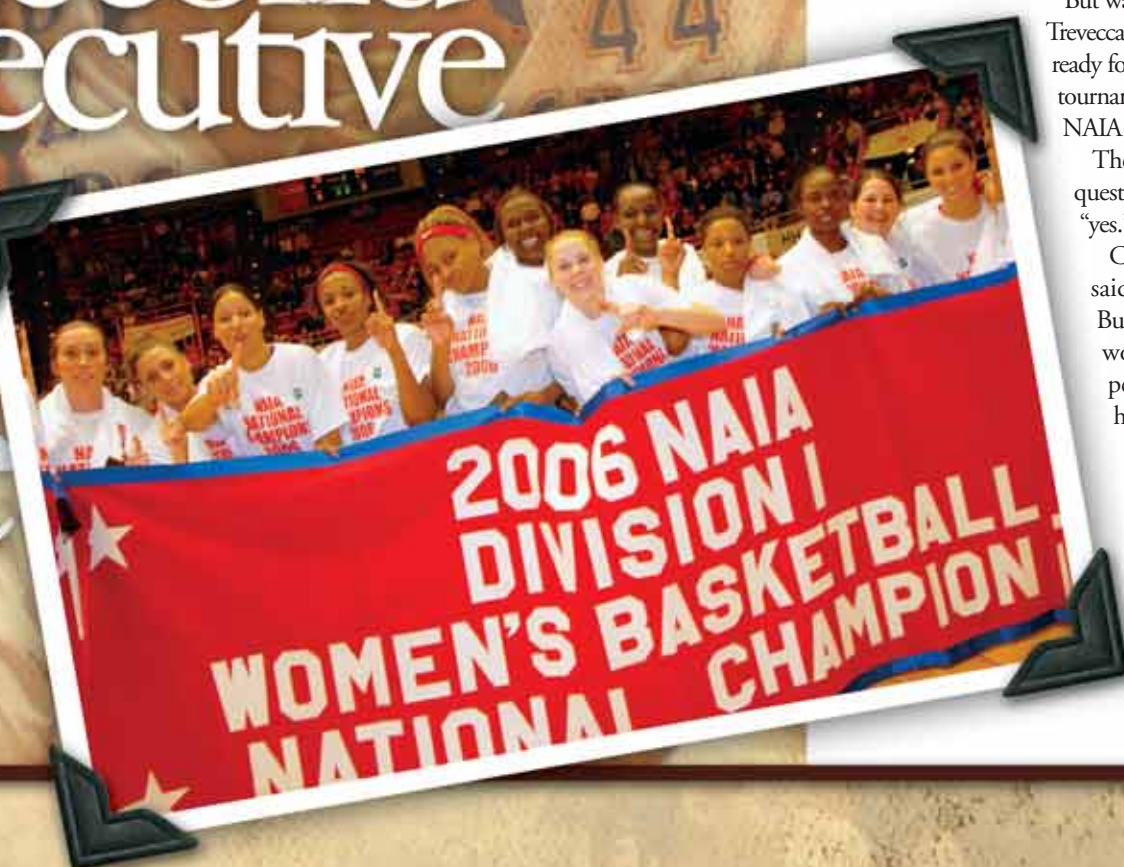
The initial plan is to conduct any formal activities on Friday, followed by ample time for departments and organizations to hold reunion events, dessert receptions and open houses. Saturday will be reserved for outdoor events and basketball.

"Saturday will be a totally relaxed, casual and fun day," says Williams. "We're already planning a golf tournament. Family and student activities will be mainly in the morning, with the basketball games in the afternoon."

Among those actively involved in the planning are students in Ashley Blair's public relations classes. They will study strategies for increasing student participation and attracting alumni to campus. ❖



# Lady Bulldogs Capture Second Consecutive NAIA Title



As the Union Lady Bulldogs ended a second consecutive season cutting down nets at the NAIA national championship tournament, it was easy to forget that just days earlier, the team had been bounced from the semi-finals of its conference tournament.

The Lady Bulldogs lost to Trevecca Nazarene 75-62 on their home floor as fans worried maybe the team had peaked earlier in the season.

After all, Union hosted the nation's most prestigious early season women's basketball tournament and won the title. Union defeated Oklahoma Christian, The Master's College and Southern Nazarene in that Rotary Classic.

Later in the season, there was a thrilling overtime victory over then-No.2 Freed-Hardeman. The game featured 12 lead changes and seven ties.

But was Union, after the Trevecca loss and a 13-day layoff, ready for the rigors of a national tournament featuring the best NAIA squads in the country?

The team answered that question with an emphatic "yes."

Coach Mark Campbell said this edition of the Lady Bulldogs exemplified the word "team" better than perhaps any other team he has ever coached.

When the season started, Campbell knew there was a chance his team could repeat as national champions if the players worked hard. They already knew his system, his expectations,

and what is required to win the NAIA tournament.

"The difference in the start of this and the start of last season is that all but two of our players know exactly what we are doing and why we are doing it," Campbell said in October. "And the two new faces to our team are catching on fast."

Losing NAIA 2005 Player of the Year Stephanie Clark to graduation was thought to be among the biggest problems Campbell and company would face. But three strong post players emerged to give the Lady Bulldogs an inside presence few teams could counter. Post play improved as the season progressed. "As they get better, our team gets better," Campbell said.

Fans need look no further than the national championship game to see the contributions of Josephine Owino and Natanya Smith.

Owino, a freshman from Mombasa, Kenya, led the scoring in the championship win over Lubbock Christian with 24 points and 10 rebounds. Smith, a junior from Memphis, added 16 points.

"We've never had a game where both (Owino and Smith) did what they did tonight in the same game," said Campbell after the championship had been won.

The emergence of junior Djenebou "DJ" Sissoko allowed Campbell to put two post players in the game at the same time when necessary.

Union's outside shooting and guard play thrilled fans throughout the season.

Sophomore Crystal Eason sunk a school-record 10 three-pointers in a February win over Blue Mountain, and hit timely treys throughout the NAIA tournament. Merideth Richardson scored 27 points, including eight baskets from behind the arc, in a tournament win over Oklahoma City. Junior LaTorya Fuller made solid contributions throughout

the season. Freshman Jessica Graves was so impressive by season's end that Campbell was predicting she has a chance to be among the best guards ever to play at Union.

The team will lose four to graduation this spring: Ena Daniels, who took control of several tournament games when the outcome was still in doubt and was named First Team All-Tournament; Tiffany Fisher, who averaged more than eight points a game and was an All-Conference selection; Peggy McCain, who came in off the bench to pick up the team; and Jennifer Henson, a complete player named second-team All-Conference.

Henson, McCain and Eason won conference All-Academic honors. McCain received the NAIA's prestigious Champions of Character award, given to student athletes who best exhibit ethical behavior and commitment to scholarship, sportsmanship and leadership.

At a university-wide championship celebration a few weeks after the victory, Campbell announced that assistant coach Katie Woodruff will not return next year. She has accepted a youth ministry position in Rome, Ga. Although he said he would miss her as a coach and friend, Campbell added that the new job working with young people "is perfect for her."

With the consecutive national championships, Union now has won 10 NAIA tournament games in a row. In addition to Campbell and Woodruff, the two constants on the bench during that run have been honorary coaches Gary and Susan Grisham. Gary is president of BancorpSouth, which has been the team's tournament sponsor during the championship runs.

"It's exciting to be there," says Susan Grisham. "We get to experience the strategy and even the small talk on the bench."

"If Mark Campbell will have us, we'd love to come back next year." ❖

## The Championship Run at a Glance

### Game One

**Union 76, John Brown (Ark.) 57**  
Seventh-seeded John Brown University took an 11-4 lead six minutes into the game, but Djenebou "DJ" Sissoko scored on an Ena Daniels assist with 7:20 to play in the half to give Union its first lead of the night at 19-18. Union then used a 19-2 run to take a 38-20 lead into halftime, and maintained a double-digit lead throughout the second half. Ena Daniels led the Union scorers with 14 points, including 7-of-11 from the floor, and six assists. Merideth Richardson followed with 13 points, while Josephine Owino had 10.

### Game Two

**Union 92, St. Xavier (Ill.) 69**  
The Lady Bulldogs started the second half scoring eight unanswered points to break open a tight game. Josephine Owino led Union with 18 points, while Jessica Graves followed with 15 and Natanya Smith added 11. St. Xavier head coach Bob Halberg told the Jackson Sun "(Union's) kids coming off the bench are just as good as their starters."

### Game Three

**Union 78, Oklahoma City University 64**  
In a rematch of the 2005 national title game, Union routed highly regarded Oklahoma City to secure a spot in the Final Four. The Lady Stars had qualified for the title game the previous seven years. Merideth Richardson scored 24 of her game-leading 27 points from beyond the arc, where Union shot a blistering 54 percent as a team and tied a tournament record for 3-point baskets at 14. OCU's star center Mariam Sy left the game with an injury in the second half. The entire Union team and coaching staff surrounded her after the game to wish her well. Sy later was named the tournament's most valuable player.

### Game Four

**Union 62, The Master's College (Calif.) 51**  
The Lady Bulldogs played a near-flawless first half, leading the Lady Mustangs 40-14 at the break. But The Master's College had engineered several comebacks during their tournament run, and they went to work chipping away at the Union lead. They used a 24-5 run midway through the second half to pull within two possessions at 55-49 with just 1:39 remaining. Crystal Eason sank four clutch free throws, and Ena Daniels blocked a crucial shot in the final minute to seal the victory and send Union to a second consecutive national title game.

### Game Five

**Union 79, Lubbock Christian (Tex.) 62**  
Lubbock Christian was the consensus 2006 "Cinderella" team at the tournament. The Lady Chaps came into Jackson unseeded, and had never won a tournament game prior to this season. But they defeated top-ranked Vanguard to reach the title game with Union. The Lady Bulldogs fell behind early, but the two teams played evenly until late in the first half, when Union built an 11-point lead at intermission. Lubbock Christian had problems dealing with Union's post play, as Natanya Smith and Josephine Owino combined for 40 points. This tenth-straight win in national tournament play brought Union a third NAIA division one national championship since 1998.

### Tournament Accolades

- 47 Steals (tournament best)
- 88 Assists (tournament best)
- 15 Three-point baskets for Merideth Richardson (tied for best)

**Coach of the Year:** Mark Campbell

**All Tournament Team:** Ena Daniels (first team), Josephine Owino and Merideth Richardson (second team)







# Building on Success:

Head Coach Mark Campbell

BY TIM ELLSWORTH



When Stephanie Clark transferred to Union University to play basketball, she saw something different in Coach Mark Campbell that attracted her.

"He was part of the reason that I decided to come here, because I really respected his vision as a coach," Clark says. "It was not just to develop quality basketball players, but to make sure that his players develop and leave here with an understanding of who Jesus Christ is and what he did."

Campbell has enjoyed a tremendous amount of success in his first seven years as coach of the Union Lady Bulldogs – including six straight seasons of 30 or more wins and two straight NAIA National Championships. But despite the success, Campbell's focus isn't on winning – it's on priorities that are much more lasting.

"I think the process is so much more important than the outcome," Campbell says.

For Campbell, that process means emphasizing relationships – both with God and with each other. It means caring more about his players than the outcome of a game. It means developing his players to the best of their ability.

"I think we have a duty as Christians to be excellent in what we're doing," Campbell says. "I think a lot of my kids wouldn't listen to the spiritual things if we weren't trying to be excellent on the floor. Because we're excellent on the floor, they realize part of that excellence comes from Christ, I hope."

"Mark Campbell is a terrific coach and an even better person," says Union President David S. Dockery. "He exemplifies the mission, values, and ideals of this university as well as anyone on the entire campus. Union University is indeed blessed to have Mark Campbell to lead our outstanding women's basketball program."

Excellence on the floor is a given, as Campbell's career record of 226-36 over seven years is ample evidence. But Campbell is quick to credit others, including former Lady Bulldogs coach David Blackstock, who built the Union women's program into a national powerhouse, with contributing to his success.

"I'm at a place that allows you to be successful," he says. "We've averaged 30 wins a year for the last 20 years. So, I'm not doing anything that anybody hadn't done before me."

Campbell says the entire environment at Union makes it easy to be a winning coach.

"The school gives us every opportunity to be successful financially with scholarship, with facilities, with tradition, with people who are more concerned about people than winning," he says. "If you can be at a place where people are more concerned about people than winning, and you can still win, that's a special place."

Blackstock says Campbell has all the ingredients of what makes a winning coach. He's knowledgeable of the game. He recruits good athletes who come from winning programs. He motivates his players

to believe in themselves.

But there's something extra that Campbell contributes that other coaches don't.

"Mark has been able to sell the girls on the fact that he cares about them and will demand that they care about each other," Blackstock says. "Once everybody buys into the system and sees that it works, they become confident in their own abilities and in the abilities of their teammates. That's when you have your good runs. That's when you win championships."

Two championships, back-to-back, to be exact. After claiming his first title last year, Campbell knew this year's team also had the potential to match that performance.

From the team's first meeting on Sept. 16, Campbell told them they would win the national championship.

"I think you sow seeds of what your expectations are from the beginning," Campbell says. "That never changes. Our first team meeting last year in April after we won it, the idea was, we're going to do it again."

He encouraged this year's team to look at the banner hanging in the gym. He reminded them that if they didn't execute, they'd leave early in the tournament. He pointed out how the team was built to win five games in six days.

Even when the team lost three games in a row in December, Campbell wasn't overly concerned. The team's point guard, Jennifer Henson, was on the bench with an injury. Still, in each game, the

Lady Bulldogs had a chance to win in the last three minutes.

"It turned out at the end that all the pieces improved and got better, and more than anything, the kids really loved each other," Campbell says. "They liked each other on and off the floor. With girls, I think ultimately that's one of the most important things."

That doesn't mean the relationship between players and coach is always smooth. Clark

can attest to that, as she remembers times during her Union career when she'd be angry at Campbell for getting on to her during practice. She says the feeling was probably mutual.

"His standards are high," Clark says. "I would get mad because I felt like I had done the best I could do, and he wanted better."

Campbell also admits his willingness to be confrontational.

"I don't mind getting in kids' faces about things that really matter," he says. "I don't care if they like me or not when it comes to those things. But I do care if they love me by the end of the year."

Clark, like most of Campbell's players, will admit that she did.

"You know that when it counts, when it matters, he has your best interests at heart," Clark says. "It doesn't mean that he's perfect, but it does mean that deep down he cares and he loves every single one of his players." ♦







U N I O N ' S  
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# Dean Thornbury

BY TIM ELLSWORTH

Gregory Alan Thornbury was taking author and social critic Os Guinness back to the Memphis airport after he had visited Union University for a lecture.

"Is there anything you'd like to see in Memphis before you leave?" Thornbury asked.

"Oh yes," Guinness replied. "I'd really like to see Graceland."

So Thornbury and Guinness ventured to Graceland, where Thornbury gladly provided a tour of Elvis Presley's home. It was one of the highlights of Thornbury's life.

C. Ben Mitchell, a friend of Thornbury's and a professor at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, said it was a perfect match.

"He is uniquely qualified to take Os Guinness on a tour of Graceland, because he understands the world of Os Guinness and the world of Elvis equally well," Mitchell said about Thornbury.

Thornbury, 35, the newly appointed dean of Union's School of Christian Studies, is indeed comfortable operating in the worlds of theology and pop culture. He reads theological heavyweights like Carl F.H. Henry and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and he loves Bob Dylan and The Beatles.

"He comes about as close to a Renaissance man, in terms of his interests, as I know about," Mitchell said. "He plays the guitar. He reads theology. He's interested in popular culture. He goes to plays. Some would say that people like Greg are unfocused, but I would say, no, they're intellectually gregarious. That's a wonderful trait."

Thornbury's wife, Kimberly, Union's dean of students, can attest to his love for theology. They met during their time together at Messiah College, and got to know each other through their work at a local radio station. Greg was

the general manager, and Kimberly was a disk jockey.

"A lot of our dating was going through theological books," Kimberly said. "Unbeknownst to me, I think I had to pass a lot of these theological tests. Our reading list was a lot different than a lot of other couples."

Greg's strategy obviously worked. He and Kimberly have been married for 13 years and have two daughters – Katherine, 4, and Carolyn, 2.

Thornbury has been on the Union faculty since 1999, and has directed Union's Carl F.H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership since 2000.

"Greg Thornbury is perhaps the brightest young theologian in Baptist life today," Union University President David S. Dockery said. "His deep commitments to the church, to Baptist life, to Union University, to the orthodox Christian faith and to the vision of this institution make him an ideal person to lead the expanding work of the School of Christian Studies."

A native of Winfield, Pa., Thornbury is the son of John Thornbury, who has been pastor of Winfield Baptist Church for 41 years. For most of his life, Thornbury expected to follow in his father's footsteps.

"After I received my call into the ministry, that is exactly what I wanted to do – be a preacher and pastor," Thornbury said. "The sojourn into academics was a divinely appointed diversion."

Thornbury graduated from Messiah College with a bachelor's degree in communication. He earned a Master of Divinity degree and a doctorate in philosophical theology from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He has also completed additional doctoral

studies at Oxford University's Green College and at Samford University's Beeson Divinity School.

"It's a deeply humbling experience to be chosen as the leading representative for what is, by any accounting, the finest undergraduate Bible and theology faculty in America," Thornbury said. "We have a well-rounded,

implications of the "great Christian intellectual tradition."

"Obviously, every single discipline in the university has its own unique contribution that it brings to that table," Thornbury said. "What we can do is help continue to foster that discussion. What does the great Christian intellectual tradition mean in our challenging times?"

He sees Christian colleges like Union as playing a pivotal role in how the Christian community engages the culture.

"If you think through church history, it was usually through the universities that cultural renewal and reformation got started," Thornbury said.

Thornbury has co-edited two books: "Who Will Be Saved? Defending the Biblical Understanding of God," published by Crossway Books in 2000, and "Shaping a Christian Worldview: The Foundations of Christian Higher Education," published by Broadman and Holman in 2002. He has also written dozens of articles for various journals, magazines and other publications.

Thornbury serves as senior fellow for the "Kairos Journal" and is a fellow with the Wilberforce Forum and the Research Institute for the Ethics and Religious Liberties Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Mitchell said he expects Thornbury to excel in his new role at Union.

"I think he's one of the true bright spots in the future of Southern Baptist intellectual life," Mitchell said. "I hope that we will see more accessible scholarship come from Greg's pen. His gift is, he has all of the erudition and intelligence to mine the deep things for us, but he also has the communication skills to put them at a level that are accessible to the average Christian." ♦



Gregory and Kimberly Thornbury with their two daughters, Carolyn and Katherine.

brilliant and culturally-engaged group of scholars here who are doing important work in the kingdom of God. To be their representative, and more broadly, a representative of Union, is an incredible opportunity and an amazing responsibility."

Thornbury said he envisions the School of Christian Studies being a facilitator of the university's discussion and dialogue about the





## Magnifying Marriage:

Union professors address the future of marriage and society

The declining esteem with which many people hold marriage and the resulting effect on society is a tough issue to tackle in one discussion. So Union University faculty members hosted a workshop in Jackson that spanned three weeks and included contributions from four Union authors.

"There is no doubt that the traditional family, defined as one man and one woman in a covenantal lifelong relationship as the bedrock of civilization, is under assault in our contemporary culture," said Greg Thornbury, Dean of Christian Studies.

Thornbury, along with Union University President David S. Dockery and Christian studies faculty members David Gushee and Hal Poe spoke at First Baptist Church of Jackson about the future of marriage and society. A key theme: Churches must address this issue immediately and effectively.

Dockery began the workshop by describing the purposes of marriage and by giving a biblical and historical overview of the subject.

"Marriage is the most basic and significant social relationship among humankind," Dockery said. "This relationship must be nurtured and maintained for the welfare of all. Without marriage, the breakdown of society is inevitable."

Poe talked about the societal benefits of marriage, and pointed out that marriage is not a uniquely Christian invention. Other societies in places like China, India, Africa and South America have embraced marriage as well because of its benefits to the economy, health care, child welfare and education.

Strong, stable marriages are the best way to ensure that children become productive members of society, Poe said. But the counter-culture of the 1960s and its emphasis on

radical personal freedom have led to the decline of marriage, mainly because "successful marriage in any culture always requires the surrender of some personal freedom."

Thornbury discussed the current state of marriage, both in the United States and worldwide, a topic he said is depressing.

Various members of the cultural elite – media, politicians, academics and the judiciary – have rallied to attempt to change

### Dockery Joins Religious Leaders in Affirming Marriage

Union University President David S. Dockery was among 48 leaders in America's religious community who signed a letter affirming marriage.

"A Letter from America's Religious Leaders in Defense of Marriage" is intended as an ecumenical response to those who challenge and oppose traditional marriage.

In addition to Dockery, evangelical leaders such as Chuck Colson, Rick Warren and James Dobson signed the letter. Other signers included Francis Cardinal George, the archbishop of Chicago; Keith Ackerman, the Episcopal Bishop of Illinois; and Rabbi Tzvi Hersch Weinreb, Executive Vice President of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations in America.

Others are expected to join the original signers.

the definition of what a family is, Thornbury said. Feminists and homosexual activists are attempting to do this through the courts, because they have realized the power of the judiciary to redefine law.

Thornbury cited examples from Europe to point where the United States

is headed if such activists are successful. In Russia, for example, there are now more abortions than live births – a development that is leading to a population implosion.

In France, Thornbury said the French people could be a minority in a couple of decades, because their low view of marriage has kept people from settling down and raising families. As a result, they will be outpaced by Muslims who do hold marriage and family in high regard.

"When you get rid of the institution altogether you have these unintended consequences that happen down the road," Thornbury said.

There are positive signs, however, according to Thornbury. He said that the church seems to have been reawakened on the issue, and he's encouraged by the rising popularity of covenant marriages.

"I believe if the church does what the church needs to do, it can revitalize and re-energize our culture," Thornbury said.

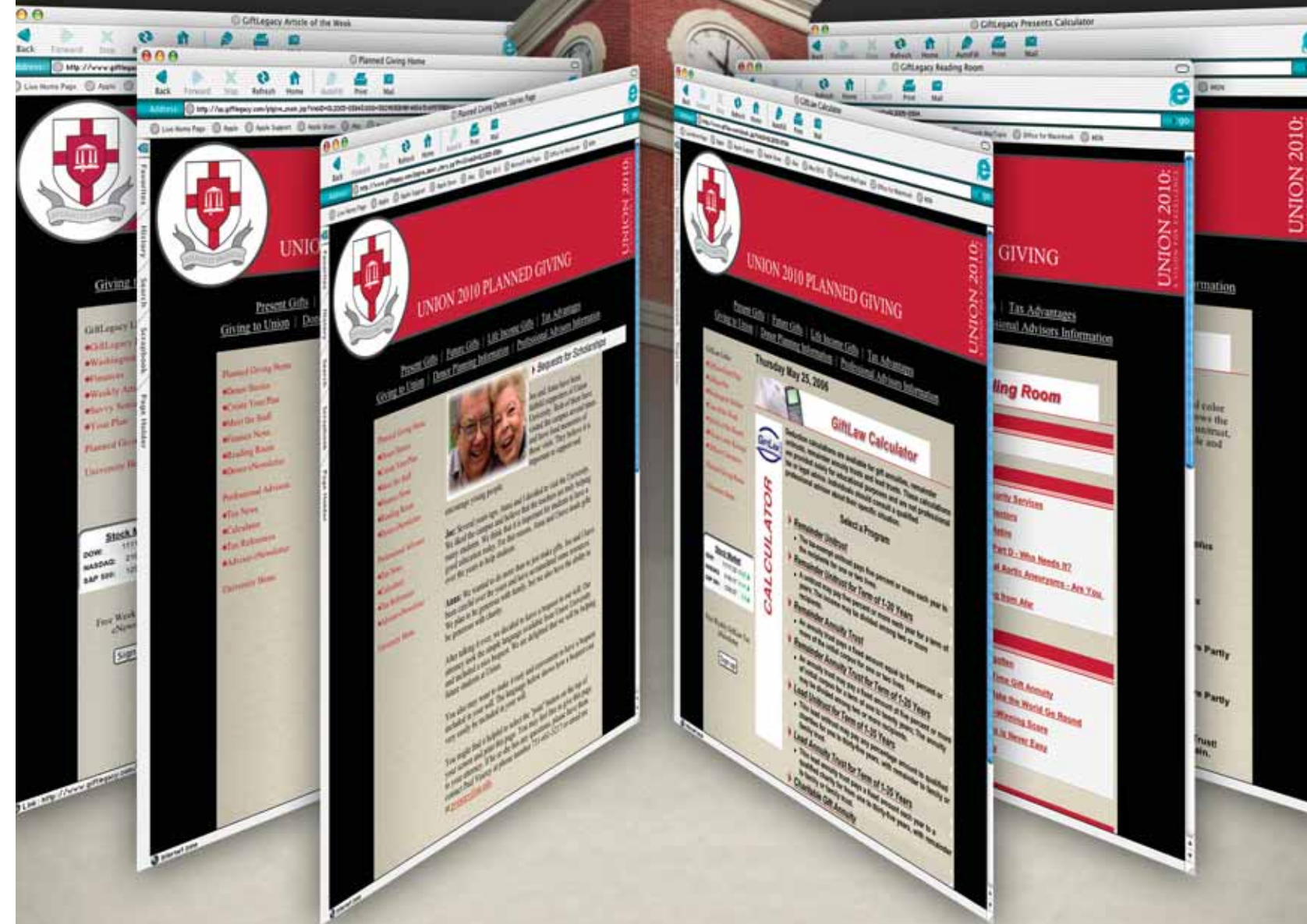
Gushee spoke about the future of marriage and society, and provided some steps churches can take to help reverse the trend of a weak view of marriage.

Among the proper responses for the church, Gushee said, is the faithful preaching and teaching of God's truth about marriage.

"We need to emphasize basic discipleship – that what it means to be a Christian is more than believing the right thing, more than having the right feelings and the right experiences, but being a committed follower of Jesus Christ in every area of our lives," he said.

He added that churches should establish appropriate ministries to youth, college students and singles that teach them about effective marriage. In addition the church needs to emphasize pre-marital counseling, minister effectively to those recovering from divorce and return to a biblical model of church discipline.

## Planned giving at Union has a new home



Union University's new interactive planned giving Web pages allow you to thoroughly explore financial matters in the privacy of your own home. You'll find online calculators and the latest financial and legal news to guide your decisions. You'll find ways to devise a gift strategy that both advances the mission of Union University and meets your own financial needs.

<http://www.uu.edu/union2010/plannedgiving>

We're still happy to meet with you in person and help you make important planned giving decisions. Contact Paul S. Veazey, director of planned giving, at [pveazey@uu.edu](mailto:pveazey@uu.edu) or call (800) 338-6644 or (731) 661-5217.



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# MATTERS OF THE

UNION ALUMNUS DAVID MELVIN IS A LEADER IN THE SURGICAL SUITE AND THE RESEARCH LAB

BY MARK KAHLER

A stunned husband gathered his two teenaged sons alongside their mother's hospital bed. They wondered how something like this could happen so quickly.

By every medical indication, 40 year old Mary Ann Deck was dying.

She had been living with a heart ailment known as cardiomyopathy. It's a medical term defined in layman's terms as disease of the heart muscle. It first showed up after a pregnancy, and Deck had followed her doctor's orders. But a new job brought higher stress levels. Her uneasy coexistence with cardiomyopathy ended abruptly.

Within three months, her chances for survival spiraled downward.

"It had been 16 years after the time I was first diagnosed, and then all of a sudden (my heart) just failed," says Deck. "We knew it was going to happen sooner or later."

# HEART

Twenty years ago this spring, Mary Ann Deck was given the gift of seeing her two sons through high school, marriage and fatherhood. She became the first woman to receive a heart transplant at the University of Cincinnati.

At the time of her critical need, Dr. David Melvin ('64) had already performed 10 heart transplants at Cincinnati's University Hospital. His surgical suite was about a two-hour drive from Deck's home in Liberty, Ind.

After discharge, Deck says walking the streets of Liberty was a slow process – and only partially because she was recovering from major surgery.

"It would take me three hours to walk a block downtown. Everybody would stop me and want to talk to me. I had celebrity status."

The Union University alumnus who performed that ground-breaking surgery also received some public attention, but Deck says he'll never get the credit he deserves.

"I would not be alive if it weren't for Dr. Melvin," says Deck. "I do not know of any finer person on earth."



### "I was pretty much solo"

Deck's happy story is one of many that unfolded from 1985-1990, when Melvin ran the heart transplant program at University Hospital.

"You're taking people from a bed-to-chair existence. Their blood pressures are so low they couldn't really think or do much of anything," says Melvin. "We were able to see those same people getting around, playing with their kids or grandkids. Some of them went back to work or began traveling.

"It was great. It was gratifying. It makes you feel very humble and very thankful that you can be a part of that."

About 2000 heart transplants are performed in the United States each year. But the procedure started amid very limited success and much skepticism. Melvin himself did a lot of soul-searching.

"I really had mixed feelings. I was fascinated with transplants. But I had real doubts."

In 1967, Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first heart transplant. By the early 1970s, transplants were being done regularly at Stanford University. Survival rates were poor, because the internal workings of the human body tend to reject all foreign matter, even when the object is a human heart.

Many in the medical community advocated abandoning heart transplants to invest time and research in more promising pursuits. But 1983 brought approval of the anti-rejection drug cyclosporine, and success stories became more common. Achievement back then was measured in modest increments.

"I thought if I made it five years, I would be doing well, says Deck. "That's all I was looking for. I never dreamed I'd live this long."

In all but a few hospitals, the procedure was well outside the medical mainstream in 1984. That is when the University of Cincinnati asked Melvin to start a transplant program from scratch. Only a few years earlier, he and several colleagues had been recruited from private practice to start performing cardiac surgeries at University Hospital.

Melvin spent months observing heart transplant programs at Stanford and the University of Pittsburgh. He appears uncomfortable with the title "pioneer," because others had been in the field long before his first transplant surgery in December 1985. Still, Melvin was blazing trails in Cincinnati, a city known nationally for the quality of its health care and the extent of its medical resources.

"The program continues very successfully after 20 years due to the efforts of a large number of people, the most essential being Dr. Melvin," says Dr. John Flege, professor of surgery at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center and someone many consider the "father" of cardiac surgery in that region. "[Melvin] designed, organized and led the effort in its formative years."

"I was pretty much solo," says Melvin. "I

found out there were a lot of very good internal medicine people around, but with something this new, most of them didn't want to have anything to do with it."

### "Who gets one, and who doesn't?"

The first heart transplant at University Hospital came together in a blur of developments. As is often the case, a donor heart became available quickly in another part of the country. With almost no notice, Melvin found himself on a plane bound for Mobile, Ala. to supervise the preparations. At the same time, Charlie Ashcraft of nearby Alexandria, Ky. was prepared for surgery at University Hospital.

Melvin returned and performed the transplant, then stayed with Ashcraft in the intensive care unit to be certain his patient was stable. It meant going 36 consecutive

But Melvin says the greatest challenge of all comes down to one not-so-simple question.

"The most difficult part of it is deciding who gets one, and who doesn't."

Melvin says some patients initially appear to be good transplant candidates, but as they wait for a donor heart, their conditions worsen to the point that their survival is unlikely. Others have to be told they're too old or lack strength.

"'Playing God' is a completely inappropriate term, but you sure need to hope that you're being guided, because there are things you just cannot know," says Melvin. "It becomes a very fine line."

### "I've done this for long enough"

By 1990, Melvin and his team at University Hospital had performed 100 heart transplant surgeries. Almost anyone would bask in the financial rewards and the job satisfaction

in someone else's hands, took a 90 percent pay cut, and moved to a smaller house. The man associated with heart transplantation in the region was now taking freshman engineering classes.

He says he started out simply wanting to be able to speak intelligently with engineers as he pursued his research goal: Making human heart walls move without touching the interior of the organ. The concept had been explored in many laboratories during the 1950s and 1960s, but then was largely abandoned.

"It was a half-baked idea that needed to go back in the oven."

As he considered mechanical methods to support a failing heart, Melvin progressed through engineering classes at the University of Cincinnati, but eventually needed to study biomedical engineering. At the time, the nearest program was at Ohio State University in

called for "applying advanced engineering concepts to thoroughly understood cardiac pathophysiology problems."

Mechanical hearts have been used with varying but limited success in the past 20 years. Melvin says there are two main issues that have not been fully overcome.

One is getting power to the heart so it can pump continuously. The other is accomplishing effective pumping without damaging the blood itself.

Melvin used the hearts of pigs he obtained from a slaughterhouse to study a number of theories, because pig hearts closely resemble those in humans. Eventually, he progressed to the diseased human hearts that were being replaced in University Hospital's transplant program. He went to blood banks to obtain pints that had passed their expiration dates.

For a goal-oriented person like Melvin, the move to research posed mental challenges outside the research itself.

"As a surgeon, you start at 7 a.m. and by noon you know whether you did some good or whether you should have been somewhere else that day," says Melvin. "In research, it takes years to know if you've done any good."

As with all experimentation, there were scores of failures and many dead-ends.

"In medical research, this process is called 'iterative development,'" Melvin says. "Most people would just say 'trial and error.'"

One result of this work is an exterior harness for diseased hearts Melvin has trademarked under the name RePower.

"It allows us to replace the heart's muscle power without replacing the living blood-contacting surface inside it."

The power sources are electromechanical, electrohydraulic or other muscles in the body. Since the device is external, it does not touch blood.

About two years ago, experiments showed the process could work. Then the surgeon in Melvin took over to develop a survivable operating procedure. More resources are needed, and Melvin is seeking investors.

Estimating when RePower could actually be ready for human patients is very difficult, but Melvin thinks it will be at least five years. Much of the experimentation has involved sheep and goats.

"As a patient, I would want to know it kept a sheep or goat alive for more than two or three hours," says Melvin. "I would want that sheep or goat walking around and smiling at me for six months."

### A Family Man at Heart

From his hometown of Bradford, Tenn., Melvin says his family was happy to see him enroll at Union University in 1960. He never seriously considered any other schools. By the time he was a senior, he had been elected vice president of the student body.

"Back then, everyone at Union had their little area and they stayed in it," says David Blackstock ('64), Union's long-time athletic director and a student during Melvin's time at the university. "What I remember about David was he was rather quiet, but everyone in each of those areas had a great deal of respect for him."

"Even then, everybody at Union recognized his special gifts. He was an intelligent, studious individual who was also very friendly."

Associate Professor of Biology Elsie Smith started her teaching career at Union two years prior to Melvin's graduation. She has taught thousands of students since then, but Melvin still stands out in her mind as "an outstanding scholar, especially in biology." Melvin applauds plans for White Hall, the \$18.5 million science building currently under construction on campus. He says students now have so much more to learn than those in his day.

"The body of basic scientific knowledge now is probably ten times as large as when I was at Union."

Melvin's four grown sons, like their father, have done a lot of studying. Eldest son Mark works in computer and information technology. Second son Alan is a biomedical engineer and runs the engineering and fabrication section of his father's research lab. His third son John is an attorney, and his youngest Peter is a Ph.D. student in mathematics at Vanderbilt.

Melvin says the fact that none of them became doctors maybe is "the result of seeing my work hours."

With those years of long days in mind, Melvin describes his wife Sue as "wonderfully patient and tolerant." The couple recently marked their 40th wedding anniversary.

But Melvin also has an extended family of Cincinnati transplant recipients. Many of them gathered last year to celebrate 20 years of heart transplants at University Hospital.

Mary Ann Deck was there, posing for pictures with Melvin and perhaps showing off pictures of two granddaughters she would never have known if she hadn't received a heart transplant.

She says she still receives Christmas cards from Melvin.

"One Christmas, a long time ago, he had a conference in Lexington, Ky.," says Deck.

"Instead of driving, he took a bus so he could have time to write Christmas cards to all his transplant patients."

"Is that not unbelievable? That just gives you a little glimpse into the type of man he is." ❖



By 1990, David Melvin and his team had performed 100 heart transplants.

Photography provided by the University of Cincinnati Department of Surgery



David Melvin and Mary Ann Deck celebrate 20 years of heart transplantation in Cincinnati.

Columbus, a four-hour round-trip from home.

At Ohio State, the faculty saw a promising student whom they encouraged to pursue a Ph.D. When he earned that terminal degree in 2002, it might have satisfied an impulse he had nurtured for decades – to become the inventor of devices with the potential to improve lives by the thousands rather than one-by-one.

"Every life is important," says Melvin. "But how much of a dent are you making?"

### "Two Main Goals"

Melvin founded CardioEnergetics in 1998. The mission statement of his new company



### 30'S THIRTIES

**Henning Andrews ('38)** and his wife, Ella Mae, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on Dec. 20, 2005. That same month Henning also celebrated his 63rd year of pastoral ordination and his 94th birthday.

### 60'S SIXTIES

**Allen Bartlett ('60)** has retired from the full time ministry and is now doing transitional interims. He and his wife **Alice ('60)** live in Belton, Mo., a suburb of Kansas City. Address: 705 Berkshire Drive, Belton, MO 64012. E-mail: abart@netscape.com

### 70'S SEVENTIES

**James L. Kirby ('71)** has been recognized by his peers for inclusion in the third annual Business Tennessee magazine's 150 Best Lawyers for 2006. He is a member of Harris, Shelton, Hanover, and Walsh in Memphis. E-mail: jkirby@harrishshelton.com

**Bart Shanklin ('74)** is director of the School of Music at Western Illinois University. Address: 8 Hickory Bow, Macomb, IL 61455. E-mail: b-shanklin@wiu.edu

### 80'S EIGHTIES

**Allen Woodhouse, Jr. ('84)** will be releasing a CD, most of which is original material, in the spring or summer of 2006. After the CD release he hopes to launch a ministry. Eric Barron, a Union alum, is helping with the project. Address: 1215 Webster St., Corinth, MS 38834. E-mail: woodhouseallen@hotmail.com

**Janet Watkins Nevins ('85)**, her husband, Christopher and 4-yr-old son, Elijah, have joined the staff of It's About Kids, a ministry to orphaned and abandoned children in Quito, Ecuador—www.nevinsnews.com. They relocated to Ecuador in March 2006. E-mail: janet@nevinsnews.com

**Richard Stevenson ('85)** received his certificate in clinical pastoral education in June 2005 from Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. He is the chaplain for the 47th combat support hospital out of Fort Lewis, Wash. Rick is currently serving his second deployment in Iraq. Address: 276 Cartwright Road,

Shelbyville, TN 37160. E-mail: rick.stevensoneus.army.mil

**R. Tim Meadows ('87)** became associate pastor at the Tellico Village Community Church in Loudon, Tenn., on Oct. 1, 2005. Tellico Village Community Church is an interdenominational congregation affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches. Tim is married to **Shannon Gwaltney Meadows ('88)**. Address: 203 Kawga Lane, Loudon, TN 37774. E-mail: tmeadows@tellicochurch.org

**Karen "Elisabeth" Westfall Norton ('87)** has moved to St. Neots, Cambridgeshire, England. Her husband Gavin is a senior game server engineer for Sony Computer Entertainment Europe in London. Elisabeth stays home with daughter, Beatrice, born November 2004. Address: 2 Jubilee Close, Eynesbury, St Neots, Cambridgeshire AA PE19 2RD. E-mail: nortonmail@gmail.com



**Kelly Troutt Studstill ('88)** and her husband, James, both serve as air traffic controllers at Memphis ARTCC. They were married Oct. 5, 1991. They have two daughters, 9-year-old Madison (11/9/96) and 6-year-old Camden (7/9/99), and two sons, 5-year-old Grayson (4/17/01), and 2-year-old Haisten (6/28/03). Address: 750 Cold Creek Drive, Collierville, TN 38017. E-mail: UGA1964@hotmail.com

**Tammy Thompson Vega ('88)** is nearing completion of her master's of public affairs degree from the University of Texas' LBJ School of Public Affairs. She is currently the administrator of community relations for the Texas Youth Commission, the state agency responsible for the most chronic juvenile offenders. She has worked for the commission for ten years. Tammy lives in Austin with her two children: Alex, age 15 and Andrew, age 12. Address: 703 House Creek Drive, Leander, TX 78641. E-mail: vegastar1@cox.net

### 90'S NINETIES

**Clay Hallmark ('90)** was re-elected to a second term as president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's executive board at the 2005 annual meeting of the ABSC. He is the pastor of the First Baptist

Church of Marion, Ark. Address: 515 Apperson Drive, Marion, AR 72364. E-mail: clay@fbcmarionark.org

**Aaron W. Summers ('92)** is the new pastor of First Baptist Church, Perry, Okla. His prior pastorate had been with Addington Baptist Church in Addington, Okla. Address: 11451 Explorer, Perry, OK 73077. E-mail: aaronwsummers@hotmail.com

**Matthew Bleecker ('93)** completed the Florida Ironman Triathlon on Nov. 5, 2005, in Panama City Beach, Fla. He finished the 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike and a 26.2 mile run in a time of 12 hours 57 minutes. Address: 3033 Zarthan Ave. S, St Louis Park, MN 55416. E-mail: marathon1995@hotmail.com

**Don "Bubba" Holsinger ('94)** is promoted to senior vice president in the mortgage lending division at FirstBank in the Jackson, Tenn., location. Don is a member of the Kiwanis Club, Leadership Jackson and serves as a football official for Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association. He and his wife, Dara, have three sons. Address: 97 Flagstone, Jackson, TN 38305.



**Kim B. Watson ('94)** has rejoined Bass, Berry & Sims PLC, as an associate of the commercial transactions and real estate practice area in the Knoxville office. E-mail: kwatson@bassberry.com

**Lisa Bryan ('95)** is employed with Bayer Pharmaceuticals as a specialty oncology representative. Address: 3314 Hillsboro Pike, Nashville, TN 37215. E-mail: lisabryan02@yahoo.com

**Heather Hamrick McDevitt ('97)** married Ken McDevitt on April 17, 2004. Ken served a year in Iraq with the Tennessee National Guard's 278 RCT, returning in November 2005. Their son, Joshua Ryan McDevitt, was born on Dec. 13, 2005. Address: 5021 Epps Mill Road, Christiana, TN 37037. E-mail: hhamrick@hotmail.com

### 2000'S TWOTHOUSANDS

**Ryan West ('00)** was recently called as associate pastor of discipleship and assimilation to First Baptist Church in Somerset, Ky. Ryan and his wife, **Danielle Henley West ('00)**, have two children, David, age-

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## Mary Ruth ('56) and Bob Hundley ('48)

*Union's First Responders*

**M**ary Ruth ('56) and Bob Hundley ('48) have a reputation of being ready and willing volunteers at Union University.

"We go every time we're called," says Mary Ruth.

They so willingly give of their time and energy they could be almost considered Union's first responders. When there is a need, Bob and Mary Ruth are there to help.

"The Hundleys are always enthusiastic, cooperative and committed," says Gary Williams, associate vice president for advancement and alumni services. "They love Union University and are willing to help out wherever needed."

Much of what the Hundleys do is "behind the scenes" work. But last year, they answered the need for an academic enrichment center, providing support to the facility that is now located on the second floor of Emma Waters Summar Library.

Opening in February 2005, the Hundley Center for Academic Enrichment is a distraction-free environment with ample space

for labs, private or group study rooms and for student tutoring. Peer tutoring is offered free of charge to any student desiring help at any level.

The resources at the center are like first-responder assistance for many students.

**Tyler McMurtry ('06)**, psychology major, credits his above-average math grades to the help he received at the Hundley Center. He also uses staff tutors to proofread his English papers.

"It's definitely a resource that I couldn't afford if it weren't offered for free," says McMurtry. "I really admire their generosity. It gives students something they wouldn't have."

Other students favor the seclusion the center provides, which allows them to stay focused.

"The separate rooms let you focus better and get more accomplished," says **April Wright ('06)**, art major.

The Hundleys are pleased at the center's success and that students are using it. They say they even have students come up to them at church and thank them for

such a helpful resource.

"I don't know how they know us," says Mary Ruth. "But they tell us how they appreciate it."

After their retirement from the Jackson Madison County School System, they were able to step up and volunteer at Union. They found they liked helping out and meeting others.

"We enjoy being with young people, and we get to know so many people," says the Hundleys.

As avid Booster Club supporters, they cheer on the Bulldogs and enjoy many fine arts performances as charter members of the Union University Arts Associates. Mary Ruth is also a charter member of Union Auxiliary in support of student scholarships.

"We're kinda partial to Union," says Mary Ruth. Bob grins and chimes in with an emphatic "very partial." ♦

To find out more about the Hundley Center, go to <http://www.uu.edu/programs/hundleycenter/>



## Brody McMurtry ('03)

Law Student, University of Virginia

**B**rody McMurtry ('03) takes his summer plans very seriously. Last year, he rafted rivers and climbed mountains in east Africa. He tracked chimpanzees in a tropical rain forest.

But he didn't go to east Africa to become the next great adventure traveler. McMurtry is finishing his second year of law school at the University of Virginia, and his travel commitment is rooted in ensuring the legal rights of the less fortunate. During his visit to Uganda, he heard about people suffering the tragic effects of a prolonged civil war.

A rebel group known as the Lord's Resistance Army has kidnapped thousands of children in Uganda. The group World Vision estimates the number at 30,000. Reports say the LRA brainwashes the young captives, training the "child soldiers" to kill anyone, including friends and family. Some of the victims are as young as nine years old.

Since abductions usually occur at night, thousands of children walk miles

from their villages to safe places within the larger cities. They've become known as "night commuters." They sleep in parks or hospital buildings, and then return home in the daytime.

"The children are incredibly resilient despite their dire situation and imminent threat of LRA abduction," says McMurtry. "Many of them dance and sing praises each night when they arrive safely in the city center."

The Ugandan government has asked the International Criminal Court to issue indictments, a rare request in the context of a civil war. McMurtry says there are existing laws to enable prosecution, but resources for moving forward are limited.

McMurtry serves with the International Justice Mission, a group he joined during his days at Union. He teamed with a law professor in Uganda to teach undergraduate criminal liability classes. It was not his first visit to Africa. While a Union student, McMurtry made trips to Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"I encourage students to take advantage of the opportunities that Union offers to see the world."

McMurtry found time in his full schedule to climb Mount Kilimanjaro and test his whitewater rafting skills. He admits some of his Ugandan friends thought he was crazy.

"The trek up Kilimanjaro was one of the most difficult things I have done in my life."

The experience in Uganda left McMurtry with much upon which to reflect. For example, he's unlikely to forget the faces of those victimized children, or the spirit they exhibit as they focus on simple survival.

"One of them told me, 'tell your friends there in America not to feel sorry for us. While we may be poor in material things, we are rich in spirit. Some of your people may be rich in materials, but maybe they are poor in spirit.'" ❖

## ALUMNI NEWS

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4 and Sally, age 2 months. Address: 573 Melanie Lane, Somerset, KY 42503. E-mail: ryan@fbcsonerset.org

**Jason Sorrell ('01)** is a police officer in Collierville, Tenn. He and his wife Heather have a daughter, Caroline, who is two and are expecting their second child. They built a home and have moved in this spring. Address: 85 Austin Circle, Oakland, TN 38060. E-mail: j.sorrell@juno.com

**Kristen White ('02)** Address: 3459 Emily Court, Riverside, CA 92504. E-mail: kwhite@easternjourney.com

**Katie Randall ('03)** graduated from Midwestern University—Chicago College of Pharmacy with a doctorate of pharmacy on March 10, 2006. E-mail: pharm\_girl81@yahoo.com

**Casey Stafford ('03)** enjoys living in Eastern Europe where he serves as an intercultural programs coordinator at Lithuania Christian College—www.lcc.lt. Address: Lithuania Christian College, Kretingos g. 36, Klaipeda, LT 92307

Lithuania. E-mail: caseygstafford@yahoo.com

**Carrie Thomas ('03)** will graduate with her masters in clinical psychology on June 17, 2006. She will continue with the program to acquire her doctorate in clinical psychology in 2009. Address: 537 W Deming Place, Apt. 420, Chicago, IL 60614. E-mail: cthomas@csopp.edu

**Meredith Erlandson ('04)** is pursuing her master's in counseling at Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Address: P.O. Box 22361, Fort Worth, TX 76122. E-mail: mjerlandson79@hotmail.com

**Jason ('04)** and **Laura Harber Lee ('05)** Address: Mailbox #82, St. George's University Medical School, P.O. Box 7 University Center, St. George's, Grenada, West Indies. E-mail: laurajo1022@hotmail.com

**Cynthia D. Cain ('05)** Address: 1147 Barn Swallow Lane, Collierville, TN 38017. E-mail: cynthia.cain@stjude.org

**James Woodruff ('05)** Address: 4519 Malvern Road, Durham, NC 27707.

E-mail: holt@hwoodruff.com

## MARRIAGES



**Carrie Ann Cossey ('97)** married José Miguel Patricio Guerreiro on Feb. 25, 2005, in Taos, N. M. They celebrated in a formal ceremony with family and friends on

Oct. 8, 2005, at Saint James Catholic Church, Tupelo, Miss. Carrie is currently employed as director of human resources at the American Board of Pediatrics, Raleigh, N. C. José is currently employed as a consultant in Raleigh. E-mail: carrie@Miguelandcarrie.com

**Shana Denise Cox ('00)** married Phillip Andrew Watson on Dec. 9, 2004, at Canyon Creek Baptist Church in Richardson, Texas. Shana is currently teaching K-12 general and choral music at Canyon Creek Christian Academy in Richardson, Texas. She will graduate in December 2005, with an M.M. degree in church music from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Address: 2831 N. Shiloh Road, Apt. 270, Garland, TX 75044. E-mail: shana.watson@gmail.com



**Summer Griffin ('02)** married Stephen Elliot of Milan, Tenn., on April 8, 2006, at Westover Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn.

Both work at Ceco Door Products, Milan, Tenn., Stephen as a senior order processor and Summer as a Ceco customer service representative. E-mail: SDElliott@cecodoor.com



**Emily Price ('03)** and Todd Culberson were married Nov. 12, 2005, at Silverdale Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Emily is an employment and career specialist at Signal Centers in Chattanooga. Todd is a sales representative with Kleen-A-Matic in Chattanooga. Address: 7824 Ooltewah-Georgetown Road, Ooltewah, TN, 37363. E-mail: uufrisbee7@hotmail.com

**Rachel Watson ('03)** married Nathan Loxley on Feb. 4, 2006. Rachel is employed by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Nathan is the worship leader at 24 Church in Pleasant View, Tenn.

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## The Real West Wing

On their recent trip to Washington, D.C., Alumni and Friends toured the West Wing of the White House. Their private tour was hosted by **Joshua Trent ('01)**, Deputy Associate Director for Presidential Personnel. In the press room is (back row) Lynn Edmonson, Rebecca Lovelace, Joshua Trent, (front row) Wendy Veazey, Pat Edmonson, Betty Lovelace.



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Address: 1134 Chapel Hill Circle, Joelton, TN 37080. E-mail: rloxley@tnbaptist.org

**Audrey Simpelo ('03)** married Shane Johnson in an outdoor ceremony at her parents' house on Sept. 25, 2004. She has an 8-year-old step-daughter, Taylor. She and her husband work together under the business name of Solomon Development & Design, where she is a freelance interior designer/faux finisher. Address: 10048 Bell Road, Potosi, MO 63664. E-mail: starturtle327@hotmail.com



**Jesse Hornbeak ('04)** and **Heather Wilmore ('04)** were wed on July 9, 2005, in an outdoor ceremony at an old Civil War home, Goodlettsville, Tenn. Jesse is working part-time as a youth minister's intern with Hermitage Hills Baptist Church and Griffin Technology. Heather is a graphic designer at Griffin Technology. Address: 1930 Air Lane Drive, Nashville, TN 37210. E-mail: heather@griffintechology.com

## BIRTHS

**Omar Hamada ('86)** and his wife, Tara, had a son, Nicholas Omar, on Oct. 23, 2005. He was 8 pounds, 9 ounces and 22 inches. His big sisters are 5-year-old Gabriella Maye and 2-year-old Annelise Nicole. Address: 1581 Fawn Creek Road, Brentwood, TN 37027. E-mail: olhamada@comcast.net



**Nancy Atkeison-Cherry ('87)** and her husband, John, had a daughter, Sarah Kathryn, born on Nov. 4, 2005. She weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces and was 22 inches. They also have a 23-year-old daughter, Kristalea and an 18-year-old daughter, Jenna. Nancy serves as an associate professor in Union's School of Education and John is a cotton farmer and cattle producer. Address: 4631 Chestnut Bluff Road, Friendship, TN 38304. E-mail: ncherry@uu.edu

**Bronda Bonds Davis ('91)** and her husband, David, had a daughter, Macall Grace, on Sept. 28, 2005. She weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and was 19.5 inches. They also have a 9-year-old



daughter, Madison. Bronda is a registered nurse on the mother-baby unit at Jackson Madison County General Hospital. Address: 25 Denim Cove, Jackson, TN 38305. E-mail: bdavis7870f@hotmail.com



**Gary ('92)** and **Holly Tignor Johnson ('99)** had a son, Miles Rush, on June 24, 2005. He was 7 pounds, 3 ounces and 19.5 inches. Gary is an associate professor and the coach of the men's and women's cross country teams at Union. Holly is currently at home with Miles. Address: 53 Brooksies Pond, Jackson, TN 38305 E-mail: gjohnson@uu.edu, hollyjohnson@jaxnet.net

**Andrea Lake Walkup ('93)** and her husband, Kevin, had a son, Austin West, born July 20, 2005. They have a daughter, Hannah, 5. Address: 404 Bramblewood Drive, Nashville, TN 37211. E-mail: thewalkups@juno.com.

**Angelica B. Welty Shirley ('96)** married Tim Shirley on Aug. 4, 2001. They are the proud parents of Blake Shirley born on April 19, 2004, Brett Shirley born on March 5, 2003, and 15-year-old Patrick Welty. Address: 8637 Chris Suzanne Circle, Cordova TN 38018. E-mail: angelica\_bibi@yahoo.com

**Tami Bogue Schrock ('97)** and husband, Tim, welcomed their second son, Landen Paul, on Feb. 3, 2005. He weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and 19.5 inches. His big brother, Taten, is 4. Tim is a salesman in new home sales and Tami is a stay-at-home mom and Creative Memories consultant in Edwardsburg, Mich. E-mail: tami5353@aol.com

**Ashley Parker-Tucker ('97)** and her husband, Jimmy, had a daughter, Jolea Ann, on Nov. 30, 2005. She was 7 pounds, 13 ounces and 21.25 inches. Ashley works for World Changers at the North American Mission Board in Alpharetta, Ga., as the logistics coordinator and Jimmy works as the technical arts minister for Sugarloaf Community Church in Suwanee, Ga. Address: 2326 Copper Grove Lane, Buford, GA 30518. E-mail: ashleyjotucker@netzero.com



**Brent ('98)** and **Paige ('98) Williams Bledsoe** are parents to Scott Edward Bledsoe, born on April 25, 2006. Scott Edward weighed 7 pounds and 11 ounces. Proud Union alum grandparents are **Mike ('70)** and **Sandra ('68) Bledsoe** and **Gary ('71)** and **Dale ('71) Williams**. Address: 66 Lynnwood, Jackson, TN 38301

**Michelle Diann Smith Hanson ('98)** and her husband, Matt, had a daughter, Kharis McKenna, Feb. 3, 2005. She was born at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington, Ky., and was 6 pounds, 5 ounces and 18.5 inches. Michelle is a stay-at-home mom. She formerly worked for Maybelline while living in Sunnyvale, Calif. They are now living in Lexington, where Matt works for L-3 Communications at the Bluegrass Army Depot as a mechanical engineer. Address: 512 Townsend Ridge, Lexington, KY 40514. E-mail: jmatthanson@insightbb.com



**Jason Logan ('98)** and his wife, Liz, welcomed their first child, Jacob David Logan, who was born on March 7, 2006. Jacob weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and 20 inches—www.jacob-logan.net. Jason is on faculty with In His Image Family Medicine Residency and is also working in emergency rooms in the Tulsa area. Liz is a 2nd year resident at In His Image. They have applied with the International Mission Board for full-time service. Address: 6414 S. 30th West Ave., Tulsa, OK 74132 Email: jlogan7@pol.net



**Eric ('98)** and **Sarah Armstrong Martin ('03)** have one daughter, Aubrey Adaline, born Jan. 25, 2006. Eric and Sarah were married Jan. 6, 2001. Eric is the senior pastor of Union Grove Baptist Church, east of Jackson, Tenn., in the Beech Bluff community. He is working on his master of divinity through Southern Seminary. Sarah is teaching kindergarten at Beaver Elementary School in Henderson County. Address: 728 Northwind Loop, Lexington, Tenn. 38351.

**Steven ('99)** and **Stacey Gream Aldridge ('03)** are parents of a daughter, Haley



Lynn, born Dec. 6, 2005. Haley weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 inches. Address: 22 Red Deer Cove, Jackson, TN 38305. E-mail: saldrigd@uu.edu



**Chris ('99)** and **Amy Laubach Braese ('97)** had a daughter, Emma Grace, on Aug. 14, 2005. She weighed 7 pounds and 20 inches. They also have a 3 1/2 year old son, David, and a 1 1/2 year old daughter, Ann Marie. Chris is an installation manager at Simplex Grinnell in Memphis, Tenn. Amy works part time as a physical therapist at Methodist Hospital Central in Memphis, Tenn. Address: 3292 Chambers Chapel Road, Arlington, TN 38002.

**Christy Vogt Bond ('00)** and her husband, Brian, had a baby boy, Alexander David, on Aug. 26, 2005. "Alex" was born in St. Louis. Address: 5843 Mango, St. Louis, MO 63129. E-mail: cbond830@yahoo.com

**Tim ('00)** and **Beth Guy ('00) Byington** announce the birth of their daughter,



Diana Ruth, born Dec. 24, 2005. Tim is an accountant in Atlanta, Ga., and Beth is a special education teacher in Marietta, Ga. E-mail: bethbyington@yahoo.com



**Gina Camerota Fisher ('00)** and her husband, Jason, are parents to Gabriella Rose, born on Dec. 9, 2005. She weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and

19 inches. Gina graduated in 2002 from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a Master of Social Work. She is a student assistance counselor at Bradford High School in Kenosha, Wis., and Jason is employed by UPS in Oak Creek, Wis. Address: 2619 73rd St., Kenosha, WI 53143.



**Teresa Capshaw Howell ('00)** and her husband, Joey, had a daughter, Cadence Grace, on March 25, 2005. She was 8 pounds, 5 ounces and 20 inches. Teresa is a homemaker and her husband, Joey, is a field engineer for ThyssenKrupp Elevators. Address: 7400

Highway 18, S, P.O. Box 123, Hickory Valley, TN 38042. E-mail: teresa2071@wmconnect.com

**Michael Slaughter ('00)** and his wife, Amber, had a son, Jackson Elliot Lee, on Nov. 25, 2005, in Memphis, Tenn. He was 8 pounds, 11 ounces and 21 inches. His siblings are 5-year-old brother, Brennan and 3-year-old sister, Evelyn Grace. Address: P.O. Box 1462, Wylie, TX 75098. E-mail: slaughter484@hotmail.com



**Bethany Irvin Clark ('02)** married Shawn Clark in May 2005. They have a son, Ty Wallace, born on Feb. 23, 2006. Ty weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and 21.25 inches. The Clarks serve as missions directors for Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters, a Christian youth camp, in Andrews, N. C.—www.swoutfitters.com. Address: 408 West Road, Andrews, NC 28901. E-mail: bethanyclark30@yahoo.com

**Chad ('03)** and **Holly Coleman Cossiboom ('03)** had a daughter, Abigail Grace, on Oct. 30, 2005. Chad has taken a position as college minister at Shades

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Union University offers a once-in-a-lifetime itinerary tailored to include sites that shaped the 16th Century Reformation.

The 15-day tour features the insights of host David S. Dockery, and lectures from Beeson Divinity School's Timothy George, one of the foremost authorities on Reformation history. Charles Fowler and Gary Williams will co-host the trip through Germany and Switzerland from June 15-29, 2007. (Estimated cost: Approximately \$3000 per person from Memphis. Optional Rome extension \$900.) Cities on the itinerary include Berlin, Halle, Wittenberg, Leipzig, Eisleben, Erfurt, Würzburg and Heidelberg in Germany; Zurich and Geneva in Switzerland; and an optional add-on tour in Rome.

Space is limited, so make your reservations now!

*Join us in Europe as we*  
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Gary Williams Associate VP for University Relations and Alumni Services

Call (800) 338-6644 or (731) 661-5139

**UNION UNIVERSITY**



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Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. Address: 5108 Summer Place Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35244. E-mail: ccossiboom@shades.org



Jared and Allison Lynn Reed ('04) are the proud parents of Ella Frances Reed, born Feb. 16, 2006. Ella Frances weighed 8 pounds and 1 ounce.

They make their home in McMoresville, Tenn., where Allison is a homemaker and Jared works for Laboratory Corporation of American in Jackson. Maternal grand-parents are Mike and Beth Lynn ('03). Address: PO Box 261, McMoresville, TN 38235. E-mail: allisonsaccount@charter.net

#### MEMORIAM

**Rena L. McPeake ('29)**  
May 26, 2005 Lexington, Tenn.

**Rosaland G. Morris ('30)**  
Feb. 7, 2006 Jackson, Tenn.

**Berenice Gordon ('31)**  
Sept. 23, 2005 Memphis, Tenn.

**Virginia H. Thompson ('33)**  
July 26, 2005 Corinth, Miss.

**Juanita Bell Long ('36)**  
June 7, 2005 Parsons, Tenn.

**Hester Exum ('37)**  
July 29, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Albert L. Burch ('38)**  
Feb. 3, 2006 Jackson, Tenn.

**Robert M. Jelks ('38)**  
Feb. 16, 2006 Paris, Tenn.

**Francis Williams Roberts ('38)**  
April 3, 2005 Memphis, Tenn.

**Dorothy McDill Wall Morrison ('38)**  
Sept. 8, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Fran Dedmon ('40)**  
Sept. 24, 2005 Brownsville, Tenn.

**Leonard Sanderson ('40)**  
Sept. 16, 2005 Pineville, La.

**Ruth Marbury Good ('40)**  
April 13, 2005 Memphis, Tenn.

**Edgar Holmes ('41)**  
July 30, 2003 Humboldt, Tenn.

**Wilburn Taylor ('43)**  
Nov. 27, 2004 Nashville, Tenn.

**William M. Estes ('43)**  
April 25, 2005 Selmer, Tenn.

**Ruth Helen Hart ('44)**  
Nov. 5, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**S. Woodrow Debell ('46)**  
March 17, 2005 Sanford, Mich.

**Shirley A. Tatum ('47)**  
March 10, 2005 Shreveport, La.

**Mary F. Dunn ('48)**  
March 6, 2006 Riverside, Calif.

**Bob Chapman ('49)**  
Oct. 9, 2005 Bellaire, Texas

**Kenneth Stewart Mays ('49)**  
April 13, 2005 Pinson, Tenn.

**Robert A. McCoy ('50)**  
June 16, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Mary Nell Brewer Rankin ('51)**  
April 27, 2006 Henderson, Tenn.

**Mary Howell McIntosh ('53)**  
May 3, 2005 Paris, Tenn.

**Claude M. Foote ('53)**  
Aug. 19, 2005 Toone, Tenn.

**Doris Ann Lambert Scott ('56)**  
April 29, 2006 Granbury, Texas

**Annie J. Arnold ('57)**  
Dec. 12, 2005 Knoxville, Tenn.

**George R. Fisher ('58)**  
March 22, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**John Harold Croom ('59)**  
July 27, 2005 Humbolt, Tenn.

**Frances Lott Davidson ('64)**  
Sept. 18, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Clyde M. Moore ('67)**  
May 11, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Paul Bruce Little, Sr. ('70)**  
May 4, 2005 Hayti, Mo.

**Laura Jordon ('73)**  
Feb. 4, 2005 Toone, Tenn.

**Ted Hunderup ('80)**  
May 1, 2006 Humboldt, Tenn.

**Pamela Landry Johnson Sullivan ('83)**  
May 10, 2005 Lexington, Tenn.

**Rhonda Earlene Wilbanks Young ('85)**  
Aug. 4, 2005 Fort Collins, Colo.

**Michael Freeman ('86)**  
June 29, 2005 Jackson, Tenn.

**Carolyn Moore Bentley ('90)**  
April 13, 2005 Halls, Tenn.

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Last name (as it should appear) \_\_\_\_\_  
Surname before marriage \_\_\_\_\_  
First name \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Major \_\_\_\_\_ Years Attended \_\_\_\_\_ Degree/Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ (new address?)  
Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer/location \_\_\_\_\_  
My news for Old School: \_\_\_\_\_  
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