Christ Man
Features

12 Christ Man
By Ellen Dockham
Ed Christman ('50, JD '53) retires after more than 50 years as University Chaplain—and University conscience.

20 What's in a Name?
Friend, fighter, mentor, and mischief-maker...tributes to Brother Ed.

28 The Journey Continues
By Kerry M. King ('85)
The first year complete, eight freshmen seem well on the way to finding their niche.

34 Sounds of Silence
By Susannah Rosenblatt ('03)
A student's reflective weekend reveals that for Trappist monks, the quiet can be deafening.

Profile

36 Tom Taylor
By David Fyten
Wake Forest has been blessed with the right leaders at the right times. Hylton Professor of Accountancy Tom Taylor can be counted among them.

Interview

40 James “Chip” Burrus (BA ’79, JD ’83)
When Elizabeth Smart was reunited with her family, Chip Burrus was one happy FBI agent.

Essay

42 From the Apostle Paul to Wake Forest
By J. William Angell
A worn and fragile paperback represents more than one chapter of history.
Approximately 1,478 students—863 undergraduate, 615 graduate and professional—received diplomas at Commencement on May 19. In what President Thomas K. Hearn, Jr., described as “a stunning victory of desire over prudence,” the ceremony was held on the Quad despite unseasonably cool, damp weather.

Michael Bloomberg, mayor of New York City and founder of the news and media company Bloomberg L.P., gave the Commencement address. “When it comes to success, the harder you work, the luckier you get,” said Bloomberg, who also received an honorary doctor of laws degree.

Retiring faculty recognized were (Reynolda Campus): Rhoda B. Billings, professor of law; David G. Brown, vice president, dean of the International Center for Computer-Enhanced Learning and professor of economics; I. Boyce Covington, professor of law; Robert M. Helm Jr., Worrell Professor of Philosophy; James A. Martin Jr., University Professor; Timothy F. Sellner, professor of German; Thomas C. Taylor, Hylton Professor of Accountancy; and J. Ned Woodall, professor of anthropology.

From the Bowman Gray Campus: David A. Albertson, associate professor of surgical sciences-general surgery; David M. Dewan, professor of anesthesiology-obstetric anesthesia; Richard Janeway, professor of neurology, medicine and management; C. Douglas Maynard, professor of radiologic sciences-radiology; Thomas E. Nelson, professor of radiology sciences; Royal Schwartz, associate professor of surgical sciences-emergency medicine; Penny Sharp, associate professor of family and community medicine; Benedict L. Waslauskas, professor of pathology; Lester E. Watts, associate professor of internal medicine-cardiology; Richard G. Weaver Sr., professor of surgical sciences-ophthalmology; Richard L. Webber, professor of dentistry; and Kenneth T. Wheeler Jr., professor of radiologic sciences-radiology.

In addition to Bloomberg, honorary degree recipients were: Richard Carmona, seventeenth Surgeon General of the United States; Eric Olson ('77, PhD '81), chairman of molecular biology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; Martha W. Barnett, partner in the law firm Holland & Knight; and Martin E. Marty, author, theologian and the Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago Divinity School.
Dixon Symposium: 
confrontation and 
catharsis

Thomas Dixon Jr.'s reputation precedes and follows him wherever he goes, and a symposium on his life and legacy at Wake Forest in April was no exception. His essential image as a racist and sexist demagogue emerged from the event largely unreconstructed. A few took exception to the very holding of a conference spotlighting such a disreputable character. But the symposium was extraordinary in at least one respect, other than the depth with which it examined its subject: its candid confrontation of institutional memory and the catharsis it seemed to engender.

Dixon, an 1883 graduate of Wake Forest College, generated controversy as a nationally prominent minister, lecturer, and writer at the turn of the twentieth century. A proponent of urban social reform through Christianity, he also was an advocate of subservient roles for women and a virulent racist whose books were the basis of D.W. Griffith's monumental silent film The Birth of a Nation, which harshly stereotyped blacks and justified the rise of the Ku Klux Klan.

The two dozen participants from Wake Forest and other universities, as well as fifty conference registrants and students, examined how Dixon's views resonated deeply with the political, cultural, and intellectual milieu of his time. The proceedings begged some broader questions. How should a university approach a notorious alumnus such as Dixon—(1) acknowledge and interpret him without celebrating or vilifying him, (2) ignore him, (3) apologize for him, or (4) disavow him? Is anything to be gained by resurrecting a figure so clearly out of step with our times, if not his own? What can we learn by opening chapters from our past that were ostensibly closed?

The answers that emerged from the symposium were (1), yes, and a lot. Not only did it promote a deeper understanding of the post-Civil War South and an opinion leader who emerged from it, it examined the ever-pertinent question of how false ideas gain credence and power. And by bringing Thomas Dixon Jr. out of the closet, Wake Forest, as more than one observer noted, exorcised a demon and revealed the institution's maturity.

For much of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Dixon was a respected alumnus of Wake Forest. A brilliant student—perhaps, as his biographer, Raymond Cook, told the symposium, the most brilliant ever to attend Wake Forest, even to this very day—and a towering public figure, he was cause for pride at a small college in the rural South barely a half century old. His portrait was displayed prominently in the library and the screening of The Birth of a Nation was an annual campus event. But by the early thirties he had fallen out of favor with many. Social conditions, promulgated in part by the Depression and New Deal, initiated a sea change in attitudes toward the kind of moral leadership Dixon represented.

Symposium organizers Michele Gillespie, an associate professor of history, and Randal Hall ('94), associate director of merit-based scholarships, framed the event as an opportunity "to appreciate ... how far we have progressed as a university committed to the ideals of Pro Humanitate." They wrote: "We will not only be able to understand how Thomas Dixon and his hateful values could have been nurtured... at Wake Forest and in American society... but to celebrate how and why our notions of what constitutes moral leadership have developed and changed over the past one hundred years."

Sarah Watts, an associate professor of history, told the symposium that historians have an obligation to confront the past. "Each generation inherits words and ideas from the generation before it, and hands them off to the next generation, oftentimes without examining them," she said. "We must transform historical memory into ethical behavior, one in which we recognize and broach problems," Watts continued. "Historical understanding at once widens the field of responsibility even as it continues to ask questions. Who are we? How did we get this way? What is the meaning of what's come before? We arm ourselves with the answers, we act on the understanding they provide."
Healthy history

No other department on the Reynolda Campus can simultaneously claim as much stability and as much change as Health and Exercise Science.

It has had only three chairs in the forty-seven years Wake Forest has been in Winston-Salem, and all three are still around, along with many of the original faculty. Every faculty member it has tenured in the past quarter century remains in the department—a record of collective longevity probably unrivaled at the University.

At the same time, the department’s mission has morphed over the years from physical education teacher training taught by instructors and part-time coaches to research by doctorate holders on lifestyle interventions in chronic-disease prevention and rehabilitation, along with clinical programs and health professions preparation. It generates more grant support from external sources and is funded at a higher level per professor than any other department on campus.

On the Old Campus, physical education was part of a combined department with athletics under the directorship of Jim Weaver. After World War II, Weaver (who would go on to become the first commissioner of the newly formed ACC in 1954) hired Jim Long to redesign the required physical education classes and establish a program for the training of teachers in health, physical education, recreation, and coaching.

Within three years, Long hired Marge Crisp to conduct a women’s intramural program, Dot Casey as her assistant, and Harold Barrow to teach in the areas of philosophy, administration, and tests and measurements. Casey and Crisp, who still live near the Reynolda Campus, formed the Women’s Recreation Association and offered practically every club activity and sport imaginable for coeds. Barrow, a Missouri native who was the first- and for twenty years, the only-doctorate holder in the department, also was an assistant basketball coach. Gene Hooks (’50) joined the staff as an instructor in physical education and baseball coach.

Just as Wake Forest was preparing to open the new campus, the trustees approved dividing physical education and athletics into separate departments. Long resigned to accept another position and Barrow was named chair of physical education. One of Barrow’s first hires was Leo Ellison, who taught and coached swimming and ran the intramural program for more than forty years.

Until the late 1960s, “P.E. was looked upon as games,” said Barrow, who at ninety-three years old still lives on Faculty Drive with his wife of thirty-two years, Kate (’53), who was Jim Weaver’s widow. “Then we began to be looked upon as science.”

The acquisition of a treadmill in 1967 was a watershed moment in the department’s evolution. That enabled Barrow to hire Mike Pollock, a doctoral graduate in exercise physiology from the University of Illinois. “When we got that treadmill our prestige went up,” said Barrow.

Although teaching remained (and remains to this day) a priority in faculty hiring decisions, the doctorate and a proclivity for research began to inform those decisions much more centrally. Pollock’s hiring established an Illinois connection that would prove central to the department’s development.

When a faculty position opened in 1970, Pollock suggested a
former colleague at Illinois, Bill Hottinger, a specialist in early childhood motor development. Three years later, Paul Ribisl, a cardiac rehabilitation specialist at Kent State and a friend and former graduate school colleague of Pollock and Hottinger at Illinois, was appointed. Within five years, a small but solid core of research-oriented faculty had been formed.

Hottinger succeeded Barrow as department chair in 1975. “One of the first things I did was eliminate the half-and-half teaching-coaching arrangement,” said Hottinger, now seventy-three. “If you’re going to be a good coach, you have to have good players, and the same is true of a department,” Hottinger noted. In the late 1970s, he hired, in succession, health psychologist Jack Rejeski, biomechanicist Steve Messier, and pulmonary physiologist Michael Berry, all of them Ph.D.-holders or candidates. All are still at Wake Forest, and over the years they have attracted millions of dollars in research grants to the department.

Hottinger’s hires were part of a larger vision to build upon an outpatient cardiac rehabilitation program Ribisl had begun in 1975 with Henry Miller, a cardiologist at the medical school. The first of its kind in North Carolina, it attracted a sizable research grant from the American Heart Association and started to take off.

The specialties of Rejeski, Messier, and Berry complemented Ribisl’s and fleshed out what was becoming a formidable focus of specialization: the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease. As a health psychologist, Rejeski is expert at motivating people to modify unhealthful behaviors like smoking, fatty diet, and lack of exercise—a crucial component of a clinical rehabilitation program. Messier taught anatomy and Berry, cardiopulmonary function.

By the mid-1980s, it seemed only a matter of time before the transition from physical education would be complete. “I kept hearing from my faculty about the availability of research grants,” Hottinger said. “Who, they asked, was going to give a grant to a department of physical education?”

“Student interest in physical education had really begun to dwindle,” he continued. “The state schools were doing a good job of training [P.E.] teachers, so our thought was, why duplicate those programs? Why not concentrate on what we’re doing best, and doing differently?”

Added Ribisl: “We were a small school and could not be all things to all people. We decided early on that we did not have the faculty to excel in both physical education and our new directions in health, fitness, and prevention and rehabilitation.”

In 1985, the department’s name was changed to health and sport science, and a year later the physical education program was formally terminated. Focus on the undergraduate level was shifted to preparation for careers as physician’s assistants and in physical therapy and athletic training, with master’s students concentrating on clinical trials and cardiac rehabilitation as well as coursework.

Ribisl succeeded Hottinger as chair, and under his leadership the department has emerged over the past dozen years as one of the finest of its kind in the country. Its cardiac rehabilitation program, which last year moved into a new facility near Groves Stadium, has improved the lives of thousands of heart attack victims and cardiopulmonary disease sufferers and has been the catalyst for numerous other joint research collaborations with School of Medicine faculty members in areas ranging in addition to cardiovascular and pulmonary disease—from cancer and arthritis to geriatrics and osteoporosis.

In 1996, the department’s name was changed one last time, to health and exercise science. Today, it is dedicated to the health and well-being of a public on the brink of a serious epidemic of obesity and its debilitating consequences, such as diabetes.

“Why we’re doing,” said Ribisl, “is dealing with the consequences of a nation that does not have good health behaviors.” As a testament both to the department’s stature and to the severity of the subject matter, Ribisl, Rejeski, and nutritionist Gary Miller are collaborating with the Department of Public Health Science at the School of Medicine as the coordinating center for a multi-year, $180-million, twenty-site study of exercise and diet in obese diabetics.

Ribisl points with pride to his faculty. Nine of the twelve full-time faculty members have doctorate degrees, and all of them are well-published, have held offices in professional organizations, and have served as reviewers for or editors of major journals. Despite most of them having received offers to go elsewhere at one time or another, everybody who has been tenured since Rejeski was hired twenty-five years ago remains in the department.

Ribisl is quick to credit the foundation built by Barrow and Hottinger. “Each of us inherited a solid department from our predecessor and then worked to improve on an already successful department,” he said. “One always hopes to leave a department in good shape to a successor and each of them did that—but hopefully we have continued to make it even better.

“The constant, it seems, is Pro Humanitate,” he concluded. “Everything we do is for the betterment of humanity—namely, to lead healthier and better lives. All of us think that’s a noble pursuit.”
Imagine taking a pill each morning that would help detoxify the carcinogens in your body, blocking cancer development. Although it's not likely to happen any time soon, it's entirely plausible, if research in laboratories on the Bowman Gray and Reynolda campuses comes to fruition.

Wake Forest Professor of Chemistry Mark Welker and his student assistants are collaborating with School of Medicine biochemists and cancer biologists Suzy and Frank Torti and Alan Townsend and their teams on a chemo cancer prevention study to develop compounds that would stimulate carcinogen-fighting enzymes in the body.

It's one of a number of scientific and public policy initiatives that Welker, an organic chemist with a specialty in the synthesis and application of transition-metal complexes, is participating in that hold promise of health and economic development benefit. The chemo cancer prevention project, which is funded by the National Institutes of Health, grew somewhat serendipitously out of another investigation Welker was conducting in AIDS prevention.

Welker, who oversees three graduate students, four undergraduate research assistants, and a postdoctoral fellow, discovered that the very same compounds they were developing in the AIDS investigation also showed comparable enzyme-regulating properties for carcinogen detoxification to another compound already available.

Welker, the Tortis, and Townsend have patented the compounds for both applications—AIDS and cancer. "We have good ways to make these molecules. They look pretty active," says the chemist, who is in his seventeenth year at Wake Forest. "But there are issues to consider. It's hard to prove that this compound actually prevents cancer; there are a lot of variables involved. And we'll need long-range toxicity studies. When you take something every day for fifty years, it has to have low toxicity. What I want is a compound that is better than the currently available chemo-prevention compound. We're close, and the next step will be to write a proposal for a long-range study."
Scientists develop cancer-resistant mice colony

Scientists at the Comprehensive Cancer Center of Wake Forest University have developed a colony of mice that successfully fight off virulent transplanted cancers. "The mice are healthy, cancer-free, and have a normal life span," the ten-member team reported this spring.

"This is at a preliminary stage, but very promising," said Mark Willingham, M.D., professor of pathology and a collaborator. "Our hope is that, some day, this will have an impact on human cancer."

The transplantation of cancer cells in this particular colony of mice provokes a massive infiltration of white blood cells that destroy the cancer, said Zheng Cui, associate professor of pathology at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and the lead scientist.

"The destruction of cancer cells by these leukocytes is rapid and specific without apparent damage to normal cells," Cui said. "These observations suggest a previously unrecognized mechanism by which the body can fight off cancer."

The discovery of a genetic protection from cancer in mice "may have potential for better therapy or prevention of cancer in people," the team said. It also could help explain why some people are protected against cancer despite prolonged and intense exposure to carcinogens.

The discovery also could help solve another mystery. For years, scientists have been searching for the mechanism that permits spontaneous regression of human cancers without treatment. Cui said these cases are well-documented, but occur rarely. The new mouse colony gives the team the opportunity to study the mechanism in an animal model.

Cui and his colleagues began the mouse colony almost by serendipity. As part of ongoing cancer studies, they were injecting a virulent type of cancer cell that forms highly aggressive cancers in all strains of laboratory mice and rats. But one male mouse unexpectedly remained free of the cancer despite repeated injections. The Wake Forest team was able to show this was genetic and to develop a colony from that single mouse, Cui said.

The colony, now about 700 mice, remains exclusively at Wake Forest. Meantime, the original mouse "remained healthy, cancer-free and eventually died of old age."

When the cancer-resistant mice were bred with normal partners, the researchers found that about half of their offspring were resistant to cancer cells, indicating that this genetic protection is dominant and is likely due to a change in one gene. The resistance continued in future generations. Depending on the age of the mouse, some had complete resistance—the cancer never got started—while others displayed spontaneous regression—the cancer started developing over a period of a couple of weeks, but then it rapidly disappeared in less than twenty-four hours.

Cui said the new mouse model also may help in solving another medical mystery—why cancer becomes more common when people age. The usual explanation is that mutations accumulate in the body, leading to precancerous conditions that eventually become cancer. But, he said, the mouse model suggests that the body's natural protection—which scientists call host resistance—declines with age.
Eric Watts: shaping reality

In the Harlem section of New York City in the 1920s, there concentrated a critical mass of cultural energy so potent that it sent shock waves through white society as well as black. Known as the Harlem Renaissance, its literature in its early stages was especially incisive and influential. In portraying the worth and dignity of African-Americans, writers such as Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston gave content to concepts of civil rights and social equality and context to debates on race and democracy that energized the activism of W.E.B. Du Bois and beyond.

That the Harlem Renaissance ultimately veered toward the salacious did not diminish its power as a cultural catalyst; indeed, it magnified it. It is that power for social change that captivates Eric Watts and is a primary focus of his award-winning career as a young scholar.

Watts, a recently tenured associate professor of communication at Wake Forest, specializes in rhetorical theory, the study of how public discourse affects social and cultural consciousness. He describes it as "the production of meaning"—how social reality is shaped. Among other influences he studies in this light is hip-hop, the phenomenal contemporary youth movement that has both transformed and been co-opted by mainstream commerce and culture.

Watts work to date has earned him the respect of colleagues at the University and elsewhere, as evidenced by his selection for the 2002 New Investigator Award by the rhetoric and communication theory division of the National Communication Association. The award is given annually to a junior researcher in recognition of potential excellence in rhetorical and communication theory.

Aiming Watts, rhetorical theory looks at the discursive strategies speakers and writers use to shape social reality and attain their persuasive objectives with the audience at hand. In the wake of September 11, for example, President Bush employed primarily emotional language in his public comments, in consonance with the country's mood. By contrast, at the United Nations, American diplomatic language tends to be more intellectual and fact-based, he notes.

Its literary achievements were only part of the power of the Harlem Renaissance to penetrate and transform the mainstream culture of its era. Music was another, and when exposed to the unrestrained and ostentatiously sexual rhythms of jazz and blues, whites began migrating uptown from Greenwich Village hangouts to all-night cabarets and speakeasies in Harlem.

Ultimately, the civil rights criticism of Hughes and Hurston, published in such serious journals as The Messenger, The Nation and black periodicals like The Crisis and The Opportunity, turned toward analysis of what Watts describes as an early strand of "blaxploitation"—Harlem After Hours, or Primitive Harlem, with its trade in Prohibition-era alcohol, drugs, and sex and the portrayal of vice in the films of Josephine Baker. Literature with gay and bisexual themes also emerged.

But while this shift wasn't anticipated or welcomed by many of the more serious Harlem Renaissance members, Watts notes that it too is a telling illustration of the power of popular culture to shape social reality. Another is the literature of African-American writers of the late 1940s and 1950s like Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and James Baldwin—early voices of rage and indignation that culminated in the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

Watts, a native of Cincinnati, who earned his doctorate at Northwestern in 1995 and came to Wake Forest a year later, has been writing about hip-hop since the late 1980s. In its early years a strictly African-American genre with overtones of Black Nationalism, it moved over time into mainstream white youth culture. The most popular male musical artist in the world today, Eminem, is a white hip-hop singer.

The shift seems to suggest that hip-hop's core appeal all along might have been socioeconomic, which crosses the lines of skin color, instead of racial. In place of rage and aggression are its "Stop the Violence" appeals—an indication, in Watts' opinion, of the symbiotic relationship of transformation and cooption between a radical new movement and the larger culture it is within. Another example he cites is the Budweiser "W haas' Up?" advertising campaign—black speech and behavior adopted by whites. Elvis Presley, Pop Art—examples are numerous of the new and the shocking becoming the standard and the familiar by its mutual interchange with prevailing cultural norms.

In his research, Watts traces the lineage of discourse over time to show that fads rarely, if ever, are totally original. Some of the Harlem Renaissance writers, for example, drew upon the economic conservatism of Booker T. Washington, who two decades earlier had urged blacks to spend money in their own communities. Other writers were influenced by black folk culture, and still others by Emersonian transcendentalism. "A trend may be new in form," Watts says, "but it is an evolutionary process. Over time the substance is consistent."

—David Fyten
Endowed chair honors Ed Wilson ('43)

An endowed faculty chair is being established in honor of Provost Emeritus and Senior Vice President Edwin G. Wilson ('43). A lead gift for the chair has been given in memory of Zeno Martin ('26) by his wife, Margaret C. Martin of Bermuda Run, North Carolina, and their son, Zeno Martin Jr. ('60). The Edwin G. Wilson Chair in English Literature could be filled as early as 2004.

"Because of Ed Wilson's lifelong love affair and service to his alma mater, we have often sought ways to honor such extraordinary devotion and success," said President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. "Alumni fortunate enough to attend his course on British Romantic Poets are keenly aware that this professorship will further strengthen an already impressive tradition in our Department of English."

Professor wins fellowship

Roberta Morosini, assistant professor of Romance Languages, is among seventeen scholars internationally to win an I Tatti Fellowship for Italian Renaissance studies from Harvard University. She will receive a $40,000 stipend and spend the 2003-2004 year as a Francesco De Dombrowski Fellow at the villa I Tatti owned by Harvard in Florence, Italy. She will also receive a $1,500 grant from the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund to lecture on her work and to submit an article to I Tatti Studies, a review on Renaissance studies edited and published by the fellows studying at villa I Tatti. Morosini joined the Wake Forest faculty in 2000.

Inaugural class funds scholarship

The twenty members of the first graduating class of the Divinity School have established an endowed fund to provide scholarships for future students. Each member of the first class, which graduated last year, has agreed to contribute for five years to the Inaugural Class Scholarship Fund. "We were interested in making sure that we left a legacy through a scholarship fund that would provide encouragement for (future) students," said Peggy Matthews (MDiv '02), who is now a chaplain at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. "When we agreed to come to the Divinity School, we were really charting new territory. We want the school to continue to provoke students to be out front as leaders and prophetic voices."

Kulynych honors his daughter

Life trustee Petro ("Pete") Kulynych has established a scholarship fund at Wake Forest in honor of his daughter, Janice K. Story ('75) of Atlanta. The scholarship will support the women's tennis team; Story was a member of the team as an undergraduate. Both Kulynych and Story serve on the board of trustees, only the second father-daughter team to do so, following the precedent set by the late Jim Mason ('38) and his daughter Celeste M. Pittman ('67). Kulynych has given about $5 million to Wake Forest during his lifetime. He made a similar gift to the Wake Forest medical school in honor of his other daughter, Brenda Kulynych Cline.

Goldwater Scholarship winner

Rising Senior Sarah Hubbard from Birmingham, Alabama, has been awarded a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the premier undergraduate award for students in mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. Hubbard is majoring in chemistry and plans to pursue a doctorate in biochemistry or molecular biology. She was one of 300 students honored this year. Each student selected receives $7,500 toward the cost of tuition during the 2003-2004 academic year.
Trustees elect members, officers

The Board of Trustees elected new members and officers for 2003-2004 at its April meeting. Murray C. Greason Jr. ('59, JD '62) of Winston-Salem was elected board chairman. He is an attorney with Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice. L. Glenn Orr, also of Winston-Salem, was elected vice chairman. Orr is president of the Orr Group.

The following were elected as first-time members of the board: Martin Garcia (JD '81) of Tampa, Florida, managing director of Pinehill Capital Partners; Douglas F. Manchester of La Jolla, California, chairman and president of Manchester Resorts and parent of two Wake Forest students; and Andrew Schindler of Winston-Salem, chairman and chief executive officer of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings. Ashlee A. Miller, a junior from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was elected as a student trustee.

Current members re-elected to the board were: Marvin D. Gentry ('57) of Kinston, North Carolina, chairman; Alice Kirby Horton of Hillsborough, North Carolina, parent of three Wake Forest alumni. Former members re-elected to the board were: Ronald E. Deal ('65) of Hickory, North Carolina; James R. Helvey III ('81) of Winston-Salem, Jeanette W. Hyde ('58) of Raleigh, North Carolina; Dee Hughes LeRoy ('57) of Charleston, South Carolina; and Adele A. Sink ('70) of Thonotosassa, Florida.

Harris named Truman Scholar

Rising senior Jennifer Harris of Lawton, Oklahoma, has been named a 2003 Truman Scholar, one of seventy-six students selected by the Washington-based Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation. Harris was also one of twenty students named to the second team on USA Today's 14th All-USA College Academic Team listing, which honors students for outstanding intellectual achievement and leadership.

Rosita Najmi, also a Wake Forest rising senior, earned an honorable mention on USA Today's academic teams, with twenty winners on each team, who were selected from among 500 students nominated nationwide.

Harris is the twelfth Wake Forest student to receive a Truman Scholarship in the last sixteen years. The Truman Scholarship program recognizes exceptional college students who plan to attend graduate or professional school to prepare for careers in government or public service. Each Truman Scholar receives $3,000 for their senior year of college and $27,000 for graduate studies.

Artistic elements

Nazila Alimohammadi ('03) of Winston-Salem and Anna Clark ('03) of Durham, North Carolina, have left their mark on campus—in front of Salem Hall—with their prize creation, the “Periodic Table.”

The two students created the sculpture as part of a public art course taught in the fall by Associate Professor of Art David Finn. Students in the class were assigned to work with campus organizations in creating works for public display.

“We wanted our project to be fun and functional without a lot of emotional or political content,” Clark said. An aspiring dentist, Alimohammadi had taken several chemistry classes and suggested working with that department. They devised their “Periodic Table” concept—a pun of the familiar Periodic Table of Elements configuration—and the department responded enthusiastically.

Alimohammadi did the structural steel work and Clark hand-painted the surface tiles. The piece is accurate in every detail, right down to the auxiliary lanthanides and actinides tables that constitute the table's bench. The student affiliate chapter of the American Chemical Society provided funds, and Assistant Professor Paul Jones served as departmental project liaison.
It was a very good year

Tennis

Brian Fleishman, National Coach of the Year, Southeast Regional Coach of the Year, 2002 Coach Verdieck Award for College Coaching (women's tennis)

David Loewenthal, David Bere, All-ACC

Elizabeth Proctor, All-ACC

Janet Bergman ('02), N.C. Amateur Athlete of the Year (women's tennis assistant coach)

Golf

Bill Haas, ACC Golfer of the Year

Nuria Clau, ACC Golfer of the Year

Josh Howard, ACC Player of the Year and AP First-team All-America

Skip Prosser, ACC Coach of the Year

Jennifer Averill, ACC Coach of the Year, South Region Coach of the Year, National Coach of the Year

Kelly Doton, ACC Player of the Year

Kelly Doton, Heather Auginbaugh, Maria Whitehead, Lucy Shaw, Kelly Dostal, All-ACC

Men's Soccer

Jay Vidovich, ACC Coach of the Year

Justin Moose, ACC Rookie of the Year

Brian Carroll, William Hesmer, Jeremiah White, All-ACC first team

Justin Moose, Michael Parkhurst, All-ACC second team

Women's Soccer

Katherine Winstead, second-team All-ACC, second-team AllSoutheast Region

A.B. Robbins, second-team All-ACC, second-team AllSoutheast Region

Sarah Kozev, All-ACC freshman team, Southeast Region all-freshman team

2002 ACC Coach of the Year winners: Jennifer Averill, field hockey; Jay Vidovich, men's soccer; Annie Bennett, track and field.

Track and Field

Annie Bennett, ACC Coach of the Year, NCAA Southeast Regional Coach of the Year (women's track and field)

Nikeya Green, All-ACC

Lindsay Neuberger, All-ACC

Mike Altiere, All-ACC, AllSoutheast Region

Michael Eskind, All-ACC

Women's Cross Country

Anne Bersaged, All-ACC, All-America, Academic All-American, AllSoutheast Region

A Gift Horse

Picabo Street is coming to Wake Forest. The Olympic skier hasn't enrolled, but a champion show horse by that name has been donated to the Equestrian Club.

The eight-year-old mare, trained to compete in "saddle-seat" competitions, was given to the club by Jeff and Cathie Simmons of Burlington, Kentucky. They had no prior connection to Wake Forest, but had heard about the Equestrian Club, said Jill Sahajdack ('03), from Grand Rapids, Michigan, who founded the club as a freshman.

"Wake Forest is the only school in the Southeast that hosts saddle-seat competitions," she said. "We're individually very strong in that area, and they wanted the horse to continue to be shown and compete at a national level. When they approached us, we were already familiar with Picabo Street's name. She's won numerous shows across the country at the state and regional level."

Only Sahajdack and fellow senior Brooke Jacobs had the experience to ride Picabo Street this year. Sahajdack competed with her for the first time at a show in Raleigh, North Carolina, in March, winning the saddle-seat competition and qualifying for the world championships in Louisville, Kentucky, in August. Picabo Street placed as reserve (second place) world champion in Louisville in 2000.

The Equestrian Club has about seventy members; many ride simply as a hobby, but others compete in saddle-seat, hunt seat, and dressage competitions against riders from other schools in North Carolina and Virginia. Those who compete in saddle-seat train at Shiflet Stables in Asheboro, North Carolina, about an hour from campus, where Picabo Street is being boarded and where Wake Forest hosted a saddle-seat competition in March.

Picabo Street has a life expectancy of about twenty years and can probably continue to compete for another seven or eight years, said Sahajdack, who graduated in May with a degree in business.
Christ Man

Through many dangers, toils and snares he has already come. 'Tis grace hath brought him safe thus far, and grace will lead him home.

By Ellen Dockham
S everal years ago, a group of prospective students and their parents entered Wait Chapel on a campus tour. Taking in their first view of the venerable chapel, with its soaring ceiling and king-size windows, they heard a voice from the heavens. “Hello down there,” the voice rumbled from above. What a great school, they must have thought, even God wants to be here. Looking up but seeing no one, the student leading the tour nevertheless replied, “Oh hello, Rev. Christman.”

Perched unseen on the catwalk in the chapel’s attic, peeking through a space in the ceiling, was Edgar Douglas Christman (’50, JD ’53), the man who has served as Wake Forest’s chaplain and indeed, its conscience, for decades. Not God, but certainly not above playing the role as a joke for chapel visitors and once even in a University production of the “Passion Play.” The man who friends say is both supportive and provocative, tolerant and tenacious, intensely spiritual and wonderfully irreverent. The man who some say is the Wake Forest demon deacon.

“Ed is a Wake Forest icon,” says Connie Carson, director of residence life and housing. “He is one of the funniest, wildest, loudest people I have ever met, and yet he is also one of the most insightful, spiritual, peaceful, and compassionate people around. He can have you double over in laughter one minute and bring you to tears with his comments and prayers in the next moment.”

Christman, 73, is bringing many people in the community to both laughter and tears these days as they reminisce about his time at Wake Forest and anticipate his retirement. The man who has served as a religious leader at Wake Forest for more than fifty years, and who holds much of the institution’s history in his mind and heart, is stepping down from his official post in July.

“When you look at the entire institution, there are a few people who have had an impact on Wake Forest in a way that transcends their individual assignment. Ed Christman is one of those few,” says Ed Wilson (’43), provost emeritus and a friend of Christman’s since their days on the old campus. “His years at Wake Forest have led to important decisions and attitudes on the part of the University so that he’s been more than a chaplain.”

More than a chaplain indeed. The white-haired man who can’t see very well with his eyes sees more than most ever will with his heart. Christman leaves behind a legacy of touched lives, and for those, he’ll still be around. “What else has God given us but other people to relate to and share our journey with,” Christman says. “I assume there is a period of adjustment one goes through in which you have to disengage, but I plan to stay in touch with the friends I have made here. I’ll be around.”

It will be hard for Wake Forest to let Christman go. From the beginning, the University wooed him into a job he never intended to have but that lasted for his entire career. Christman arrived on the old campus in 1947 as a Presbyterian set on being a lawyer. But God—and the University—had different plans for him. Perhaps his first room on campus, ironically in the basement of the chapel where students were being housed in the overflow of returning veterans, was a clue to the path he was about to follow. The self-described talker became actively involved in the Wake Forest Baptist Church and ended up as the enlistment chairman of the Baptist Student Union. After finishing college in three years and three summers, Christman went on to law school at Wake Forest, where he served as president of the bar association and finished third in his class.

“I always thought I’d be a lawyer,” he says. “I always wanted
When Wake Forest moved to Winston-Salem in 1956, Christman had not finished seminary but was offered a chance to come to the new campus as Baptist campus minister, which he accepted. But in 1959, he decided to finish seminary. "I left Wake Forest—and I don't say this in the negative sense—shaking the dust off my shoes with no expectation of returning," he says. "There's no such thing as a two-year leave of absence."

But again Wake Forest was to lure Christman back. After finishing Southeastern, he headed off to do graduate work at Union Seminary in New York. "It was 1961, I had no job and I was finishing in May," Christman recalls. "I leave class one day and see L.H. Hollingsworth, the new chaplain at Wake Forest. Hollingsworth drove Bones McKinney to New York for a game at Madison Square Garden—Bones didn't like to fly—and he came to see me. He offered me the job of Baptist campus minister."

The person who had succeeded Christman in that job when he left to finish seminary had quit after a conflict with the pastor of the Wake Forest Baptist Church. So Christman returned in 1961 as the Baptist campus minister, which evolved into the job of assistant chaplain. In 1969, Christman became Wake Forest's chaplain, a job he has held ever since.

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"I never even had a resume. God's grace gives you gifts you don't deserve. Having been given gifts like this, you shouldn't look the gift-God in the mouth," Christman says. "The more I think about my life, I am beset by the word grace. Grace is gifts that you don't deserve. My life has been a series of these kinds of events. I'm not a saint; I'm a person, but I have been given more than I deserve."

Christman counts his wife, Jean, and his daughters, Carolyn and Kim, as three of those grace-filled gifts. Christman met Jean as an undergraduate in the campus cafeteria, where he was amused at her hapless effort to fill in for the missing cafeteria worker who

Ed Wilson (left) and Ed Christman, Magnolia Room ‘waiters’, in 1961.
"When graduates look back, I think they will see that Ed Christman has always been a person who has stood for all the values we associate with people of different backgrounds working together and understanding each other to build a harmonious campus."

He tells about President Harold Tribble, who had the vision of moving the campus to Winston-Salem. "By the grace of God, we had as president a man who was fearless, who saw the future, who saw us becoming a university," Christman says. "We had the right man for the job in spite of incredible resistance. And he was right: We have become a significant institution."

Wake Foresters who have been touched by Christman would no doubt add his name to the list of leaders who have made the University significant. Ken Zick, vice president for student life and instructional resources, says that Christman's influence is immeasurable. Zick points to Christman's creative spirit as the impetus for the Preschool Conference, the Volunteer Service Corps, and the annual Christmas Lovefeast. But most of all, Zick says, "He has been Wake Forest's living beatitude. He has lived his life in accord with the scriptural admonition: 'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.' We have been truly blessed by his faith and good works."

One of those good works which dazzled freshmen year after year was another of Christman's famous orientation speeches in which he included hundreds of student names he had memorized. "People always say it's the greatest speech in the world, you learned the names of all the students in the class," Christman says. "But no, I didn't. The myths about my speech are true; the facts are not. I never learned all 1,000 names but I did do about 250. My goal was to say that you matter enough for me to do this. I thought it made a few of the students feel good and think this white-haired guy who squinted a lot had a good memory."

Christman's journey at Wake Forest mirrors the grace-filled history he so memorably imparts to students each year when he dresses as University founder Samuel Wait during new-student orientation. Dressed in tiny glasses and period suit, Christman regales the students with a long line of events in the University's history for which there is no logical explanation. He tells about Wait's broken-down covered wagon that caused him to stay longer than planned in New Bern, where he made more contacts that led to the opening of Wake Forest. He tells how the school closed during the Civil War. The buildings were used as a hospital, the money had run out, and yet legend has it that when a former student asked second president Washington Manor Wingate if it would reopen, Wingate replied: "The light of truth has been lighted in this wild forest, and by the grace of God, it will never go out."

He tells about Jean was a transfer and was working in salads and desserts. She didn't know anything about coffee but she saw the line was backing up and so she tried, Christman says. "She didn't know how to do it but she wound up getting something in the cup and handed it to me without a saucer. Some people ask me why do you like coffee so much?"

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call me. He is definitely one of a kind."

Andrew Canady ('03), another of Christman's student assistants, calls Christman very vibrant and caring. "He wrote my recommendation for a job that I didn't get," Canady says. "He called me over Christmas break at home to see if I got it. When I got back, he sat down with me and talked it through to help me decide what I should do next year."

It's the students, Christman says through tears, that he will miss most when he retires. He recalls working with them on the weekly Chapel services, counseling them in times of need, and squirreling away money in his budget to help those in financial difficulty. He attends student recitals and other events as well as meetings of the campus ministry that has expanded under his watch to include not only Baptists, but also Presbyterians, Catholics, Methodists, Lutherans, and Episcopalians. And he's prone to walking into the Pit and sitting down with a group of students he's never met.

But he doesn't just befriend students; he challenges them as well. "His compassion is immense, but he does not suffer fools gladly," says David Levy, professor of music. "There is no room in his heart or head for dogmaticism. At the risk of speaking for him, Ed's God is an all-loving deity. In this spirit, his judgment is tempered by love and understanding." Levy also marvels at Christman's sense of humor. "Ed has one of the most wicked senses of humor of anyone I know— not in a cruel way, but cutting to the core of the irony of the human condition," he says.

Herman Eure, professor and chairman of the biology department, recalls his favorite example of Christman's humor. "We were discussing the paucity of the minority population at Wake once and he looked pensively at me and said, 'I too belong to a minority group.' I smiled and said, which one? He said, 'the ABC Club.' I looked puzzled at him, and he said, with a smile, 'the Albino Booster's Club, brother.'"

Underneath the humor lies the heart of a servant. "There are places where he's stepped in to help others financially, emotionally, and spiritually that people don't even know about," says Becky Hartzog, associate chaplain and Baptist campus minister. "He knows people from President Hearn to the housekeeping staff. He's one of the best listeners I've ever known. When you're with Ed, he's with you."

Christman admits that the opportunity to talk and listen is the best part of his job. He laughs, recalling a time when someone asked his young daughter what her father did for a living, and she replied that he walked around and talked to people. "The thing I like most is engaging people in meaningful conversation,"
“One day I was sitting at my desk at home, looking out into the yard, and I got a silent, clear message that it was time to retire.”

Christman says, “I like to ask people questions that don’t have answers. God put us here to think and feel this life. My opportunity is to try to connect the Biblical stories to our modern lives and to make that work in a college setting. We have all this beauty and yet more anxiety than I can speak of.”

Christman has been a voice of conscience on difficult issues the University has faced from integration to homosexuality to employee health insurance. In the early 1960s, Christman found seven suitemates to live in 402 Taylor with the University’s first black student, Edward Reynolds (’64). In the 1990s, he made the reservation for a controversial same-sex ceremony to be held in Wait Chapel. “I believe that the University should not discriminate,” Christman says.

Christman isn’t interested in calling attention to his role in these issues, but that in itself is part of what has made him a strong leader, says Ed Wilson. “Ed is not the kind of person who chooses a dramatic moment in which to do something. He is the kind of person who, through the years and through the force of his convictions, has worked to bring people together. He does it in very quiet and unostentatious ways,” Wilson says. “When graduates look back, I think they will see that Ed Christman has always been a person who has stood for all the values we associate with people of different backgrounds working together and understanding each other to build a harmonious campus.”

Bill Currin (’60), director of the Office of Career Services, says it’s that quiet courage he so admires in Christman. “There’s a touchness to him, even though his ministry is gentle. When the chips are down and convictions are on the line, he can make some hard calls,” Currin says. “He often gives a new perspective to insoluble issues. He’s very tolerant; he can accept anything that comes his way. He does so without judgment, but at the same time, he conveys his strong convictions.”

Christman tells the story of visiting a doctor in Durham after he began to have trouble in seminary reading all those Greek letters with the glasses he had always used. “He gave me some glasses that were so heavy I had to use Kleenex on my ears, but the Greek jumped off the page. The doctor couldn’t believe no one had read for me in college,” Christman recalls. “It never occurred to me that I couldn’t do it. If you’ve been limited in vision all along, you don’t have anything to feel badly about; it’s your frame of reference. I could have had poor hearing; I could have had one foot. I got to do everything. I got to play baseball in the neighborhood, I ran on the track team one year.”

That tenacious spirit pervades all of Christman’s life, from his desire to learn—he still audits classes—to his desire to show people how much they mean to him. A story that has become family lore for the Currins illustrates just how far Christman will go for another person. In the 1980s, Christman played the part of Arvide Abernethy to Allyson Currin Stokes’ (’86) Sister Sarah in “Guys and Dolls.” In the play, Christman, who is the first to admit he’s not a stellar vocalist, sang “More I Cannot Wish You” in his role as grandfather to Allyson’s character. In 1993, Christman officiated at Allyson’s wedding, and at the rehearsal dinner, got down on one knee and sang the song again to her. “He had had to work and work on learning that song again. It
had been years,” says Currin. “He had to rehearse for weeks ahead of time. He does things with such great care. Of course, there was not a dry eye in the place when he got finished, and I was completely unable to give my toast as father of the bride.”

Christman’s retirement will no doubt be another occasion in which there will not be a dry eye in the house—and that includes Christman himself. But the Chaplain seems very much at peace with the timing of his retirement, again crediting a strong, nonverbal message from God as the impetus. “I had been thinking about retiring. One day I was sitting at my desk at home, looking out into the yard, and I got a silent, clear message that it was time to retire,” Christman says. “It’s been such a gift working here. God’s gifts are unrelenting. His steadfast love endures forever. God is a stubborn God, relentless, unwilling to give up on his creation.”

Given that another of those strong messages from God—that fateful day during the revival in 1953—led Christman down such a grace-filled path, it’s only fitting for the Chaplain to look to the next step with great anticipation. He plans to go through stacks of documents to donate to the University’s archives and spend more time visiting art galleries, working in the yard, listening to music, and visiting his daughters. And hopefully, his friends say, he’ll have more time for making his famous fudge.

Racine Brown (’50), a close friend of Christman’s from their undergraduate days, perhaps sums up the feelings of many at Wake Forest: “I love him very much. In a deep way, I’m going to miss his not being in that role at Wake Forest.”
My first experience with Ed Christman (and indeed an early Wake Forest experience) was at my freshman orientation in Wait Chapel in August 1980. Chaplain Christman stood at the lectern and spoke about all of the last names of students who were entering Wake Forest that fall. He read aloud the names and gave his thoughts about each, some surnames coming in groups, and some surnames coming in singles. I was struck by the fact that he had sat down and really studied the list of entering freshmen.

It was a consolation to me to realize that although we might be “faceless” at this new University, we were not nameless...there was someone who noticed that we were there. And I felt further that the richness and diversity of the last names he read out reflected the diversity and openness of Wake Forest. As he spoke, I could feel the love he had for each and every one of us, even though we had not yet met. It is something that I have always remembered, something that says a lot about who Ed Christman really is.

Lundi Ramsey Denfeld ('84)
South Riding, Virginia

I was president of Intervarsity my senior year. I had regular interactions with Ed Christman in the chaplain’s office and in the suite where all the campus ministry representatives were housed. Christman was always incredibly gracious to me. I was allowed to speak in chapel that year even though our theological points of view were greatly divergent. I also remember him fighting for our group to hold certain events and reserve certain rooms for our meetings. He said something like, “I may not agree with everything they stand for, but I’ll fight for their right to meet here on this campus.” I am now a United Methodist Minister in eastern North Carolina. I have always remembered Christman’s leadership style and gracious actions. I believe that all would say that he is a “Christ man.”

Rev. Branson Sheets ('84)
Bailey, North Carolina
My favorite memory of Ed Christman was his talk on “sex” in chapel. I cannot remember the year, but it was maybe the fall of ’61. A thirty-minute chapel was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and it included required attendance. There was plenty of discontent about this enforced rule, and students were incredibly rude. Many held their newspapers up high to make it clear they were not listening. At times, there was a spontaneous “TB clinic,” with uncontrolled coughing from all areas. I pitied many of the poor speakers who surely were distressed at the rudeness.

Into this arena, Ed Christman came to speak on sex. Many students did not know him and surely were taken aback at his appearance and subject matter. As a friend of Ed’s, I was extremely anxious about what was going to occur when he began. My concern left as his opening words brought snickers, and then quiet. Within minutes, the entire student body was silent before a prophet telling the truth in a way that all could recognize and understand. When he finished, he received the only standing ovation that I ever remember for any speaker during those ancient days.

I have met Ed the last two school years in the back hall of the chapel, and both times, I introduced him to friends and told my friends this story. Both times, Ed quoted the first line of his talk. I’m sure that the content of that oration would be as appropriate for students today. Ed was one of the giants that helped shape my life, and he will be a legend at Wake Forest that will become part of the stories about other great heroes such as William Louis Poteat and George McLeod Bryan.

Terry L. Brooks (’63)
Chapin, South Carolina

I first met Ed while he was a law student on the old campus, a memory that dates us both, but one which should also establish the long history of my appreciation for this man who speaks directly to each person he encounters—and whose directness is always, and ever, full of fresh possibilities and ideas for that lucky person.

Ed and Jean gave me a cookbook when I married that I continue to use often, and in this way they have become part of the fabric of my daily life. My useful and valuable cookbook, with its helpful hints, messy smudges, and inspired suggestions, is a wonderful mark of the common-sense mystery which Ed practices and preaches. If hungry and needy humans are to approach—or be approached by—God, let the mixture of divine and human be as useful and creative as the hearty and life-sustaining insight and example which Ed Christman has offered his many friends, students, and colleagues.

Jane Freeman Crosthwaite (’59)
South Hadley, Massachusetts

I met Ed Christman in August of 1992. I was a freshman at Wake Forest at the pre-school program. In addition to the usual going-off-to-college jitters, I felt a bit out of place because I wasn’t from North Carolina. I don’t remember exactly how or when I was introduced to the Chaplain, but through those exciting weeks when Wake Forest was so new and through the next four years when it became home, he never forgot my name. His smile and his cheerful greetings at preschool were not an aberration. They were representative of all that was my Wake Forest experience in the coming years.

Lillian Kendrick Nash (’96)
Atlanta, Georgia
AFTER GRADUATION I RETURNED TO THE FAMILY BUSINESS IN WEST VIRGINIA. Ten years later I made the decision to go to seminary to prepare for a life in ministry. The school I attended was Southeastern Seminary (located on the old Wake Forest campus). As a part of the application process, I had to have the recommendation of a Southern Baptist minister, since I was a part of the American Baptist Church. The only one I knew was Ed.

When I called to ask if he would be kind enough to do this for me, there was a long silence on the other end of the line. Finally, Ed said, "Mike, you must remember that my only recollections of you centered around our times together at the Lambda Chi house. Maybe you could first write me a letter and let me know what God has done in your life to lead you to this point."

Ever the man of integrity, Ed wanted to make sure about me and my sense of call before he sent a good word for me. I was then grateful and still am today…for the letter, for his friendship and counsel and, most especially, for his integrity.

Rev. Mike Queen ('68)
Wilmington, North Carolina

I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I MET ED CHRISTMAN. It was during the summer of 1978, the summer break between my junior and senior years of high school. My pastor, the Rev. John Ryberg of the First Baptist Church of Smithfield, North Carolina, had brought me to Wake Forest to tour the campus and meet Bill Starling in admissions and Chaplain Ed Christman.

Rev. Ryberg and I were speaking to the chaplain’s secretary when Ed came storming out of his office wearing a T-shirt, Bermuda shorts, and an Atlanta Braves baseball cap. He was waving his arms and cursing like a sailor about a game the Braves had just lost. Ed was a revelation. Until that point in my life, I had never seen a minister dressed like that. I had never seen a minister get that excited about anything besides sex and sin. I had certainly never heard a minister curse.

Ed began doing that day something he continued doing throughout my four years at Wake Forest—he destroyed my stereotype of the minister. He showed me that a minister was not only a human being but could also act like one. Consequently, I began to seriously consider the ministry as a vocation because I realized that I wouldn’t have to shed my identity when I put on the clerical robe. In fact, I believe I have been most effective as a minister when I have been most genuinely myself. Thanks, Ed.

Rev. Neal R. Jones ('83)
Columbia, South Carolina

My son, Neal Chastain, was a student at Wake Forest from September 1982 until December 1984. During Christmas break he was diagnosed with acute leukemia and died in November 1985. While Neal was receiving treatment at the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, Ed Christman would visit him. I have always been grateful that he gave of his time to encourage and spiritually minister to Neal. This act of kindness and compassion will always be remembered.

June L. Booth
Charlotte, North Carolina

To me, Wake Forest would not be Wake Forest without the Rev. Ed Christman. He has served the University tirelessly, not only in his official capacity as Chaplain, but also as servant to the broader community through interaction with students and maintenance of a critical eye on University interaction with the community. I will never forget his encouragement of my student activism, the principled stand he has taken on civil rights, and not least, perhaps the most notable event on any college campus in America: his annual talk to the freshman class. My experience at Wake Forest would have seemed empty without having benefited from his service.

Zeke Creech ('93)
Raleigh, North Carolina
In the spring of my junior year, I left Wake Forest for a semester and went to work with a Palestinian organization trying to do reconciliation work between Arabs and Jews. The house I lived in had no phone, but if necessary, family and friends in the U.S. could leave messages for me at the director's home.

One day, the director's youngest son came to my door with an urgent message: "There is a Christian on the phone and he needs to talk to you now!" As I prepared for the five-minute run to the other side of town, I wondered who could be calling me. Being the son of a minister and from the Bible Belt, I knew a lot of Christians. However, nobody in my circle seemed the type to call Israel and say, "Hello, I am Christian, can I speak with Mark?" I was perplexed.

I finally made it to the phone and the voice on the other line began, "Mark, this is Ed Christman, how's life in the Holy Land?" Ed was putting together another theme house for students interested in the intersection between faith and the liberal arts, and he invited me to be a part of it. How do you say "no" to Ed "the Christian" who tracks you down halfway around the world? Of course, whether in the Middle East or across campus, I would say "yes" to something Ed was dreaming up. For a man with bad eyesight, he has wonderful vision. I feel fortunate to have been caught in some of those glances.

Mark Siler ('89)
Asheville, North Carolina

I have many fond memories of Chaplain Christman (at the preschool conference, at Thursday Chapel, etc.), but one in particular stands out and demonstrates what an incredibly thoughtful and caring person he is. For three of my four years at Wake Forest, I worked as the student assistant to Dr. Don Schoonmaker, a professor in the politics department. Dr. Schoonmaker was—along with Chaplain Christman, Ed Wilson, Bynum Shaw, and so many others—one of the truly special people at Wake Forest, and he became my mentor and a good friend. Then, in the spring of my senior year, he became very ill, and about a week after my graduation, he passed away.

Unfortunately, at that point I was traveling across country on my way back to my home in North Dakota, and by the time the message of his passing reached me, his funeral had come and gone. I was very upset to have missed this opportunity to say good-bye to Dr. Schoonmaker, but there was obviously nothing that could be done about it. A few weeks later, a package came in the mail from Chaplain Christman. Inside was an audiotape of Dr. Schoonmaker’s funeral. I had no idea that Christman even knew I worked for Dr. Schoonmaker, much less that he would realize how devastated I would be to miss his funeral. I doubt Ed even remembers this because it’s the kind of thoughtful act he does every single day. But that tape helped to make me at peace and get some closure, and I will always be grateful to Chaplain Christman for his kindness.

Steph Mohl ('93)
Washington, D.C.

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Steph Mohl ('93)
Washington, D.C.
Ed Christman helped extend my Wake Forest liberal arts education beyond the classroom. In a supportive and caring way, he encouraged me to explore new ideas and new experiences. My first trip to New York City was when he led a group of students there in April 1962. In addition to seeing plays and the sights of the city, we met with prominent people, including a playwright, radio personality, and theologian, who introduced us to new ideas. Along with the serious, we had lots of fun, such as an after-midnight exploration of Penn Station, a memorable experience for a Wake Forest woman to be out after midnight with Wake Forest men.

Eva Clontz ('64)
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

I have two memories of Chaplain Christman that epitomize my Wake Forest education. The first occurred when I met him freshman year during an exam week study break in Taylor dorm. Somehow the topic of quiche came up, and Chaplain Ed was intrigued that my mother baked quiche using cheese instead of a pie crust. He insisted that during the next semester he and I host a “quiche” social to compare the two techniques. Being the typical male leery of the “quiche” clichés, I reluctantly accepted the offer. Chaplain Christman and I cooked both types of quiche for the exam week study break that following spring.

We did not meet much in the years that followed, but the Chaplain always recognized me from afar, and he usually had some remark about quiche. Somehow he always knew and recognized every student from afar, causing all of us to marvel at how his squinting eyes still worked so well, and wondering how he remembered so many people.

My second memory of the Chaplain came in the fall of my junior year when I was to do a scripture reading for a memorial service. A good friend and fellow student had died tragically the previous summer, and Christman was leading the campus memorial. When we met this time we did not discuss quiche. We discussed Christ and the comfort found in Christ’s words. Chaplain Christman gave me the reading for the service, and more importantly, he let me keep the Bible I read from. I still have it and use it today. His example of friendship, community, and faith are the essence of what made my Wake Forest education so much more valuable than the books and classes. When I think of Chaplain Christman, I think of the friendly smile, the Bible, and the quiche.

Jon Scott Logel ('90)
West Point, New York

My favorite memory of Chaplain Christman was the summer before I entered Wake Forest when he accompanied my youth group from Wake Forest Baptist Church on a mission trip to New York City. All the way up and back in the van he studied the list of incoming students as he worked on his “What’s in a Name?” speech. At the time, I didn’t know what he was doing, but when I heard the speech during orientation it blew me away. I couldn’t believe that he worked so hard memorizing, categorizing, and playing with that list of names so he could include every single new student in that speech somehow! It was truly a wonderful thing and something I’ll never forget.

Rosalind Tedford ('90, MA '94)
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

I remember Chaplain Ed Christman as a man who enjoyed people and life. One afternoon he was visiting with two students he knew working at the information desk. Chaplain asked Sarah and Stephanie if he could answer the next phone call. Reluctantly they agreed. When the phone rang Chaplain Christman answered by saying, “WTQR, you’re on the air.” If you were the stunned caller who thought they misdialed a radio station in 1983 or 1984, know that the Chaplain thoroughly enjoyed himself.

Mark Thabet ('84)
Raleigh, North Carolina
As a senior at Wake Forest, I was experiencing the typical career crisis that many other students faced. Several interviews with various companies had left me hollow. Chaplain Christman graciously and patiently met with me several times as I synthesized values, priorities, and relationships. From him and Stewart Ellis (Presbyterian campus minister), I received the gift of presence. I hope that my career choice of counseling psychology will allow me to pass that gift along to others.

Ed Christman was a minister and a teacher. One of his most memorable lessons for me was when he quoted Wendell Berry’s “Mad Farmer’s Manifesto.” The setting was a large gathering in Wait Chapel. I do not recall the exact circumstances but I do recall what he said. When I wonder if I’m doing the right thing, I smile and remember to “Plant sequoias...Laugh...Be joyful though you have considered all the facts...Be like the fox who makes more tracks than necessary, some in the wrong direction...Practice resurrection.”

*Beverly Huffstetler* (‘97, MAEd ’02)
Knoxville, Tennessee

Chaplain Ed Christman will always have a special place in my heart and will always be linked with my initial memories of Wake Forest. He was one of the first people I had the opportunity to work with after being out of the work force for eighteen years, helping my husband with his small business and raising our two children. A lot had changed during those years, and I was so excited to have the opportunity to “get my foot in the door” at Wake Forest, hopefully to achieve full-time employment.

Brother Ed’s assistant was out for surgery and Lacy Burcham, then in Human Resources, took a chance on me. I must admit I was “scared to death” that first day! The desk was stacked with things to be done, there were several tapes to be transcribed, the phone was different, the computer was very old, and I couldn’t find the switch to turn on the typewriter. I know I was probably about to panic and was beginning to wonder what on earth I was doing here. Then, a very special, white-haired Chaplain arrived and sat down beside my desk, welcomed me to Wake Forest, told me who to contact if I had any questions and made me feel so good about myself that I knew I could handle anything he wanted me to do! Of course I made lots of mistakes and probably took longer than his assistant to do everything, but he never let me know if it bothered him. That was the summer of 1993 and I am glad to say I had the opportunity later that year to come to work at Wake Forest full-time. I can only assume it had something to do with Brother Ed’s recommendation.

Thank you Brother Ed for giving me a chance and for such a wonderful first impression of Wake Forest!

*Janet Williamson* (P ’00, ’03)
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

One year during my years at Wake Forest a student tragically lost her life. The family had requested that a few choir members sing at the memorial service in Wait Chapel, and I was asked to prepare the group. I remember meeting with Chaplain Christman that day, sitting in the empty but peacefully quiet Chapel, discussing the mechanics of the service. He then mentioned that the singers would also greet the family, and panicking, I said, “But I have NO idea what to say to them.” He then said something that I have never forgotten and that has helped me in many other difficult times of death. He said, “It’s not what you say; it’s that you are here.”

*Tim McSwain* (’90)
Charlotte, North Carolina

Chaplain Christman’s ability to remember a single student from the vast numbers he met over the years made a real impression on this new freshman back in 1971. Even after we had met only once, he always remembered that I helped move a piano for him and that I could sing the fight song backwards. May he continue to be blessed in his retirement.

*Janice Daugherty* (’75, MD ’78)
Bethel, North Carolina
Ed Christman was a tremendous help in dealing with a family tragedy while I was at Wake Forest. My father and a family friend showed up at my door unannounced in 1979 and informed me that my uncle had killed himself. That was bad enough, but the toughest part was to come. We had to tell my cousin (my uncle’s daughter), who was also a sophomore. My father asked what I thought we should do, and I immediately called Chaplain Christman. He dropped what he was doing to help my family in this time of need, and for that I will be eternally grateful. I have always thought his last name was appropriate: “Christ”-“man”.

Ray Douglas (’82)
Harrisburg, North Carolina

During the latter part of the 1960s I had the great opportunity to participate in a “mission” run by the Baptist Student Union and First Baptist Church of Winston Salem. Students lived downtown at the mission and tutored the local grammar and junior high students in the neighborhood. Ken Barns and I spent an educational year living off campus. Ed Christman was our contact with the WFU BSU, encouraged us, and made sure everything was running smoothly. Ed made a lasting impression on everyone he met. He was one of the few people who openly supported the civil rights movement, and his leadership was noted by many students. He also supported ecumenical outreach, as I was an Irish Catholic Yankee participating in this BSU program. Many thanks, Ed.

Tom Daly (’69)
South Glastonbury, Connecticut
For the eight freshmen Wake Forest Magazine selected to follow through their four years—and who were initially profiled in the December 2002 issue—the first year has been about making new friends, adjusting to demanding schedules, and perhaps most of all, finding their place.
Favorite professor/class: Jane Albrecht; Children and Society (First-Year Seminar)
Hardest class: American literature
Favorite memory: Bahamas spring break trip
Probable major: undecided
Summer plans: home, working

Wayne King; Bill of Rights class (First-Year Seminar)
Intermediate Spanish
fall break beach trip
business
home, working

Jane Albrecht; Children and Society (First-Year Seminar)
American literature
Bahamas spring break trip
undecided
home, working

Eric Watts; Race, Gender and the 21st Century (First-Year Seminar)
First-Year Seminar
watching teammates do well
maybe history or sociology
home, working, golf

Richard DePolt, economics
ecconomics
beating Duke in basketball
business
home, working
As their freshman year came to an end last month, the eight students being followed on their college journey were enthusiastically making plans for next year, but they were also worrying about fitting everything into their schedules. Four years of college, they were finding out, isn’t really that long when there’s so much they want to do.

“It’s scary to think that I’m three-fourths of the way finished,” said Lindsay Wilber, the former AmeriCorps volunteer from Yarmouth, Maine.

Freshman year is, of course, a transition year from family and long-time friends and the comforting routine of high school to the freedom and choices of college. Over the last five years, an average of 6 percent of Wake Forest’s freshmen didn’t return for their sophomore year; a small percentage are academically ineligible, but others drop out or transfer because of financial problems, dissatisfaction with campus life, or to be closer to home. For Wilber and the seven other students, most felt, if not at home, then at least comfortable at Wake Forest by the end of the fall semester.

“Around fall break (mid-October) is when I really started to feel comfortable; before then I wanted to feel comfortable, but I didn’t have a solid group of friends,” Wilber recalled. “You want to have an instantaneous bond with people, but you can’t just make it happen. I knew I had to give it time and it would work out, and it definitely did. Now I feel really at home. I’ve got a great group of friends. All my professors have been awesome, and I’m looking forward to all the opportunities I’ll have next year. I’m excited about being here.”

Tyler Barefoot worried last fall about being away from his family in Dunn, North Carolina. But he went home only for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break. “I’ve adjusted well,” he said. “I’ve made such good friends—I know they’ll be some of the best friends of my life—that I didn’t want to go home that often.”

Sasha Suzuki, who turned down scholarship offers from several schools to walk-on to the golf team, didn’t make the team for any tournaments, but her teammates provided support and friendship. “Living away from home for two years really helped me adjust,” said Suzuki, who attended a private boarding school an hour away from her home in Fort Lee, New Jersey, before coming to Wake Forest. “Over Christmas break, I started missing being here. I started missing the girls on the team. It was reassuring to see people you know when you got back. I felt like I was home when I was walking around and seeing so many faces I recognized now.”

Will Brown, perhaps the only freshman to spend his high school years living on a boat, was anxious about returning to a traditional classroom setting. “I didn’t really know what to expect with the classes and workload,” said Brown, whose “land” base is now Albuquerque, New Mexico. “The greatest challenge has been time management—balancing classes and fun and sleep—and learning how to adjust to different situations. But I can’t imagine a better atmosphere. I’m having a great time while being constantly challenged to do more and to do better than I previously would have thought possible.”

For Reggie Mathis, one of a record number of minorities—14 percent—in the Class of 2006, race wasn’t an issue during the year as much as finding ways to express his strong Christian faith. “I’ve adapted the three Ps—patience, persistence, and perseverance—to guide my everyday life,” he said. “It has been a growing period of immense proportions. You face so many different decisions, but I’ve learned to be patient and hear God before making any decisions.”

“Around fall break (mid-October) is when I really started to feel comfortable; before then I wanted to feel comfortable, but I did not have a solid group of friends.”

—Lindsay Wilber (’06)

Andy Lobashevsky of Birmingham, Alabama, one of seven Reynolds Scholars in the freshman class, doesn’t want to be stereotyped with a big “R” on his chest. He tried a little of everything during the year: rushing a fraternity, working for the student radio station, and volunteering at the hospital. “I’m becoming more and more certain that this is the right place for me,” he said. “There’s been an air of mystery and intrigue about the year—this is what the next four years will be about; these are the people I’ll be with for the next four years. It’s a crucial moment in life. I can see myself growing and maturing and progressing to another level.”

Lobashevsky and Melissa Malkush, a Presidential Scholar in photography from Shoreham, New York, were among about 240 freshmen, or 25 percent of their class, who came into Wake Forest interested in a “pre med” course of study. Typically, only about a third of those stay on that track, but Lobashevsky and Malkush said freshman year had solidified their plans.

“I’ve spent more time thinking about what I want out of my education,” said Malkush, “and how to combine photography, medicine, and travel; how I can take photographs to represent people, how I can relate to other people, which is why I
Reggie Mathis  wilmington, n.c.
Favorite professor > Dorothy Westmoreland, Latin
Favorite class > Plato’s Republic (First-Year Seminar)
Hardest class > statistics
Favorite memory > campus unity worship service
Probable major > politics and religion
Summer plans > working at Democracy NC

Melissa Malkush  shoreham, n.y.
Favorite professor > Angela King, organic chemistry
Favorite class > printmaking
Hardest class > organic chemistry
Favorite memory > independence
Probable major > anthropology, art minor
Summer plans > working with family physician

Kelly McMahan  greenville, n.c.
Favorite professor/class > Charles Kennedy, international politics
Hardest class > philosophy
Favorite memory > Halloween, first snow day, roommate’s birthday
Probable major > political science
Summer plans > summer school, then home

Andy Lobashevsky  birmingham, al.
Favorite professor/class > Angela King; organic chemistry
Hardest class > calculus with analytical geometry
Probable major > chemistry
Summer plans > neurobiology internship at UAB
want to take psychology and anthropology and sociology; and how I can care for them, which is where the sciences come in.”

For Kelly McManus, who practically grew up on campus during the nine years her father, Jerry ('78), was an assistant football coach before moving to East Carolina, coming to Wake Forest really was like coming home. She quickly bonded with her roommate, Kaylan Gaudio, daughter of assistant men’s basketball coach Dino Gaudio, and began working in the Deacon football office. Her first semester was going well until early December when the East Carolina football staff was fired. “It was one of the worst experiences of my life,” she recalled. “But my friends here and the (Wake Forest) football staff were incredibly supportive. And Kaylan could relate to what I was going through since her dad is a coach, too.” (Kelly’s father was ultimately rehired at ECU).

All eight freshmen did well academically—most made the Dean’s List—but none were satisfied. (Overall, about half of freshmen make the Dean’s List; the average GPA for freshmen is 2.9, out of a possible 4.0). All learned the necessity of staying caught up with their work. Most mentioned the amount of work—and that it seems to come all at once—as their biggest challenge, rather than the difficulty of the work.

Malkush struggled at first in one spring semester class that had been recommended by her favorite professor, Anne Boyle of English, from last fall. “At first, I couldn’t understand why she recommended the course. But I realized that she did so with my best interests in mind. The professor was less motherly and his style encouraged me to become more independent in class.”

Lobashevsky was accepted into the Open Curriculum program, which will give him flexibility in selecting alternative classes to the required divisional requirements, and he decided to add a women’s studies minor to his chemistry major.

Mathis, one of only two or three minorities in all his classes, said it didn’t bother him that many classmates assumed he was an athlete because of his race and large build. (He did play offensive tackle on his high school football team). Of the thirty black males in the freshman class, only six are not on athletic teams.

Barefoot set up weekly meetings with his Spanish professor, Jen Wooten, and found his first-year seminar professor, Wayne King, helpful as well. “A couple of teachers really baffled me last (fall) semester,” he said. “This semester (spring) the work is easier but more time consuming. I’ve pulled a lot of all-nighters, even though I try to stay on top of things. I don’t get stressed out much. Any stress I do feel comes from keeping up my grades for the (Starling) scholarship and having enough time to do all the work, and not from the work itself.”

Wilber’s first-year seminar, “Children and Society” reminded her how much she enjoys working with children. The class had a “service-learning component” requiring students to volunteer at Kids Café, an after-school program that offers elementary children a good meal and help with their homework.

For the freshman women, the return to Wake Forest for the second semester marked the start of “rush.” Wilber and Malkush joined Chi Omega, while McManus joined Kappa Kappa Gamma. Overall, about 52 percent of female undergraduates join a sorority; 34 percent of men join a fraternity. Lobashevsky was the only one of the four males to rush; he received a bid, but decided not to join.

“Originally I wasn’t planning on rushing,” Malkush said. “I fell into believing the northern stereotype of Greek life. I assumed that sorority girls enjoyed two things: hazing and drinking. Quickly I learned what ambitious and outgoing girls they were.”
Greek life didn’t hold as much appeal for the four men. Barefoot said he was too busy; Brown and Mathis said it just wasn’t for them. Lobashevsky declined a bid, although he remains close to the “brothers” in that fraternity. “I enjoyed hanging out and meeting people, but I didn’t see myself fitting in,” he said. “I didn’t want to be bound to the same group of people for the next four years.”

Instead, he spent his time hosting a show on WAKE radio and volunteering at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, where he was allowed to observe several operations.

Brown was active with the Catholic student group and volunteered at the Samaritan Inn and in a local Spanish church.

“Most of the freshmen got along well with their roommates, although only McManus and Lobashevsky chose to live with the same roommate next year. All will live on campus again. Mathis admitted that living in a college dormitory was sometimes difficult for him. “I did struggle with perceptions to various situations and how to respond to ideological differences. Having strong faith has proven very effective in helping me deal with different living styles. You treat each other with respect and look beyond differences.”

Brown found complaints about the size of the dorms rooms in Collins Residence Hall amusing. “The rooms are a lot bigger than I had the last three years,” he said. “It’s been fun living a door down from friends. It’s definitely a unique experience.”

All eight students were planning on spending all or most of the summer back home with family and friends. Barefoot was looking forward to doing what he’s done the last three summers: driving a forklift at a home-building supply warehouse. “I love the manual labor,” he said. “After I’ve been cooped up in school for a while, it’s a welcome release from the mental strains of school.”

McManus is attending the first session of summer school at Wake Forest and working in the football office, before going home next month. Suzuki is working at a country club in her hometown and playing in as many tournaments as she can. Malkush is working with her family physician and traveling with her family. Lobashevsky was accepted into a neurobiology program at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. Mathis is working at a lobbying firm in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, that advocates campaign finance reform and voting rights reform. “Wake is slowly feeling like home,” he said. “But I don’t think it will feel completely like home until I can walk the Quad and know that I’ve made a difference. The journey has been one of twists and turns. There have been great expectations that have been met and great hardships, too.”

Mathis anchored a sports show on WAKE-TV and was elected to Student Government, but he spent most of his time promoting a new non-denominational student ministry on campus. He quit his part-time position as an organist at a local church to concentrate on the new ministry.

Wilber volunteered with CARE, a program through the Volunteer Service Corps that sponsors weekly service projects, such as a dance for senior citizens in the Magnolia Room. She also trained to be a facilitator for PREPARE (Policy Group on Rape Education Prevention and Response).

Mathis, Malkush, McManus, and Wilber were among seventy freshmen and sophomores selected to participate in LEAD, a leadership development program.

Most of Suzuki’s time was taken up by golf. “Golf has had its ups and downs,” she said late in the year. “Sometimes I play well and sometimes I don’t. It has been tough adjusting to having to play all year round, and when you’re not playing well, it can be frustrating. You still have to go out and practice, but I’m sure all the hard work will pay off eventually.”

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SOUNDS OF SILENCE

By Susannah Rosenblatt ('03)

A student discovers that for Trappist brothers, silence is something deep and rich, a dynamic force vital to their lives of solitary contemplation.

It feels foolish whispering in the parking lot. But once we roll to the end of the holly-lined drive of the Our Lady of Holy Spirit Abbey, a kind of psychological hush falls on the group. We smother giggles as we unpack the car. There is no noise except for a lone dove's coo. Is this a holy place? I am uncertain whether God is indeed lurking among the green goose droppings and tall Georgia pines.

Assistant Professor of Spanish Olgierda Furmanek, with our class, “Love, Death, and Poetry” in tow, seems to think so. She has brought our incredulous group of twelve to Conyers, Georgia, to spend two days with Cistercian Trappist monks. These fifty men live, work, and pray from their lovely concrete outcropping nestled in the woods beside a lake.

Furmanek felt immersion in a contemplative environment would help students better understand the mystical poems we read in class. “I wanted to structure the course so it really had to do with one's life, based on personal experience in a certain way,” she says. Thanks to a Lilly grant and the support of the Department of Romance Languages, she was able to show her students the monastic life firsthand. “If you don’t know how they lived and what was going through their minds in everyday life,” she adds, “you can never understand the beauty of the poems and only appreciate them on a superficial level.”

You can’t get more authentic than Father Luke. An ancient, robed man, he crackles with energy, blue eyes aflame. Father Luke is ninety-one but tells everyone he is ninety-two, anticipating another blessed year. “Ask questions,” he urges us. “You’ll learn a lot more than you learn in books.” And so we do.

These are men, we discover, who opted out of the 20th century. Men, like Father Luke, who entered Holy Spirit at its founding in 1944, who slept in a barn for eight months on the monastery’s future site and then pitched in for twelve years of construction to pour the very concrete of the only monastery in North America actually built by monks. No complaints from Father Luke: “Remember our Lord was born in a stable,” he says.

The brothers know a bit of the outside world from newspaper headlines. Times have certainly changed since the Vatican opened up Trappist monasteries to the public in 1968. Before then the monks had no contact with the outside world. Now the monk-cum-concierge Father Gerard wears a pager to accommodate wayward monastery guests. Prayers are in English these days, not Latin. Holy Spirit’s booming bonsai tree business operates from a Web site, www.bonsaimonk.com.

Father Gerard is ambivalent about the encroaching world. “Limited contact with other people produces deep contact with God,” he says. Father Gerard does enjoy the interchange between guests and monks, but with reservation. He tells a story about a female guest, locked out of her room, who knocked on his door after hours in a towel in hopes of getting an extra key. “There's a positive aspect that's simply missed by being (in the guests’ retreat house): deeper celibacy, men not being around women.”
Brother Nicholas, the youngest monk at twenty-five, tells of his doubts. “I’m not always happy to be here,” he says, pausing deliberately, his baby face intent on choosing the right words. “But I’m happy now. I choose the monastic life on a daily basis.” He explains the value of silence, which permeates our stay: “Silence, solitude, prayer makes room for God.” For these Trappist brothers, silence is something deep and rich, a dynamic force vital to their lives of solitary contemplation. The brothers are thoughtful and soft-spoken, reluctant to disturb the inner peace that they so carefully cultivate, with an elaborate sign language to help them.

The class takes its meals in the silent dining room; my own silence seems forced rather than sacred. Blanketing the room thickly, the closemouthed dining amplifies the hypnotic clinking of fork on plate. The monks’ light vegetarian and fish dishes are simple and delicious, and I concentrate on finishing my vegetable soup without slurping. But my noiseless meditating is not on improving my non-relationship with God, but merely fixated on my silence itself. ‘I’m not talking!’ I think, and can’t get much further than that.

Silence buoys us on to 8 p.m. prayers in the spare, white monastery church. The brothers intone the doleful psalms in complete darkness, preparing their souls for the night’s enveloping dark. The short service takes on a surreal quality, punctuated by the icy splash of holy water, flung to each of our foreheads by the church father to ward off the devil in our sleep. I had never worried before about the devil infiltrating my unconscious; suddenly this medieval concern is an urgent one, requiring a protective blessing for the night.

Stuck in an uncomfortable wooden prayer stall, it is again pitch black and silent; we are at 4 a.m. prayer services. I wonder what I am doing in a freezing, bare church at what I would normally call an ungodly hour.

“It does make me realize just how busy we are trying to balance everything,” says Mariam Alimi (’03), who is Muslim. “The monks’ contemplation is something I can connect with. I am energized by their silence, admire the life that is ‘relaxed and intense at the same time,’” as Father Gerard says.

Perhaps in the memory of those silent halls and pews hidden in a corner of Georgia, I can find peace, too.

Susannah Rosenblatt graduated in May with a B.A. in English and a minor in Spanish. Her hometown is Annandale, Virginia.
Wake Forest has been blessed with leaders well-suited to their times—the right men and women for the right moments in history. Tom Taylor is one of those.

By David Fyten
As an accountant, Tom Taylor knows what counts: the bottom line. In the balance sheet of his life, it is the sum of this: work hard, do your best, stay positive, be open, make connections with areas of knowledge outside your specialty, serve others, and always show them civility, respect, and genuine interest.

It's a ledger of credits that has profited the many with a stake in his work—the alumni who by their own estimation gained wealth not just in career but in life through his mentorship; the Calloway School of Business and Accountancy and its faculty, which gained credentials and direction under his guidance; and Wake Forest, which acquired an accredited undergraduate business program and new opportunities in international studies through his patient investment of time and effort.

Taylor, dean of the Calloway School from 1980 to 1992 and its Hylton Professor of Accountancy since, retired from full-time teaching this spring after thirty-two years on the faculty. There may be people on the Reynolda Campus who are as nice as he is, but you wouldn't have to use a second hand to count them. It's no surprise, then, that expressions of good will and gratitude gravitated toward him before, during, and after commencement, where he was recognized. He plans to teach every other semester on a year-to-year basis, but the autumnal glow of his presence will be visible in Calloway Hall even in his absence.

If performance in the corporate world is measured in profit and loss statements, then alumni are the indexes of college teaching outcomes. By any measurement, Linda Bamber ('75) is a good outcome. Holder of a doctorate in accounting from Ohio State, she has served on the faculties of the universities of Florida, Indiana, and now Georgia; received numerous teaching awards in cost and management accounting; been managing editor of The Accounting Review, the leading scholarly journal in the accounting discipline; and wrote the managerial chapters of a best-selling introductory accounting textbook. So inspired by Taylor was Bamber as an undergraduate that she and another alumna who has gone on to a scholarly career—Sarah Bonner ('80), a professor at the University of Southern California—have established a scholarship for overseas study travel in their mentor's name at the Calloway School.

"Professor Thomas Taylor was by far the most inspirational professor I had at Wake Forest," Bamber says. "I was fortunate that he was my professor for both semesters of introductory accounting because he didn't teach at the introductory level very often. His kindness, compassion, and concern for students' learning shone through every day in class. I enjoyed the classes so much that I became an accounting major.

"Then I had the opportunity to take Professor Taylor's cost and management accounting class," she continues. "It was my favorite class; his quiet passion brought alive the vital role that management accounting information plays in helping managers make all kinds of business decisions, from deciding which products and services to offer, to setting selling prices.

"I loved the class and worked hard to learn," Bamber recalls. "But I performed very poorly on one of the exams. Twice a week, for the rest of the term, I went to Professor Taylor's office to check answers to every problem in each chapter, and to ask questions about the concepts. He was extremely patient and kind and devoted an enormous amount of time to helping me. As a result, I scored a cumulative 100 percent on the final exam.

"A scholar of great integrity, he encouraged me to follow my heart [after graduation] rather than the well-traveled path to the Big 8 [accounting firms]," she concludes. "I have always been grateful for his wise counsel. It should be no surprise, then, that since becoming a professor myself, I have done my best to follow in his steps by teaching cost and management accounting. Just today my boss remarked on my ability to focus on helping underperforming students grasp the intuition underlying management accounting. When I run short of patience with my students, all I have to do is recall the help that Professor Taylor gave me."

Says Bonner: "Simply put, I would not be where I am today had I not met Tom Taylor. Tom was my accounting advisor and, in that capacity, became my most trusted mentor. I can never repay him for the countless hours he spent helping me not only with my coursework but talking to me about career choices and other important issues. More importantly, he always reminded me to be true to myself despite forces that would have had me compromise my integrity and throw away all beliefs about fairness in the world. That encouragement is always with me, and has influenced me greatly in my own career as an accounting professor. I can only hope that I have had as significant impact on my students' lives as he had on mine and, undoubtedly, countless others."

"Tom Taylor was my favorite professor by far, and there was no close second," says David Gill ('77), chief financial officer of CTI Molecular Imaging, Inc., a medical device company based in Knoxville, Tennessee. "I consider him the person most influential to my career choice and to my subsequent success in the field of accounting. Though soft-spoken in style, his convictions shine through. Tom is committed to excellence—he demands it of himself, of the accounting profession, and of his students—but his students also quickly learn that Tom Taylor is a person of true humility who deeply cares..."
is a person of true humility who deeply cares. He is a good friend and a great mentor."

Taylor's faculty colleagues are no less admiring. "Tom Taylor is, and always will be, my dean," says Jack E. Wilkerson, a Calloway School faculty member since 1989 and its dean for the past seven years. "He has been an outstanding role model for me in so many ways— as a dean, of course, but also as a teacher and a scholar. I have watched him re-immers himself into the life of the professor since he stepped out of the dean's role more than ten years ago, and in no sense has he coasted or rested on his laurels. He has pursued and, I am happy to say, achieved excellence in all aspects of his work."

And this, from Steve Ewing, who came to Wake Forest the same year as Taylor—1971— and has been perhaps his closest friend on the faculty for more than three decades: "In all these years of working with Tom, I have found him to be unfailingly fair and ethical in all his dealings with students, faculty, and staff. I have learned a great deal by working with him as a colleague and will always consider him my mentor and friend."

Many things in Taylor's life—graduate studies; a faculty position; marriage and children; grandparenthood— have come a little later than for most. Take Wake Forest, for example. Born and raised in Henderson, North Carolina, he needed a little later than for most. Take Wake Forest, for example. Born and raised in Henderson, North Carolina, he needed...
Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), Babcock couldn't be accredited if the University maintained a separate undergraduate business department. The University faced four choices: merge the undergraduate department with Babcock, terminate the undergraduate program, retain the status quo and forego Babcock accreditation, or reestablish the undergraduate business department as a school.

It chose the fourth option. The question then became, who would lead it through the inevitably difficult and delicate phase of reestablishment and reaccreditation? The administration knew the post would demand patience, persistence, political acumen, and interpersonal skills. The job chose Tom Taylor.

Taylor was initially reluctant. "I loved my teaching and working with these great kids here," he says. "None of us were enthusiastic about the accreditation process ahead of us." But he also was aware of his distinctive capacity to be of service to the school and university he had grown to love. He accepted.

"I'm also grateful that I was able to continue doing what I really, really wanted to do—teach."

Observers have noted that across the years, Wake Forest has been blessed with leaders who were well-suited to their times—the right men and women for the right moments in the institution's history. That certainly could be said for the Calloway School over the past two decades. Under the late Dana Johnson in the early nineties, and since 1996 under Wilkerson, the school has made dramatic advancements in faculty resources, technology, and ties to key business contacts here and abroad. But none of it would have been possible without Taylor's patient guidance through the arduous and labyrinthine process of reaccreditation that consumed most of his tenure as dean in one way or another.

"The challenge was to fit our small school into the AACSB mold—to retain our essential character, our belief in a broad education within the liberal arts, while meeting its exacting standards," he notes. "These [AACSB] people were tough, believe me." The initial process took five years, culminating in the awarding of accreditation in 1985. That was followed by a second reaccreditation cycle in 1990. "I consider it our finest achievement to have attained accreditation with minimal compromising of our historic mission and identity," Taylor says. "We were a school: had we chosen, we could have thrown out our lower-division requirements in calculus and foreign language. But we never deviated.

"I'm also grateful that I was able to continue doing what I really, really wanted to do—teach," he adds. "I was dean for twenty-four semesters, and I taught in all but two of them—and those two were during AACSB site visits."

Taylor's accomplishments as dean were not restricted to accreditation. Under his watch the school added seven additional faculty positions, made its first ventures into computerization, broadened its recruiting and fundraising bases, inaugurated its popular Summer Management Program for liberal arts students, and made its first ventures into internationalism with three new comparative courses.

In 1987 Taylor and then-international studies director Richard Sears traveled to China and Japan on behalf of the University to establish study-abroad programs in those countries. Later that year he returned to Japan as President Thomas K. Hearn's representative at a conference in Tokyo as guest of the founder of Tokai University. But it was two years later, when he hosted a member of a delegation of Soviet business professors, that his incipient interest in the Soviet Union was rekindled. Not many weeks later Taylor made a reciprocal visit, and the following February he spent ten days in Moscow on behalf of the University helping consolidate a student exchange program with Moscow State University and establishing a faculty exchange program with the Institute of Business Studies. The trips enflamed Taylor's desire to return to full-time teaching and research, this time with a focus on international markets and accounting systems. In 1992, he resigned as dean and was appointed the first Hylton Professor of Accountancy. Since 1990 he has traveled to Russia eight times to lecture and study and has solid ties with scholars there and elsewhere.

Taylor has no consuming hobbies, but that doesn't mean he will be inactive in retirement. He and Faye have two sons, Kevin ('94) and Keith ('96), and he'll have more time to spend with their only grandchild, Keith's son Matthew, who is three-and-a-half. He hopes to continue traveling and to write in venues that might be helpful to current debates on accounting standards in the U.S. and the world, with special focus on the transition to market economies of Russia and other formerly Communist countries.

"Despite the transgressions of the past couple of years, our accounting system is still the most transparent in the world," Taylor says. "But it is rule-based, and whenever you have rules, people will try to get around them legally, like taxes. There is growing collaboration between U.S. accounting standards-setters and the International Accounting Standards Board, which is more principle-based in its approach and is gaining influence and status. It will be interesting to see what emerges."

Asked to make an accounting of his own ledger—the standards and principles that have governed his life— he demurred from any qualitative evaluation and simply listed them: "Being open and empathetic to people's thoughts, situations, and problems; striving to be an effective teacher and experiencing the joy of helping people think about issues; wanting to learn about and understand other people, cultures, and subject areas; and trying to do a job thoroughly and well and with substance."

"It doesn't take an accountant to certify its veracity."

June 2003 39
It's safe to say that most were surprised when they heard Elizabeth Smart had been found alive. What were your emotions? At first it was disbelief. In nine months we had chased so many false rumors and looked at so many animal bones on mountainsides that I was sure this was another mistake. When I heard that Ed Smart [Elizabeth’s father] had made a positive ID, the disbelief disappeared into absolute elation. It was like I was five feet off the ground. When Lois Smart [Elizabeth’s mother] came to the station, we were hugging and laughing. I remember thinking how great it must be for her to have the nightmare over and her beautiful daughter back.

The summer of 2002 brought you to Salt Lake City as the Special Agent in Charge. Was it Elizabeth Smart from Day One? I arrived in Salt Lake on June 24, 2002, three weeks after Elizabeth was kidnapped. The day I drove into the city, I was briefed on the case and it became the top item on the agenda.

What was it like for you—a law professional and a father—to live with the case daily knowing that, dead or alive, she was out there somewhere? It was a horrible experience. Having a fourteen year-old daughter myself, it hit very close to home. It played to all of our worst fears—a monster stealing our children at night right from under our noses. I could sympathize with the family, but we all had to keep our hopes up and work quickly, because as the days passed the odds of finding her alive diminished rapidly.
We were continually re-evaluating our evidence looking for something that would break the case. Later when few new leads developed, we had to fight our worst tendencies—that is to give up. Interestingly, my daughter followed up with me weekly on our progress and when I could report none, she let me know about it.

While at Wake Forest, could you ever have imagined being in the middle of this kind of a case? Early on at Wake Forest my career aspirations revolved around being employable after college. I tried business and accounting, and after my sophomore year, my father insisted that I take a course of study that I enjoyed. He said the rest would take care of itself. I pursued history and obtained a teaching certificate so that I had some employment potential. After graduation, I worked for a regional bank in western North Carolina and started at Wake Forest law school a year later.

What roles did President James Ralph Scales and Board of Trustees Chair James Mason play in your career? I represented the students on the Wake Forest Board of Trustees from 1977-79, a time when the Baptist State Convention (BSC) wanted to exercise more control over the University. At risk was about $8 million the University received from BSC. Dr. Scales and I differed on the relationship Wake Forest should have with the BSC, but we had wide-ranging conversations about campus and world events. He broadened my thinking about world events and ultimately helped me decide to go to law school.

Chaiman Mason encouraged me to speak up at Board of Trustee meetings, taught me about building consensus and how to lead a strong-willed group. I enjoyed his stories of being a small-town lawyer and started law school with the ultimate goal of living that kind of life.

How does one go from Wake Forest law student to heading one of the most recognizable criminal cases of the early 21st century? The FBI recruited heavily at Wake Forest. School of Law because of its quality candidates and outstanding reputation. At the time, the FBI was recruiting law graduates without work experience. Initially I was not interested, but faculty, friends, my future wife, and my parents all encouraged me to apply. The more I learned about the job, the better I liked it. After sixteen weeks at the FBI Academy, I was assigned to a white-collar crime squad in El Paso, Texas.

More than fifteen years separated your first job in Texas from your current position in Salt Lake City. What were some of the highlights of those years? In Texas I developed a public corruption case against the head of the El Paso Housing Authority who was convicted and removed from office. I also worked on Texas bank failures for about four years.

In 1987 I was transferred to Washington, D.C., and assigned to the Attorney General's Protection Detail where I traveled the world on behalf of Attorney General Ed Meese, Richard Thornburgh, and Bill Barr. From there I worked in the FBI's internal affairs office before being selected in 1993 to lead a squad of white-collar crime agents in the Orlando, Florida, office.

A promotion in 1998 brought me to the Minneapolis division as Assistant Special Agent in Charge. My experience working on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in North Carolina led me to become involved in crimes on fourteen Indian reservations in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

In addition, as the acting Special Agent in Charge, we received information that Kathleen Soliah (1970s Symbionese Liberation Army fugitive) might be in our area. After several days of surveillance, we were able to make a safe arrest of her. The national media can receive as much blame as they do credit on a case of this magnitude. How did they help or hinder the Smart investigation? The media are facts of life these days in law enforcement, and in my view, the positives far outweigh negatives. I was amazed at the national interest. It was a dynamic I had not expected. The media helped distribute information quickly, and the publicity made Elizabeth a household name. When they came upon information that could help, they were quick to turn it over. Ultimately, the citizens who called the police were made aware of our interest in David Mitchell (Elizabeth's alleged abductor) by the media.

Competitiveness can make the reporters on a national case very aggressive and demanding and sometimes short-tempered. They use an amazing variety of techniques to attempt to draw out information. A tremendous amount of time was spent preparing to answer questions and discussing what we could and could not report. This led to some speculation on their part that ultimately proved misleading.

Thankfully, the Smart family understood the need to keep Elizabeth's face familiar and cooperated with us at every turn to make this a reality.

Did your frontline involvement bring any old friends and acquaintances out of the woodwork? Yes. Suitemates at Wake Forest and friends from law school called my office, sent e-mails, and wrote letters. Some of the letters were amazing accounts of how they felt when they heard about Elizabeth's recovery and their personal connection to the case through their friendship with me. Most said they recognized my voice despite the passing of twenty years and rushed to the TV to verify their beliefs. It was so good to catch up on their lives and hear about their families.

Scott Holter is a freelance writer based in Seattle.
A worn and fragile paperback volume has been recently deposited in the Rare Books Collection of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. It is a copy of The Epistle to the Romans, a commentary by Karl Barth, translated into English by Edwin C. Hoskins from the Sixth Edition and published by Oxford University Press in 1933.

This particular copy is noteworthy because of its historical relation to Wake Forest University. It was first purchased and studied in the 1930s by Dr. Harold W. Tribble, president of Wake Forest from 1950 until his retirement in 1967. Although it is not generally recognized, Tribble was partially responsible for the wide influence in America of the Barthian theology, sometimes known as Neo-Orthodoxy or New Reformation Theology.

A native of Virginia, Tribble was a graduate of the University of Richmond (B.A.), the University of Louisville (M.A.), and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Th.M and Th.D), where he began teaching in 1925. He went on leave to the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1930, where he studied under the guidance of Professor H. R. Mackintosh. On subsequent trips to Europe, Tribble enrolled for summer terms at Tübingen, Basel, and Bonn, hearing lectures by the rising young Swiss theologian, Karl Barth. It was during his time in Basel and Bonn that Tribble came to know Barth and studied his Romerbrief, and he completed a dissertation on Barth at Edinburgh, where he was awarded the Ph.D. in 1937.

After teaching theology at Louisville until 1947, Tribble served as president of Andover Newton Theological School in Boston for three years, and he was elected president of Wake Forest College in 1950, where he led in planning, financing, building, and moving the school from the town of Wake Forest to Winston-Salem. The crown of his achievement was the elevation of the small college to become one of the leading universities in the country.

In addition to its remarkable relation to Wake Forest by way of Tribble, this volume is significant in other ways. First, it is an epoch-making exposition of the Letter to the Romans by the Apostle Paul, the keystone book of the New Testament, and arguably the most influential book ever written.

Paul wrote the letter while he was in Corinth around A.D. 55, intending to inform the Church in Rome, which he had not yet visited, of his basic theology prior to his anticipated coming. The other extant letters by Paul, to individuals and churches, concern directions, encouragements, and responses to problems in the young churches. However, Romans is a more formal and thoughtful reflection on the gospel which Paul hoped to share with the faithful in Rome. It is important to remember that Paul’s writings preceded the four canonical Gospels by decades, though the Gospels were based on earlier traditions going back to the time of Jesus. Thus Paul’s writings are the earliest witness to the Christian faith available to us, and Romans is at the center of that witness.

Second, this commentary on Romans is significant because it continues the central emphasis on sin and salvation in Christian history which has remained the controlling feature in the experience and thought of the greatest leaders of the Church. Two examples will illustrate that truth with emphasis and clarity: Augustine of Hippo, at the end of antiquity and the beginning of the Middle Ages; and Martin Luther, at the end of the Middle Ages and the beginning of modern times.

Augustine’s Confessions is an autobiography composed as a prayer in which he reviewed his early, profligate life as a youth in Carthage, Rome, and Milan. A brilliant student and teacher, he became increasingly unhappy with his immoral and empty life until, at the point of despair, he heard a child in a neighboring garden in Milan saying, as in a game, “take up and read, take up and read.” Augustine perceived the words to be a command from God. He picked up a book from a nearby table—the New Testament—and read the words of Paul in Romans 13:11-14. His life was changed by the message and he began the long, productive career in the Church which made him second only to the Apostle Paul in the formation of Christian thought, with Romans as his primary guide.

A millennium later, the young Martin Luther, while studying law at the University of Erfurt, was frightened when caught in a severe thunderstorm and promised that, if he survived the danger, he would become a monk. He kept the promise and joined the Augustinian Order. Yet he found himself in danger of eternal damnation because he could not find the righteousness he so desperately sought. Fasting, sacraments, even self-flagellation did not relieve his guilt. But he finally found in Paul’s Letter to the Romans the comfort he needed: “the just [justified] shall live by faith.” He realized that he did not need to seek and please God; God sought him and offered free grace and forgiveness. From that conviction, Luther went on to attempt
the Reformation of the Church he believed to be in error and full of corruption. Romans continued to be his guide-at the center of the Protestant principle of sola scriptura.

Third, this commentary on Romans is especially significant because it was written in a time of personal and social crisis by Karl Barth, a young, unknown Swiss pastor, educated in Bern, Marburg, Berlin, and Tübingen in the liberal tradition of the times, following Schleiermacher, Ritschl, and Harnack, among others. He served as pastor of a small Swiss Reformed Church at Safenwil, near Basel, for ten years and became increasingly disillusioned with the anthropocentric, optimistic religion that was characteristic of the churches while the nations of Europe struggled in the bloody battles of the First World War just across the border in France and Germany. Barth and several of his colleagues challenged the easy solutions being offered in the churches for humanity’s deadly condition. He found a “strange new world in the Bible,” and a new theology was the result. His commentary on Romans, first published in 1919, was, in the words of the Catholic theologian Karl Adam, “like a bomb thrown on the playground of the theologians of Europe.” It was an epoch-making publication, the beginning of Barth’s long and dominant career in theology.

When President Tribble retired in 1967, he gave to me, his former student in Louisville and Boston, his copy of Barth’s powerful commentary. It will now be preserved in the Wake Forest library, and I am pleased to pass it on as a reminder of a long tradition—from the Apostle Paul to Wake Forest University.

J. William Angell is Easley Professor Emeritus of Religion and lives in Winston-Salem.
1953

Blevyn Hathcock Wheeler retired from the College Writing Center at the State University of New York-Oneonta in 2000 after 20 years of teaching and tutoring writing. Her husband, who taught at Wake Forest from 1960-64, retired from the English department at SUNY-Oneonta in 1993. Blevyn, who was co-editor of The Student, is on the board of the Catskill Choral Society, a session member of the First Presbyterian Church in Gilbertsville, N.Y., and a member of the Butternut Valley Garden Club. They live on a farm in the western Catskills and have four children and three grandchildren.

1955

Ralph W. Steurer of Kensington, Conn., served in the U.S. Army, Korea, special services from 1956-58, then retired in 1992 from Colgate-Palmolive Co. (sales) after 33 years of service. He was elected to Colgate's Top Pro Club and Colgate's Hall of Fame. He established Steurer sales company in 1992 and retired in 1999. He is married, has one son, and two granddaughters. He was active in youth baseball programs for 10 years as coach and manager. His hobbies are golf, investing, and following Deacon sports on TV and the Web. He says he'll see some of you Deacon fans at the Wake Forest-Boston College football game in August!

1965

Fred Bronaugh and Lynda McPherson Bronaugh live in Middletown, R.I. Fred retired as a Captain, USN, after 28 years, primarily in the Destroyer force, and three afloat commands. He is now director of the Newport Center of Marine Safety International, providing maritime simulator training to both N aval and commercial customers. Lynda is director of library services at the Redwood Library & Athenaeum, the oldest circulating library in the United States. Both their sons are serving in the military, the oldest in Air Force intelligence and the youngest as a Navy helicopter pilot. Both are active in the Alumni-in-Admissions program.

James S. Fleming is a political science professor (specializing in American Politics) in the College of Liberal Arts at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y. His wife, Chris, is a professor of education and associate dean of the School of the Professions at Brockport State College of the State University of New York. They have two sons. Brendon is a junior at Syracuse University majoring in political science and communications, and Jay is a junior in Brighton High School. They are all Deacon fans, except if Wake Forest plays Syracuse, in which case they have a divided household.

1975

Brian Toomey lives on Cape Cod with his wife, Maureen Kelly, and son Patrick (14). They moved to the Cape during the 9/11 disaster and had lived on Martha's Vineyard for 15 years, where he worked with another alum, Bruce Stelle ('74, M.D.'78) at Martha's Vineyard Hospital. He taught school for a few years in upstate New York and then went to Boston College for his M.S.W. in clinical social work. For seven years he worked in Boston as a psychiatric social worker and eventually moved on to hospital social work, working at several hospitals including Brigham and Women's Hospital. For the last six years he has been the executive director of Geiger Gibson Community Health Center–the first community health center in the country-in Boston. He is on the board of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers and chair of the Group Purchasing subcommittee; a junior warden at Church of the Messiah; and chairman of the Columbia Point Community Partnership. He misses his buddies (Jerry, Lar, Doug, and Rhino), the smell and feel of spring on the Quad, Southern draws, and the ACC.

1983

Lisa Mann Dimona is a partner in Lark Productions, a book development firm and literary agency based in Westchester County, N.Y., just north of New York City. Her company specializes in creating and representing innovative single titles, series, and comprehensive publishing programs for independent authors, as well as for organizations and corporate entities. Lark Productions has created or represented over 100 books in a variety of categories of practical non-fiction, including business, personal finance, parenting, spirituality, health and fitness, relationships, gardening, pop culture, New Age, general self-help, and popular reference. Lisa lives in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., with her husband, Joe, and their two children, Alessandra (13) and M athew (9). Lisa would love to hear from Wake Forest friends at lisalark@mindspring.com.

1985

James K. Pryor (JD) practices at a firm in New Jersey about 30 miles northwest of New York City. He represents primarily telecommunications companies in zoning board hearings. He is married, Jennifer, spends most of her time running after their two children, Alice (5) and Patrick (2). He doesn't run into many Demon Deacon alumni and hasn't been in Winston-Salem since his 10th reunion in 1995, but he is planning on attending his 20th reunion in 2005.

1987

Ronald Montesano, his wife, Denice, and their four children make their home on Grand Island, N.Y., between Buffalo and Niagara Falls. "It's hard to convince people that there is much more to New York than the city, but we do our best." A teacher for 17 years, he earned his M.A. in Spanish from Middletown College, then completed doctoral coursework at SUNY-Buffalo. For the past six years, he has taught Spanish at Nichols School in Buffalo, "where I plan to spend the rest of my days." He will become the school yearbook advisor next fall and has twice taken students to Costa Rica on school exchanges. Their oldest child, Anthony, is currently a ninth grade student at Nichols, where he competes in soccer, wrestling, and crew. Their next child, Anne Elizabeth, will enter the Nichols M iddle School in the fall of 2003. A founding brother in Sigma Nu fraternity at Wake Forest, Ronald divides his free time between family and his golfing website, www.buff-golf.com.

1990

Elizabeth A. Hayes attended N.Y.U.'s summer publishing program—with plans to return to North Carolina—but she took a job as a publicity assistant at the paperback division of Random House, where she worked for four years. She was lucky enough to work with everyone from Dave Barry to Naomi Judd to one of the Iranian hostages. She then moved to the publicity department for the hard cover division of Simon and Schuster. Currently she is the associate director of publicity for Simon & Schuster Book Publishing. She arranges media tours, reviews, travel, signings, etc. for authors as their books are being published. Her authors include Former President and Nobel Prize winner Jimmy Carter and the late Stephen Ambrose. She has been studying acting at The Schreiber Studio and has...
On the Map

performed in "The Heidi Chronicles" and "Prelude to a Kiss." She also writes and has provided columns to her newspaper about the experience of living in New York City during 9/11 and traveling with President Carter. She served as president of the New York Young Alumnae club and tried to attend the NYC job fair sponsored by the University every January.

1992

Katy M. McDonald is an assistant vice president and director of special events for Marsh & Mclennan in New York City. After working for Marsh for five years in London, she transferred to the Manhattan-based corporate headquarters to direct client entertainment programs at major professional sports events, national landmark museums and leisure resorts across the country. Her travel schedule enables her to catch up with Wake Forest friends scattered around the US.

1993

David G. Edwards (M S) received his PhD in exercise physiology from the University of Florida in 2002 and is an assistant professor of exercise science in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. He lives in Malden, MA, with his fiancée, Shannon, who is a postdoctoral fellow at Boston University. They will be married in August.

Andrew Kustas (M A) runs his own investment firm, White Pine Investments, in Wolfeboro, N. H. He manages stock and bond portfolios for individuals, families, and endowments. He writes that Wolfeboro is a tourist town on the southeastern shores of lake Winnipesaukee. “It is a beautiful place that even Hollywood could not have dreamt up. Anyone from Wake Forest who wants to come up and visit, just let me know.”

1995

Kathryn “Kasey” Cox has lived in Ludlow, VT, home of the Okemo ski resort, since last August. She and her long-time boyfriend, Mike Salitrynski, are houseparents of Beekman House, a group home helping people with severe mental illness transition from group home to independent living. She will soon become the house manager. She writes, “Regarding my personal struggle with bipolar disorder, my friends from Wake Forest will be happy to know that I have been healthy, happy, and stable for the last three years. People can contact me at PO Box 132 Proctorvilles, VT 05153 or at poppycox@yahoo.com.”

1996

Rebecca Jean Bayne Blazejowski (M SA ’97) lives in Connecticut with her husband Tom. After graduating from the Wake Forest accounting program, she moved to Connecticut to work for Arthur Andersen LLP. In 1999, she left to pursue opportunities in the nonprofit sector. She worked as finance director for Bethphage, an international nonprofit organization serving and advocating for individuals with disabilities, for three years. Currently, she is the director of finance for the Hispanic Health Council, an organization that is committed to improving the health and social well being of underserved communities through community-based research, direct service, and advocacy. She is serving her third term on the board of directors as vice president of grants for the Greater Hartford Jaycees Foundation. In her spare time, she enjoys rock-climbing, yoga, jogging, roller-blading, Woody Allen movies, and Stephen King books.

1997

Candace Molin has worked as an analyst for Capital One Financial Services, first in Richmond, VA, and then in the Washington, DC, area. She also taught high school music for one year. She is a second-year student at Harvard Law School and resides in Cambridge, MA. This summer, Candace will work as a summer associate at Goodwin Procter LLP in Boston. She is trying to stay involved in music in her free time, and this year she starred in a Gilbert and Sullivan production at the law school and sang in the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicae. She can be contacted at cmolin@law.harvard.edu.

1998

Amanda Barg-Wilson and her husband, Jackson Williams, live in Springfield, MA. Jackson, who was a City of Joy Scholar and traveled twice to India during his WFU years, graduated from UT-M emphis medical school in May 2002 and is now doing a residency in Internal Medicine/Pediatrics through Tufts University at Baystate Medical Center. Amanda taught in M emphis for three years before deciding to change careers. She is a veterinary technician at Rowley M emorial Animal Hospital and plans to apply to vet school in a few years. They occasionally get to see Boston Deacs Jennifer Gentile and Ellen Cross. Being new to the area, they have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the many areas of New England.

1999

The day of graduation, Becca Lee Wong hopped in her Honda and drove north to start grad school at New York Medical College. Jordan Wong thought she might be lonely so he followed her to Westchester County, NY, and married her. In 2001, Becca earned her M asters of Science in Physical Therapy and began practicing at a hospital in New Jersey. In the meantime, Jordan worked for a video game company designing artificial intelligence for characters in interactive games. The company eventually went out of business and Jordan took the opportunity to follow his call to ministry and enroll at Alliance Theological Seminary to pursue a M aster’s of Divinity. Jordan and Becca needed a little more excitement in their lives, so Jada Rose Wong was born 9/10/02. Their twins live by the Hudson River in N yack, NY, and plan to stay there until Jordan graduates in December.

2000

Maryellen Dougherty lives in Manhattan where she is pursuing a master’s in religion at Columbia University. She plans to spend the summer studying Sanskrit and Hindi in Kerala, India.

Sheereen Miller moved to New York to pursue a life in the world of magazines. She joined the public affairs group at TIME magazine and enjoyed nearly two years learning and growing in the publicity industry. At the beginning of 2002, she joined Sports Illustrated, working in the communications department. Since that time, she has enjoyed an amazing year of swim-suit photo shoots in exotic locations, working alongside and cultivating relationships with incredible sports figures, and becoming more familiar with the world of sports and entertainment. Her current concentration at SI is gaining more visibility for the brand within the college demographic. “I am still in love with NYC,” she writes. “My friends and I make a point of discovering a new restaurant each week.”

David Nathan-Allen Sims is living in New York City with fellow alumni Timothy O’Brien (’00, M SA ’01) and Terrance Daly (’02). He attends law school and choreographs and judges cheerleading competitions in his spare time. In 2001 he competed with the N.C. State University cheerleading squad and won his first Cheerleading National Championship ring.

2001

Elise Agrella worked a year at the Brandon School, a residential treatment center for teenage boys in Natick, MA. She is now pursuing a M aster’s in Social Work full time at Boston University and has been accepted into BU’s marriage and family therapy certification program. She is in frequent contact with sorority sisters Andrea Arco and Jenny Beem, who live in a nearby brownstone.

Jessica Juranic is an analyst at JPMorganChase in New York, N.Y. Jessica and Tim O’Brien (’00, M SA ’01) are planning a M ay 2004 wedding in Hilton Head Island, SC. Tim is working in New York as an associate for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Rebecca Strimer began work on a master’s degree in social work at Boston University in September. Upon arrival she found out that a Wake Forest classmate of hers that she had not kept in touch with, Elise Agrella (’01) had also enrolled. Then, during introductions on their first day of courses, they discovered that Katherine Stroud (’89) was also in the class! So in this class of less than 100 full-time students, three Deacon alums had been brought together.
1940s

D. E. Ward Jr. (JD '43, M.D. '45) had a 50th anniversary celebration dinner in his honor given by the South-eastern Regional Medical Center in Lumberton, N.C. He began his general surgery practice in 1953, the month the hospital opened.

1950s

Dorothy Hall ('50) and Professor of Education Patricia Cunningham conceived the curriculum of “M onth by M onth Phonics,” which has been adopted as the basic phonics curriculum for K-3 students in New York.

Betty Siegel ('52) was named one of the “100 Most Influential Georgians” by Georgia Trend magazine.

Billy F. Andrews ('53), professor and chairman emeritus of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, presented a “Call for Justice in Healthcare and Research for Infants and Children” at the World Congress of Bioethics in Brasilia, Brazil. The Dr. Billy F. Andrews Lectureship in Neonatology was established by that university in October.

Charles Sidney Hinson Sr. ('55) received a Citizen of the Year Award in March.

Daniel W. Fouts (JD '58), practicing business litigation at Adams Kleemeier Hagan Hannah & Fouts PLLC in Greensboro, N.C., was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite.”

1960s

Ashley L. Hogwood Jr. ('61, JD '63), practicing real estate law at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, is on the “Best Lawyers in America” list.

Henry A. Mitchel Jr. (JD '61) is a senior partner of Smith Anderson Dorsett Mitchel & Jernigan LLP in Raleigh, N.C. He serves on the board of directors of the N.C. Citizens for Business and Industry, on the board and executive committee of Georgia Lawyers Insurance Co., and is chairman of the board and serves on the executive committee of Lawyers’ Mutual Liability Insurance Co. of North Carolina. He was one of Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite” and is listed in the “Best Lawyers in America.”

James R. Melvin ('64, JD '66) and his wife, Becky, own and operate a summer resort motel and promote M eFest, a two-day acoustic bluegrass festival, at White Lake, N.C.

Lineta Craven Pritchard ('65) received “The Big O” Award at the Ben & Jerry Ice Cream Retail Operations annual meeting in San Antonio, TX, for outstanding owner/operator. She has shops in Myrtle Beach, Sevierville and Gatlinburg.

Frank J. Reid III ('66) is chair of the All Children’s Hospital Foundation and vice chair of The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay in Florida.

John Carriker ('67, JD '70) is district attorney of the N.C. 5th Judicial District (New Hanover and Pender counties).

Pat Carriker ('68) is a retired teacher, chair of the New Hanover County Partnership for Children, and president of the St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church congregation in Wilmington, N.C.

Frankie M. McClain ('68) and his wife, Marlene, each received South Carolina’s highest recognition for service, the Order of the Palmetto, presented to them by their children at their 25th wedding anniversary celebration.

Stancil Campbell ('69, M.A. '74) is a professor of theatre at American University in Cairo, Egypt. He has begun teaching sculpture and his plaster piece, “Emerging from the Past,” is on exhibit in Cairo. He is also technical director (for 23 summer seasons) and occasional designer for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. He designed a “West African Macbeth” which featured Kyle Haden ('99) in the title role.

M. Jay Devaney ('69, JD '71), practicing real estate law at Adams Kleemeier Hagan Hannah & Fouts PLLC in Greensboro, N.C., was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite.”

1970s

Max E. Justice ('70, JD '78) practicing environmental law at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, is on the list of “Best Lawyers in America.”

Jerry Cash Martin ('70, JD '72) retired as Resident Superior Court Judge but continues to serve as an Emergency Superior Court Judge in North Carolina. He has written and published two novels, Accused and Convicted, and bicycled across the U.S. He and his wife, Carolyn, have been blessed with their first grandchild, Kaylan Noel Martin.

Alan P. White ('70, M.D. '74) is assistant professor of surgery at The Albert Einstein College of Medicine’s Montefiore Medical Center, director of the Montefiore Institute for M inimally Invasive Surgery, and chief of surgery for the Jack D. Weiler Hospital in New York City.

W. Edward Poe Jr. ('71, JD '74), practicing public utility law at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, is on the “Best Lawyers in America” list.

Catharine Biggs Arrowood ('73, JD '76), practicing business litigation at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Raleigh, N.C., is on the “Best Lawyers in America” list.

Jane Sherrill Fisher ('74) has retired after 25 years as a clinical microbiologist in Reidsville, N.C. Her son, Matthew ('17), is a fine golfer.

Harvey L. Cosper Jr. (JD '75), practicing personal injury litigation at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte, is on the list of “Best Lawyers in America.”

Jimmy L. Myers ('75) is a District Court Judge and commander in the Chaplain Corps of the U.S. Naval Reserve now on active duty at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He is serving under classmate O lliis J. M ozon Jr. ('75). Also serving as chaplain at Camp Lejeune is Laurence W. Jones ('74).

Robert A. Risen ('75) is assistant special agent in charge of the Northwestern District of the State Bureau of Investigation in Hickory, N.C.

Barbara Armes Yutzenkena ('75) is a professor of psychology and director of clinical training at The University of South Dakota, where she was awarded the Department of Psychology’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

Doug Benfield ('76) was named to the Yellow Transportation President’s Club, and he and his wife, Connie, will be enjoying a trip to Grand Cayman Island.

Terrel Armstead Crow ('76) is director of publications for the N.C. State University Libraries and co-editor of Live Your Own Life: The Family Papers of Mary Bayard Clarke, 1854-1886.

Sarah Catherine Shoaf ('76, PA '77) passed the board exam to be a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. She practices in the Wake Forest School of Medicine Department of Dentistry, and she works with the N.C. Center for Cleft and Craniofacial Deformities, the Sleep Center and the Medical Examiner’s Office.

David E. Ratcliffe ('77) is senior vice president and director of the Merrill Lynch Center for Philanthropy and N onprofit Management in New Jersey and lives in New York City.
Langley ('86, JD '92)

Ginger Haynes Stillman ('77) retired from AT&T after 25 years, was admitted to the N.J. State Bar and is now practicing law in Ironia, N.J. Her son William (20) is at Fairleigh Dickinson University, her daughter Jennifer (19) is at UNC-Greensboro, and her son Alexander (14) plays drums for the Stolen Road.

Leon E. Porter Jr. (JD '78) is associate legal counsel in the law department of WestPoint Stevens in West Point, GA.

Brian McCulloch ('79) is the New England sales officer for Nationwide Insurance. He and his wife, Kathy, and children, Lauren (14) and Kevin (8), have relocated to Simsbury, CT.

Christine L. M. Yatt ('79, JD '82), practicing bankruptcy law at Adams Kleemeier Hagan Hannah & Fouts PLLC in Greensboro, NC, was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite.”

Judi Rowland Seggel ('79) is a supplemental critical care nurse at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD. She and her husband, Mark Seggel ('79), who is a chemist with the FDA, and their children, William, Sarah and Robert, live in Olney, MD.

Friedel ('87)

1981

James C. Arrington (M BA) is a captain in the U.S. Navy and director of anti-terrorism/force protection for Navy facilities inside the United States.

Steve Berlin (JD '84), with Kilpatrick Stockton LLP in Winston-Salem, is president-elect of the Forsyth County Bar Association. He was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite” and was recognized as one of the “Best Lawyers in America.”

James K. Dill (M BA ’85) is a charitable advisor in the Wealth Management Group at Wachovia Bank and advisory committee chair on the board of directors of Commonwealth Catholic Charities in Roanoke, VA, where he lives with his wife, Wendy, and their two children.

John R. Nelson III (M D ’85) practices internal medicine in Bellevue, WA, and was recently featured on the cover of Medical Economics (www.memag.com).

David A. Senter (JD ’84), practicing construction law at Adams Kleemeier Hagan Hannah & Fouts PLLC in Greensboro, NC, was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite.”

1982

Cynthia Collins Alner (JD), a principal with Miles & Stockbridge PC in Baltimore, MD, was appointed director of the Baltimore Office of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for a three-year term.

William V. M. Crenshaw III (JD) is with Chamberlain Hrdlicka White Williams & Martin in Atlanta.

Bess Kimberly Ramen is a district sales manager for Pfizer Inc. in Raleigh, N.C. She and her husband, Jeff, have two daughters, Davis Leigh (9) and Kimberly Glenn (6).

1983

Mary Huizenga Doten, with partner Susie Keane, won all six matches for the 2003 National Platform Tennis Women’s Championship in Philadelphia, reports her proud husband, Gary R. Doten ('83).

1984

Claudia Reynolds Harris and her husband, Noel, relocated in 2002 from Northern Italy to Fredericksburg, VA, in time for the birth of their daughter, M. orelia Ferrelli. She still organizes culinary tours in Italy and can be reached at forketa@earthlink.net.

Jeff W. Harris is vice president of investments and business development for Grubb Properties in Charlotte.

Rene Colclough Hinon (M A '87) is working part-time as executive director for the Association for Couples in Marriage Enrichment and is a “carpool mom” for her two children, Olivia (7) and Chase (5), in Winston-Salem, where she and her husband, Charles Hinon ('80), live.

1985

Peter M. Jennings (JD) is general counsel for Dow Chemical’s Asia/Pacific region in Hong Kong.

Janis Fonda Kerns married M. Ike Kerns in 2001 and is an attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Potomac, M D.

Betsy Atkins Miller is a midwife and instructor at the West Virginia University School of Medicine’s OB/GYN department. She was midwife for Jennifer Stauffer ('93) and Jennifer Goldcamp ('93), but did not know they were alums until she saw their birth announcements in class notes! She and her husband, Paul, and son, Griffin Paul, live in Morgantown, WV.

1986

Richard Bristow is an adjunct professor in the theatre department at Shorter College in Rome, GA. He designed the scenery for the “Jekyll and Hyde” musical, which received a special achievement award from the Kennedy Center’s American College Theatre Festival.

M ichael Clandinin is executive director of the Electrical Safety Foundation International. He and his wife, Denise, son Connor (5), and twin daughters Emily Jeanne and M egan M arianne (1) live in Fairfax, VA.

D. Beth Langley (JD ’92), practicing employment law at Adams Kleemeier Hagan Hannah & Fouts PLLC in Greensboro, N.C., was named to Business North Carolina’s “Legal Elite.”

John D. Phillips teaches history and government at The Kinkaid School. He and his wife, Courtney, and daughter Sarah Louise live in Houston, TX.

1987

Micha A. D emayo is chair of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s major fundraiser in Charlotte, the annual Tennis Ball and Tournament. His law offices are sponsoring a program to help curb underage drinking.

Artha Greene Eads (M A ’93) is associate professor in the language and literature department at Eastern M ennoine University. She and her husband, Christopher, are relocating to Harrisburg, VA, in July.

Erika Queen Friedel is project director for the Forsyth County Capacity Building Consortium, a resource of the N.C. Center for Nonprofits. She can be reached at efriedel@ncnonprofits.org.

1988

Harding Erwin (JD), a partner at Karotkin Chase & Erwin LLP in Houston, TX, and vice president of the Davidson College Alumni Association, was featured as a “local hero” in the Houston Bar Journal for his work as a volunteer with the Houston Bar Association’s Lawyers in Public Schools Committee.

Tim Gangloff is with the Tennessee Valley Authority, Office of the Inspector General, in Knoxville.

Philip Koch (M BA) is president of Gresham USA Inc., a European firm in the apparel, retail, footwear and home furnishing industry, in Greensboro, N.C.

David M. M assey is senior vice president of The Polk & Sullivan Group in Nashvillle. He married Lauren Davis last year, and they are expecting their first child in June.

Jim Storbeck is vice president of Heartstrings Enterprises, a wholesale jewelry company he helped form with 2,000 retailers nationwide, in Auburn, AL.
Head of the class

Mark Christie ('75) raised Virginia’s educational standards, then helped the system meet them.

By Bruce Buchanan ('93)

As president of the Virginia Board of Education, Mark Christie ('75) has overseen some of the biggest changes in the history of the state’s schools—as well as some of the greatest academic gains in state history. He’s also garnered national attention as a leader in educational reform.

Come June, though, Christie plans to leave the state board and return to teaching and practicing law. While he is quick to deflect any personal credit for Virginia’s scholastic success, he can’t help but be proud at what the schools have accomplished.

Five years ago, only 2 percent of the commonwealth’s schools met new state academic goals, which are largely measured by standardized tests. This year, two-thirds met that benchmark and Virginia students have made significant gains on the National Assessment of Education Progress, a battery of standardized tests given to students across the country.

Much of Christie’s work on the board—and even before—has been devoted to the Standards of Learning, Virginia’s high-stakes student testing program. “It’s dominated my life since the early 1990s,” he said. The Standards of Learning evaluate schools by testing students in core academic subjects, including reading, math, science, and history. The idea behind the standards is that by raising expectations and holding schools accountable for results, performance will improve, as students work harder and teachers focus on academics.

“School accreditation previously had not been based on student achievement,” Christie said. “It was based on the number of books in the library, if you have enough fire drills, that sort of thing.”

The tougher standards initially generated a wave of criticism from some teachers and parents. But the program also improved academic performance and now, even critics begrudgingly admit that Virginia’s schools are doing better now than before the Standards of Learning were implemented.

“Mark has held steadfast to his belief that we need accountability for our children,” said Sue Glasco, former president of the Virginia PTA. “Parents have come around to realize this is in the best interests of our children.”

Jo Lynne DeMary, Virginia’s state schools superintendent, said Christie deserves a lot of credit for helping make the Standards of Learning a nationally recognized success. “A lot of it has to do with his passion that this is the right thing to do for the students of the commonwealth,” she said.

Christie has plenty of opportunities to bring about change on the state board. Virginia’s Constitution gives the state Board of Education more power than many state boards. In fact, it is the only board prescribed by a state constitution. During Christie’s
worked on Capitol Hill, then eventually went to Richmond and established a private law practice. While in Richmond, he got his first taste of education policy-making, serving on two volunteer committees that studied the Richmond public schools.

George Allen, whom Christie knew from his days working with the Virginia legislature, was elected Virginia's governor in 1993. Allen named Christie his deputy, and later chief policy and legal adviser, and put him to work on the Standards of Learning project, which was still in the formative stages. Allen appointed Christie to the state Board of Education in 1997.

Richard Cullen, a former Virginia Attorney General, worked closely with Christie on Allen's staff and has known him for two decades through the Republican Party. He said Christie is the rare leader who possesses both a thorough understanding of policy and the political savvy to bring those policies into law. Cullen said, "Mark is a scholarly conservative who has bedrock principles, but he'll listen to other points of view."

In addition to leading the Board of Education, Christie also serves as legal counsel to the Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates and teaches law at Virginia Commonwealth University. Although the Board of Education has been his top priority in recent years, he said that when his term expires in June, he will welcome the break. "I think it's time for someone else to carry the load," Christie said. "It's been ten years of hard work."

He said he plans to focus more on teaching once he leaves the board. He currently teaches constitutional law to VCU undergraduates and law and public policy to doctoral students. He figures to stay tuned in to the schools through his wife, Anita, a high school teacher. And while friends over the years have encouraged him to run for elected office, Christie said he sees himself in the classroom, not on the campaign trail. "Right now, I'd rather teach for a while," he said. "I enjoy the policy side of government, but I'm not interested in the campaigning."

Bruce Buchanan ('93) is an education reporter for the Greensboro News & Record.

 tenure, the school board took a more active role in the school funding debate. State law gives the board input into how schools are funded, but DeMary said the board did not review that funding formula for a decade. However, Christie insisted that the board needed to resume its place at the table and board members now review the entire funding formula.

Virginia's board also oversees the state's curriculum, school accreditation, testing, and teacher licensing. "It's a full-time job," Christie said. "But it's a full-time job without compensation." Still, he said he appreciates having the opportunity to help students, largely because he knows first-hand how valuable a quality education can be.

Christie grew up in the coal country of rural West Virginia, a place so poor that President John F. Kennedy came there to announce the formation of the federal Food Stamp program. Christie excelled in the public schools and when he graduated from high school, he was accepted to three of the nation's best universities: Duke, Vanderbilt, and, of course, Wake Forest. At the time, he picked Wake Forest because he earned a Carswell scholarship and felt he couldn't turn it down.

"If I had it to do again, I'd go to Wake Forest, Carswell or no Carswell," he said. "I loved every minute of it. The four years I had there were essential to what I've done."

Christie was a double-major in English and history and said he has fond memories of professors like Lee Potter, Elizabeth Phillips, David Smiley, James Barefield, "and, of course, the legendary Provost Ed Wilson."

Now, Christie works with the Wake Forest admissions office to recruit top-notch high school students in the Richmond area. He said that in most cases, these students also are looking at the University of Virginia and William and Mary, both public schools with lower tuition. He said it is vital for Wake Forest to continue to have a need-blind admissions policy and a strong financial aid program so that the University can draw the best students, regardless of their ability to pay.

After graduating from Wake Forest, Christie served three years in the United States Marine Corps and graduated from Georgetown University Law School. Early in his career, he
Wake Forest Alumni Association

President's Column

Wake Foresters have had a busy spring, with numerous opportunities to spend time with alumni and friends all over the country through regional activities. Throughout April and May, “Wake Forest Days” were held in nearly twenty cities. These regional events, co-sponsored by the Office of Alumni Activities and the Deacon Club, are designed to bring Wake Foresters together to visit with each other, meet new students, enjoy sporting events, and hear from University administrators and coaches.

On behalf of the Alumni Association, I’d like to thank everyone who participated in the Wake Forest Days. It is wonderful to be able to spend time with so many Wake Foresters and to see our tremendous school spirit!

I also want to welcome incoming students to Wake Forest. There were a record number of alumni children who applied for admission to the Class of 2007; 286 alumni children applied and 179 were accepted.

Looking to the fall, it’s time to start making plans to travel back to Winston-Salem for Homecoming, to be held October 10-11. This year we will honor Chaplain Ed Christian (’50, JD ’53) who retires in July. We’ll also have the traditional Festival on the Quad on Saturday morning for alumni and their children, as well as the Alumni Tailgate and Post-Game Reception in Bridger Field House. Mark your calendars now and come back to campus for a wonderful weekend!

In July, the Alumni Council will hold a joint meeting with the Calloway Board of Visitors, the University Gift Club Leadership Council, and the Young Alumni Development Board. This will be my final meeting as your Alumni Association President. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the alumni of Wake Forest for the past year. Our alumni continue to be very involved in Wake Forest; the enthusiasm you show your alma mater, as well as the considerable gifts of your time and talents in support of Wake Forest, give us all a lot to be proud of.

In July, I will turn over the presidency of the Alumni Association to Alfred Adams (’68, JD ’73). Alfred has been an active member of the Wake Forest family; he is currently co-chair for his Class of 68 reunion. I am pleased to pass the gavel to Alfred and know the Alumni Association will continue to flourish under his leadership.

Eric Eubank (’86)
President, Wake Forest Alumni Association
Eric.Eubank@alumni.wfu.edu

Robert J. Stovash (JD) founded Stovash Case & Tingley PA and serves on the board of governors for the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce and the leadership council of myregion.org in Orlando.

Jennifer Yount is pursuing a PhD in school psychology at the University of South Carolina.

1989

Brian L. Johnson (M Ed ’91), after teaching seventh-grade social studies for 12 years, is the co-founder of an education training business, “Education 4 Educators.”

1990

David “Cakes” Gainey completed his M BA at the University of Richmond and is a group manager and analyst with Capital One Financial Inc. He and his wife, Teresa, live in Richmond, VA.

1991

Stephanie Townsend Farabow (JD) is assistant vice president-legal at Jefferson Pilot Financial in Greensboro, N.C.

Stacy Butler Hinson, her husband, Bruce, and two daughters, Brittnay (6) and Ashley (3), have moved to Hershey, PA, where Stacy is beginning medical school at Penn State College.

W. Curt LaFrance Jr., a postdoctoral research fellow at Brown medical school and Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, was awarded the American Neuropsychiatric Association’s Career Development Award.

Linda Donelan Langiotti is director of marketing for M P Total Care Inc., a national provider of respiratory medications and diabetic supplies. She and her husband, Kevin, and two sons live in northwest Tampa, FL, where football (Go Bucs!) is now the city’s obsession.

Will Olinger, an advisor for Koss-Olinger Group, is a Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA) from the Investment Management Consultants Association and the Wharton School of Business. He and his wife, Leigh Ann Young Olinger (’93), and daughters, Brittnay (7) and Katie Grace (4), live in Gainesville, FL.

John M. E. Saad received the National President’s Award from his employer, Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co.

1992

Farhad Aghdami (JD ’92), a partner at Williams Mullen in Richmond, VA, has been named a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

Jeff Chapurin is in the employee relations department of Stoll Keenon & Park LLP in Lexington, KY, representing management in labor and employment issues.

Lois M. Cracken Gardner had a December grand opening of her women’s-only fitness center, Fitness For Her, in Winston-Salem.

Bryan L. Grigsby is dean of the graduate and professional programs of Centenary College in Hackettstown, NJ, and was recently interviewed by “Style” of The Washington Post for an article about the cultural and social interpretation of epidemic diseases.


Julia Deeter Saddington (PA ’99) is a physician assistant with Virginia Orthopedics in Williamsburg, VA. She and her husband, Brett, enjoy playing with their dogs and cats. On a Las Vegas vacation they met up with Anna P. Cooke (’92) and her husband, Brett.

Jim West is associate pastor of congregational life at First Presbyterian Church in Hilton Head, SC, where he and his wife, Christy Thomas West (’94), and son Levi (3) have relocated.

Jeff Wiggins (JD), with Wiggins Rumley LLP in Corpus Christi, TX, was fourth in the 2002 top-10 jury verdicts ($225 million verdict against Ford Motor Co. for a truck that collapsed in a rollover) in Lawyer’s Weekly USA.

1993

Jeff Dernavich is director of integration services at Proficient Systems in Atlanta.

Samuel P. Funk, practicing business dispute resolution, has been named a member of Sherrard & Roe PLC in Nashville, TN.
Elizabeth Harris Galaida and Gregory S. Galaida ('92) have been married for two years. She received her master’s of fine arts in creative writing from Antioch University of Los Angeles and is the development specialist for The N E A Foundation in Washington, D.C. Gregory is employee relations and recruitment manager for the Council on Foundations. They are restoring a 125-year-old house in Union Bridge, M.D.

Kimberley C. “Kacey” Hickey is director of major gifts in the advancement office and head coach of the varsity swim team at Hutschin School in Mephis, TN.

Brenda B. Klein is assistant vice president and meeting director of the N.C. Bankers Association in Raleigh.

Kevin Lloyd graduated from Episcopal Seminary, spent a year in London as a research assistant for the Archbishop of Canterbury, and is assistant director at The Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Hickory, N.C.

Albert W. Marr (M.D) is with Wilmington (N.C.) Orthopaedic Group PA. He was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Barry E. Williamson (M.D) is with Lumberton Surgical Associates in Lumberton, N.C. His wife, Theresa Harrold Williamson ('91, PA '93), is a physician with Southeastern Regional Mental Health. They have two daughters, Cameron and Casey.

Karen Gilliam Raiford completed her OB/GYN residency at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond last year. She and her husband, Neil Raiford ('92), and son Benjamin (3) have moved back to her hometown of Whiteville, N.C., where she is in private practice with Baldwin Woods Gynecology.

David W. Winslow is director of financial planning for Cherry Bekaert & Holland Business Services LLC in Charlotte.

Brandon G. Bordeaux (J.D) is a partner with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in the real estate and commercial development group in Raleigh, N.C.

Daniel C. Bruton is a director of Bell Davis & Pitt PA in Winston-Salem, where he practices bankruptcy and commercial law.

R. Neal Cook (J.D) is a partner with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in the banking and finance group in Charlotte.

James A.L. Daniel Jr. (J.D/MBA) is a partner with Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in the banking and finance group in Charlotte.

Scott D. Dickinson (J.D) is with Midway Advisory Group LLC, a boutique advisory firm focused on small and middle market companies, in Atlanta.

John S. Hughes IV (J.D) is with Bashyam & Spiro LLP in Raleigh, N.C., practicing immigration and employment law and litigation.

Dean H. Humphrey (J.D) has his own law firm in Wilmington, N.C., where he lives with his wife, Jennifer, and son Braden.

Michele Johnson Hutchens is enrolled in the physician assistant program at East Carolina University.

Vida Jennings earned certification as a Professional in Human Resources in Columbia, SC.

Camille L. Klutz-Leach is assistant legal counsel for N.C. A&T State University in Greensboro.

Shannon G. M arty (J.D) is with Bashyam & Spiro LLP in Raleigh, N.C., practicing federal labor and employment law.

David M. Mc Connell II is director of financial development for the University City YMCA in Charlotte.

Thomas R. Peske II (J.D) is a principal with Vernon Vernon Wooten Brown Andrews & Garrett PA. He and his wife, Joi, and daughter Ashley live in Burlington, N.C.

Katherine Salisbury Pretzer and her husband, Steve, are expecting their first child in July and still enjoy living and working in Raleigh, N.C.

Robert W. Smith Jr. is an assistant attorney general in the law department for the State of Georgia. He plans to be married in September.

M ichael Vaughn is director of operations and data management for Lark Technologies in High Point, N.C. His wife, Stacia Pleva Vaughn ('95), is spending time at home with their son.

M arvin K. Blount III (J.D) of The Blount Law Firm PLLC in Greenville, N.C., has been appointed to the N.C. Board of Transportation.

Leon H. Corbett III is senior public relations representative for Visit Florida and is enrolled in the Florida State University part-time MBA program. He and his wife, Laura Lee, celebrated their first anniversary.

Kyle Forst is a sales account executive with Regent Communications, a radio broadcast group, in Albany, N.Y. He can be reached at kyleforst@hotmail.com.

Christina Eva Lang (J.D) is with Bashyam & Spiro LLP in Washington, DC, practicing immigration law.

If you have news you would like to share, please send it to Class Notes editor, Wake Forest Magazine, Box 7205, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27109-7205. Class Notes can be e-mailed to classnotes@wfu.edu or entered in an online form at www.wfu.edu/alumni/Class-notes-form.html. It is important that you include your class year(s) and degree(s) with each note. We are sorry, but we cannot publish third-party news unless the person submitting it provides a telephone number for verification and accepts responsibility for the accuracy of the information. The deadline for Class Notes is the 15th day of the month two months prior to the issue date. For example, the deadline for the September issue is July 15.
Presby Ann Wilson Laughridge married Stephen Laughridge in 1999, taught six years at Bethel Elementary in Clover, SC, and is now staying home with their son, Thomas (2 1/2), in Mt. Pleasant, SC. She can be reached at stephenand-pa@aol.com.

Jeffrey J. McIntosh was a Peace Corps volunteer for three years and now works with international relief and development efforts in Washington, DC. In July he will work for Catholic Relief Services as a fellow in Rabat, Morocco.

Quentin T. McPhatter is town administrator with the Town of Green Level, NC, in Alamance County and can be reached at qmcphatter@mindspring.com.

Alan Z. Thornburg (JD), with Patia Straus Robinson & Moore PA in Asheville, N.C., has been appointed to the N.C. Board of Transportation.

1997

Nathan Patrick Dean (MD ’01) and his wife, Jennifer Beck Dean ('97, MD ’01), are in their second year of pediatric residency at Washington University in St. Louis, MO.

Justin Guariglia, a photographer based in Singapore, is a contributing editor to National Geographic Traveler magazine.

Nate Tilman is a dental officer and one of the air traffic controllers onboard the USS Ashland, operating in the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Laura Ward received her M BA from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University and is associate brand manager with Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati.

1998

Margaret Taylor Blair received her master’s in social work from the University of South Carolina in Columbia in 2001 and married Jason Blair in 2002 in Aiken, N.C. They live in St. Paul, M N., where she is a bereavement counselor with Hospice of the Lakes in M Inneaplis.

Anne M. Burkett is special events manager for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in Greensboro, N.C. She organizes M S walks and works with the Team M S program. She plans to pursue a master’s in public administration this fall.

Douglas Crets is moving to Hong Kong in August to work on media relations, development of a Web and print-based education magazine, and to teach at Hong Kong Academy-Primary. He wants to climb Kilimanjaro or part of Everest as a benefit for developmental education. If anyone wants to join him he can be reached at douglascrets@hotmail.com.

Sikirat Kazeem received an M A in sport management from The Ohio State University in 2001 and is an intramural coordinator for the Department of Recreational Sports at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX.

Mack George Makovec (MAEd ’99) completed an education specialist degree from The George Washington University, is a certified principal K-12, is working on his doctoral degree, and is dean of students for Norfolk Public Schools. He and his wife, Allison, and son, Mason Garrett (10 mos.), live in Virginia Beach, VA. They would love to hear from friends at MMakovec@nps.k12.va.us.

Telly Ali Meadows graduated from Emory University School of Medicine in 2002 and is in the internal medicine residency program at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, pursuing a career in cardiology.

Daniel Stern had a screenplay selected as a top-10 finalist for Project Greenlight, a Matt Damon and Ben Affleck contest to discover new talent. The experience was filmed by HBO and will air this month.

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Elizabeth Ritter Trach is teaching English and creative writing at Methuen High School in Methuen, MA.

1999

“Poppy” Durant graduated from law school in May, moved to Miami and plans to be married in August.

Andrea E. Jennings is director of marketing at Alterra Sterling House of Hickory, an assisted-living community in Hickory, NC.

Andrea L. Lindsay (MA ’01) works in the School of Public Health at UNC-Chapel Hill and plans to pursue a master’s in social work this fall.

Derrill McAteer is with H III Ward & Henderson PA in Tampa, FL, practicing real estate, eminent domain and complex commercial litigation.

Holly M. Icenhower graduated from the University of Georgia School of Law, passed the bar exam, and is practicing defense litigation with Hall Booth Smith & Slover in Atlanta.

Daisy Parsons is pursuing a doctoral degree at Elon University School of Physical Therapy. She and her dog, Mallory, live in Burlington, NC, and she can be reached at daisyparsons@smn.com.

Michael Dale Warren graduated from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and will begin a pediatrics residency this summer at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

2000

Megan Eaton Cann graduated from the Neil Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University.

Lauren Eun-Jung Choi (MD) is an endocrine fellow and her husband, Philip, a nephrology fellow at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA.

Christian Conti is director of member services for the Corporate Executive Board, a strategic consulting firm in Washington, D.C.

Robert D. Keller (PhD) is assistant professor of biology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.


Anne Marston Lynch (JD) is an associate with Pretlow & Pretlow PC in Suffolk, VA.

2001

Jarrod Atchison was selected Graduate Assistant of the Year by the regional coaches at the Southeast Cross Examination Debate Association Championships.

Natalie M. Cordone is pursuing a master’s of fine arts in acting at the University of Central Florida, where she has performed in professional theaters.

Marguerite Corvini is pursuing a master’s in social work at Boston College.

Dana L. Irwin, after spending a year in Japan and working, training and completing a marathon, is a graduate student at the Vanderbilt Divinity School in Nashville.

Ethan C. Lindsay is pursuing a master’s at Indiana University and has received a fellowship for language study in Japan for a year.

Ann Marie Mongelli received her “Wings of Gold” and was designated navigator in the U.S. Navy Reserve at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL.


2002

Angela M. Allen is an associate in the literary foreign rights division of a talent agency, International Creative Management, in New York, N.Y.

John C. Barden is a communication specialist with Pinkerton’s Alert Line in Charlotte.

Janet Bergman was named 2003 N.C. Amateur Female Athlete of the Year by the N.C. Sports Hall of Fame. She is the assistant women’s tennis coach at Wake Forest.

Lisa M. Glebatis is a graduate student at Penn State University in State College, PA.

Jason Tyler Grubbs (JD) is an associate with Collins Law Firm in Kernersville, N.C.

Alicia D. Lee is a legislative assistant for Texas Congressman John Culberson in Washington, D.C.

Lauren D. Parks is a first-year medical student at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

Stephanie Parks is a student at the University of South Florida College of Medicine in Tampa and plans to be married this month.

Mary McGown Truell married Steven Truell in 2001 and is a secretary in environmental health and safety at the Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem.

Fall Weekends 2003

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

September 6 Wake Forest vs. North Carolina State football game
President’s Weekend (for members of University Gift Clubs)

September 13 Wake Forest vs. Purdue football game

September 20 Wake Forest vs. East Carolina football game
School of Medicine Alumni Weekend

October 11 Wake Forest vs. Georgia Tech football game
Homecoming—College, Babcock School of Management, Calloway School of Business and Accountancy, Divinity School, Law School

November 1 Wake Forest vs. Clemson football game
Family Weekend

November 15 Wake Forest vs. Connecticut football game

November 29 Wake Forest vs. Maryland football game

Information about specific event weekends, such as Homecoming, will be available in the coming months. Please visit the alumni Web site at www.wfu.edu/alumni or call the Office of Alumni Activities at (336) 758-5264 for updates.

Class Notes
Man on a mission

David Zacks ('64, JD '67) travels worldwide to lead the fight against cancer.

When David Zacks ('64, JD '67) was a boy growing up in New Bern, North Carolina, his mother and father owned the Parisian dress shops. But three nights a week his mom volunteered at a local hospital. The seed of helping those in need was planted in his soul at a young age. When he came to Wake Forest, that seedling was nourished by the likes of Ed Wilson ('43), Bill Starling ('57), and his debate coach Franklin R. Shirley.

Today that seedling, nourished by personal experience, has reached maturity. Zacks, a highly regarded litigator and partner in the international firm of Kilpatrick Stockton in Atlanta, is halfway through his one-year term as chairman of the National Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society. Much of his time is spent traveling around the globe, promoting the group's mission and goals.

As a student, one of Zacks' friends was Brian Piccolo ('68). When Piccolo succumbed to cancer years later, Zacks made a donation in his memory to the ACS. “I followed what they did with those funds, and I was impressed with what I saw,” he said. After his dad died of lung cancer and his mother and sister became breast cancer survivors, his commitment to the organization strengthened. “Each work effort with the American Cancer Society gave me a greater determination to make something happen,” he said.

Zacks volunteered with the local ACS chapter in Augusta, Georgia, then became head of the Augusta division. After he moved to Atlanta he became chairman of the Georgia division, then was elected to the national board. He serves on the Council of the International Union Against Cancer based in Geneva, and as an instructor in the American Cancer Society University, he trains scholars from abroad on strengthening the capacity of developing cancer societies in smaller countries.

He is proud that several years ago the ACS established its 2015 goals and is well on its way to meeting them. “We don't just say we're busy fighting cancer,” said Zacks. “We have three goals: reducing overall cancer mortality rate by 50 percent (4.9 million fewer deaths); reducing the incidence of cancer by 25 percent (5.7 million fewer cases); and measurably improving the quality of life for all cancer survivors. Another goal is to take an aggressive role in palliative care and end-of-life issues.”

In a time when the public is somewhat skeptical of nonprofit organizations and their financial activity, Zacks realizes that accountability is top on the ACS agenda. He points out that the group has given much of its research funding to beginning investigators. ACS has funded thirty-two Nobel Prize winners. Funds are also allocated to cancer prevention (tobacco control, healthy diet education), detection and treatment, and patient support.

“We are the largest not-for-profit health care organization in the country, and it is our responsibility to ensure that we fulfill our mission and that at the end of the year our image is enhanced, not eroded, by our program of work and our conduct,” he said. “Our job impacts lives. That is important.”

-Cherin C. Poovey
M a r r i a g e s

Drina Cushman Hedgforth (’61) and Neil Archie Thompson III (JD ‘63). 1/21/03 in Lumberton, N.C.

Hallie Scott Arrington (’76, M Ed ’88) and John Alan Hearn. 12/14/03 in Winston-Salem. Hallie’s paternal great-great-grandfather was the Rev. Samuel Wait, the first president of Wake Forest. They live in Wake Forest, N.C., and can be reached at Hallie.Hearn@alumni.wfu.edu.

Gregory W. Williams (JD ’78) and Wanda Riverbank O’Neal. 2/14/03 in Lewis, D.C. They live in Rehoboth Beach, DE.

Olympia “Libby” Valoraas (’92) and Josh Kirschner. 1/18/03

Michele Bollinger (’94) and David Zirin. 10/26/02 in Baltimore, M.D.

Nicole Fumo (’94) and Christian A. Bolick. 3/22/03 in Lafayette Hill, PA.

Rebecca Lynn Roman (’95) and Christopher Dain Burton. 10/26/02 in Cincinnati. They live in Liberty Township, OH.

Dale Francis Anderson (’96) and Kendra Elicie Novick. 7/27/02 in Washington, D.C. They live in Arlington, VA. The wedding party included Michael DeFrank (’96), John Gatlin (’95) and Ryan McNally (’95).

Melissa Minton (’97) and John Carney Hawks. 7/6/02 in Boston, M.A. They live in New York, N.Y. The wedding party included Gia Dardani (’97), Helen Lafaye (’97), Kate Malone (’97) and Holly Scott Hugas (’97).

Stephanie Kay Briggs (JD ’98) and Keith Ryan Evans. 4/5/03 in Winston-Salem. They live in Charlotte.

Chantal Marie Chapman (’98) and Dr. John Terry Poole III. 3/8/03 in Dallas, TX. The wedding party included Jennifer Auerbach (’98), Michele France Eckman (’98), Ashley Poision Holt (’98), Emilie Lapeyre Krut (’98), Lauren Patti (’98) and William Williams (’97).


Cynthia Marie Cox (’99) and Christopher J. Walsh. 12/14/02 in Charlotte.

Elizabeth Christine Mack (’99) and Gregory Andrew Dehn. 10/26/02 in Minneapolis. They live in St. Paul. The wedding party included Laura Nickels Baxter (’99).

Suzanne Elizabeth DuBose (’00) and John Stephen Leonard (’00). 9/21/02. They live in Centre, VA. The wedding party included Keira Bard (’00), Jennifer Jean Blackford (’00), David Blair Leonard (’97), Nathan Chandler Parker (’01), Kathryn Anne Venit (’01) and Kristen Yocum (’01). Parents of the groom are Charles and Peggy Pennell Leonard (’69).

Alys Emory (’00, M SA ’01) and Trevor Brown. 12/28/02 in Sarasota, FL. They live in Atlanta. The wedding party included Amanda Bates (’99, M SA ’00), Christy Brendle Habeeb (’00), Tiffany Kassab (’00), Amine Tlebb (’00), AmineTlebb (’00), Shelly Slaughter (’00).

Molly Murphy (’00) and Chris Pedersen. 2/1/03 in Hawaii. They live in Lake Forest, IL.

B i r t h s

Peter Carl Shipman (’79) and Susan Clark Shipman (’92). Evans, GA: a son, Matthew Russell. 3/6/03. He joins his siblings, Emma (9) and Laura (7).

Charles A. Bolick (’82) and Suzee Bolick, Blountville, TN: a son, Christian Isaac. 3/1/03.

Harriet Jennings Shirley (’82) and Wesley Shirley, M ont Juliet, TN: twins, Finnigan Crawford and Riley Hardin. 1/15/03. They join their brother, Matthew (17), and sister, Katie (9).

Melissa Gainey Heiland (’83) and Ken Heiland, Debary, FL: a son, Nicholas James. 3/4/03. He joins his siblings, Michael (14), Joshua (13), Kayla (10), Jack (6) and Andy (6).

Ashley M. Arthur Rehr (’83) and David K. Rehr, Arlington, VA: a son, Henry J. Roster. 11/12/02. He joins his brother, Andrew (4), and twins, Harrison and Emily (2).

S ign up now to reserve one of the first Wake Forest license plates for Virginia or Georgia. Please call Mary Craven Hines (’03) in the Alumni Office at 336/758-5263, or contact her by e-mail at wflclubs@wfu.edu for more information. Or call the Virginia DMV at 804/367-0538 or sign up on-line at:https://wwws.wfu.edu/alumni/kiosk/license-va.html

Yes, Virginia and Georgia, too—there’s a Wake Forest license plate for you.

For the North Carolina plate, call the NC Department of Motor Vehicles at 919/733-7510.
Class Notes

Beth Bowles Jordan (’85) and Robert Jordan, Erdenheim, PA: a son, Jonathan Eric. 12/31/02

Robert Howard Paul (’85) and Cynthia Halton Paul (’87, PA ’89), Burlington, NC: a daughter, Jessica J. 10/17/02

Pauline Bearden Simonowich (’87) and Robert Simonowich, Greenville, SC: a son, Ethan Robert. 10/28/02. He joins his sister, Lindsay Larkins (3).

John H. Smith Jr. (’87) and Katherine F. Smith, Blythewood, SC: a daughter, Julia Anne. 11/21/02

Michael Joseph Valchar (’87) and Natalie Valchar, Wake Forest, NC: a son, Joseph Thomas. 2/21/03. He joins his sisters, Katie (6 1/2) and Grace (3).

Franklin H. Turner III (’88) and Cara Delphino Turner (’90), Columbus, SC: a son, Franklin H. “Cort” IV. 1/03/03. He joins his brother, Jackson (2 1/2).

Jennifer Miller Albany (’89) and Chris Albany, Radnor, PA: a son, Cole Williams. 5/12/02. He joins his brothers, Christopher (8), Matthew (6) and Kyle (4).

Eric Hines (’89) and Heidi Hines, Cincinnati, OH: a daughter, Ava Elizabeth. 7/28/02. She joins her brother, Christian (2).

Laura Edmiston Ryan (’89) and Paul J. Ryan, Moundsville, WV: a son, Nicholas Jacob. 1/8/03

Joseph A. Saffron (’89) and Lisa Saffron, Machesney Park, IL: a daughter, Julianne Maria. 1/23/03. She joins her sisters, Emily (7) and Carina (3).

Susannah Sharpe Cecil (’90) and Zach J. Cecil (’90), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Lillian Margaret. 1/25/03

Laura Daniel Davis (’90) and Mark A. Davis (’91), Alexandria, VA: a daughter, Stella Rosalind. 11/15/02

S. Bryan Durham (’90) and Carol Anne Durham, Winston-Salem, NC: a son, Noah Brooks. 7/1/02

David S. Hall (’90) and Lori Hall, Winston-Salem: a daughter, Avery Grey. 4/1/03

Laura Hudak M. Ckenna (’90) and Matt M. Ckenna, Roswell, GA: a daughter, Grace Catherine. 9/26/02. She joins her brother, Charlie.

Scott K. Monroe (’90) and Martha Steele, Richmond, VA: a daughter, Margaret “Maggie” Peery. 10/16/02. She joins her brother, Andy (4).

Susanne Brock Verrill (’90) and David Verrill, Matthews, NC: a son, Thomas Emerson. 1/24/03. He joins his brother, Christopher (5) and sister, Katie (2).

Kaye Hendrickson Bjur (’91) and Brian Bjur, Seattle, WA: a son, Taylor Ellis. 1/31/03. He joins his sister, Anna Maren (2 1/2). 

Dwayne D. Brown (’91, MA ’97) and Adria Brown, Baltimore, MD: a son, Drew Emerson. 11/23/02. He joins his sister, Avery (2).

Mary Virginia Moorer Gardner (’91) and Scott L. Gardner, Birmingham, AL: a daughter, Virginia “Reaves.” 8/15/02

Susan Fleetwood Hinkle (’91) and Jamison Hinkle, Raleigh, NC: a son, Robert Jamison. 1/22/03

Jenny Wunderlich Kolb (’91) and Thomas W. Kolb, Kingsville, MD: a daughter, Susannah Grace. 5/6/02. She joins her sister, Sam (6) and brother, Abby (3).

Evy Nabors Trask (’91) and Clark Trask, Asheville, NC: a daughter, Grace Evelyn. 12/4/02

Amy Peacock Trojanowski (’91) and Brian Trojanowski, Gilbertsville, PA: a son, Brian Tanner. 3/10/03.

Elizabeth Ann Feely Coric (’91) and Paul J. Ryman, Mount Jackson, VA: a daughter, Grace Evy Nabors Trask. 12/4/02

Michael Joseph Valchar (’87) and Natalie Valchar, Wake Forest, NC: a son, Joseph Thomas. 2/21/03. He joins his sisters, Katie (6 1/2) and Grace (3).

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Joseph A. Saffron (’89) and Lisa Saffron, Machesney Park, IL: a daughter, Julianne Maria. 1/23/03. She joins her sisters, Emily (7) and Carina (3).

Susannah Sharpe Cecil (’90) and Zach J. Cecil (’90), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Lillian Margaret. 1/25/03

Laura Daniel Davis (’90) and Mark A. Davis (’91), Alexandria, VA: a daughter, Stella Rosalind. 11/15/02

S. Bryan Durham (’90) and Carol Anne Durham, Winston-Salem, NC: a son, Noah Brooks. 7/1/02

David S. Hall (’90) and Lori Hall, Winston-Salem: a daughter, Avery Grey. 4/1/03

Laura Hudak M. Ckenna (’90) and Matt M. Ckenna, Roswell, GA: a daughter, Grace Catherine. 9/26/02. She joins her brother, Charlie.

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Evy Nabors Trask (’91) and Clark Trask, Asheville, NC: a daughter, Grace Evelyn. 12/4/02

Amy Peacock Trojanowski (’91) and Brian Trojanowski, Gilbertsville, PA: a son, Brian Tanner. 3/10/03.

Elizabeth Ann Feely Coric (’91) and Paul J. Ryman, Mount Jackson, VA: a daughter, Grace Evy Nabors Trask. 12/4/02

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Jennifer Miller Albany (’89) and Chris Albany, Radnor, PA: a son, Cole Williams. 5/12/02. He joins his brothers, Christopher (8), Matthew (6) and Kyle (4).
Africa Dalton Alston ('95, JD '98) and Ryan E. Alston ('95), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Jade Ryan. 9/27/02. She joins her sister, Chase Nicole (2 1/2).

Palinda Carrington Belcher ('95) and H. Christopher Belcher, Newport News, VA: a son, Michael Carrington. 8/12/02. He joins his brother, Christopher Austin.

Arthur Andersen Burroughs (MD '95) and Kim Burroughs, Aurora, CO: a son, Jackson Thomas. 1/8/03. He is the first grandchild of Ralph C. Burroughs Jr. ('64).

Michele Johnson Hutchens ('95) and Benjamin L. Hutchens, King, NC: a daughter, Emma Rose. 9/8/02.

Camille L. Kluttz-Leach ('95) and Christopher O. Leach, Greensboro, NC: a son, Caleb Alexander. 11/20/02.

Cameron Butler Marshall St. Clair ('95) and Scott St. Clair, Boone, NC: a son, Wesley “Blane.” 10/9/02.

Margaret Sullivan ('95) and Greg Mims, New York: a son, George Franklin. 11/15/02.

Michael W. Vaughn ('95) and Stacia Pleva Vaughn ('95), Greensboro, NC: a son, Jackson Crowe. 3/5/03.

Jamie Koterba Clark ('96) and James Clark, Medfield, MA: a son, James Michael IV. 2/15/03.

Kara Campisi Cran ('96) and Gregory R. Cran ('96), Chicago, IL: a son, Aidan Alexander. 2/15/03.

Elizabeth Hall Dekanich ('96) and Joel Dekanich, Vail, CO: a daughter, Katherine Ann. 12/19/02.

Caroline Stanley Burgess ('97) and Earle F. Burgess III ('97), Brentwood, TN: a daughter, Hannah Caroline. 3/17/03.

Jennifer Beck Dean ('97, M D '01) and Nathan P. Dean ('97, M D '01), St. Louis, MO: a daughter, Selah Grace. 1/30/03.

Kimberly Elledge McRacken ('97) and Donald McRacken, Clemmons, NC: a daughter, Jordan Lily. 2/11/03. She is the granddaughter of Carl Elledge ('69).

Jan Badgett Smith ('97) and Brian D. Smith ('97), Chapel Hill, NC: a daughter, Virginia Claire. 2/12/02.

Morgan Poteat Corbett ('98) and Brian Francis Corbett (JD '00), Annapolis, MD: a son, Charles Liner. 3/12/03.

Jeff Giles ('98) and Christina Giles, St. Louis, MO: a son, Will Douglas. 11/22/02.

Elizabeth Ritter Trach ('98) and Kirk Trach, Lawrence, MA: a daughter, Tiegan Olivia. 9/3/02.

Robert D. Keller (PhD '00) and Kathleen A. Gilbert, Cleveland, TN: a son, Edward David. 7/26/02.

Richard E. “Trey” Anglin III (MBA '01) and Meredith Anglin, Charlotte: a daughter, Emma McCabe. 10/6/02.

Deaths


R. Paul Caudill ('29), May 28, 2002. He was pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church of Memphis, TN.


As the Class of 2003 heads out into the world, they’d like to thank someone very important to their years at Wake Forest—you. Thank you for supporting the Annual Funds in 2002-03.

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For more information, please contact David P. Barksdale ('86), Director of the College Fund
www.wfu.edu/ alumni/ giving/ annualgift.html 336.758.5824  barksdp@wfu.edu
Hubert B. Humphrey Jr. (’48)

Hubert B. Humphrey Jr. (’48), former chairman of Wake Forest’s Board of Trustees, died on March 18. He was 74.

An attorney in Greensboro, North Carolina, Humphrey served three terms on the board between 1989 and 2001 and was chairman from 1999 to 2001. He was named a life trustee last year. He also served as chairman of the Board of Visitors from 1985 to 1986.

“He wanted great things for his alma mater, and he helped us achieve them,” said President Thomas K. Hearn, Jr. “He had special interest in our study-abroad programs and established a scholarship for students studying in London and Venice.”

Humphrey was a senior partner at Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, Greensboro’s second-largest firm. In addition to his service at Wake Forest, he was a former trustee at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

Following his graduation from Wake Forest, Humphrey graduated from law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and served as an officer in the Army Judge Advocate General Corps during the Korean War.

He is survived by his wife, Jackie, and two children.
Class Notes


Ellen King Flowers ('52), March 26, 2003.

Kenneth “Ernie” Hutton ('52), Nov. 8, 2002.

Nancy Conrad Kester (MS '52, MD '55), Jan. 26, 2003. She was a retired associate professor of rehabilitation medicine at New York University Medical Center. She received Wake Forest's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1975 and was a longtime member of the Board of Visitors.


Theodore Pully McTyre ('53), Dec. 19, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Oberia Fox McTyre ('55).


Gerald F. Hutchison ('54), Nov. 25, 2002.


Doris Pearce Smith ('55), Jan. 30, 2003. She was the wife of former University trustee Roy Smith ('53), retired executive director/treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. In addition to her husband, she is also survived by a daughter, Ginger Smith Graves ('78) and two sons, Roy Jr. ('80) and Tracy. Memorials may be made to the Roy J. and Doris P. Smith Poteat Scholarship Fund at Wake Forest.


Christopher Lynn Byerly ('68, JD '79), Feb. 13, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Victoria Wallace Byerly ('73), and two sons.


Class Notes

The Wake Forest watch is available in four styles (from left): ladies and men’s watches with leather strap, $229.95; and ladies and men’s bracelet-style watches, $249.95; plus $12.95 shipping for each watch.

To order, please call the Alumni Office at (336) 758-5263

The Wake Forest solid brass lamp features a richly detailed three-dimensional re-creation of the University seal finished in pure 24kt. gold on the base of the lamp and a solid black shade with gold trim.

$175 plus $8.50 shipping and handling (plus sales tax for residents of IL, M N, TN, and TX)

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Give the gift of memories. This superb photographic tribute to Wake Forest is beautifully showcased in a 112-page large-format book that is sure to become a treasured keepsake for all Wake Foresters.

Special Price!

$20 each, plus free shipping

Regular price: $39.95, plus $4.25 shipping
(Kentucky residents must add 6% sales tax)

To order, please call 1-336-758-5263
Walter Beeker ('81) is well-known in campus circles as an avocational intellectual.

By David Fyten

Credentials may not be required for attendance at most academic meetings, but plenty will be on hand just the same. Walk the corridors of a conference site and you'll soon rub elbows with tenured professors, well-published scholars, holders of endowed chairs, and bright young graduate and postdoctoral students.

Walk the hallway of a Southern history or literature conference and you might bump into Walter Beeker Jr. ('81). His credentials consist of a bachelor's degree in politics and a post as a paralegal. But his relatively modest résumé doesn't mean he isn't respected by or well connected with many of the high-profile academics in attendance. They recognize the depth of his knowledge and know him to possess one of the most active intellects around.

Beeker, forty-three, is something of an anachronism: an avocational intellectual. Without any formal program of advanced study or standing in higher education, he is an expert in Southern cultural studies with an extensive network of contacts in the world of letters. Possessed of a voracious and varied appetite for ideas, he spends much of his free time at lectures and symposia, in research libraries, and communicating with writers and scholars, many of whom are leading names in their fields of specialty. He is, in short, a quintessential product of a liberal arts education.

Living modestly in his hometown of Welcome, North Carolina, from where he commutes to his job at a large Winston-Salem law firm, Beeker saves his money and vacation time for books and journals, trips to one or two regional or national meetings each year, and mailing to friends articles he thinks would appeal to their particular interests. His abiding devotion to Wake Forest is reflected in his faithful attendance at even the most esoteric of academic programs and in the pride with which he points to alumni who are accomplished writers, archivists, scholars, and critics. He was the originating force behind one of the most prestigious academic symposia ever held at the University, "The Mind of the South," in 1991.

Beeker seems to function as something of a relay station in the intellectual grid. Uncommonly solicitous of others' interests, he regularly sends articles to friends or calls to tell them about something he read recently about writers he knows they like. They, in turn, keep him up to date on important events at universities around the country. Soon after learning of a forthcoming conference on George Orwell, he called a contact at Wake Forest to see if there are Orwell enthusiasts at the University who might want to attend.

Randal Hall ('94), associate director of merit-based scholarships at Wake Forest, first met Beeker when Hall was a graduate student in history researching the life of Wake Forest's great scholar-president of the early twentieth century, William Louis Poteat. Beeker had heard that someone was investigating the topic, and he asked his friend, longtime University archivist John Woodard ('61), to put them in touch. Hall soon learned that Beeker knew an "incredible" amount about history and the historical profession, as well as about Wake Forest, past and present. It took him a bit longer to discover Beeker's equally deep knowledge of aspects of literature, choral music, and religion.

"A wide-ranging passion for the academic community and for intellectual engagement is more important to Walter than to many full-time academics," says Hall, who helped organize a major symposium at Wake Forest in April on the dynamic and controversial Southern cultural figure of the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Thomas Dixon Jr. (see related story, page 3.) "[Beeker] is a great reminder that there is an audience beyond the academy for historical and critical writing if academics live up to their oft-stated goal of reaching out to the educated public."

"I've never met anyone quite like him," says Edwin G. Wilson ('43), venerable professor of English and former dean and provost who is on Beeker's regular mailing and calling list. "Walter has a way of getting to meet people that is truly extraordinary. I'm continually struck by how often I meet people who also know Walter, including people out of his primary areas of interest. I was surprised to learn, for example, that [the late] R.W.B. Lewis at Yale [Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer of Edith Warton] was a friend of Walter."

Professor of History Howell Smith, who knew Beeker as an undergraduate and has shared meetings and meals with him through the years, describes him as "an ecletic connoisseur" of Southern culture "who persistently watches over its role players and writers with a loving and vigilant eye... He is a continuous promoter of Southern cultural networking, of Wake Forest as a center of Southern learning, and of the value of a liberal arts education."

From boyhood, Beeker wanted to attend Wake Forest. His father, Walter Sr., was a 1950 graduate of the Old Campus, and the son loved looking through old Howlers. As an undergraduate,
Walter Jr. had little inclination toward scholarship at first. But gradually, under the tutelage of Smith in history, Jack Fleer in politics, and others, he was drawn to the life of the mind. Then, two events within half a dozen years after graduation changed Beeker’s life. The first, in 1985, was the fiftieth anniversary meeting in Baton Rouge of the influential journal The Southern Review. “That meeting,” he recalls, “galvanized my reading." The second, in 1987, was the annual conference of the Southern History Association. He emerged afire with intellectual passion.

Although Beeker reads eclectically, he has a special interest in two Wake Forest alumni: Gerald W. Johnson (’11) and W. J. Cash (’22). Above all else, their mentor, Poteat, advocated free inquiry by the open mind, and under his nurture Cash and Johnson transcended their childhood environments of racism and ignorance in the Carolinas to attain national stature as writers—Cash as an essayist for H. L. Mencken’s American Mercury and Johnson as an editorialist for the Baltimore Sun. From the twenties through early forties, they probed and prodded, with stylish and frequently vitriolic prose, the moribund consciousness of the South. Their disabusing of the prevalent myth of the Southern aristocratic cavalier and their description of Southerners as typically intolerant, violent, emotional, suspicious, excessively individualistic, and sentimentally attached to fictions and false values gave context to the South’s literary awakening in the middle part of the century through figures like William Faulkner, Eudora Welty, and Robert Penn Warren. Cash’s book, The Mind of the South, published a few months before his suicide in 1941, remains, with its searing critique of the Southern mentality, a watershed in Southern studies and a benchmark for Southern historians everywhere.

Energized by his affinity for Wake Forest and Cash, Beeker lobbied University officials indefatigably in the late eighties to sponsor a symposium on the life and work of a man he deemed one of the school’s most important alumni. The result was “The Minds of the South: W. J. Cash Revisited,” held in February 1991 near the fiftieth anniversary of the book’s publication. Featuring a veritable superstar lineup of historians, writers, critics, and journalists as presenters and attended by hundreds of scholars and teachers from across the country, it remains, according to Howell Smith, “a marker in Southern history meetings.” To honor Johnson at the centennial of his birth, Beeker assembled an extensive display on his life and work at the Davidson County (N C) History Museum in 1990.

Beeker is an incessant networker, and among the many contacts he made at the Cash symposium, and retains today, was Bruce Clayton, who had just published his definitive biography of Cash. While he was in Baltimore for the Southern Historical Association meeting last fall, he reacquainted himself with Vincent Fitzpatrick, curator of the Mencken Room at the famed Pratt Library. Needless to say, Beeker was thrilled to spend, at Fitzpatrick’s invitation, several hours in one of the nation’s richest repositories of research materials in areas of interest to him. On Saturdays Beeker is fond of driving to Chapel Hill to spend the day at the North Carolina Collection at UNC, which his friend, Robert Anthony Jr. (’75), curates. One day he ran into a graduate student from New Hampshire who was conducting research on a subject Beeker was interested in. Naturally, at Beeker’s suggestion, they had lunch to talk about it.

Shy and self-effacing, Beeker continuously redirects conversation away from himself and toward his pride in a lengthy litany of Wake Forest alumni who are accomplished scholars, writers, critics, and literary collectors. Among those he cites are Owen S. Connelly Jr. (’48) of the University of South Carolina, one of the country’s leading authorities on Napoleon and the French Revolution; Jan Hensley (’62), possessor of perhaps the largest private collection of North Carolina writers; Glenda Gilmore (’70), holder of the Peter V. and C. Vann Woodward Chair of History at Yale; Elizabeth Wakefield Teter (’80), who established the HUb City Writers Project in Spartanburg, South Carolina; Richard “Al” Shoaf (’70), a leading medievalist who is Alumni Professor of History at the University of Florida; Harold Moser (’61), director of the Papers of Andrew Jackson; Robert Sherrill (’49), a wry and witty cultural observer who wrote for Esquire when his classmate, the late Harold Hayes (’49), was its editor and who contributes today to The Urban Hiker in the Triangle; and Will D. Campbell (’48), maverick preacher, political activist, and author of Brother to a Dragonfly, named by TIME as one of the top ten religious books of the seventies and which described, as Robert Penn Warren put it, “what Southern life is like on the rough side.”

And himself? Is there room on the list for an avocational intellectual without formal portfolio or public notoriety but admired so widely by his colleagues in letters? “I like to read and share,” he says simply. “One of the best things about my interest in conferences is all the interesting people I’ve met.”
Oliver Stevens Surles (JD '72), Jan. 9, 2003.
Kenneth Robert Pickard Jr. ('74), March 6, 2003.
Edward G. Covington-East ('75), March 24, 2003. He is survived by his wife, Catherine A. Covington-East ('77) and two sons.
John C. Woods (MBA '87), Nov. 11, 2002.
Carol Torkington Lee ('91), March 4, 2003. She was killed in a car accident.
Faculty,
Staff,
Friends
Carolyn Elizabeth Thornton Allen, Feb. 9, 2003. She worked in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library for 28 years.
R. Archie Ellis Sr., Dec. 18, 2002. He was a former Wake Forest trustee who also served as president of the Baptist State Convention and vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was pastor of several churches in North and South Carolina.
Matthew Alan Haynie, Jan. 29, 2003. He was a physician assistant student scheduled to graduate in August from the Wake Forest School of Medicine.
Bertha Alridge Long, March 4, 2003. Memorials can be made to Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she volunteered for many years.
Betty Hunter Marsh, Oct. 5, 2002. She was the wife of the late Lex Marsh ('21), a former University trustee and benefactor. Following her husband's death in 1993, she established a scholarship fund in his name at Wake Forest for undergraduate and law students from North Carolina. She is survived by a son, Alex Marsh ('70), and daughter, Gretchen M. Johnston.

Peter R. Peacock, April 2, 2003. He was one of the first faculty members of the Babcock Graduate School of Management, where he taught microeconomics, marketing research and management information systems for 30 years and founded the Evening MBA Program. After retiring in 2000, he was a marketing consultant with Bridgetree Inc. in Charlotte. A native of Massachusetts, Peacock grew up in the Boston area and graduated from Northeastern University. He earned a master's in industrial management from Georgia Tech and taught there for several years before leaving to earn his MBA from the University of Chicago. He joined the Babcock faculty in 1971 and earned his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1975. He is survived by his wife and three sons, including Gerrit John Peacock ('95).
Nancy Merritt Priddy, April 8, 2003. She was the housing operations coordinator for Residence Life and Housing for the last 10 years and was affectionately known as the "housing lady." She previously worked in the University's alumni records office and the economics department. She is survived by her husband and four children. Memorial gifts may be made to the Cancer Patient Support Program at the Cancer Center of Wake Forest University.
Doran Thomas Tate, March 12, 2003. She worked at the Babcock Graduate School of Management for 10 years, most recently as assistant to the dean, until her retirement in 1999. She is survived by a son and daughter.

Alumni Travel
2003
Wake Forest University

Pack your bags for the most exciting line-up of travel destinations ever planned for the Wake Forest Alumni Travel Program. All dates are tentative, but here's what we have planned so far.

Exploring Spain and Portugal: Featuring Paradores and Pousadas
September 22–October 6
Approximately $3,495 per person from New York. Airfare, hotel and 26 meals included.

French Impressions: from Paris to Dordogne
October 16–30
Approximately $3,495 per person from New York. Airfare, hotel and 25 meals included.

In the Wake of Lewis and Clark
October 30–November 5
Starting from $1,792

Germany's Holiday Markets
December 7–15
Approximately $2,195 per person from Washington, DC, all-inclusive.

For more information, please call:
Vada Lou Meadows Earle ('85)
Office of Alumni Activities
(800) 752-8568 or (336) 758-5692
E-mail: earlevl@wfu.edu
www.wfu.edu/alumni/kiosk/travel.html
Of all of Wake Forest's many time-honored traditions, only one extends back, virtually uninterrupted, to the institution's founding in 1834: the Senior Orations. Each year at the Honors and Awards Convocation held the Sunday before Commencement, three graduating seniors read essays they have written on topics of their choosing. Typically, each five-to-seven-minute essay will critique some aspect of culture, world events, or higher education or describe an insight or epiphany gleaned from the author's college experience.

Linda McKinnish Bridges, an associate dean of the College who coordinates the program, calls the orations a celebration of what "is at the heart of the liberal arts education: the ability to think clearly, write clearly, and speak clearly." Thomas E. Mullen, dean emeritus of the College who helped rescue the program from near oblivion in the '70s, sees it as benefiting both the orators and their audience. At a spring colloquium held at the president's house for the ten or so semifinalists, he notes, the program's participants have an opportunity to meet and discuss with thoughtful classmates the issues that have inspired them to write. And Mullen adds that convocation attendees frequently are edified by the essays and inspired by the accomplished students standing before them.

Shortly after Wake Forest's founding, students organized two literary societies, the Euzelians and the Philomathesians, which promoted debate and oratory at all special occasions of the College. Except for the Civil War years when Wake Forest was closed, all members of each year's senior class through the 1870s were expected to speak unless excused by the faculty. In the early 1880s the number of speakers was fixed at ten; everyone else in the graduating class wrote an essay. In 1899 the number of speakers was reduced to eight, in 1909 to six, in 1924 to four, and in 1973 to three.

The decades produced a number of brilliant and poetic senior orations. Years later, many could recall a favorite essay and its author's name. But by the mid-seventies, the program had become, in Mullen's words, "an embarrassment." The mood on campus then was anti-establishment, and most of the essays that were being submitted were little more than diatribes against authority. "Almost no seniors were willing to take part, other than a handful of volunteers," Mullen says. "And their work wasn't subjected to competition or much critical scrutiny." By 1975, the situation had worsened to the point that the Student Life Committee voted to suspend the program.

It was at that point that Mullen and other administrators stepped in to try to save it. "It was too long and too illustrious of a tradition to let die without an effort to change the attitude that had developed around it," Mullen says. At his request, Associate Dean Patricia Johansson and Baptist Chaplain Richard McBride devised new procedures to promote quality and safeguard against inappropriate polemics. "From the very first year the new system worked very well," Mullen says, and the program has prospered ever since. University Archives has copies of each oration since 1975, along with others from the early part of the century.

The process begins each year with faculty nominations of their most talented and thoughtful students. This year, seventy-five students were nominated and invited to participate, and of those, about twenty-five submitted essays. A five-member committee of faculty readers winnows that number to ten or twelve finalists who read their essays to fifteen or so faculty and staff members at a dinner colloquium at the president's house in early April. After dinner the students are excused and the faculty-staff group selects the final three.

This year's orators and their topics were Elizabeth Turnbull ('03) of Durham, North Carolina, "From the Ivory Tower to the Grindstone: A Thank-You to Three Women"; Andrew Rigsby ('03) of Spokane, Washington, "Fear and Optimism: Our Potential for Heroics"; and Lisa Hoppenjans ('03) of Chesapeake, Virginia, "The Discomfort Within." (You can read this year's orations, delivered on May 18, online at www.wfu.edu/wowf/2003/orations.html.)

"I chose to write the essay because I wanted to say thank you," says Turnbull. "I wanted to thank the University for taking a chance on me, and I wanted to show the faculty that the investment had not gone unappreciated. But most of all, I wanted to thank the three [faculty] women [Evie Shockley of English and Linda Howe and Mary Friedman of Romance languages] who have helped shape who I am today."
Jim ('58) and Linda Kinlaw ('58) Horn, Buster ('58) and Barbara Metcalf ('62) Ledford, Joe ('59) and Bobbi Hill ('58) White, and Frank ('59) and Betty Bolt ('59) Thompson have made it a tradition to meet back on campus, where they celebrate the 40-plus-year friendships that have flourished since their student days, when all the women lived in Johnson Hall and the men played Demon Deacon football together.

This year the group got together for the annual spring football game. “We keep in touch throughout the year, but we look forward to getting together and reminiscing about our college days,” says Linda Horn. All live in North Carolina: the Horns in Shelby, the Whites (whose son, Foy White ('86), played quarterback for Wake Forest) in Charlotte, the Thompsons in Sanford, and the Ledfords in Lake Norman.

Since they have all recently retired, much of their conversation centers on grandchildren, hobbies (the men are big golfers and the women are big shoppers), and travel. “Wake Forest played a great part in our lives,” Horn said, “and we always want to remember that.”
Return to Wake Forest for a celebration of friends, fun, and fond memories!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10
- Half Century Club Gathering and Luncheon
- Return to the Classroom sessions
- Alumni Admissions Forum
- Alumni-in-Admissions Training
- Old Campus Alumni Reception
- Alumni Reception Honoring Emeriti Faculty and Former Chaplain Ed Christman ('50, JD '53)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11
- Service of Remembrance
- Festival on the Quad
- Alumni Tailgate
- Wake Forest vs. Georgia Tech Football Game
- Post-Game Reception

All schools of the Reynolda Campus will celebrate Homecoming together this year.


Visit the alumni Web site (www.wfu.edu/alumni) for your class events and the most up-to-date schedule.

Questions? Call (336) 758-4845 or E-mail: chapmaea@wfu.edu

Watch your mail for more details coming soon!
Artistic elements, page 10.