

# GEM

OF THE HILLS

FALL 2011

## NATIONAL GENOMICS RESEARCH

jsu student makes real scientific discovery

## A JSU LOVE STORY

daniel and catherine packard

## REUNITING WITH CLASSMATES

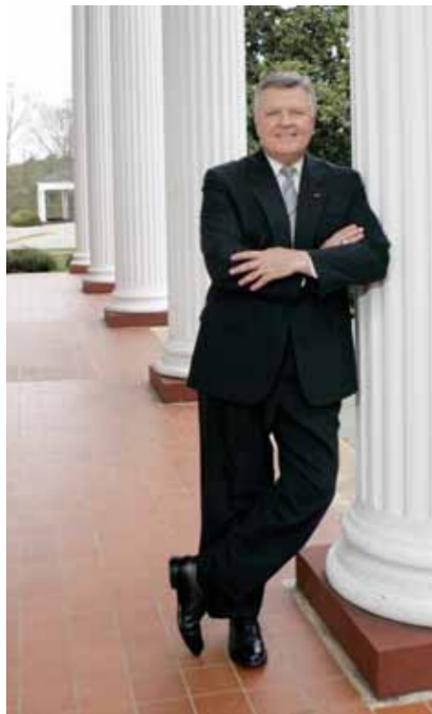
40 years later

## THE MARCH TO LONDON

SOUTHERNERS FOLLOW-UP



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## DEAR ALUMNI,

The holidays are upon us and it is once again time to give thanks. Jacksonville State University has been blessed with a year of growth and success. As we take a break at the end of this month to spend time with our family and friends, we look forward to the upcoming year and great things to come in 2012 for the University.

The Marching Southerners will begin the year in London as they lead the New Year's Day Parade that will celebrate the 60th year of Queen Elizabeth II's reign. Find out how many students, parents, alumni and friends will be traveling across the pond during the holidays for this exciting event on page 34.

Also in this edition, you will meet three friends who started school at JSU in 1965 and forty years later reunited in JSU Stadium to watch one of them receive his diploma. Read about this "it's never too late" story on page 40.

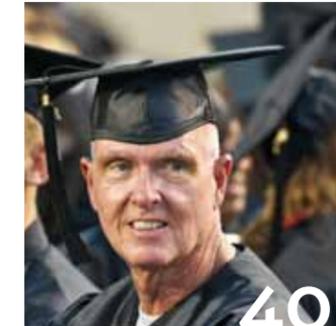
As alumni, you will be proud to read about the scientific discoveries our students are making and presenting to the nation. Meet Jessica Arighi on page 28, and learn how a freshman biology lab changed her life.

Did you know that the JSU Honors Program is growing rapidly? Read about the program and how you can let us know about a prospective student who could be an asset to our Gamecock Family on page 13.

As always, I hope you enjoy this issue and that you and your family have a happy and safe holiday season! I look forward to seeing you on campus in 2012.

Sincerely,

William A. Meehan, Ed.D.  
President



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## Jeremy Bright

JSU Proves the Right Road

BY LAUREN CUNNINGHAM  
PHOTOS BY TIM DEPRIEST & PETER SALMA



**J**eremy Bright will be the first to admit that a seemingly wrong road can lead in the right direction. It all started when Bright's friend asked him if he would like to check out the Jacksonville State University campus with him. Bright, a native of Jemison, had never heard of JSU, but he had recently graduated high school and figured, "Why not?" Bright and his friend argued over whether they were driving in the right direction. Eventually, Bright realized that JSU was not in Jacksonville, Florida. That trip proved to be life changing for Bright. "When we got there, I fell in love," he says.

Bright decided to attend JSU, and graduated in 1994 with a degree in Computer Information Systems. "It was a lot of hard work," Bright says about earning his degree. "You don't realize it at the time, but now I use what I learned all the time." Despite the hours spent poring over books, Bright remembers his time at JSU as "magic."

"I still remember everything," he says. There was the unforgettable experience of being snowed in at the Baptist Campus Ministry building during the infamous blizzard of '93. And Bright was there when the JSU football team became the 1992 NCAA Division II National Champions. Bright now works in crew support systems and quality assurance at US Airways in Phoenix. He enjoys Arizona, but admits he misses a few things about the South—the hospitality, sweet tea, and barbeque. Bright is also an accomplished musician. He grew up in a musical family and began writing songs when he was eight years old. He even toured with a band throughout the Southeast.

"Music is something that has always been part of my life," he says. Last year, he released his first album, "The Lucky One." The album, available on iTunes, features Bright's vocal and instrumental talents, and includes collaborations with other gifted musicians.

"I love to write and create, and I don't like being put in a box," he says, noting that his music cannot be put in just one category. "Some influences are country, some piano, saxophone, acoustic rock... I was even in a metal band at one point."

In his song "Life Is What You Make It," Bright sings, "Life is what you make it and chance will come if you choose to take it." Bright took a chance when he arrived at JSU, and he is so glad he did. "My degree has helped me to get in so many doors," he says. "JSU gave me everything I needed to succeed. Everything."

Bright continues to aim for his goals. "Life is too short not to do so," he says. **To learn more about Bright's music, visit [www.jeremybright.com](http://www.jeremybright.com)** 



## Musically Inclined

### JSU Vocal Alumni Concert Series

JSU alumni are constantly giving back to the University. Whether it's an opportunity, donation, or their time, the alumni listen to students and respond. Through this active communication, the JSU Vocal Alumni Concert Series was created.

Under the concert series, the Richard Armstrong vocal competition for students was created, spearheaded by JSU alumnus, Mr. Jarrod Lee. Lee graduated from JSU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music education in 2008. He was prompted to create this event after communicating with voice students and to fulfill his own desire to see students expand their musical development.

He enlisted the help of former classmate and friend, Judy Holt Shealy, who served as treasurer for the event. The

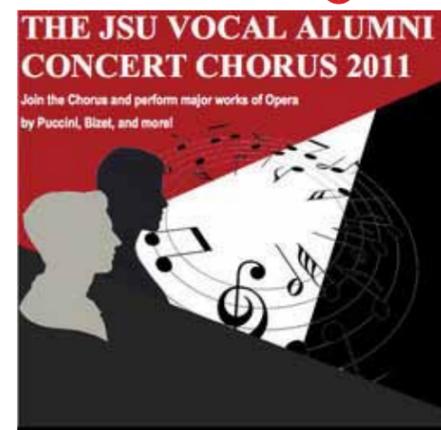
concert series also featured a community chorus. Shealy says the community chorus "was recruited by Maestro Michael Ervin, and is comprised of community members who love the arts."

According to Lee, "the winner of this year's competition was selected by three distinguished music lovers including: John David Jones, director of Opera Birmingham, Randy Mayo '11, opera singer, and Mimi Jackson, composer and former choral master of Opera Birmingham." The winner of the student competition was JSU senior, Eric Wilcox.

He adds that "the JSU Vocal Concert Series plans to continue this tradition of service, outreach, and funding for educational development for the future, but we cannot do it alone. Our zeal must

be matched with our mission statement, to educate, to inspire and enrich all participants, students, and artists of the unifying factor of music."

For more information on the concert series, contact Jarrod Lee at [jarrodleeopera@gmail.com](mailto:jarrodleeopera@gmail.com)



## your support can make a **DIFFERENCE**

**H**AS YOUR PHONE RUNG YET? JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY WANTS TO ENCOURAGE ALUMNI TO GIVE GENEROUSLY AND WHOLEHEARTEDLY DURING THIS YEAR'S PHONATHON.

Every gift counts, no matter the dollar value. For example, if every alumnus of JSU were to give twenty-five dollars, it would generate over two million dollars. Phonathon dollars help JSU and its students by:

- Educating them in the JSU tradition of both heart and mind
- Attracting and retaining top notch professors who teach and inspire beyond the classroom
- Providing new space and equipment to facilitate learning
- Enhancing the campus environment with new facilities

JSU University Development Director, Mr. Earl Warren, knows the importance of alumni support for the university. "With the institution receiving less than forty percent of its total operating budget from the state, JSU needs generous support/contributions and deferred gifts from alumni and other constituents to continue the margin of excellence of our university."

So when your phone rings and the caller ID reads Jacksonville State, take the call and show your support by making your tax-deductible contribution to any department, college, scholarship or program you choose. Unrestricted gifts will be used where the need is greatest.

Join one of the JSU Giving Clubs:

Founders Society.....	\$5,000 and above
Mimosa Society.....	\$2,500 to \$4,999
Magnolia Society.....	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Benefactor's Club .....	\$500 to \$999
Patron's Club .....	\$250 to \$499
Century Club.....	\$100 to \$249

If you are unable to join a giving club this year, a donation of any amount is needed and would be greatly appreciated. Make a difference and pledge your support when you are contacted this year. Or go online at [www.jsu.edu/giving](http://www.jsu.edu/giving) and make a gift to the annual fund. Help JSU to continue to get where we're going!

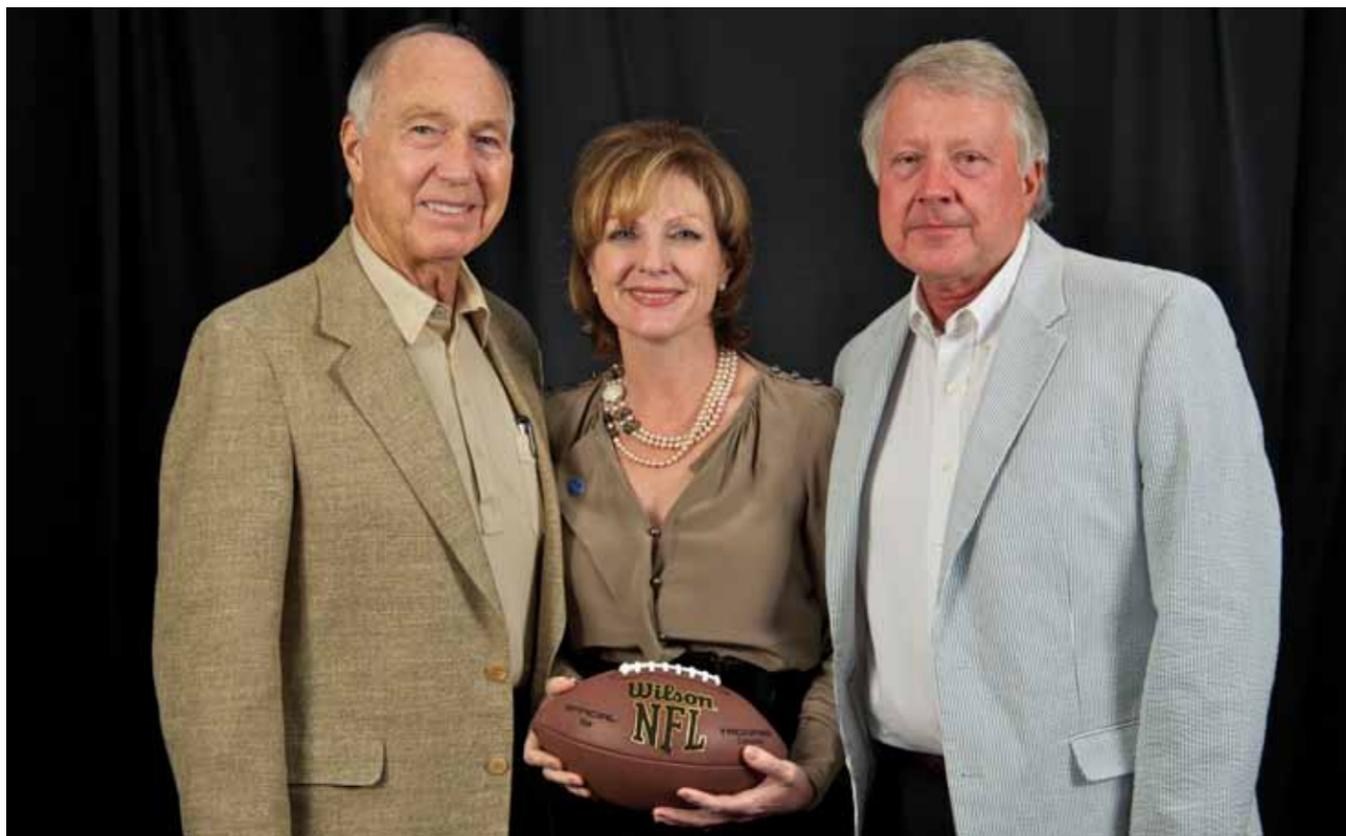
**support JSU**

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT TO THE ANNUAL FUND. HELP JSU TO CONTINUE TO GET WHERE WE'RE GOING!

[www.jsu.edu/giving](http://www.jsu.edu/giving)



# AN EVENING WITH BART STARR



**ABOVE:** Bart Starr poses with JSU Foundation Board President, Julia H. Segars and husband Frank.

On August 19, the Board of Visitors for the College of Commerce and Business Administration, welcomed Bart Starr to JSU for an event called “Striving Toward Excellence: An Evening with Bart Starr.” Hosted on the Club Level of the Stadium Tower, the event featured a keynote speech from Mr. Starr.

An audience of 240 enjoyed dinner, a silent and live auction, and the speech by Bart Starr on “getting to the next level.” The College of Commerce and Business Administration benefitted from

the proceeds raised from the event in the amount of \$30,000 for scholarships and certifications.

The Board of Visitors is chaired by Greg Brown of B. R. Williams Trucking, and includes members Sonde Coleman, Cheryl Durham, John Freeman, Lewis Fuller, Don Hedden, Sharron Hedden, Tony Ingram, Barry Kennedy, Patty King, Chris Latta, Jack Lyle, Steve May, Ray Miller, David Neisler, Jim Patterson, Sissy Spence, Jason Stinson, and Phil Webb. 

# DR. HARBOUR'S RIDE OF A LIFETIME

## 2011 SUMMER COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

On Friday, August 5, Jacksonville State University had a man, as the August 2011 Commencement speaker whose accomplishments and drive are hard to sum up.

Bill Harbour was born in Piedmont, Ala., and is the oldest of eight kids. His life changed when he decided to go to college at Tennessee State University, a place he says had more students than the city he came from and was heavily involved in the Civil Rights Movement. Once there, he met John Lewis, who is now a congressman from the state of Georgia. Lewis befriended Harbour, and slowly introduced him to non-violent workshops and then full-blown sit-ins, stand-ins, pickets and marches. He would later become known as an influential freedom rider.

Harbour was arrested over eight times in Nashville, and endured beatings while protesting. Still, his drive to keep going never faltered. “It was all overwhelming,” Harbour says. “But my mother always said that one day things would be a lot different, and I felt that if I just stayed in the movement, my sisters and brothers who were growing up would have a lot better place in history.”

After graduating from Tennessee State University, Harbour was a teacher for several years, but craved doing something more to help people. He then applied for a job in the federal government working with the War on Poverty program. During the summers, he was selected to do counseling for students at the University of Utah. While there, he earned his master's degree.



Harbour says his proudest accomplishment was realized while celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Freedom Riders during May of this year. He participated in a number of events throughout the South, from Mississippi to right here in Alabama.

“One of my major accomplishments that I believe happened and made me feel proud, is the fact that young people had the power to generate a movement that changed this nation,” Harbour says. “By our movement, I believe that this nation has been changed quite a bit. Because of the violence that happened during that time, it caused us to move forward. We didn't want violence to stop a major movement.”

Harbour has been married for thirty years to his wife, Doris. Together, they have a son, Marcus, who graduated from

Tennessee State University as well. He now resides in Atlanta, Ga.

Harbour's graduation speech focused on many of the changes made in the last fifty years in not only social injustice, but in technology. “I want students to realize that they must continue to make this world a better place to live. If not, we'll be in trouble,” Harbour says. 

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## STACY MANN receives collins award

Stacey Mann, an assistant professor in the Department of Emergency Management, was recently named the recipient of the Southeastern Conference for Public Administration's (SECoPA) Morris W. H. "Bill" Collins Award. The annual award recognizes the most outstanding paper written by doctoral candidates in the southeastern region of the American Society for Public Administration.

Mann's paper was an excerpt of her dissertation at Mississippi State University, which investigated the level of involvement of human resource professionals in local government emergency planning. Her interest in the subject stemmed from a research project she conducted with her doctoral mentor, Dr. Doug Goodman, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Submissions for the Collins Award were evaluated for topic significance and relevance for public policy and administration; organization, readability, and clarity of style; soundness of methodology; adequate evidence supporting conclusions; and contribution to existing knowledge.

Mann said she is especially honored to have won the award because her dissertation director, Dr. P. Edward "Eddie" French, who was Mississippi State's last winner, approximately ten years ago. "Dr. French worked so diligently as my director, and this award honors him along with the rest of my committee for their dedication to the project."

Mann added that the award is also meaningful because the honoree, Bill Collins, was MSU's former John C. Stennis Chair and founding director of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government. The current director, Dr. Marty Wiseman, was a member of Mann's committee and the Institute funded the project.

"As her dissertation director, I am very proud of Stacey for winning this prestigious award, which recognizes her research and writing ability," French said. "I was lucky enough to win the award back in 1999, and now to have one of my students accomplish this makes it really special."

In Fall 2011, Jacksonville State University welcomed its first doctoral program,

**\* LEFT: Stacey Mann receives the Collins Award from Dr. Tom Barth, Interim Vice Chancellor of Public Service/Continuing Studies at UNC Wilmington.**

the Doctor of Science in Emergency Management. As one of the few EM doctoral programs in the nation, the DSc is offered completely online, allowing the program to recruit students both nationally and internationally. The department welcomed its incoming students in an integrative seminar at McLellan in August, in which they participated in tabletop disaster exercises and were introduced to the program. Mann is one of two new tenure-track faculty members who will be working with the department's graduate students.

"My hope is that I can use the knowledge gained during my doctoral program to help my students in Emergency Management, especially this first class of doctoral students," Mann said.

As the recipient of the 2011 award, Mann was honored during a plenary luncheon on Sept. 22 at SECoPA's annual conference. She received a plaque and cash award, and has submitted the work to Public Administration Quarterly. 

## FOURTH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Student Scholarship Recipients



support student  
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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP SUPPORT THE  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PLEASE VISIT

[www.jsu.edu/giving](http://www.jsu.edu/giving)

AND CLICK ON MAKE A GIFT

Scholarship sponsors recently met with student recipients during the JSU Foundation's Fourth Annual Scholarship Luncheon held on the top floor of the Houston Cole Library. In 2011, over \$300 thousand foundation supported scholarships and over \$13.85 million university supported scholarships were awarded to deserving JSU students. 

JSU'S NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## VINSON HOUSTON



Jacksonville State University promoted Vinson Houston to the position of Vice President for Information Technology at JSU over the summer.

Houston came to JSU in 2005 as the Director of Telecommunications and had been the Acting Vice President for Information Technology since 2008. During his tenure as acting VP, Houston oversaw the university's migration to new e-mail and voice mail systems, changed the university's internet service provider, added bandwidth and expanded the school's wireless network, established a network to provide data service to the Little River Canyon, implemented upgrades that allow students to make payments via phone, added biometric hand readers for residence halls and online voting for student elections, and completed redesign of JSU's website to an answer-based search approach.

As a permanent member of JSU's leadership team, Houston plans to enhance the IT Division's role as a value-added component of the university and focus on what he calls the three "ships" of customer relations: relationship, partnership and stewardship.

Houston graduated from Jacksonville State University in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts in English/History and received his Master of Business Administration degree in 2000, also from Jacksonville State University.

He previously was employed at Delta-com, Inc. and Designer Checks, both in Anniston, Alabama.

Houston and his wife Demetria live in Oxford and have two children, Trenton and Trinity. 📞

JSU'S NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

## DR. CHARLES R. LEWIS



Jacksonville State University hired Charles R. Lewis, PhD., in July as the new Vice President for University Advancement.

Prior to arriving at JSU, Dr. Lewis served as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi. He has also worked as Assistant Dean for Development at the Florida State University College of Business, and as Director of Development at Andrew College in Georgia.

Dr. Lewis graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree from Samford University in Alabama. He went on to achieve his Master of Music and PhD in humanities from Florida State University. He also attended the Williamsburg Development In-

stitute, a professional development course for educational and other tax-exempt fundraisers, at Old Dominion University in Williamsburg, Va.

Throughout this educational and professional journey, Dr. Lewis has served on many committees and boards, including the Campus Master Planning Committee and Strategic Planning Committee at Millsaps College, the Academic Dean Search Committee and Presidential Search Committee at Andrew College, as well as the MBA Advisory Board for the College of Business at Florida State University. In 2000, Florida State University awarded him the Fundraiser of the Year award.

Dr. Lewis and his wife, Jane, are both natives of Alabama. 📞



Did you know that Jacksonville State University offers an honors program for academically gifted students? This program features a diverse range of courses that cultivate critical thinking and effective communication.

The honors program helps current students to fulfill their chosen prospective fields of study, while preparing them to meet and rise above the challenging responsibilities of becoming citizens with universal perspectives.

Scholarships are available for students with appropriate ACT and SAT scores or a qualifying cumulative grade point average of 3.5 through the eleventh grade. The Elite Honors Scholarship pays for sixteen in-state tuition hours per semester, housing, meal plan, books and a laptop. The Elite Scholarship pays for sixteen in-state

tuition hours per semester, housing and a meal plan. Scholarship candidates are required to submit separate applications, essay, resume, letters of recommendation, and an official high school transcript.

Students may choose to enroll in a single honors course; however, if a student elects to enroll in the full honors program, they must contact Dr. Steven Whitton, the director of the honors program.

The courses within the honors program are designed for exceptional and self-motivated students. Honors courses are taught in intimate settings by JSU's most innovative and engaging faculty. They are offered in the following subjects: Arts, Humanities, Sciences, Social Sciences and Mathematics. Most of the honors courses fulfill general education requirements for the incoming freshmen and sophomores.

Once students are admitted to the honors program they will be eligible for special honors seminars. In addition, honors students will ultimately have access to special advisement, career planning services, community involvement opportunities and special recognition at their graduation ceremony.

The JSU Honors Program is an excellent way to challenge the minds of exceptionally gifted students. Over the past three years the program has grown to include 315 honor students. There are twenty-three Elite Honors Scholars (students who have been awarded JSU's top academic scholarship).

**If you know outstanding students who fit the criteria for the honors program, contact Mrs. Janet Whitmore at [jwhitmore@jsu.edu](mailto:jwhitmore@jsu.edu)** 📞

# CONGRATS

to jsu's greek community



Gamma Sigma Alpha National Academic Greek Honor Society is the premier organization committed to the academic success of their members and aligning with the academic missions of the institutions that house their chapters. Gamma Sigma Alpha has over two hundred chapters and is still growing every day.

Gamma Sigma Alpha recognizes the top academic performing fraternity and sorority communities in North America by region. In 2010 a record number of fraternity and sorority communities whose

GPA was at or above their campus GPA achieved Honor Roll status.

In spring of 2010, JSU's sororities were in the five percent in Southeast America to receive this acknowledgement. In fall of 2010, JSU's fraternities were also in the top five percent in Southeast America to receive this acknowledgement. 

for more  
**INFORMATION**



CONTACT MS. REID AT  
[mreid@jsu.edu](mailto:mreid@jsu.edu)



## LEARNING ISN'T CONFINED TO A CLASSROOM

At Jacksonville State University we believe every moment is an opportunity to learn - and not just when you're on campus. Our online education program lets you conveniently take hundreds of core classes online or earn your entire degree with a bachelor's, master's, graduate certificate or a Doctor of Science in Emergency Management. A variety of academic fields are offered including nursing, business, emergency management and more. And with JSU you have the confidence that your degree is backed by a real university.

JSU online education, getting you ready for where you're going.

The information that individuals will need as online students will be provided at one convenient, easily accessible location.

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# NIGHTMARE ON MOUNTAIN STREET

JSU HOMECOMING AND FAMILY DAY | 10.29.2011 | JSU VS. TENNESSEE TECH



# WARREN KOEGEL

JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY'S NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

BY LAUREN CUNNINGHAM  
PHOTO BY STEVE LATHAM

Warren Koegel is a big man with a big heart and a big vision. Now he is bringing his vision to Jacksonville State University, where he serves as Athletic Director.

Koegel, who stands at six feet four inches, is an athlete himself. He grew up in New York in a small town called Seaford. He and his two brothers were active in sports and in the community from a young age. All three played football, basketball, and baseball.

"We were involved in all kinds of things," says Koegel, describing his younger self as a "good ol' all American boy." "I did everything. I was everywhere. We were constantly involved," he says. "I learned a lot."

Because Koegel was constantly involved in sports, he says he knew that it was something he would enjoy as a career. He went on to play football for Coach Joe Paterno at Penn State. Later on, Koegel was drafted into the NFL, where he played for five years until he was sidelined from a knee injury.

"After that, I knew I wanted to coach," he says. Koegel coached at the collegiate level for twenty years before moving to the administrative side of athletics, where he has served in a variety

of positions, including his former post as director of athletics at Coastal Carolina University.

As athletic director at JSU, Koegel is focusing on the overall development of all students, not just student athletes. Whether it be in the classroom, on the practice field, or within the community, he wants to teach students to become part of something greater than themselves.

"We want our students to go out and become great ambassadors, not only for themselves, but also for the university," he says.

Koegel and his wife, Elaine, have one daughter, Kathryn, who is a graduate of the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina and currently lives there.

Koegel and his wife enjoy history and travel. They have visited a variety of destinations around the world. Koegel says those experiences have made him who he is today.

"Every experience you have, you draw from," he says, "and I've learned that the most important things are how you go through your life spiritually and how you treat others." 

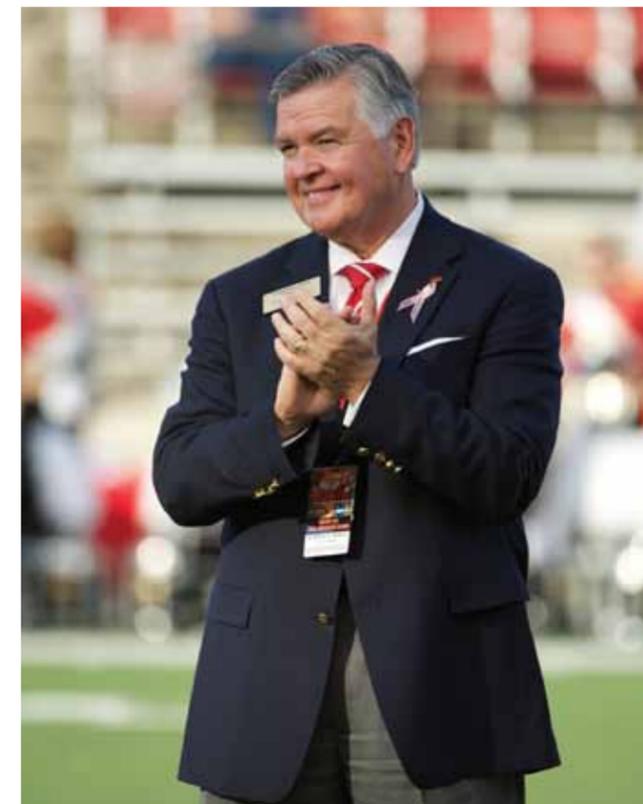


# LADY GAMECOCK BASKETBALL 2011-2012

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
NOV. 6	EMORY UNIVERSITY	2 PM
NOV. 11	AT MISSISSIPPI STATE	7 PM
NOV. 15	AT KENTUCKY	11 AM
NOV. 17	LEMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE	7 PM
NOV. 19	AT KENNESAW STATE	7 PM
NOV. 21	LIPSCOMB	7 PM
NOV. 25	AT SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI	5 PM
NOV. 26	AT GEORGIA SOUTHERN/STEPHEN F. AUSTIN	TBA
NOV. 30	SAMFORD	7 PM
DEC. 4	TROY	2 PM
DEC. 15	AT JACKSONVILLE	4 PM
DEC. 17	AT FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL	1 PM
DEC. 18	AT NORTH FLORIDA	3:30 PM
DEC. 20	EASTERN KENTUCKY	7 PM
DEC. 28	GEORGIA STATE	7 PM
DEC. 31	AT SIU EDWARDSVILLE	1 PM
JAN. 2	AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	5:30 PM
JAN. 7	TENNESSEE STATE	2 PM
JAN. 9	MOREHEAD STATE	7 PM
JAN. 14	AT AUSTIN PEAY	5:15 PM
JAN. 16	AT MURRAY STATE	7 PM
JAN. 23	AT TENNESSEE TECH	7 PM
JAN. 28	EASTERN ILLINOIS	2 PM
JAN. 30	SIU EDWARDSVILLE	7:45 PM
FEB. 4	TENNESSEE TECH	2 PM
FEB. 6	AT UT MARTIN	7 PM
FEB. 13	AT MOREHEAD STATE	TBA
FEB. 18	AT TENNESSEE STATE	5:30 PM
FEB. 23	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	5:15 PM
FEB. 25	UT MARTIN	2 PM
FEB. 29 - MAR. 3	TBA	TBA

ALL TIMES CT (SCHEDULE AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## PRESIDENT MEEHAN SELECTED TO NCAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Jacksonville State University President, Dr. William A. Meehan has been selected to a two-year term on the NCAA Executive Committee, and also as chairman of the NCAA President's Advisory Group for 2012 and 2013.

Dr. Meehan is just one of four non-Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) presidents selected for this prestigious honor. In his new role on the NCAA Executive Committee, he will play a part in the final approval and oversight of the NCAA's budget; provide strategic planning for the NCAA as a whole; and act on behalf of the NCAA by adopting and implementing policies to resolve core issues and other NCAA matters.

The NCAA Executive Committee consists of twenty members, including twelve members of the Division I Board, two members of the Division II Presidents

Council, two members of the Division III Presidents Council, the president of the NCAA and the chairs of the divisional councils.

Dr. Meehan was also selected by his presidential peers to serve as the chairman of the NCAA President's Advisory Group. This advisory group's primary role is to provide the perspective of the twenty conferences that do not have permanent seats on the NCAA Board of Directors. The group also reviews NCAA Division I Leadership Council and Legislative Council recommendations, provides direction on academic policies and suggests implementation methods of any appointed task force group reports.

Dr. Meehan began a five-year term on the prestigious NCAA Board of Directors in August, 2009. The NCAA Board of Directors is the primary decision-making

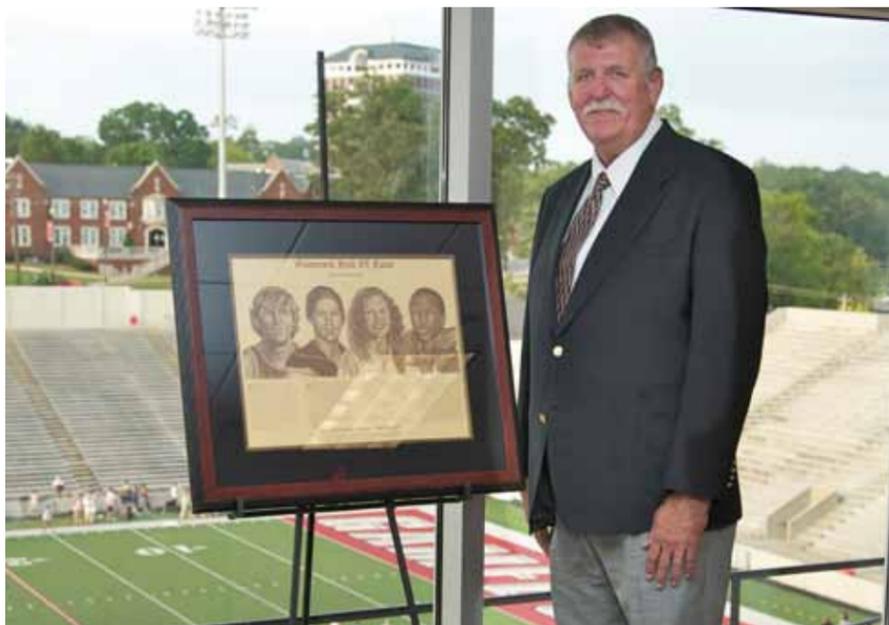
body in Division I, with the ultimate responsibility for the policy and direction of the division and for adopting any changes to the operating bylaws and rules of Division I.

The NCAA Board of Directors is comprised of eighteen Division I CEOs, with each member serving a four-year term. Other duties of the board include establishing the budget, general policies and strategic plan for the NCAA. 

## JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



LISA BASWELL



RON MONEY

Two All-Americans, one record setting football player and one of the top centers in Gamecock basketball history make up the 2010-2011 class of the Jacksonville State University Athletic Hall of Fame.

Lisa Baswell, a two-time conference player of the year and Academic All-American of the Year in women's basketball, Walter Broughton, who set JSU's single season touchdown record, Marilyn Hanssler, a three time All-American and national champion gymnast, and Ron Money, one of the all-time scoring leaders in Gamecock basketball history were formally inducted on September 16 in a ceremony in the Stadium Tower of Burgess-Snow Field at JSU Stadium.

Baswell is considered one of the best players in the Gamecocks' Division I history and is the only person, male or female, in JSU history to be selected as the Academic All-American of the Year. She was a two-time first team Academic All-American.

While excelling in the classroom, Baswell twice set school records for free throw percentage and became the sixth member of the school's 1,000-point club. Despite only playing two seasons for the Gamecocks, she finished with 1,187 points and her record of twenty-eight games scoring in double figures still stands today.

She was voted the recipient of JSU's prestigious Eagle Owl Award and also served as president of the JSU Student Athlete Advisory Committee while also volunteering as an event coordinator for the Special Olympics.

Walter Broughton was a four-year letterman for the Gamecocks and helped the



WALTER BROUGHTON

team post a 32-13 record and win a pair of Gulf South Conference Championships during his tenure.

He broke the JSU and Gulf South Conference records for most points in a season (ninety-six) and established a new JSU record for the most rushing touchdowns (fourteen) during the 1982 season.

Broughton rushed for 1,745 yards and twenty-six touchdowns during his career to rank among JSU's Top 15 all-time rushers. An excellent receiver out of the backfield, he also hauled in seventy-one passes for 550 yards and ten touchdowns during his career. His twenty-eight career returns for 629 yards ranks tenth on the Gamecocks' all-time list.

He helped the Gamecocks post back-to-back 8-3 records in both 1980 and 1981, while the 1982 team won its second-straight Gulf South Conference Championship with a 10-2 record. JSU made two straight NCAA playoff appearances and the 1982 team advanced to the NCAA semifinals. Broughton signed as a free agent and played three seasons with the Buffalo Bills in the National Football league, where he averaged 20.1 yards per catch.

Marilyn Hanssler (not pictured) is the only three-time All American in Jacksonville State gymnastics history. During her All-American senior season in 1984, she entered the NCAA Division II Regionals as the top all-around gymnast in the nation. Despite an injury in the regionals, she returned to help Jacksonville State win its first NCAA National Championship with an individual finish of fourth place in the all-around. She posted a score of 9.10 to tie for second in the uneven bars, a score of 8.92 to finish third in vaulting and also finished third in floor exercise with a 9.20.

As a junior, Hanssler was named an All-American after finishing sixth overall in the NCAA Individual Championships and second in the balance beam. The Gamecocks posted their best finish since the program began eight years earlier with a fifth-place finish in the NCAA Championships.

She was a student assistant coach for Hall of Fame Coach Robert Dillard and helped the Gamecocks become the first team in NCAA Gymnastics history to win consecutive titles.

Ron Money became just the sixth player in Jacksonville State basketball history to score 1,000 points after finishing his four-year career with 1,569 points, which, at the time, made him the Gamecocks' all-time leading scorer.

He also pulled down 1,050 rebounds in his career, the fourth highest total in school history, and is one of just four players in school history to record 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds in a career. He is also second all-time at JSU with 653 field goals made. The two-time All-Gulf South Conference (GSC) selection helped the Gamecocks claim their first-ever GSC title and advance into the NAIA playoffs as a senior after averaging 14.7 points and 10.0 rebounds. Money averaged 17.2 points and 10.8 rebounds to earn All-GSC honors for the first time in his career after leading the team in scoring with 430 points as a junior in 1973-1974. He tossed in 416 points as a sophomore and averaged 16.0 points and 10.2 rebounds to help the Gamecocks post a 17-9 record, while averaging 13.3 points and 9.6 rebounds as a freshman. Money ranks as one of the top centers in Gamecock basketball history and was named to the JSU All-Centennial Team. 

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## GAMECOCK

# BASKETBALL 2011-2012

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
NOV. 11	MILES COLLEGE	TBA
NOV. 13	AT MARSHALL	TBA
NOV. 15	AT CINCINNATI	TBA
NOV. 19	ALABAMA STATE	6 PM
NOV. 25	AT NORTHWESTERN STATE	7:45 PM
DEC. 1	AT USC UPSTATE	6 PM
DEC. 10	AT SOUTHERN	TBA
DEC. 11	AT TULANE	TBA
DEC. 17	EASTERN KENTUCKY	7 PM
DEC. 19	REINHARDT COLLEGE	7 PM
DEC. 28	AT ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	10 PM
DEC. 29	AT UTEP/COLORADO STATE	TBA
DEC. 31	AT SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	3:30 PM
JAN. 2	AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	7:30 PM
JAN. 5	MOREHEAD STATE	7 PM
JAN. 7	TENNESSEE STATE	4:30 PM
JAN. 12	AT MURRAY STATE	7 PM
JAN. 14	AT AUSTIN PEAY	7:30 PM
JAN. 19	AT TENNESSEE TECH	7 PM
JAN. 26	EASTERN ILLINOIS	7 PM
JAN. 28	SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	4:30 PM
JAN. 30	USC UPSTATE	5:15 PM
FEB. 2	AT UT MARTIN	7 PM
FEB. 4	TENNESSEE TECH	4:30 PM
FEB. 8	AT MOREHEAD STATE	TBA
FEB. 14	AT TENNESSEE STATE	7 PM
FEB. 18	SEARS BRACKETBUSTER	TBA
FEB. 23	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	7:45 PM
FEB. 25	UT MARTIN	4:30 PM

ALL TIMES CT (SCHEDULE AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## GAMECOCK

## BASEBALL 2012

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
FEB. 17	AT NORTHWESTERN STATE	6:30 PM
FEB. 18	AT NORTHWESTERN STATE	2 PM
FEB. 19	AT NORTHWESTERN STATE	1 PM
FEB. 22	SAMFORD	3 PM
FEB. 24	NORTH FLORIDA	3 PM
FEB. 25	NORTH FLORIDA	1 PM
FEB. 26	NORTH FLORIDA	1 PM
FEB. 28	UAB	3 PM
FEB. 29	AT UAB	3 PM
MAR. 2	KENNESAW STATE	3 PM
MAR. 3	KENNESAW STATE	1 PM
MAR. 4	KENNESAW STATE	1 PM
MAR. 7	AT SAMFORD	6 PM
MAR. 9	AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	2 PM
MAR. 10	AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	2 PM
MAR. 11	AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	1 PM
MAR. 15-19	TBA AT RUSS MATT CENTRAL FLORIDA GAMES	TBA
MAR. 21	UAB	6:30 PM
MAR. 23	AT EASTERN KENTUCKY	TBA
MAR. 24	AT EASTERN KENTUCKY	TBA
MAR. 25	AT EASTERN KENTUCKY	TBA
MAR. 27	TROY	6:30 PM
MAR. 30	AT MOREHEAD STATE	TBA
MAR. 31	AT MOREHEAD STATE	TBA
APR. 1	AT MOREHEAD STATE	TBA
APR. 3	AT AUBURN	6 PM
APR. 5	TENNESSEE TECH	6:30 PM
APR. 6	TENNESSEE TECH	6:30 PM
APR. 7	TENNESSEE TECH	2 PM
APR. 10	AT TROY	6 PM
APR. 13	AT UT MARTIN	TBA
APR. 14	AT UT MARTIN	TBA
APR. 15	AT UT MARTIN	TBA
APR. 17	AT KENNESAW STATE	5 PM
APR. 20	MURRAY STATE	6:30 PM
APR. 21	MURRAY STATE	2 PM
APR. 22	MURRAY STATE	1 PM
APR. 27	AT AUSTIN PEAY	TBA
APR. 28	AT AUSTIN PEAY	TBA
APR. 29	AT AUSTIN PEAY	TBA
MAY 1	ALABAMA STATE	6:30 PM
MAY 2	AT ALABAMA STATE	6 PM
MAY 4	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	6:30 PM
MAY 5	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	2 PM
MAY 6	SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE	1 PM
MAY 9	AT UAB	6:30 PM
MAY 11	AT SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	TBA
MAY 12	AT SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	TBA
MAY 13	AT SIU-EDWARDSVILLE	TBA
MAY 17	EASTERN ILLINOIS	6:30 PM
MAY 18	EASTERN ILLINOIS	6:30 PM
MAY 19	EASTERN ILLINOIS	2 PM
MAY 23-26	OVC TOURNAMENT	TBA
JUNE 1-4	NCAA REGIONALS	TBA
JUNE 8-11	NCAA SUPER REGIONALS	TBA
JUNE 16-27	COLLEGE WORLD SERIES	TBA

ALL TIMES CT (SCHEDULE AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## LADY GAMECOCK

## SOFTBALL 2012

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
FEB. 10	LIPSCOMB AT MOBILE, AL	10 AM
FEB. 11	MISSISSIPPI STATE AT MOBILE, AL	10 AM
FEB. 11	MEMPHIS AT MOBILE, AL	12:30 PM
FEB. 12	ALABAMA AT MOBILE, AL	2:30 PM
FEB. 17	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	3:30 PM
FEB. 18	SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA	10 AM
FEB. 18	SOUTH ALABAMA	3 PM
FEB. 19	SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA	12:30 PM
FEB. 24	NORTH FLORIDA AT STATESBORO, GA	9 AM
FEB. 24	GEORGIA SOUTHERN AT STATESBORO, GA	3 PM
FEB. 25	NORTH FLORIDA AT STATESBORO, GA	11 AM
FEB. 25	GEORGIA SOUTHERN AT STATESBORO, GA	1 PM
FEB. 26	RADFORD AT STATESBORO, GA	10 AM
FEB. 29	SAMFORD	5 PM
MAR. 2	WESTERN KENTUCKY AT WOODSTOCK, GA	11 AM
MAR. 2	UNC GREENSBORO AT WOODSTOCK, GA	1:30 PM
MAR. 3	WESTERN CAROLINA AT WOODSTOCK, GA	3 PM
MAR. 3	ELON AT WOODSTOCK, GA	5 PM
MAR. 4	WINTHROP AT WOODSTOCK, GA	11 AM
MAR. 6	AT UAB	6 PM
MAR. 8	GEORGIA STATE	2 PM
MAR. 10	EASTERN ILLINOIS	1 PM
MAR. 11	EASTERN ILLINOIS	1 PM
MAR. 15	AT GEORGIA TECH	5 PM
MAR. 17	AT MURRAY STATE	1 PM
MAR. 18	AT MURRAY STATE	1 PM
MAR. 21	AT TENNESSEE TECH	2 PM
MAR. 24	EASTERN KENTUCKY	1 PM
MAR. 25	EASTERN KENTUCKY	1 PM
MAR. 27	MIDDLE TENNESSEE	2 PM
MAR. 29	TENNESSEE TECH	3 PM
MAR. 31	AT MOREHEAD STATE	12 PM
APR. 1	AT MOREHEAD STATE	12 PM
APR. 4	TENNESSEE STATE	3 PM
APR. 6	AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	2 PM
APR. 7	AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	1 PM
APR. 12	AT TENNESSEE STATE	2 PM
APR. 14	SIU EDWARDSVILLE	1 PM
APR. 15	SIU EDWARDSVILLE	1 PM
APR. 17	UAB	6 PM
APR. 28	AT AUSTIN PEAY	1 PM
APR. 29	AT AUSTIN PEAY	1 PM
MAY 1	AT ALABAMA STATE	5 PM
MAY 5	UT MARTIN	1 PM
MAY 6	UT MARTIN	1 PM
MAY 10 - 12	OVC TOURNAMENT	TBA

ALL TIMES CT (SCHEDULE AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)



JSU STUDENT MAKES REAL SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES

# National Genomics Research

BY LAUREN CUNNINGHAM  
PHOTO BY STEVE LATHAM

**I**T WAS JESSICA ARIGHI'S FIRST DAY OF BIOLOGY CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF HER FRESHMEN YEAR AT JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY. THE PROFESSOR, DR. CHRIS MURDOCK, SPENT THE LAST FEW MINUTES OF THE LECTURE TALKING ABOUT A RESEARCH LAB OPPORTUNITY IN WHICH STUDENTS WOULD BE ISOLATING UNDISCOVERED BACTERIOPHAGES. "IT SOUNDED REALLY INTERESTING, ALTHOUGH I HAD NO IDEA WHAT A BACTERIOPHAGE WAS OR WHAT ANY OF THE FANCY SCIENCE TERMS HE WAS USING MEANT," SAYS ARIGHI, A NATIVE OF HUNTSVILLE. DR. MURDOCK WARNED THE STUDENTS THAT IF THEY SIGNED UP FOR THE RESEARCH LAB INSTEAD OF THE NORMAL BIOLOGY LAB IT WOULD BE MORE WORK. "THAT DIDN'T STOP ME," SAYS ARIGHI. "I SIGNED UP ON A WHIM. I MUST HAVE BEEN CRAZY THAT DAY, BUT I AM REALLY GLAD I DECIDED TO JOIN THE CLASS."

 **ABOVE:** (Left-Right) Dr. Chris Murdock, Dr. LaJoyce Debro, and Jessica Arighi.

The Science Education Alliance's National Genomics Research Initiative, funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, is a highly competitive program that supports a network of faculty and undergraduate students from across the nation who are engaged in the processes of science and discovery.

Arighi and thirteen other enthusiastic JSU freshmen were led through the program by two faculty facilitators, Dr. Murdock and Dr. LaJoyce Debro. Dr. Debro says one of the benefits of JSU's selection to the program is "the collaborative network of faculty and students who share ideas and products." "Our students not only can interact and learn from the dynamic faculty at JSU, but they can also benefit from the additional, real-time

"It provides the opportunity for our students to learn by doing and the opportunity to discover while being guided in the learning process," says Dr. Debro. "For me, it was a real delight to watch my students develop from insecure novices to confident explorers. They moved from needing my approval on every move to telling me their plans for the next experiment. The students were excited about the results and returned to the laboratory on their own time, anxious to collect and interpret their data."

According to Arighi, this research is important because viruses have the potential to control bacterial growth. This means someday they could potentially serve as alternatives to antibiotics.

In the case of the viruses that the JSU

"This lab has been a great experience for me," says Arighi, who has now declared she will major in biology. "I love that we could come into the lab completely clueless of what we were doing and how to use the equipment, like me, and leave the lab as a scientist. It's because Dr. Debro and Dr. Murdock are wonderful professors."

"This program really makes the students feel like part of a research community of scientists, and thus they see themselves as real scientists," says Dr. Murdock.

As for the research, according to Dr. Debro, "Research scientists have expressed an interest in our viral isolates. Imagine that. Something that a freshman student at JSU discovered is of interest to a research scientist."

**"It provides the opportunity for our students to learn by doing and the opportunity to discover while being guided in the learning process,"** - Dr. Debro

interaction with faculty and students from across the nation," she says.

"We wanted our students to begin research early in their studies," says Dr. Murdock. "Most of our students do not engage in research until they are a junior or senior in college. This program immerses the students in an environment of discovery and science at a very early stage in their studies."

In the lab, the students' goal was to isolate novel bacteriophages, which are viruses that infect bacteria, from JSU's campus and surrounding areas of eastern Alabama and Georgia. The students collected soil from a variety of places, everywhere from the International House at JSU to the Little River Canyon. They then used a series of methods to isolate the viruses.

Both Dr. Murdock and Dr. Debro stressed that a unique and rewarding element of the lab is that students learn to do the research themselves.

students studied last year, there is potential to control the spread of tuberculosis, as they are specific to the group of bacteria that cause that disease.

"The program is the ultimate in providing the opportunity for discovering something new," says Dr. Debro.

In the course of their research, the JSU students discovered a few viruses. Arighi was among those who isolated a phage that had never been described before. As its discoverer, she could choose its name. In honor of the grandmother from whose yard in Dadeville the sample was taken, Arighi named her virus MoMoMixon. (To see MoMoMixon and view its entry in the Mycobacteriophage database, visit <http://phagesdb.org/phages/MoMoMixon/>)

Arighi was chosen by her professors and fellow students to present their findings at a three-day conference at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's research campus in Virginia.

For more information on JSU's Biology Department and the National Genomics Research Initiative, visit [www.jsu.edu/biology](http://www.jsu.edu/biology) or contact Dr. Debro by e-mail ([ldebro@jsu.edu](mailto:ldebro@jsu.edu)) or Dr. Murdock by e-mail ([murdock@jsu.edu](mailto:murdock@jsu.edu)). 

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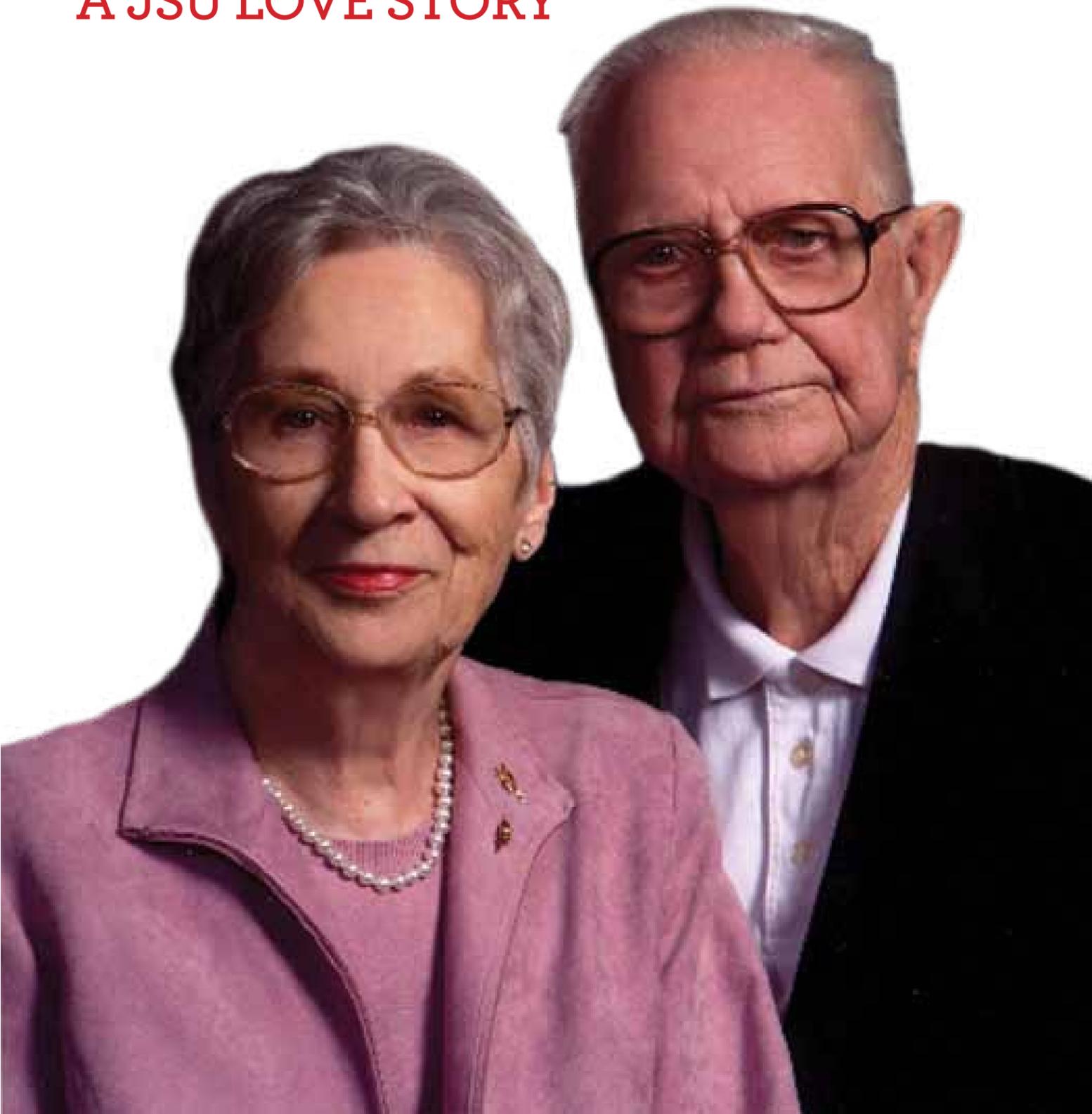


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# DANIEL & CATHERINE PACKARD

## A JSU LOVE STORY



**D**AN AND CATHERINE MET ON CAMPUS IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA. HE WAS THE FIRST EDITOR OF THE TEACOLA STUDENT NEWSPAPER AND THE 1949 SENIOR CLASS PRESIDENT.

Catherine's father was a graduate of Jacksonville Normal School. According to his daughter, he was instrumental in helping the university obtain the property deed where the present day Kennamer Hall stands.

They both graduated in 1949. In 1950, the couple married and moved to Washington, D.C. where Dan completed his graduate work in foreign affairs at George Washington University. The education they received at JSU prepared them for very successful careers.

While in the D.C. area, Catherine became a faculty member at Stratford Junior High, in Arlington, Virginia, where she conducted a pilot program offering typing to college bound students. That program was so successful that it was introduced into all the middle schools of Arlington County the following year. Catherine went on to become a full time guidance counselor. She is an avid researcher and has authored several books.

The Packard's became long-time residents of Grand Rapids, Michigan where Mr. Packard eventually retired as a Senior Vice President of Associated Truck Lines. He was also a leader in civic affairs. He served on the board of directors of the United Way for many years and was honored as the Man of the Year in 1982. In July, 2011, they celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary. The couple now resides in Phoenix, Arizona to be near their son, Dan Packard, who is an attorney. 📞

✿ **BELOW:** (Left) Daniel and Catherine at the 1949 summer Senior Class Prom. (Right) Catherine R. Smith with Ms. Branscom Roberts and the new stenotype machines.





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**RIGHT:** Dewey Tate and his wife Brenda.

## FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

### DEWEY E. TATE, CLASS OF 1962

Dewey Tate grew up in poverty, the son of sharecroppers who did not own land, but worked it for other owners. He knew there was a better life available if he worked hard enough. He, like many, was willing to do anything to earn a college degree. Jacksonville State University provided him with an opportunity to work on campus to pay for his tuition. He accepted.

For three of his four years as JSU, he washed dishes in the cafeteria. His senior year, he was promoted to a dorm counselor position in Patterson Hall. During his time at JSU, most male students were required to be a part of the ROTC program. Dewey was no exception. His experience in the program taught him the discipline and leadership that he values today. As a result of the program, he excelled when on active duty as an artillery officer.

Dewey was encouraged by his mother to earn a better life. "She was a very strong, intelligent woman" who taught him that he could do anything he desired

if he worked hard enough. He proved her right by earning his Bachelor of Science degree in business in 1962. He credits his degree and military experience with teaching him how to effectively get things done through positive leadership. He went on to have a very successful career and retired as vice-president and chief operating officer of the Tensar Corporation in Atlanta, Ga.

Today, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Brenda, and their four children. He and Brenda travel quite often and have gone to Africa several times where they have funded clinics and other aid efforts. Dewey says "we first went to Africa so that I could take photos of the large animals. One of the guides took us to visit his village. It was a life changing experience. The people still live a 'stone age' life style. We felt like we had to find a way to help." And that they did through various aid projects.

Giving back is important to Dewey and his family. He gives back to JSU because it "provided a way to earn a college

degree for someone without money." He says "working several hours a day washing dishes in a cafeteria was not fun, but it resulted in my getting a degree. That degree changed my life in many positive ways, giving me a better life than I would otherwise have had."

From his generosity, twenty students have benefitted from the Dewey E. Tate ROTC Scholarship at JSU since 2007. And the giving hasn't stopped there. Dewey and Brenda have recently established the Dewey E. Tate Scholarship fund at JSU for students who have a need for financial assistance, excel academically, are involved in community service, and who are willing to give back to the scholarship fund upon entering their career. The Tate family is leaving a legacy for future students to maintain.

Tate's advice to any young person is to do whatever it takes to earn a college degree. As he says, "the result is life changing; certainly it has been for me." 



On Thursday, December 28, 233 band members and 108 staff members, alumni, parents and friends will board planes in Atlanta, Georgia headed to London.

The Marching Southerners will be representing Jacksonville State University and the state of Alabama by leading the New Year's Day Parade through the streets of London. More than ten thousand performers from all corners of the globe will entertain a street audience of around 500,000 and a global television audience of tens of millions.

Director of Bands, Mr. Ken Bodiford, says this trip is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the band members. "I am so happy for our students. They work so hard on that hot asphalt parking lot and hardly ever complain. I frequently tell them that hard work always pays off. In this case, the hard work over the years has definitely paid off. I am very proud of them."

Special thanks to everyone who made a contribution to the JSU Foundation to lessen the \$3,000 cost per student to participate. Queen Leadership Sponsors include JSU Trustee, Mr. Randy Owen and Dr. Tom Head with the West Tennessee Neuroscience Center. 



## The March to London

Southerners Follow-up

PHOTO BY STEVE LATHAM

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## JSU LOSES A FRIEND SPERRY SNOW

1948-2011



When Sperry Snow graduated from Shades Valley High School in Birmingham, he didn't exactly have his sights set on college. Realizing that college was the best option for him at the time, he quickly applied to the only university whose application deadline had not yet passed. As fate would have it that university was Jacksonville State University.

He was accepted within a week and arrived on campus in the fall of 1966. He found that while JSU had been his only option, it was the best choice he could have ever made. He instantly fell in love with the friendly campus and warm caring community that still exists today at JSU. Some of his favorite memories of JSU involved going to football games and how much excitement and student support there was in the stadium. (Renee Robertson, *Gem of the Hills*, Fall 2006 '57)

Barton Sperry Snow graduated from Jacksonville State University in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree in political science. He served in the U.S. Marine

Corps after graduation. Sperry knew the importance of giving back to your alma mater, and for the next thirty-nine years, he remained involved with JSU.

He served as the president of the National Alumni Association from 1976-1977 and was named the Alumnus of the Year in 1978. Sperry later continued to serve with the Foundation Board of Directors from 2001-2011, serving as the board president in 2006 and 2007.

Everyone that knew him knew about his love for JSU. On August 17, 2011, Sperry passed away unexpectedly at the age of sixty-three. At the time of his death, he was the co-owner of Barton-Clay Jewelers in Mountain Brook Village in Birmingham, Ala. Family and friends gathered at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Birmingham on August 22 to remember their loved one.

His death saddened many hearts but the legacy he created lives on for future generations to follow.

# ALUMNUS GIVING BACK ONE MILE AT A TIME

BY KACI OGLE  
PHOTO BY STEVE LATHAM



In January, 2011, Todd Freind '93 decided one morning that he was going to start running as part of an exercise regimen. He laced up his shoes, headed out the door and began a running routine. Making that decision changed his life forever.

Freind is a deputy sheriff with Mobile County in Alabama. A co-worker approached him about running in the St. Jude Memphis to Mobile Run in May. He didn't give it much thought since he didn't have any direct ties to St. Jude and did not know anyone receiving treatment there. But after he began to enjoy his running routine, he registered to be a part of his co-worker's team for the upcoming run.

According to the event website ([www.mobilestjuderun.org](http://www.mobilestjuderun.org)), the St. Jude Memphis to Mobile Run is a fundraising event benefitting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital where every dollar raised by the runners goes to the research and treatment of children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases. Each participant is asked to raise \$2,000 for the event. It is a relay style run beginning in Memphis, Tenn. and ending at Battleship Park in Mobile, Ala. Runners complete three mile segments in small groups followed by a chase van for safety and supplies. Runners remain together in two teams of RV's travelling the route. The run is approximately 391 miles and each runner covers twenty-four miles over a four day period.

Freind's team left Mobile on Tuesday, May 10 and arrived in Memphis later that afternoon. They settled into a hotel that



evening and anxiously awaited the race beginning the next day. At 8:00 a.m., the participants were given a tour of the hospital and began running at noon to start their journey over the next three days. Freind says he didn't sleep well that first night as "the anticipation of seeing the hospital danced in (his) head for hours." He imagined his face looked like a child's face on Christmas morning when they arrived at the hospital. "I was amazed" said Freind. "They have scientists and doctors on site that continuously research medicine and treatment options for the children. They also make their own pharmaceuticals and distribute them. It costs approximately 1.2 million dollars a day to run the facility. The numbers were staggering to me."

As the race began, runners were sorted into two groups, a red team and a blue team. Freind was on the red team. Each team ran about eight hours which

gave the other team a rest period. Each participant ran approximately two three-mile legs in an eight hour period each day. This relay continued across three states until the last mile into Battleship Park when all of the runners joined in the last leg of the journey. According to Freind, each leg of the race was exhausting by the end but thinking about the St. Jude children kept everyone motivated. "I just kept thinking how fortunate I am to have healthy kids and this is the least I could do." During the hospital tour, Freind met Logan, an eleven year old boy, from Elkmont, Ala. who was having a bone marrow transplant. He had wanted to be a police officer since he was four years old according to his mom. His donor is his younger sister. Freind's team joined together and took a picture of Logan getting into one of their sheriff's cars. The look on Logan's and his mom's face captured the moment and

made every mile worth running.

Freind says he is often asked why this race, why become involved with the St. Jude run. His response is simple. "Words cannot describe the feeling I got from the time we toured the hospital to the time we reached Mobile. Would I do it again? There is no hesitation for a positive answer. Once you realize the miracles that happen at St. Jude, your soul is never the same. I don't know why I started this journey with St. Jude. I just know that it must continue. I followed my heart and it took me places that I never dreamed I would go." Todd will be there again next May, helping the children of St. Jude, one mile at a time.

**For more information on the 2012 St. Jude Memphis to Mobile Run being held May 16-20, visit [www.mobilestjuderun.org](http://www.mobilestjuderun.org)**



# REUNITING WITH CLASSMATES

40 YEARS LATER

BY KANDICE HALL  
PHOTOS BY STEVE LATHAM

The year was 1965. Three individuals left home to attend college for the first time.

Who would have guessed that Ken Jones, Roger Kilpatrick and James Wallace would become friends almost instantaneously? The three young men started their journey at JSU and found what would be the beginning of a long-lasting friendship.

Ken Jones, from Maine, did not have a clear idea of what he wanted to do in his future. All he knew was that his friends were being accepted into colleges with high hopes of becoming doctors and lawyers someday. Jones said, "My selection for college was totally random." When fall

arrived, a Greyhound bus dropped him off at the Dari Delite at 6:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning to start his life as a college student in Jacksonville, Ala.

James Wallace, who was living in Washington State, chose JSU because his parents were from Alabama and he was born in Montgomery. "I was looking for a smaller school rather than one of the big universities," said Wallace.

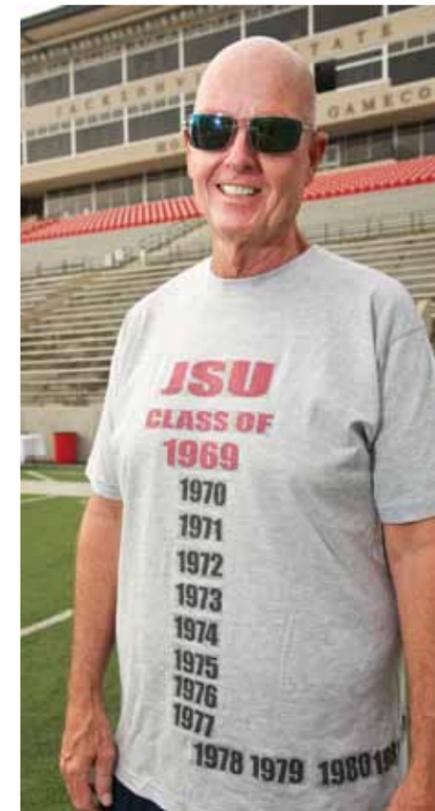
Roger Kilpatrick, from Virginia, chose JSU because it was a state school even though he had rarely been to Alabama. His father was in the military and Alabama was his home base.

James met Roger as they literally bumped into each other on the front steps of Bibb Graves Hall. They were both lost and knew no one at JSU. The two spent the remainder of the day together at the dining hall and registering for classes. They soon learned that they both loved writing and were taking the same English and literature classes." They became instant friends.

The duo became a trio when Ken's dorm room assignment ended up across the hall from Roger.

"We had something in common because we were all from military families and were all from out of state," said Roger.

 **RIGHT:** James' friends and former classmates, purchased the t-shirt shown for him to wear at the graduation rehearsal.



The three went their separate ways after graduation but stayed in touch.

After college Jones worked at the *Anniston Star* and *Montgomery Advertiser* as a reporter. He moved to the *Advertiser's* afternoon paper, the *Alabama Journal* as an editor. Years went by and Jones was offered a position as editor of Maine's largest newspaper, the *Portland Herald*. He's been there since 1974.

Kilpatrick was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army at graduation in 1969. He spent four years in the army which included two tours in Germany and one tour to Vietnam. When Roger left the army he moved to Atlanta

and began working in management with the JCPenny Logistics team. He spent thirty-four years at this job. He became a successful senior engineer manager. Kilpatrick later retired from his job in Ohio and currently lives with his wife in South Carolina.

After leaving JSU in the spring semester of 1969, Mr. Wallace went back to Montgomery and landed a job with the *Alabama Journal* newspaper as a reporter. Wallace said, "that began my newspaper career, but I had not graduated." After a short time, James was drafted in the Army and eventually stationed in Asmara, Ethiopia, where he became editor of the

base weekly newspaper during his eighteen months there.

After his two years in the Army, Wallace returned to Montgomery to resume his newspaper career with the *Montgomery Advertiser*, and later worked on papers in Washington state as an editor, reporter and newspaper executive. In the early 1990s, he wrote a book on Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates called *Hard Drive*. The book became a bestseller, and has since been translated into more than fifteen languages. The unauthorized biography was one of the first about Gates. Wallace also wrote a sequel entitled *Over Drive*.



**LEFT:** James with friends Roger and Ken.

For the final twenty-eight years of his newspaper career, Wallace worked as editor and reporter for the Hearst-owned *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. The last twelve of those years was spent covering the aerospace beat and The Boeing Co., which builds its commercial jetliners in the Seattle area. But the paper ceased publication in March 2009 and became an online only operation. Wallace and some 160 other reporters and editors lost their jobs. After being unemployed for several months, Wallace was hired by Boeing as the editor of the company's monthly magazine, *Frontiers*.

When Boeing discovered he had not finished his degree, the job offer was nearly withdrawn, but was made conditional on Wallace completing his degree. After moving from Seattle to Chicago to work for Boeing, in the company's corporate headquarters, Wallace re-enrolled at JSU through the distance education program. He took six online classes, a total of eighteen hours, to complete his degree. A

computer science class he took proved to be helpful to him on the job at Boeing. "I had to master the use of Microsoft Office Utilities, Word, PowerPoint and Excel," said Wallace.

"The JSU online system using Blackboard was easier than I had anticipated," said Wallace. He never experienced any issues with completing tests or homework.

"I promised Boeing I would get that degree within two years, and I made it with a couple of weeks to spare!" said Wallace.

In May 2010, the three college friends reunited on campus for the first time since the early 1970s. The minor detail of James not graduating came up in conversation. James told them he planned to receive his degree by mail. Roger and Ken convinced James that he should attend the graduation ceremony. They all agreed they would meet the following year back at JSU where their friendships began to see James receive his diploma.

So in August, Ken Rogers traveled from Maine and Roger Kilpatrick from

South Carolina, to finally see James walk across the stage.

His advice to incoming freshman: "Get that degree." Wallace said, "I never needed that degree until I lost my job, forty years later." 

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# WITH ALUMNI

JSU ALUMNI EVERYWHERE ARE GATHERING AND HAVING FUN. PICTURED ARE SCENES FROM JUST A FEW ALUMNI EVENTS HELD OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS.



**BLOUNT COUNTY ALUMNI DINNER AT O' SO GOOD BBQ IN ONEONTA**



**CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA ALUMNI DINNER AT CAROLINA BREWERY IN CHAPEL HILL**



**ATLANTA AREA GAMECOCK FIESTA AT PAPPASITO'S IN MARIETTA, GA**



**MARSHALL COUNTY MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION IN GUNTERSVILLE**



**CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY ALUMNI DINNER AT LOGAN'S IN OPELIKA**



**MOBILE BAY AREA ALUMNI AFTER-HOURS AT THE BLUEGILL ON THE CAUSEWAY**



**ETOWAH COUNTY ALUMNI DINNER AT AUSTIN'S**



**BASKETBALL REUNION**



**BASEBALL REUNION**

# Spring Etiquette Dinner

JSU Students participate



Current JSU students participated in an Etiquette Dinner this spring on the JSU campus. In addition, Belk Department Store in Gadsden lent clothing to students to add a "Dress for Success" element to the program. The evening was a huge success and will become an annual event. 🍷



JSU Alumni in the Greater Washington D.C. area gathered for dinner on Veteran's Day to reunite with fellow classmates and install new officers. JSU Vice-President of University Advancement, Dr. Charles Lewis talked to the group about future plans for Jacksonville State University. 🍷

## UPCOMING EVENTS & REUNIONS

**FEBRUARY 3**  
Central Alabama "Denim & Diamonds" event at the Capital City Club in Montgomery

**FEBRUARY 21**  
Marshall County Mardi Gras Celebration at Papa Dubi's in Guntersville

**MARCH 7**  
Student Etiquette Dinner

**APRIL 19**  
Calhoun County Spring Shrimp Boil at the Alumni House pavilion

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CHECK OUT THE JSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PAGE! STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI AND VARIOUS JSU ALUMNI ACTIVITIES! IT IS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR RECEIVING JSU INFORMATION AND PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING.

# The Men of Kappa Alpha Order

REUNITE ON CAMPUS



“Seeing these familiar faces brings back so many great memories” was repeated many times during the spring reunion. JSU’s Delta Phi Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order gathered to honor A. D. “Gus” Edwards, the chapter’s founder. Kappa Alpha Order was chartered at Jacksonville State in January, 1976.

Alumni began talking about the need to celebrate the chapter’s thirty-five years of history, and a simple Facebook post led to the event. “Wouldn’t it be great to see some of the older brothers and little sisters standing on the porch of the KA house again?” A few people began putting some plans in place, and things began to come together.

Barbecue, good music, old friends, and great times were abundant as alumni and current brothers gathered for the event. Glynn Grisham '80 said “It’s great to see the fruits from the seeds we planted

thirty-five years ago when starting the Kappa Alpha chapter at JSU. The young men in the chapter now are leaders on campus and hosted a great time for the alumni brothers and little sisters. We are all looking forward to homecoming when many older brothers and fellow alumni will see the new stadium and all that JSU has become.” Matt Whitaker '06 added, “An event like this gives you an appreciation for the history and continuation of upholding a successful chapter.”

Current chapter members enjoyed meeting and hosting alumni for the event. Having the KA Little Sister alumnae back as well made it a very special day. Current KA President, Harry Shaver, summed it up for the brothers. “It was a great experience meeting so many alumni. We want to continue to improve our relations and communication to keep everyone updated on what’s going on in the Delta Phi Chapter.”

## STAY UP TO DATE

Catch up on all the latest alumni news and events at [www.jsu.edu/alumni](http://www.jsu.edu/alumni)

Don't miss out on important information. We need your e-mail address. Please e-mail us at [alumni@jsu.edu](mailto:alumni@jsu.edu).



# ONE OF JSU'S NEWEST ALUMNI CHAPTERS

THE NORTH FLORIDA ALUMNI CHAPTER



Congratulations to one of the JSU Alumni Association’s newest chapters, the North Florida Alumni Chapter. After successful events in Gainesville and Jacksonville, Florida, Mr. Brian Clark (back center) approached the Association’s Board of Governors at the summer meeting and asked that the chapter be officially recognized. Mr. Clark will serve as the chapter’s inaugural president, with Mr. Bob Boyle as the Vice President for the Jacksonville area and Mr. Jeffrey Blackwell (second from left) as the Vice President for the Gainesville area.



Mr. David Patterson '89 was recognized as the Malcolm B. Street Jr. Criminal Justice Alumnus of the Year at the annual CJ Alumni Banquet at Homecoming 2011.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
Emily Bonds '87  
[ebonds@joneswalker.com](mailto:ebonds@joneswalker.com)

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Don Killingsworth '99/01  
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**VICE PRESIDENT**  
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**TREASURER**  
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**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
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**DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS**  
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**ASST. DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS**  
Alan Renfroe '88/07  
[arenfroe@jsu.edu](mailto:arenfroe@jsu.edu)



# SOUTHERNERS REUNION 2011



# ALUMnotes

## BIRTHS

\*pictured below

### 1990-1999

Donald A. Turner, Jr., '90/'94, and his wife Trisha Thomas Turner, '95/'11, Wellington, Ala., announce the birth of their son, Grant Thomas\*, February 22, 2011. Mr. Turner is the Assistant Superintendent for Calhoun County Schools. Mrs. Turner is the Career Technical Director for Talladega City Schools. She was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

### 2000-2011

Amanda Lea Lackey McCain, '00/'04, and her husband, Jamey Warren McCain, North Las Vegas, Nev., announce the birth of their daughter, Madison Grace, May 17, 2011.

Sara Elizabeth Underwood, '02/'04, and her husband, Josh Underwood, Jacksonville, Ala., announce the birth of their daughter, Reese Ann\*, August 29, 2011. Mrs. Underwood is employed by the Polk County (Ga.) Board of Education and Mr. Underwood is the Assistant Sports Information Director at JSU.



TaShelia James Washington, '03/'09, and Unice Kenkande Washington, '05/'07/'10, Jacksonville, Ala., announce the birth of their baby girl, Sydney Elise\*, August 1, 2011. Mrs. Washington is employed by JSU in the Registrar's Office.

## WEDDINGS

\*pictured below

### 1980-1989

Joe Lee Whitmore\*, '83/'03, and Janet Pierce, May 30, 2011, at Sunset Point at Walt Disney World, Orlando, Fla. Mr. Whitmore is the Director of Institutional Support Services and Mrs. Whitmore is the Coordinator of the Honors Program at JSU.

### 2000-2011

Curtis Cannon, '00, and RaShanda Williams, November 13, 2010, at the Alabama Theatre, Birmingham, Ala. He is a certified personal trainer and a marketing specialist for Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Alabama.

Thomas Joseph Whiddon, '01/'10 and Kristen Hicks, July 2, 2011, in Niceville, Fla. Mr. Whiddon is an assistant football coach at JSU and Mrs. Whiddon is a pharmacist at Target in Oxford, Ala.



Julie Ingram, '02/'03, and Jeremy White, June 4, 2011, Rainbow City, Ala. Mrs. White is employed by Gadsden State Community College.

Jenny Michelle Hinson, '02/'05, and Jeremy Edward Adams, June 25, 2011, Scottsboro, Ala.

Karen Maxwell, '03/'06, and Kenneth Clark Jinks, '08, April 20, 2011, Childersburg, Ala. Mrs. Jinks is employed by the Oxford City Board of Education. She was a member of Phi Mu. Mr. Jinks is employed by the Talladega County Board of Education. He played baseball for JSU.

Emily Margaret Williams, '03, and Richard Jason Baranski, July 16, 2011, Acworth, Ga. Mrs. Baranski is employed in Washington, D.C. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Stewart Wayne Cisco, '04, and Darby Beth Wallingsford, '07, June 18, 2011, Athens, Ala. Mr. Cisco is employed by the Jackson County Board of Education as a teacher at Dutton Elementary School. Mrs. Cisco is employed as an elementary teacher at Skyline High School.

Nicholas Paul Jenkins, '04, and Dana Elizabeth Knight, June 4, 2011. Mr. Jenkins is employed by Personnel Staffing, Inc. as an account executive.



Caleb Howard Hayden, '04, and Stephanie Michelle Shourds, '06, June 18, 2011. Mr. Hayden is employed by Verizon Wireless. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. Mrs. Hayden is employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education as a teacher at Chalkville Elementary School.

Holleigh Nichole Wisner, '04/'07, and Jeffrey Pascal Hamby, July 23, 2011, Albertville, Ala. Mrs. Hamby is employed by the Shelby County Board of Education as a teacher at Helena Intermediate School.

Clayton Roy Dean, '05, and Amy Catherine Middleton, July 9, 2011, Fairhope, Ala. Mr. Dean is employed as a design engineer with Dental EZ in Bay Minette, Ala. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

Clinton Shane Ellison, '05/'07, and Kathryn Christine Stephens, March 19, 2011. Mr. Ellison is employed by the City of Gadsden as Assistant Director of Planning.

Farrah Rachel Holmes, '05/'08/'10, and Justin Duncan Hayes, July 16, 2011, Gadsden, Ala. Mrs. Hayes is employed by JSU.

Holly Leighanne Tolbert, '05, and James Michael McBride, May 7, 2011, Douglasville, Ga. Mrs. McBride is employed by C.B. Richard Ellis, Atlanta, Ga.



Bradford Keith Bentley, '07, and Crystal Denise McComb, May 21, 2011, Gatlinburg, Tenn. Mr. Bentley is employed by ALOG Corporation.

Miesha Bothwell, '07, and Steve Spann, Jr., June 11, 2011, Huntsville, Ala.

Brittany Lyn Graben, '07, and Adam Lee Golson, September 10, 2011, Springville, Ala. Mrs. Golson is employed by WDJC, Birmingham, Ala.

CORRECTION: Katherine Lee Johnston Lomax's\* JSU information in our previous issue was listed incorrectly. In her wedding announcement, we listed her as having been a member of Phi Mu. Mrs. Lomax was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi. We apologize for this error.

Joseph Christopher Carter, '07, and Heather Ashley Tucker, May 21, 2011, Cullman, Ala. Mr. Carter is employed as a medical equipment technician with Independent Medical Equipment of Cullman.

Katie L. Stanford, '07/'08, and Patrick C. Dooley, May 21, 2011, Gadsden, Ala. Mrs. Dooley is currently pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Patrick Gavin Bright, '08, and Lisa Ann Murray, May 21, 2011, Albertville, Ala. Mr. Bright is employed by One Stop Environmental, Birmingham, Ala.



Melissa Lynne Clark, '08, and Dustin Carter Patterson, May 14, 2011, Birmingham, Ala.

Cortney Ann Cunningham, '08, and Nathan Lee Dove, April 2, 2011, Milledgeville, Ga. Mrs. Dove is employed by Stacks Furniture Outlet, Pelham, Ala. She was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Mr. Dove attended JSU and is employed with CSX Railroad.

Candice Ragan Garner, '08, and Timothy James Grimes, May 28, 2011, Ariton, Ala. Mrs. Grimes is employed with the Gadsden Police Department as a crime scene technician.

Robyn Leigh Miles, '08, and Bradford Nicholas Morgan, April 16, 2011, West Point, Ga. Mrs. Morgan is employed with the *LaGrange Daily News* as a photographer.

Stuart Forrest Morrison, '08, and Rebekah Lauren Upchurch, July 9, 2011, Oxford, Ala. Mr. Morrison is employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education.

April Nicole Vines, '08, and Daniel Lee Trantham, May 14, 2011, Anniston, Ala. Mrs. Trantham was a member of Alpha Xi Delta. Mr. Trantham is currently attending JSU and is employed by Trantham Farms, Inc.

Amy Vingers, '08, and Ryan Huff, October 9, 2011, Leeds, Ala. Mrs. Huff is employed by the State of Alabama as a social worker.

David Bryant, '09, and Whitney Miller, '10, September 10, 2011. Mr. Bryant is employed in construction work for Bryant Farms. Mrs. Bryant is employed by Jacksonville Medical Center, Jacksonville, Ala.

Amanda Renee Cornelius, '09, and David Michael Williams, March 12, 2011, Anniston, Ala. Mrs. Williams was a member of Phi Mu. Mr. Williams is attending JSU and is a member of Pi Kappa Phi.

Jessica Audrea Dooley, '09, and Chad Nicholas Moody, September 17, 2011, Huntsville, Ala. Mrs. Moody is pursuing her master's degree at JSU.

Cortney Adam Hutcheson, '09, and Danielle Coleen Knox, June 18, 2011, Gulf Shores, Ala. Mr. Hutcheson is employed as a substitute teacher with the Dekalb County Board of Education.

Rodger David Jennings, Jr., '09, and Lindsey Rachel Holcombe, '10, April 16, 2011, Attalla, Ala. Mr. Jennings is a reporter for the *Jacksonville News* and serves as children's director at Cherry Street Baptist Church, Attalla, Ala. Mrs. Jennings plans on working as a children's therapist. The couple met at JSU while members of the Baptist Campus Ministry. Mr. Jennings also served as SGA president.

Jeremy Zack Smith, '09, and Anna Elizabeth Weathers, May 14, 2011, Albertville, Ala. Mr. Smith is employed by Defense Contract Management Agency, Birmingham, Ala.

Kacy Lynne Beasley, '10, and Chad Michael Dixon, May 14, 2011, Gadsden, Ala.

Jodi Michelle Branch, '10, and Matthew Keith Pool, April 2, 2011, Oxford, Ala.

Mary Ann Brown, '10, and Nicholas Ryan Haney, May 14, 2011, Huntsville, Ala. Mrs. Haney is employed by House to House, Heart to Heart, Jacksonville, Ala. Mr. Haney is currently pursuing a degree at JSU and is employed by the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission.

Daniel Clayton Cameron, '10, and Claire Suzanne Walker, July 8, 2011, Gadsden, Ala. Mr. Cameron is employed by Baker Tire Company.

Danielle Rene Castle, '10, and James Markley Morrison, Jr., September 17, 2011, Huntsville, Ala. Mrs. Morrison is pursuing her master's degree and is employed by Cornerstone Pediatrics, Madison, Ala. She was a member of Delta Zeta.

Daniel Frazier Clonts, '10, and Carrie Amanda Prance, '11, June 4, 2011, Anniston, Ala. Mr. Clonts is employed by Champion Sports Medicine. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

Karla Michelle Gilliland, '10, and Joshua Blake Galloway, June 11, 2011, Albertville, Ala.

Lauren Whitney Gray, '10, and Dustin Blake Sequin, '10, August 20, 2011, Union Grove, Ala. Mrs. Sequin is an accountant with Woodward, Nolan & Rollings, LLP, Albertville, Ala. Mr. Sequin is employed in sales with Moultrie Toyota, Rainbow City, Ala. He played baseball for JSU.

Rebecca Claire Hudak, '10, and Casey Lenn Wigley, September 24, 2011, Gadsden, Ala. Mrs. Wigley is employed by Quality of Life Health Services, Inc.

Amanda "Kori" Jones, '10, and Brian Paul Smith, June 25, 2011. Mrs. Smith is employed as Cooperative Coordinator for IBEC, Hokes Bluff, Ala.

Miles Alan Keith, '10, and Brittany Ruth Webb, July 9, 2011. Mr. Keith is pursuing his master's degree and plans to be a teacher and coach. He is a youth minister at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Talladega, Ala. Mrs. Keith will graduate in December 2011 from JSU and plans to pursue a master's degree and become a teacher.

Daniel Craig Kiker, '10, and Brandy Athina McDonald, February 26, 2011, Piedmont, Ala. Mr. Kiker is employed by the Calhoun County Board of Education at Alexandria High School. Mrs. Kiker is attending JSU and is employed by Simple Simon Pizza.

Laura D. Murr, '10, and McKinley Seth Glow, August 13, 2011, Talladega, Ala. Mrs. Glow is employed by Professional Apothecary, Talladega, Ala.

Lauren Renee Neale, '10, and Christopher Andrew Ridgeway, '10, May 14, 2011, Arab, Ala. Mrs. Ridgeway is employed by the Northeast Georgia Medical Center as an RN. Mr. Ridgeway is employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He played football for JSU.

Drew Matthew Williamson, '10, and Paige McCall Barber, May 28, 2011, Glencoe, Ala. Mr. Williamson is employed by the Decatur City Board of Education.

Leslie Amanda Young, '10, and David Blake Morrison, August 6, 2011, Piedmont, Ala. Mrs. Morrison is employed by Kronospan, LLC.

Cory Steven Bragg, '11, and Megan Ashley Pritt, October 15, 2011, Alexandria, Ala. Mr. Bragg is employed by Northeast Alabama Regional Medical Center, Anniston, Ala. Mrs. Bragg is attending JSU and is employed by Westwood Preschool Child Care Center.

Alexandra Bruce, '11, and Jeremi Shealy, September 24, 2011. Mrs. Shealy is employed by Lineville City Board of Education as a teacher at Lineville Elementary School.

Zachary Frank Gilliland, '11, and Mary Beth Ledbetter, '11, June 25, 2011, Gadsden, Ala. Mr. Gilliland is employed

by Rhodes Services. Mrs. Gilliland is employed by Gadsden Warehousing. She played softball for JSU.

Sarah A. Jones, '11, and Zach C. Burrage, June 11, 2011, Ohatchee, Ala. Mrs. Burrage is employed by The Victoria Inn & Restaurant, Anniston, Ala. Mr. Burrage is attending JSU and is employed by the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office.

Jessica Shea Pope, '11, and Rhett Houston Walker, May 28, 2011. Mr. Walker is attending JSU and is employed by Bowles Construction.

## OBITUARIES

(Unless otherwise noted, the following information was taken from newspaper obituary notices)

### JSU FACULTY/STAFF

Martha J. Ruger, Jacksonville, Ala., March 1, 2011. She was employed by JSU for the past nine years in the housekeeping department.

Joyce Ann Shaw, Anniston, Ala., January 25, 2011. She was retired from JSU.

### YEAR OF GRADUATION OR GRADUATION YEAR UNKNOWN

Doug H. Barrett, Cedartown, Ga. The alumni office was notified during the recent JSU Phonathon that Mr. Barrett is deceased. He played football for JSU and was a member of the 1955 team. He was married to Carolyn Patterson Barrett, a former Marching Ballerina.

Frank "Skip" Butenschon IV, Boca Raton, Fla., February 1, 2011. He had been a member of the Southerners during the late 1970s.

Paul Chambers, Jacksonville, Fla., date of death unknown. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Chambers is deceased. He had been a member of the Southerners in the 1970s.

Iva L. Dickie, Ohatchee, Ala., January 25, 2011.

Sara Woodall Elliott, Centre, Ala., date of death unknown.

Garlin L. "Red" Farabee, Holland, Mich., August 23, 2006. The alumni office was notified by a relative that Mr. Farabee is deceased. He played football for Jacksonville State and was a member of the football J-Club.

Cathy Mims Henderson, Ashville, Ala., August, 28, 2011. Mrs. Mims was a church pianist in the Talladega area for many years. She also was a therapeutic foster care parent and devoted much of her life to helping emotionally disturbed children.

Fredrick Lee McCain, Anniston, Ala., April 6, 2011. He had been employed by Regional Medical Center as a lab tech. Mr. McCain played football for JSU.

Jean Sewell Mason Mikatarian, Houston, Tex., June 3, 2011. She began working in the aerospace industry in 1980 and most recently worked in documentation management for the International Space Station. Mrs. Mikatarian was a JSU Marching Ballerina.

Virgil Nix, Anniston, Ala., February 10, 2011. He was a retired Colonel with thirty years of service in the U.S. Army where he earned a Purple Heart, Bronze Star and several Army Commendation Medals. After his retirement, he served as a civilian employee in both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. A former member of the Southerners, Col. Nix was active in the JSU

Gamecock Club and the Sixties Group. He was a life member of the football J-Club.

Donald Lee Otto, Shawnee, Okla. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Otto is deceased. He had been a member of the Southerners.

Susie Louise Harmon Sykes, Talladega, Ala., March 12, 2011. She had been a teacher for more than forty years in the Talladega County and City School Systems. She coached the first women's basketball team at Westside High School and was among the first group of teachers to initiate the Head Start Program in Talladega in 1965. Mrs. Sykes also served as an adjunct faculty member at Talladega College. She was 100 years old.

Ned Westmoreland, Guntersville, Ala., December 16, 2010. The alumni office was notified by a relative that Mr. Westmoreland had passed away. He was a member of the Southerners in 1961.

### 1930-1939

Inez Meadows Dobbins, '39, Crossville, Ala. The postal service advised the alumni office that Mrs. Dobbins is deceased.

Margaret "Maggie" Virginia Finch, '39, Kailua, Kona, Hi., October 7, 2011. The alumni office was notified by a friend of Ms. Finch that she had passed away. She was retired and enjoying life in her Hawaiian paradise.

Estelle Burnham Vestgard, '40, Piedmont, Ala., January 2011. Mrs. Vestgard taught in the Calhoun County School System for several years before moving to Florida where she also served as a teacher. She retired in 1980 after thirty-nine years in education and returned to Jacksonville, Ala.

Clyde Casey, '42, Gadsden, Ala. The alumni office was notified by Ms. Casey's daughter that she had passed away in 2010.

Mary Nell Kirby Holloway Edmondson, '42, Woodland, Ala., March 14, 2011. Mrs. Edmondson was retired from Callaway Mills where she had been a spinner.

Myrtie Will Fargason, '46, Cragford, Ala.

Essie Fincher Young, '47, Austell, Ga., October 25, 2010. The alumni office was notified by Mrs. Young's niece that she had passed away. She was retired after forty years as an educator in the Atlanta School System. After retirement, she traveled extensively in Fulton and Clayton counties as a special teacher to the blind and partially-sighted students.

Mary Jo Korreckt, '49, Lincoln, Ala., January 25, 2011. Ms. Korreckt was retired from the Talladega County Board of Education after thirty-one years of service and was a member of the National Teachers' Hall of Fame.

John Calvin Stanfield, '49, Birmingham, Ala., May 9, 2011. A World War II veteran, he served in the Navy aboard a hospital ship. He was retired from Hartford Insurance where he worked as a claims manager in the Decatur office.

Dorothy Nell Boyd Ware, '49/'50, Huntsville, Ala., June, 2010. She was a retired teacher with the Lee County Board of Education. The alumni office was notified by a family member that she had passed away in 2010.

**1950-1959**

Alvin Baggett, '50, Huntsville, Ala., August 27, 2011. He was a World War II Navy veteran serving on board the USS Maryland and had been employed by NASA at

Marshall Space Flight Center for thirty-five years as a personnel officer during the Apollo and shuttle programs.

Eason V. Dobbs, '50, Fort Payne, Ala., November 11, 2000. The alumni office was recently notified by Mr. Dobbs' daughter, Mary, that he had passed away in 2000.

Joyce Williams Farmer, '50, Centre, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Farmer is deceased. She was retired from the Cherokee County Board of Education.

Winnie Mae Crumpton Murphree, '50, Wedowee, Ala., January 24, 2011. She had been a teacher in the Randolph County School System. She was 100 years old.

Ina Varnell Skinner, '50, Saint Augustine, Fla. The alumni office was recently notified by Mrs. Skinner's daughter, Greer, that she had passed away in 2010.

Eris Jones Cunningham, '52, Powder Springs, Ga. The alumni office as notified by the postal service that Mrs. Cunningham is deceased.

Rhonwyn Hazel Norris, '52, Fyffe, Ala., September 2005. Ms. Norris was a retired teacher with the Dekalb County Board of Education.

Thomas J. Weaver, Jr., '52, Tupelo, Miss., November 23, 2010. The alumni office was notified by a family member during the JSU Phonathon that Mr. Weaver passed away. He had been commissioned through the JSU ROTC program.

John Brewer Gilreath, Sr., '53, Hoschton, Ga. The alumni office was notified by a family member during the annual JSU Phonathon that he is deceased. Mr. Gilreath was a retired teacher and coach.

Marion F. Mayfield, '53, Gadsden, Ala., February 19, 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Mayfield's wife, Jonola Jones Mayfield, '58, that he passed away.

John W. "Bill" Davis., '54, Wedowee, Ala., September, 2011.

Mary Burdette, '55, Anniston, Ala., February, 2011.

John A. Patterson, '55, Huntsville, Ala., May 18, 2010. The alumni office was notified recently by the executor of Mr. Patterson's estate that he had passed away.

Carey Beth Taylor, '55, Roanoke, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Ms. Taylor is deceased.

William Curtis Hammill, '55, Knoxville, Tenn., March 3, 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Hammill's wife, Betty, that he had passed away. Mr. Hammill had spent a career in the U.S. Army. He was a cheerleader at JSU and had been commissioned through the ROTC program and played on the tennis team.

Mary Jo K. Akins, '56, Fort Payne, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Akins is deceased.

Regina Miller Perry, '56, Suwanee, Ga., April 27, 2011.

Helene Lorraine Owens, '57/'71, Montgomery, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Ms. Owens is deceased.

Irma Griffin Stanford, '57, Lineville, Ala., July 9, 2011. She was a retired educator with the Clay County Board of Education in Lineville.

Marvin Armstrong, '58, Lithonia, Ga., January 25, 2011. The alumni office was

notified by Mr. Armstrong's wife, Rosemary, that he is deceased. Mr. Armstrong was retired from the Rockdale County School System in Conyers, Ga.

Bill Charles Burroughs, '58, Scottsboro, Ala., June 27, 2011. Mr. Burroughs had been an educator for forty-one years serving as teacher, coach, administrator and supervisor. Twenty-one of those years were spent as principal of Hollywood Junior High. He was also an adjunct teacher at Northeast Alabama Community College.

Allen Lee Lester, '58, Jackson's Gap, Ala., May 7, 2011. For twenty-three years, he worked as a corporate attorney for Equifax in Atlanta, Ga. After his retirement, he worked as a broker and realtor for Russell Lands. Mr. Lester was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry. He was married to Betty Wallis Lester, '58, a retired teacher.

Julian Lane "Buddy" Martin, '58, Gadsden, Ala., November 13, 2010. Mr. Martin served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was co-owner of Pine Hills Farms and retired from Golden Flake Snack Foods after twenty-seven years of service.

Edgar Gann Parrish, '58, Trussville, Ala., December 10, 2010. The alumni office was notified by a family member that he is deceased. He was retired from the Birmingham City Board of Education.

Sarah Elizabeth Anderson Mullis, '59, Gadsden, Ala., June 9, 2011. She was a magna cum laude graduate of Jacksonville State and worked for the Extension Service in Fort Payne, then later in Jacksonville, Fla. She taught for twenty-nine years at Englewood Senior High School, Jacksonville, Fla.

Robert Erwin, '59, Huntsville, Ala., January 24, 2011. The alumni office was notified by a family member during the annual JSU Phonathon that he is deceased. Mr. Erwin had been commissioned through the JSU ROTC program and was a retired civil service employee.

Jennifer Campbell Hixon, '59, Johns Creek, Ga., June 25, 2011. She had been a teacher.

Betty Alverson Knight, '59, Jacksonville, Ala., May 19, 2011. She had been a social worker in Calhoun County and then went on to be a dispatcher for the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office.

Marlin P. Sherron, Jr., '59, Newport, N. Car., February 10, 2011. Mr. Sherron was retired from First Citizen's Bank, Morehead City, N. Car., where he worked for twenty-six years.

**1960-1969**

William Ralph Payne, '60, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., February, 2011. The alumni office was notified by a friend and fellow classmate of his passing. He was owner of a Subway sandwich shop franchise.

David Logan Cobb, '61, Steele, Ala., April 27, 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Cobb's wife, Ida, that he had passed away. Mr. Cobb was retired from Gulf States Steel.

Marion Shaddix Dabbs, '61, Eastaboga, Ala., May 14, 2011. She began her teaching career at age nineteen in a two-room schoolhouse, where her students carried buckets of water from a well, where they built morning fires in a potbellied stove, and where she had to take away chewing tobacco from students. Mrs. Dabbs taught for more than thirty-two years in both Eastaboga and in Lincoln.

Johnny M. Garrison, '61, Birmingham, Ala., June 12, 2010. The alumni office was notified during the annual JSU Phonathon that Mr. Garrison had passed away. He had been a teacher with the Jefferson County Board of Education.

Richard E. Higginbotham, '61/'66, Montgomery, Ala., May 27, 2011. The alumni office was informed by a family member of his death. Mr. Higginbotham was retired from the State Board of Education.

Harold Gene McDowell, '61, Huntsville, Ala., June 18, 2008. The alumni office was notified by his wife, Brenda, that he had passed away in 2008.

John Thomas Allen, '62, Albertville, Ala., March 15, 2011. The alumni office was notified by a family member of his death. Coach Allen played baseball for Jacksonville State in 1960 and 1961. He was retired from the Marshall County Board of Education. He was inducted into the Marshall County Sports Hall of Fame in 2005.

Wesley R. Thompson, '62, Roanoke, Va., March 4, 2011. The alumni office was notified by his son, Brian, that he had passed away. Mr. Thompson was a former Southerner and member of the Baptist Campus Ministry. For over thirty years, he was a teacher and guidance counselor at Cave Spring, Northside and William Fleming High Schools.

David Wolfe, '62, Trussville, Ala., January 27, 2011. An Army veteran, he was retired from Southern Natural Gas Company where he was a corporate tax accountant. Mr. Wolfe was also a registered Amateur Softball Association (ASA) umpire for over thirty years and a member of the Birmingham Football Association for more than fifty. In 2010, he was inducted into the Central Alabama ASA Hall of Fame.

Robert H. McLeod, '63, Anniston, Ala., February 6, 2011. Mr. McLeod served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a former member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Dr. John Robert Mize, '63, Oxford, Ala., September 19, 2011. Dr. Mize was commissioned through the JSU ROTC program and served in the Army during the Vietnam era. He was an administrator and professor at Bainbridge College in Georgia.

Richard Frank Wolfe, '63, Pleasant Hill, Ca., March 12, 2010. He was commissioned through the JSU ROTC program. The alumni office was notified by a family member during a recent survey that Mr. Wolfe had passed away.

Mildred Edwards Brasseale, '64, Little Rock, Ark. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Brasseale is deceased.

Sadie L. Hayes, '64/'76, Ringgold, Ga. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that she is deceased.

Pamela Jean Goss Morrison, '64, Madison, Ala., July 30, 2011. She had battled cancer for many years. Mrs. Morrison was married to Billy Wayne Morrison, '64. She was a former Marching Ballerina.

Maurice Ray Lacey, Sr., '65, Port Saint Lucie, Fla., February 5, 2011. Mr. Lacey had been a band director for seventeen years, serving at Guntersville High School and Boaz High School before going into civil service and working at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., and then Pensacola, Fla., where he had been the director of an educational program operated by the U.S. Navy for people in the service. During his years in civil service, he also spent time in Vietnam and Korea.

**56 : GEM OF THE HILLS**

David Albert Lovvorn, '65, Trussville, Ala., August 4, 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Lovvorn's wife, Sandra, that he passed away.

Gary Keith Hodge, '66, Alexander City, Ala., April 7, 2011. Mr. Hodge worked for Russell Corporation for twenty-seven years as director of knitted apparel division and personnel manager until his retirement.

Robert Lewis Cantrell, '68, Duluth, Ga., November 17, 2010. The alumni office was notified by a family member during a recent survey that Mr. Cantrell had passed away. He had been owner of Capital Mobile Accounting, Inc.

Nathan Dwight Duke, '68, Scottsboro, Ala., May 15, 2011. He taught and coached basketball at East Highland High School in Sylacauga where he led the team to a state championship in 1970. He changed careers shortly thereafter, receiving his law degree and being appointed district attorney in Jackson County. He served for eighteen years before retiring in 1996. One of the most significant moments in his career was trying the first DNA case in Alabama and one of the firsts in the country in 1988. Mr. Duke was a former member of the JSU cross country team.

Barbara "Sue" Forrest Govatos, '68/'77/'84, Anniston, Ala., August 28, 2011.

Robert Earl Haynie, '68, Alexandria, Ala. Mr. Haynie was a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran and was employed by URS Westinghouse in Anniston.

Wanda Harris Harkins, '69, Childersburg, Ala., September 2011. Mrs. Harkins was a retired counselor from Central Alabama Community College.

Kathleen Louise Murphy, '69, Winchendon, Mass. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Ms. Murphy is deceased.

Tommie Jean Willis Studdard, '69. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Studdard is deceased. She was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

### 1970-1979

Grady "Kelly" Hooper, '70, Eclectic, Ala., January, 2011. Mr. Hooper had been a regional sales manager for Firestone Tires. He played football for JSU and was a member of the Alabama Collegiate Conference Championship football team of 1965. The alumni office was notified by one of his former teammates of his death.

Wallace Ray Murphree, '70, Cullman, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Murphree is deceased. He had been a sales manager with Behlen Manufacturing in Cullman.

Carol Jean Smith, '70, Arab, Ala., March 20, 2011. She served the people of Alabama for over three decades beginning as a law clerk, then as Assistant Attorney General for thirty years, ending as Chief of the Operations Division. She was known as the state's leading expert in the fields of municipal and county government law, serving under eight attorneys general. She was selected JSU's Alumna of the Year in 1985. Ms. Smith was a charter member of Alpha Xi Delta, later serving as a member of the National Council. She also previously served on the JSU Alumni Association's National Board of Governors.

Dorothy Fay Wallace, '70, Talladega, Ala., April 1, 2011. She had been employed by the Talladega City Board of Education.

James David Carlisle, '71, Anniston, Ala., October 4, 2011. He was retired from Alabama Power Company. Mr. Carlisle was active in various civic organizations in the Saks area of Anniston.

Linda Johnson Israel-Hays, '71/'91, Jacksonville, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that she is deceased. Mrs. Israel-Hays was a former Marching Ballerina.

Kenneth Arnold Harris, '71/'75, Smyrna, Ga., April 5, 2010. The alumni office was recently notified by Mr. Harris' daughter that he had passed away.

Sybill England Rogers, '72, Jefferson, Ga. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that she is deceased. Ms. Rogers was one of the first Marching Ballerinas. She was also a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry and Delta Zeta.

Bruce Thurmond, '72, Gadsden, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Thurmond is deceased.

Diana Lee McElroy-Kelley Albro, '73, Chattanooga, Tenn., January 25, 2011. She and her husband were house parents at the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home for twenty-three years.

Philip H. Bailey, '73/'74, Huntsville, Ala., January 21, 2011. He was employed by Sanmina-SCI for twenty-eight years.

James F. Bischoff, '73, Pell City, Ala., February 5, 2011. He was married to Bonnie Porter Bischoff, '73.

Betty Watters Cater, '73, Alexander City, Ala., May 25, 2011. She started her career in banking in Anniston and then moved to Houston, Tex., where she was an executive sales coordinator for a large brokerage firm for more than twenty years.

Mrs. Cater was a former member of the Southerners.

Vicki Thigpen Stokes, '73, Clanton, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that she is deceased.

Patricia Barry Barnes, '75, Melbourne, Fla., January 31, 2011. She had been an attorney with the law firm of Adams & Reese.

Barbara "Babs" Zinn Minter, '75/'85, Rabbittown, Ala., May 24, 2011, after a battle with cancer. A retired teacher and librarian, she spent most of her career with the Calhoun County School System.

James Malory Luker, '75/'92, Ashland, Ala., October 2, 2011. He taught chemistry at Benjamin Russell High School (Alexander City) for many years before returning to Clay County where he was an assistant coach at Lineville High. He also served as assistant principal at both Ashland Elementary and Lineville High. His dream was to see a new state-of-the-art high school with high academic standards in Clay County....a dream he took pride in seeing fulfilled.

John Davis Richie, '75, Glencoe, Ala., May 16, 2011. A twenty-two year U.S. Navy veteran, he served in postwar Japan. He retired in 1972 and began a second career with the Alabama Department of Revenue. Mr. Richie was also a published poet and author of several theological books.

Joyce Carter Roberts, '75/'76, Jackson, Tenn., April 26, 2011. The alumni office was notified by family members that Mrs. Roberts is deceased.

Bruce Cardin Stewart, '75/'79, Fort Walton Beach, Fla., May 23, 2011. Mr. Stewart played basketball for JSU. He was a basketball coach since 1976. His last coach-

ing years were spent at Northwest Florida State College from 1997 to 2010. Over his career, he won sixteen Coach of the Year awards, one national championship, fourteen regular season conference championships, and eight conference tournament championships. His overall twenty-six year coaching record was 785-304. He holds a sixty-two game home court winning streak between 2003-2008. He was one of only two coaches to take college teams to four different national tournaments (NCAA, NIT, NAIA and NJCAA).

Virginia "Ginny" Stead Burkett, '76, Spring Hill, Fla., January 8, 2011. She had been a registered nurse and nursing instructor.

John Wayne Davis, '76, Mobile, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Davis is deceased. He had worked for Terminix in the quality assurance area.

Lucy Allen Porter, '76, Merritt Island, Fla., February 11, 2011. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Porter is deceased.

Jerry E. Cummings, '77, Anniston, Ala., February 5, 2011. A U.S. Army veteran, Mr. Cummings served in Germany. He was retired from the construction industry.

Christa Fair, '77, Anniston, Ala., July 17, 2011. Ms. Fair was well known for her sense of style and hosting fun and amazing parties at her home in Anniston.

Jo Ann Harrison White, '77, Anniston, Ala., August 21, 2011. Mrs. White was a retired teacher from The Donoho School.

Alene Massey Chesnut, '78, Gadsden, Ala. The alumni office was notified by a family member during the annual JSU Phona-thon that Ms. Chesnut passed away.

LTC Thomas D. Lind, '78, Venice, Fla., May 2, 2011. The alumni office was notified by LTC Lind's family that he is deceased.

Janis Calhoun Rhodes, '78, Jacksonville, Ala., June 4, 2011. Jan was a longtime employee of the JSU Drama Department. She is a former member of the Baptist Campus Ministry and Phi Mu. Mrs. Rhodes was married to Earl Eugene "Gene" Rhodes, '75.

**1980-1989**

Clara Rose Piper Cavender, '80, Heflin, Ala., April 13, 2011. She was employed since 1983 in the Cleburne County School System, most recently at Cleburne County Middle School. Mrs. Cavender was also a published author. Her book, *If Only*, was dedicated to her father and the proceeds went to Alzheimer's research. She was married to Joe Carroll Cavender, '76.

Douglas Marvin Cochran, '80, Cartersville, Ga., April 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Cochran's wife during the annual JSU Phonathon that he had passed away.

Floyd William Crow, '80, DeArmanville, Ala., March 12, 2011. Mr. Crow was a U.S. Army veteran, serving as a Military Intelligence Officer. He later owned his own business and then worked for F.A. Richard and Associates Insurance Services as V.P. of Property and Catastrophe Claims Division until 2007. Mr. Crow was commissioned through the JSU ROTC program.

James Corbin, '81/'83, Albertville, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Corbin is deceased.

Susan Moore Baker, '82, Alexandria, Va. The alumni office was notified during the annual JSU Phonathon that Mrs. Baker had passed away.

Herbert Lee Woolf, Jr., '82, Glencoe, Ala., January 26, 2011. The alumni office was notified during the annual JSU Phonathon that Mr. Woolf had passed away. He had been the chief of plant maintenance at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville.

Jimmy Carl Bishop, '83, Fruithurst, Ala., February 22, 2011. Mr. Bishop served for twenty-six years in the U.S. Navy and served two years in Vietnam. He had been a medical technician at Roanoke Community Hospital.

Donna Gail Savage Dotson, '83, Leeds, Ala., September 14, 2011.

Brenda Gail Rodgers, '83, Pell City, Ala., December 16, 2010. The alumni office was notified by her husband, Stewart, that Mrs. Rodgers is deceased.

Lawrence Ed Woodall, '84, Carrollton, Ga. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Woodall is deceased.

Dorothy Marie Gieger, '85, Clayton, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Ms. Gieger is deceased.

Shirley Cheatwood Mitchell, '85, Anniston, Ala., April 2, 2010. The alumni office was notified by a family member that Mrs. Mitchell is deceased. She had been owner of Mitchell Flowers.

Corrina L. Patzschke Weaver, '85, Anniston, Ala., May 2, 2011. She was married to Ralph Earnest Weaver, '08.

Lisa Ann Bramlett, '87, Piedmont, Ala., April 17, 2011. Ms. Bramlett had been a coordinator for the City of Jacksonville.

Christopher D. Parker, '87, Four Oaks, N. Car., died of a heart attack suddenly on May 5, 2011. A former pitcher for the Gamecocks, he helped JSU reach a national title game and became an All-American. He played professional baseball. Former JSU baseball coach, Rudy Abbott, called Mr. Parker one of the greatest pitchers in JSU baseball history. He remains in the JSU record books in several categories.

Vanessa N. Pollard, '87, Fairfield, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Ms. Pollard is deceased.

Julia Watwood Jones, '88, Alexandria, Ala., June 28, 2011.

Wesley A. Jones, '88, Powder Springs, Ga., 2008. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Jones' wife, Tricia, that he had passed away three years ago.

Denise Butler Vinyard, '88, Weaver, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mrs. Vinyard passed away.

**1990-1999**

Gary Steven Swigert, '90/'91, Jupiter, Fla. The alumni office was notified by a family member during the annual JSU Phonathon that Mr. Swigert passed away. He had been a teacher with the Palm Beach County (Fla.) Board of Education. He was married to Mary Emory Swigert, '91.

Todd Andrew Milewicz, '93, Huntsville, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that Mr. Milewicz is deceased. He had previously been food service director for the University of Tampa, in Tampa, Fla.

John Marshall Paty, '93, Southlake, Tex., July 21, 2010. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Paty's sister that he had passed away in 2010. Mr. Paty had been a teacher and coach in Marietta, Ga., before moving to Texas.

Michael Lynn Bearden, '94, Leesburg, Ala., March 27, 2011. Mr. Bearden had been an instructor at Northeast Alabama Community College.

Eric Horton, '97, Cedar Bluff, Ala. The alumni office was notified by the postal service that he is deceased. Mr. Horton played baseball for JSU.

Jennie Ruth Winchester Lowe, '98, Ohatchee, Ala., September 3, 2011. She was the former secretary of the American Production and Inventory Control Society.

**2000-2011**

Kevin "Brent" Jones, '01, Montgomery, Ala., May 2, 2011. The alumni office was notified by Mr. Jones' mother that he had passed away. Mr. Jones had been employed in the governor's office by the Alabama Department of Finance. The Alabama House of Representatives passed a Resolution on May 24, 2011, mourning his death.

Jamie Todd Noojin, '03, Birmingham, Ala., February, 2011. He was currently working on his PhD in physical therapy at the University of Alabama Birmingham.

Kevin Tyrone Thompson, '05/'10, Jacksonville, Ala., April 21, 2011. Mr. Thompson was a teacher at Walter Wellborn Elementary School. He also worked at the Walmart Vision Center in Jacksonville.

Justin Sollohub, '06, Jacksonville, Ala., August 25, 2011. Officer Sollohub was an Anniston police officer shot in the line of duty after making a stop on routine

patrol. Though only an officer for three years, his proactive, hardworking attitude earned him a spot on the department's elite Special Response Team, a unit usually reserved for more experienced officers. He was a member of Delta Chi.

**ALUMNOTES**

**YEAR UNKNOWN/ATTENDED ONLY**

Sherry Jo Stewart Rogers, Stevenson, Ala., has been named Assistant Cashier, Loan Operations for First Southern State Bank. She began her career at FSSB in 1990 in bookkeeping. Mrs. Rogers was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

**1960-1969**

Virginia Ventress Ellis, '63, Fort Payne, Ala., was named the 2011 Rotary Rose by the Fort Payne Rotary Club in June for exemplifying the Rotary motto "Service above Self." Mrs. Ellis taught for thirty years in Cobb County (Ga.) before retiring in 1993 and returning to Fort Payne. She currently volunteers her time tutoring students in the Fort Payne schools in reading and math and also tutors and coaches adults in the adult education program. She was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Drs. Joe, '64, and Syble Hazelrig Brindley, '64, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August. They are both retired from the University of Montevallo, where Dr. Joe Brindley was vice president for university advancement and Dr. Syble Brindley was a professor and chair of the Kinesiology Department. Dr. Joe Brindley currently serves on the JSU National Alumni Association Board of Governors as President of the Blount County Alumni Chapter.

Bobby M. Junkins, '69/'72, Gadsden, Ala., has been awarded the Alabama Library Association's Public Servant Award for 2011. He has also received notification of his re-appointment to the Board of Trustees of Alabama State University. He currently serves as Etowah County Probate Judge.

**1970-1979**

Sherry Parker Kughn, '70/'05, Anniston, Ala., has served at Consolidated Publishing Company in various capacities for twenty-two years. She has been instrumental in the start of the *Oxford Sun*, a newspaper that was originally distributed in the Oxford area between 1968 and the early 1990s. She will serve the *Oxford Sun* as reporter, news editor and photographer.

V. Merrill Mann, Jr., '70, Trussville, Ala., became President/CEO of APCO Employees Credit Union on January 1, 2011. The credit union serves employees and family members of Alabama Power, Southern Company Services, Southern Nuclear, and various other groups located throughout Alabama and has \$2 billion in assets. Mr. Mann played football and golf for JSU.

Marie Brooks Coker Manning, '70/'78, Wattsville, Ala., has been elected to the St. Clair County Board of Education. She has served in St. Clair County as a teacher, principal and superintendent of education. In 2006, she became head of enrollment services at Jefferson State Community College's Pell City site.

Shirley Ruth Snyder, '70, Talladega, Ala., retired in February, 2011, as an advertising and sales representative for *The Daily Home/St. Clair Times* (Consolidated Publishing).

John Robert Esslinger, '71/'88, Huntsville, Ala., was inducted into the 2011 Huntsville-Madison County Athletic Hall of Fame in April, 2011. In his twenty-one years as head coach of cross country and track and field at Scottsboro, Ala., he produced forty-one state championship teams (with nearly one hundred individual state champions). Among his honors, Coach Esslinger was named Citizen of the Year for Jackson County (1999) and Coach of the Year for the National Federation's Southern Region (2000). He had already made his mark in track and cross country by becoming a sectional champion in 120-yard and 180-yard high hurdles while a senior at Lee High School, Huntsville, Ala. His record still stands today.

John T. Alred, '72, Piedmont, Ala., has been instrumental in starting up *The Oxford Sun* newspaper again. Mr. Alred is employed by Consolidated Publishing and serves as publisher of the *Jacksonville News*, the *Piedmont Journal*, the *Cleburne News* and now the *Oxford Sun*. He previously spent thirty-two years at the *Gadsden Times*. After retiring, he took over the job as managing editor of the *Piedmont Journal* in 2007 and was named publisher in 2010.

John Roy "Jack" Stewart, Jr., '74, Fayetteville, Ga., retired on August 26, 2011, as the Chief, Administrative and Civil Law Judge, Fort McPherson, Ga., after forty-one years' association with the Army. He was commissioned through the JSU ROTC program in 1974, after being selected as the Major General John H. Forney Distinguished Military Graduate for the class. Mr. Stewart served twenty years as an Army judge advocate, retiring in 1997. In 1999, he returned to the Army and served as a civilian attorney for twelve additional years.

Bobby Joseph Burns, '78/'79, Jacksonville, Ala., has retired after thirty-three years as a Calhoun County educator, serving as deputy superintendent and federal programs director since 1994. During his tenure, he was able to sit down with President Obama's Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, and with secretaries who worked under past presidents. His professional relationship with top-level policy makers in Washington, D.C. has led to recognition in prominent places.

Lawrence J., '78, and Robin Sullins Nee, '79, Normandy, Tenn., celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on July 25, 2011. Since they met at JSU, they celebrated by coming back to Jacksonville to visit old friends and ended the night by seeing a JSU drama production on campus. Mr. Nee was a member of the JSU cross country team.

**1980-1989**

Joseph David Burke, '80, Fort Payne, Ala., vice-president and dean of instruction at Northeast Alabama Community College, was recently named Kermit Mathison Most Outstanding Junior College Administrator by the College of Education at the University of Montevallo. Prior to serving in his present capacity, Dr. Burke taught psychology for fourteen years and was director of admissions and student services. Dr. Burke also chairs several committees that develop programs, policies and procedures for the campus. He is married to Pamela Ann Baker Burke, '77.

George Nelson Cooper, Jr., '81, Alexander City, Ala., started his career working for SouthTrust bank. He shortly discovered sitting behind a desk was not where he wanted to be. He headed back to college and finally obtained his medical degree. He is now an anesthesiologist with Russell Medical Center in Alexander City and

has been since 1994. Dr. Cooper was a member of Kappa Sigma.

Pam Smith, '82/'83/'85, Jacksonville, Ala., recently retired after almost three decades as band director at Pleasant Valley High School. She now plans to spend time on her favorite hobby, wildlife photography. She has gone to Africa five times with noted Anniston artist and fellow JSU alumnus, Larry Martin, '61, to take pictures of the animals in their natural habitat. She now hopes to travel to other far-off places to continue her love of photography. Ms. Smith was a member of the Southerners.

Timothy H. Sawyer, '84, Nahunta, Ga., has recently earned a doctorate (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership from Georgia Southern University. He is currently the principal at Nahunta Elementary School, Nahunta, Ga., where he lives with his wife and three children. Dr. Sawyer was a member of the Southerners, A Cappella Choir, and other musical ensembles, as well as the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Anthony J. Bartley, '86/'87, Fort Payne, Ala., was recently promoted to Lieutenant with the Dekalb County Sheriff's Office. He is the school resource/D.A.R.E. supervisor for all of the county schools. Mr. Bartley played football for JSU. His wife, Patricia Tarrant Bartley, '87/'89, was recently promoted to Human Resources Manager at KATH Leesburg Products LLC in Leesburg, Ala., where she has been employed since 2001.

Patti Smith Johnson, '89/'94/'05, Gallant, Ala., has taken the reins as principal of Ashville High School. She previously served as principal at Ashville Elementary. She couldn't be happier because she is a graduate of Ashville High where she was in the band and also a cheerleader. Mrs. Johnson has been employed by the

Ashville School System for more than twenty years.

Maj. Neil Gaston Tew, '89, Montgomery, Ala., was named chief of the Alabama Bureau of Investigation. He has served with the Alabama Department of Public Safety since 1989, having begun his career in the highway patrol division as a state trooper. He has also served as acting chief of the protective services division (2003 to 2007) and assistant division chief of the highway patrol division from March 1, 2010, until January 1, 2011, when he was named acting chief. Maj. Tew was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

**1990-1999**

Timothy Marshall Ballard, '90/'04, Gaithersburg, Md., has received his Doctor of Musical Arts (vocal pedagogy) at the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music at The Catholic University of America, Silver Spring, Md., where he serves as a voice instructor. He also has his own studio for private voice instruction. He currently serves as vice president of the JSU Greater Washington D.C. Area Alumni Chapter.



Jennifer Bolt Causey

Randall Todd Heflin, '90/'98, Oxford, Ala., is now Director of Information Management at the Anniston Army Depot. He was promoted in October, 2010, after serving tours in Bahrain, Germany, Korea and Italy over the past eight years.

Paige Fumbanks Mathis, '90, Powder Springs, Ga., returned to JSU on October 8, 2011, to conduct the Children's Honor Choir. She is a long-standing member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Chorus. She has served as a conductor/clinician for the American Boychoir at Camp Albemarle, numerous honor choruses in the Southeast, and Georgia Music Educators Association District festivals, among others. Mrs. Mathis currently serves as the Repertoire and Standards Chair of the Georgia Division of the American Choral Directors Association. She was a member of the Southerners.

Mary White Oliver, '90/'02/'11, Jacksonville, Ala., is a teacher at Jacksonville High School and has been named High School Teacher of the Year. She previously taught in Kentucky and Tennessee before starting at JHS in 1996. Mrs. Oliver was a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry. She is married to Michael Bruce Oliver, '87, pastor of First Baptist Church of Williams. He was also a member of the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Mary Charlotte Caver, '91, Phoenix City, Ala., has a new book titled *The Sound of Freedom*, written as a result of the attacks on September 11, 2001. Ms. Caver is an Army veteran and became a licensed minister in 2004 and an ordained minister in 2005.

Jeanette Isom Johnson, '91, Jacksonville, Ala., and her husband recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family trip to Destin, Fla.

Jennifer Bolt Causey\*, '92, Birmingham, Ala., has joined the firm of Burr & Forman LLP as business development manager. She has over twenty years of experience in marketing and business development and most recently worked in the real estate industry. Mrs. Causey is married to Kenneth Dean Causey, '90.

Tammy D. Coefield, '92/'99, Oneonta, Ala., is the new principal at Ashville Elementary School in St. Clair County. She has been a teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal, principal and director of instruction and staff development. She most recently served as supervisor of elementary curriculum for the Jefferson County School System.

Roderick Steven King, '92, Ozark, Ala., is the new pastor of Ozark Baptist Church. Dr. King has served in full-time ministry for twenty-one years, serving in churches in Mississippi, Georgia and Alabama. He previously served at Mt. Hebron Baptist Church in Elmore, Ala. He is married to Donna Taylor King, '92, who was a member of Alpha Xi Delta and a former Miss JSU. She is employed by the Elmore County Board of Education.

Robbie Wisener Smith, '92/'93, Hartselle, Ala., has been named the new principal at Discovery Middle School, Madison, Ala. Dr. Smith has been with the Madison County Board of Education for three years and previously served the county schools as assistant coordinator, assistant principal at Heritage and Madison Elementary Schools, and interim principal at Heritage before being named Discovery principal. Dr. Smith played basketball for JSU.

John Mitchell Dees, Jr., '93, Decatur, Ala., is a physical science teacher at Decatur High School. He has been selected as Decatur's Secondary Teacher of the Year. His teaching style of making learning science

fun and his love of helping students are reasons why he was selected for this honor.

Brian O. Butler, '94, Colorado Springs, Colo., has earned his doctoral degree in clinical psychology. He treats soldiers with post traumatic stress disorders for the military. Dr. Butler says that he owes much of his motivation for deciding to earn his doctorate to the quality education and experiences he had at JSU.

Bertis Deon English, '94, Talladega, Ala., accepted the position of associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Alabama State University (ASU). Dr. English began his career as an instructor in the History Department at ASU. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

Christy Allison Hamilton, '94/'97/'04, Jacksonville, Ala., is the new assistant principal at Kitty Stone Elementary School. She has taught at various schools in the Calhoun County School System, including DeArmanville Junior High, Alexandria Elementary and Ohatchee Elementary. Her last three years were spent teaching at Kitty Stone.

Shawn Michael Wells, '94, Eustis, Fla., has devoted twenty-six years to competitive rifle shooting and the skills he honed over those years recently helped him to capture two national titles. At the same time, he set a national record while competing in the 2010 National Rifle Association's National Championship competitions. Mr. Wells competed on the JSU rifle team (1989-93). He is the sharpshooter for the Lake County (Fla.) Sheriff's Office.

James Thomas "Jamie" Cole II, '95, Maylene, Ala., has been named 2010 Writer of the Year by the American Agricultural Editors' Association (AAEA). Mr. Cole is creative writer for Red Barn Publishing. While at JSU, he was awarded the John

C. Turner Award for outstanding communication graduate and was editor-in-chief of the *Chanticleer*. He has won numerous awards for his writing, design and publishing skills, including two writing, ten design and two photo awards in the AAEA Award Program. He is currently pursuing his master's degree in journalism at the University of Alabama with a concentration in media business.

Michael Shane Gaither, '95, Cropwell, Ala., has been named Director of Emergency Services at Trinity Medical Center, Birmingham, Ala. He has previously worked for St. Vincent's St. Clair where he served as patient care supervisor, emergency department charge nurse and director of quality and risk management. He is currently pursuing his master's degree in nursing at JSU. He is married to Traci Lynn Lee Gaither, '89.

Doris Jean Peters Day, '96, Southside, Ala., is choral and drama teacher for the Attalla City Schools. She feels today's shows like "American Idol" have helped to make singing and dancing "cool" and finds now more males turn out to audition than before such shows.

Amy LeAnn Morris Bradley, '97/'05, St. Simons Island, Ga., is a media specialist at Glynn Academy, Brunswick, Ga. Her media center was named Georgia Exemplary Media Program for 2011-2012. She was a JSU Marching Ballerina and a member of Alpha Omicron Pi.

Michael Todd Wheelles, '98, Birmingham, Ala., has been named partner in the law offices of Morris, Haynes & Hornsby. He was admitted to the bar in 2002 after graduating from the Birmingham School of Law.

Heather Kirby Lamey, '98, Jacksonville, Ala., has been named Executive Director of the Piedmont Benevolence Center Board. She previously served the Calhoun County area as Director of the Salvation Army Women's Shelter, Mountain View Hospital, Shine N Stars and most recently as Christmas assistant for The Salvation Army. She is married to Jack Harley Lamey, '00/'07, who is employed by the Piedmont City School System.

**2000-2011**

Kelley Marie Cochran, '00, Oneonta, Ala., is business office manager of Alabama Power's Blount County area office. She started with Alabama Power in 2007, working her way up through the ranks.

Lisa Headington Gillespie, '00/'03, Jacksonville, Ala., is a music teacher at Kitty Stone Elementary School. She was chosen as the 2010 Elementary School Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Gillespie previously served as band director at Sacred Heart Catholic School, a sales consultant for Gadsden Music Company, the choral director of Piedmont City Schools, member of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, and currently tours with an all female percussion group "Chix with Stix." She is married to Clint Gillespie, '90/'98, assistant JSU band director. Both were members of the Southerners.

Lee Hinkson\*, '00/'02, and Kelly Nye Hinkson, '03/'04/'05, Dallas, Ga., celebrated five years of marriage on June 10, 2011. Lee was a left-handed pitcher for JSU and Kelly was a shooting guard on the women's basketball team. She still holds the record for three-point shots.

Melody Turner Holden, '01, Jacksonville, Ala., is teaching math at Jacksonville High School. She is married to David Holden, '90/'96. She has been teaching for more than ten years.

Kenneth Andrew Keith, '01/'07, Talladega, Ala., is assistant principal at B.B. Comer High School, Sylacauga, Ala. He previously taught and coached at Horshoe Bend High School in Tallapoosa County and then at Parrish High. Mr. Keith played baseball for JSU.

Lori Ann Terhune Pilgrim, '01, Rome, Ga., is a media specialist at Kingston Elementary School in Bartow County, Ga. Her media center was named Georgia Exceptional Media Program.

Nia Cox Stivers\*, '01/'03, Bridgeport, Ala., is a Nationally Board-Certified teacher with the Jackson County Board of Education at North Sand Mountain High School, Higdon, Ala. She recently had her book *Wobbly Legs on a Firm Foundation: Finding Stability through Life's Circumstances* published. Diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy at age eleven, she wrote the book as a spiritual autobiography of her life. Mrs. Stivers was a member of Phi Mu.

Brian Patrick Boozer, '02, Southside, Ala., is teaching English at Jacksonville High School. He is married to Jennifer Louise Hooper Boozer, '02, who is a therapist at Mountain View Hospital, Gadsden, Ala.

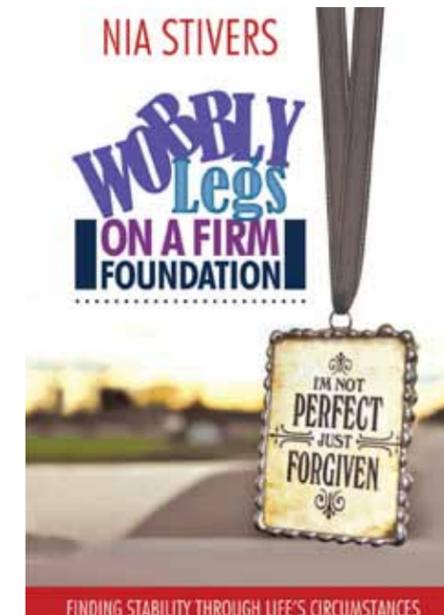


Mr. Boozer is currently pursuing his master's degree at JSU. He previously taught at Munford Middle and High Schools.

Lisa Kathryn Fioranelli Robin\*, '02, Cleveland, Miss., was the recipient of the M. Judith Barnett Single Parent Scholarship, from Mississippi College School of Law during its annual Law Day ceremony in April, 2011.

Kimberly Anne Hays, '02, Rome, Ga., received her PhD in Zoology from Oklahoma State University in December 2010. Dr. Hays has recently accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Biology at Shorter University, Rome, Ga. She is a former member of the Southerners and Sigma Alpha Iota.

Jessica Walthall Kent, '03/'05/'07, Jacksonville, Ala., is a new instructional assistant at Jacksonville High School. She is married to Charles Brent Kent, '06. She previously taught at Cleburne County Elementary School. Mrs. Kent was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and Mr. Kent was a member of Delta Chi.



Sharrissa S. Cook, '04/'07/'10, Beatrice, Ala., is an English teacher at J.F. Shields High School in Beatrice and has been named Monroe County's High School Teacher of the Year and a JSU Hall of Fame nominee for 2010-2011. She holds the "highly qualified teacher" designation and has six years of pedagogical and mentoring experience. Ms. Cook was a member of the JSU Gospel Choir.

Alan Shane Ellison, '05/'07, Rainbow City, Ala., has been named acting administrative assistant to Gadsden Mayor, Sherman Guyton. Dr. Ellison has worked for the City of Gadsden for more than fifteen years, most recently as assistant city planner. Prior to that, he worked part time in the Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments.

Samantha Ann Morrow Kimble, '06, Brandon, Miss., is a teacher in the Jackson (Miss.) Public Schools. She was recently named 2011 Metro Teacher, one of thirteen recipients in the entire metro Jackson area. She was a member of Alpha Omicron Pi.







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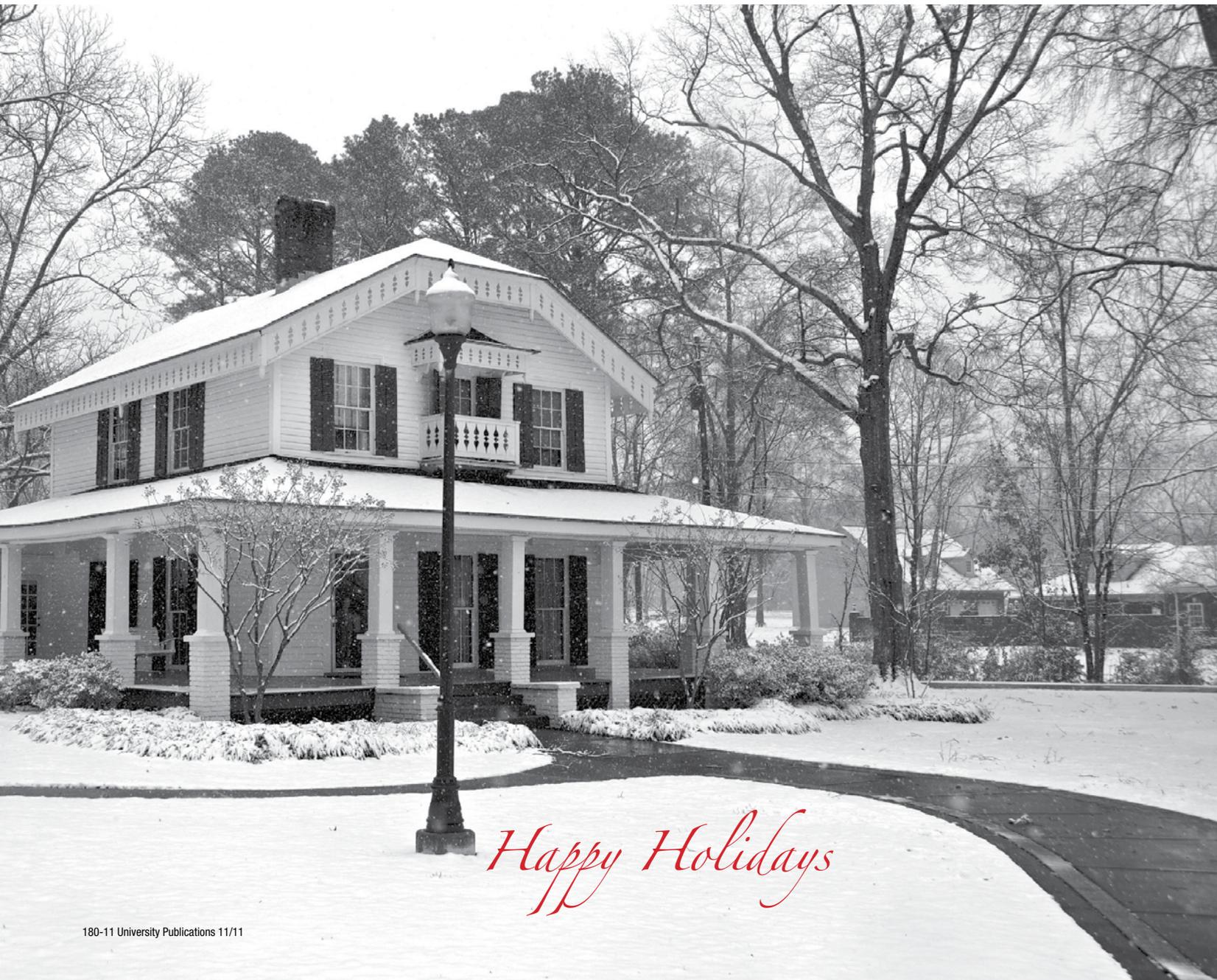
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