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Alumni in Africa... Sharing the Word
A Story Worth Telling

It is interesting that book titles of the Bible are often the names of people. As God tells His story we read of Joshua, Ruth, Samuel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Isaiah, Jeremiah and on to Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and finally Jude. The reason may well be that the real story is not found in the monuments and institutions, but in the lives, memories and contributions of the people. So it is with colleges. The story of Taylor is the story of people; some lesser- and some better-known.

This issue of Taylor is devoted to the lives of people who have touched and shaped the decisions, the aspirations, the results and the spirit of the institution called Taylor University. They span four generations and embrace the globe. They have in common a conscious desire to fit into the flow of His story; some in obscurity and others noticed. I am reminded of this value as I remember the words of St. Bernard of Clairvaux:

There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowing;
that is curiosity.

There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others;
that is vanity.

There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve;
that is love.

Francis Kateh and the Dodge Family are reminders of Taylor’s African connection, a relationship formed over 100 years before Afrocentric studies were made fashionable. Ralph Dodge will always be to me a symbol of unusual Christian courage in the face of injustice. This African relationship continues to be represented by students whether they be from Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi or the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Eicher Family and India have become synonymous to many Taylor alumni. They build on the foundation laid by William Taylor in 1874 when he founded the Methodist church in Bangalore. The challenge of AIDS is new but pervasive in our sense of Christian compassion. While many others talk about it, Christians attempt to deal with not only the medical but the moral aspects of the tragedy, as Stefan Eicher is now doing in Uganda. As I watch seniors mount the platform at graduation, I squint a little and try to imagine how each will make his or her contribution and how the mark that the Taylor experience has put on them will make a difference.

I think all of us subconsciously understand that real meaning is in the lives of people. Perhaps this is what accounts for the fact that class news in alumni magazines is often the first thing to be read. These are inspiring and challenging stories of real people, our classmates, friends, mentors and fellow pilgrims. In this issue we have put the spotlight on just a few, but in the words of Taylor alumnus, Ted Engstrom ’38, “God keeps the books.” They are the living history of Taylor University and are representative of our Taylor vision.—Jay Kesler ’58
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When the first group of Samuel Morris Scholars arrived on the Fort Wayne campus on Sunday, July 6, many began an experience in higher education they never thought they would achieve. Nevertheless, these young men and women had indeed arrived, and they were about to embark upon a six-week orientation program that would unite them as a group of close friends, despite their cultural differences.

In its first year, the Samuel Morris Scholars Program is Taylor’s answer to the Indiana-based Lilly Endowment’s challenge to colleges and universities in the State of Indiana to retain its students in-state upon graduation. Among all 50 states, Indiana ranks 49th in the percentage of adult citizens over the age of 25 who have earned baccalaureate degrees. Taylor received $3.147 million as a result of the University’s proposal to Lilly. To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must either demonstrate financial need whereby he or she was eligible as a senior in high school for federal school lunch assistance, or be a first-generation college student—that is, neither of his or her biological parents completed a four-year college degree.

The summer program is intended to be a time of orientation for the students. In addition to taking proficiency tests in math and verbal skills, they take six or seven credit hours of class. “The goal is to give them an experience this summer that will be challenging and yet supportive,” says Dr. Randall Dodge, associate vice president and director of the Samuel Morris Scholars Program. “We’re providing them with a lot of support to make it a very successful transition to college.”

Besides the coursework, several social activities were planned for the summer program, including movie nights, an evening at the Fort Wayne Symphony, visits to different churches in the Fort Wayne area, and Bible studies in professors’ homes. Another unique event for the group occurred July 23, when they visited the Upland campus to take on the challenge of the “Escape to Reality” ropes course. Many students like Chrissa Everly, agreed that the course required teamwork and giving one’s all to the task at hand. “We learned a lot about teamwork,” she says. “The ropes course really brought it out, and we got a chance to work together.”

These events are as important to the program as the academic aspects, says Verica Jones, assistant director for recruitment and support. “The summer bridge program allows students to have the opportunity to be prepared socially and academically,” she says. “They’re learning more about friendship, respect for each other, discipline, study habits, and how to put them all together and be successful in college.”

These are not the first college students Dodge has worked with in recent years, nor is it the first time he has been a member of the Taylor community. In fact, Taylor history runs deep for Dodge. His grandparents, Bishop Ralph ’31 and Eunice (Davis ’31, now deceased) Dodge met at Taylor; his parents, Dr. Ed ’57 and Nancy (Delay ’57) Dodge also met at Taylor. Randall came to Taylor as a freshman in 1977, majoring in biology. He was an active member of the student body, serving as a PROBE group leader, residence hall personnel assistant, and as a member of the Student Activities Council and the Personal Touch Staff. Following the example of his father and grandfather, Randy met his wife, Colleen Byers, at Taylor. They both graduated in 1981.

The following year Dodge pursued graduate studies at Ball State University in student personnel administration. He worked at Seattle Pacific University from 1982-84, as a residence hall director, and returned to Taylor in 1984 where he served as director of leadership development until 1988. Dodge then studied at Indiana University for a degree in higher education law, which he successfully completed this spring. In Bloomington, Dodge began working with the Indiana College Placement Assessment Center (now the Indiana
Career and Postsecondary Advance-
ment Center). He was deeply moved by
his contact with students there, many of
whom were unable to meet the cost of
higher education.

“I worked with students from all
over the state of Indiana and saw how
difficult it was for those who wanted to
go to college to be able to afford it and
make it happen,” he says. “So I was
very excited when Governor Evan Bayh
proposed and put into effect the 21st
Century Scholars Program, which
guaranteed that students from low
income families would have assistance
in the State of Indiana to pay for the
cost of public college tuition.”

Dodge became the director of
operations for the 21st Century Scholars
Program, but realized that the
options were still limited for those
desiring a Christian college experience.
It is no wonder, then, that he jumped at
the chance to work with Taylor University
students in the same capacity,
through the Samuel Morris Scholars
Program. According to Dodge, the
scholarship program bears the mark of
Taylor’s founding philosophy.

“Taylor University was founded to
provide college degrees for Christian
service to students from a wide variety
of economic backgrounds,” he says.
“Low income students could afford to
go to Taylor in the early years without
scholarship programs. Now we can
continue to make Taylor accessible to
all students because of the Samuel
Morris Scholars Program and other
scholarships at Taylor University.”

This first year of the program has
given no time for delay: Dodge had
only three months after coming to
Taylor to prepare for the arrival of the
Morris Scholars. “We had a very quick
start-up getting ready for the summer
bridge program and recruiting stu-
dents,” he says. “We anticipate that next
year we will be able to meet with
students earlier.”

Dodge and his staff are now in the
beginning stages of developing recruit-
ment tools for the coming years. Staff
members include Verleash Jones, Yvette
Jones, assistant director for corporate
relations, and Megan Smith, program
secretary. Verleash identifies and
recruits prospective students and
coordinates support programs for the
Samuel Morris Scholars while they are
enrolled at Taylor. Yvette works to
provide internships and job opportu-
nities for the scholars, and helps identify
financial partners to endow scholarships
for the program. Smith is a 1997 urban
ministries graduate of Taylor who
saw an opportunity to
apply her education in the Fort Wayne
community through the program.

Besides having opportunities to
work in the community, Morris Scholars
will also participate in AmeriCorps’
America Reads Program, which
“enables college students to assist
elementary school children with their
reading proficiency skills,” Dodge says.
“Our Samuel Morris Scholars will be
meeting on a regular basis with children
in the community who have been
identified as having literacy needs.”

Verleash anticipates traveling all
across Indiana to recruit students,
something she has had experience in
already, serving as coordinator of the
21st Century Scholars Program in
Gary, Ind. She plans to maintain
regular communication with high
school guidance counselors as well as
prospective students. Recruitment, she
adds, must involve much more of an
effort than waiting until the student is a
senior in high school. “We need to start
recruiting students in third and fourth
grade,” she says, “so they can start
working toward this goal.”

As the Morris Scholars discovered
during their day on the Upland ropes
course, teamwork is essential to getting
the job done. And if the summer bridge
program is any indication of what they
will accomplish in the next four years
of college, Taylor University has good
reason to be proud of these students.

Taking a Closer Look . . .

Editor’s Note: I met with the Samuel Morris Scholars when they visited
the Upland campus, July 23. I cannot fully explain what impressed me so
much about this group, but I do have a small collection of mental snap-
shots: the encouraging words spoken by the other students to Tembeckle
Gary during their ropes course excursion, as he took his first few steps
onto a narrow wooden plank, suspended 25 feet off the ground; the eager-
ness of the group to pray for one another with the expectancy that God is
at work already; the powerful words sung by Shannon Reeves, reminding
us that “His eye is on the sparrow; and I know He watches me.” Perhaps
the greatest testimony of these students, however, comes from their
own experience and through their own words.

“God has brought us together as a family and we’re learning how to
be thankful for that and to lean on God for our strength, guidance and
wisdom. Since God gave me this opportunity, my goal is to follow Him
and put my whole self in His will and not just a part of me.” — Kelly
Schmitz (Evansville)

(“Closer Look” continued on page five)
• The Taylor University Parents Cabinet

Going Beyond the Call of Duty

Of all the Taylor traditions celebrated each year, there is one which holds a special place in the hearts of students and their parents—Parents Weekend. Much of the success of this event is due to the planning and participation of a small group of dedicated parents, collectively known as the Parents Cabinet.

As a leadership body of the Parents Association, the Parents Cabinet serves the University in the planning and executing of parents activities and programs, and acts as a liaison between parents and the University. The Cabinet is involved in all aspects of Parents Weekend, including having a visible presence on campus and participating in the Sunday morning worship service.

While Parents Weekend is the largest event coordinated by the Cabinet, the group is also active in welcoming students and their parents to Taylor during New Student Orientation. Parents automatically become members of the Parents Association when their son or daughter comes to Taylor as a student.

Perhaps the most significant contribution Cabinet members make is the unofficial commitment to praying for Taylor University and for their own sons and daughters, and encouraging others to do the same. “It is an unofficial function of the Parents Cabinet,” says Priscilla (TenEyck ’68) Wynkoop, director of parent programs and Taylor mom. “We parents realize how blessed we are to have our children attend such a fine Christian institution. We want to see that it remains just that. We take it very seriously.”

The Parents Cabinet fulfills other vital roles in the lives of many current students, providing emergency financial assistance in times of need. Through the annual GENERAL STORE craft sale, the Cabinet raises support for the Parents Assistance Fund, managed by Walt Campbell ’64, dean of students. In recent years this fund has provided assistance to students traveling home for funerals, helped those who have lost material items destroyed by fire, and covered emergency medical expenses incurred by uninsured students. The GENERAL STORE raises between $5,000 and $8,000 each year during Parents Weekend.

Through its efforts, the Cabinet also raises funds for the endowed Parents Association Scholarship, started in 1993 by Bob Burden, then-president of the Parents Cabinet. The scholarship was first awarded this past school year, and is given to a student in good academic standing with financial need who demonstrates strong Christian character.

Of equal importance to its relationship with the University and with current students, the Parents Cabinet serves as a resource for parents, who are encouraged to contact any of the Cabinet members regarding questions or concerns they have. Wynkoop welcomes such contact as well. “I am contacted often, especially through e-mail,” she says. “Parents are a special segment of the Taylor constituency. It is because of them that our students are here.”

With the opportunity they have to communicate regularly with the Taylor administration and faculty, Cabinet members are better able to represent Taylor University to others, according to Keith Brown, past-president of the Cabinet. “As parents on the Cabinet, we can provide a lot of information and answer a lot of questions we normally would not be able to do,” he says. “Quite often we do not know the answer to the question, but we do know where the resource is and in which direction that kind of question should be pointed.”

Cabinet members are divided into various committees to address specific matters. These include parent/student relations, communications, special events, awards, development (Parents as Partners), and an executive/nominating committee.

The primary function of the awards committee is to recognize candidates to receive awards given by the Parents Cabinet. The Student-Friend Award is given each year to a staff person, usually someone other than a faculty member, who has proven to be a source of help and encouragement to students.

Parents as Partners began as a way to recognize Taylor parents who have contributed financially to the University above and beyond tuition. In addition to being listed in the annual Honor Roll of Donors, these parents receive personal communication from Cabinet members.
During their annual meeting in April 1997, the Parents Cabinet honored Tom ’55 and Helen Beers, welcoming them back into the Cabinet as honorary members. Tom supervised the Parents Cabinet for 12 years, and as the citation for the Distinguished Parent Award in 1992 read, he “brought Taylor parents into a place of prominence among the University’s constituencies.” Tom and Helen were Taylor parents as well, with all six of their children attending Taylor between 1980 and 1992.

For two years, Gene Rupp ’58, vice president for development, managed the responsibilities of the position. Then in 1993, Wynkoop filled the post. This year’s Parents Weekend will take place October 24-26; it will mark Wynkoop’s fourth year as coordinator of the event.

As a representative of all Taylor parents to the President’s Council, the Cabinet seeks to actively relate the concerns of parents, including the perennial rise in the cost of education and the financial stress it creates for most parents. “Many of us are sacrificing financially to send our kids to Taylor,” says Parents’ Cabinet President Gary Boring.

“We recognize that most parents are making a financial sacrifice, and we try to relate to that we’re doing on the Parents Cabinet in an advisory capacity.”

Along with their great interest in Taylor, many parents have questions or concerns about how the University is going to care for their sons and daughters. According to Boring, Taylor has a unique and effective way of addressing these questions. “I’m appreciative of the fact that President Jay Kesler is not intimidated by a group of parents who are extremely interested in the University,” he says. “He feels the freedom to invite us on campus twice a year to ask hard questions and to be available to him and his staff to try to answer questions that they may have about our view of what’s going on at Taylor.”

Mike and Donna Hager were like many Taylor parents when they first began to inquire about a college education for their children. “We do not have a Taylor legacy,” Donna says. “Mike and I, transplants from the South, were very concerned about where we would send our kids to school.”

It was through a Bible study group that Donna began hearing other parents mention Taylor. When they looked into the possibilities, the Hagers decided that Taylor was the school they were looking for. “We were very impressed,” she says, “but we still felt like we were out of the main flow.”

At the beginning of their son Chris’ sophomore year (1994-95) the Hagers joined the Parents Cabinet. There they found the connection to Taylor that they were looking for. “If there was a ministry that the Cabinet has met in our family’s needs, it was in giving us a sense of connection,” she says.

Since joining the Parents Cabinet, Donna has taken an active role in encouraging prayer for Taylor among the Cabinet and Parents Association as a whole. Each year, a prayer reminder card is distributed at the prayer breakfast during Parents Weekend, listing specific prayer requests for the University, and pertinent scripture to those needs. Donna has taken the reminder cards seriously, using them as a means of accountability in her commitment to pray for Taylor. In recent years, Cabinet members have also chosen professors and staff persons to pray for and encourage through written notes or e-mail messages.

Boring notes that Parents Weekend and other activities have undergone the process of fine-tuning, and as a result, have been a consistently positive experience for many parents. He acknowledges Priscilla Wynkoop as having perhaps the greatest impact on these events.—Randy Dillinger ’95

If there was a ministry that the Cabinet has met in our family’s needs, it was in giving us a sense of connection.

Donna Hager
Teaching the Mind and Feeding the Soul

The story of Joseph ’60 and Carolyn (Cloer ’60) Wagner’s work with Operation Classroom in West Africa.

When Joe ’60 and Carolyn (Cloer ’60) Wagner were invited ten years ago by the United Methodist Church to coordinate Operation Classroom, a new ministry for upgrading the denomination’s system of education in West Africa, they had no idea that it would blossom into a thriving outreach to the nations of Liberia and Sierra Leone. Then in 1989, civil war broke out in Liberia.

Regardless of the problems caused by the civil war, the Wagners made a commitment to the work of Operation Classroom. This work involves teacher training; the upgrading of buildings; sending school supplies, equipment, and health and food packets for schoolchildren; and providing a school for refugees in Danane, Cote d’Ivoire.

Operation Classroom has continued its ministry of education in Liberia even in the midst of war. In September 1994, two United Methodist schools were looted; floor coverings, chalkboards, windows and doors were removed. In the spring of 1996 the schools were reopened without renovation and without school furniture being replaced. “The kids carry their own chairs in every day from home because they want the school open,” Joe says.

Due to the war, about 75 percent of Liberia’s families have been displaced, separated, or moved to refugee camps. Many of these refugees have no access to education. The Wagners could not ignore this fact. Through Operation Classroom, they opened a high school for the Liberian refugees in Danane, Cote d’Ivoire. The school now enrolls roughly 700 students. In addition, Operation Classroom still operates four schools in Liberia and seven in Sierra Leone.

When the Wagners visited Liberia in February 1997, the director of education for the Liberia United Methodist Church appealed to them to provide utensils and bowls for the students. Many nongovernmental organizations were providing noon meals, but the students did not have bowls or spoons. Many of these children and their families returned to their homes after having been displaced to find their homes completely empty and often without doors or windows. Operation Classroom responded by providing food and health kits for these children. Included in these various kits were items such as spoons and bowls, pots and pans, clothing, and blankets.

Another area of need the Wagners soon discovered was of the great trauma experienced by victims of the war. For the past three years, Operation Classroom has operated a training program for pastors, teachers and community leaders, equipping them with a basic understanding of trauma counseling. Over 100 counselors have now been trained. Some are working in the schools. Not only do these counselors meet with victims of the war, but often with the fighters themselves, many of whom are children from eight to sixteen years of age. According to Joe, about 75 percent of the kids in the Liberian schools are ex-fighters. In the schools, these young fighters are being trained in vocational skills where they learn that “instead of using their hands to shoot a gun they can use them for something else,” Joe says.

Operation Classroom links churches in the United States in partnership with churches in West Africa. It is a new kind of approach for the United Methodist Church, Joe explains. “It’s very much of a hands-on experience. The idea is to get people involved in missions in a personal way. We feel it is a partnership in which everybody is a player.” Over 300 short-term volunteers from Indiana have participated on work trips to West Africa since the program began. Another way that individuals can be involved is by gathering items to send to the schools—things such as pens, pencils, notebooks, textbooks, Bibles, chalk, copy paper, athletic equipment and first-aid supplies.

One of the difficulties the Wagners have had is maintaining reliable communication with the West African schools. Postal service has been suspended in Liberia since the post office in the capital city of Monrovia was destroyed. Charles Taylor, one of the warlords, was elected president in July with 75 percent of the popular vote. People are very hopeful that the new leadership will bring stability and peace.

Sierra Leone, on the other hand, experienced a coup on May 25, 1997. Schools and businesses were immediately closed. At the time of this writing the political situation in that country looks very bleak. Coup leaders refuse to step down despite the fact that most Sierra Leoneans, as well as other nations, have condemned the coup and are requesting that power be returned to the elected government. An economic blockade was established in early August. Schools remain closed as many of the teachers and church leaders have fled the country for fear of being killed.

One gentleman who has experienced a great deal of sorrow through the war is Dr. Francis Kateh, whose story is told in these pages. Kateh first approached the Wagners to discuss an alliance between Operation Classroom and the hospital where Kateh works in Ganta, Liberia. (Loretta Guiver ’62 was a nurse in Ganta for 35 years.) In December 1995, Kateh received word that his family was traveling by canoe from Cote d’Ivoire to Liberia. While en route, the canoe capsized and Kateh’s sister, brother, sister-in-law, and their children all drowned. Kateh’s father, however, survived and joined his son in Ganta.

“These are the kinds of struggles that people in both countries find themselves going through,” Joe says. “Many families are totally separated. Some have no idea where family members are. But the people have hope and faith that God is going to work things out.”

Although the Wagners live in Colfax, Indiana, where Joe serves as a United Methodist minister, they make an effort to visit West Africa as often as possible. They have made the flight nearly a dozen times already. — Randy Dilinger ’95
As a student at Taylor University, Samuel Morris dreamed of returning to his people, the Kru of West Africa. Although Morris never lived to see his dream fulfilled, there is one today who bears a surprising resemblance to the young man who brought a lasting vision to Taylor University over 100 years ago.

Dr. Francis Kateh, also of Kru descent, first contacted Taylor University after learning of the school's connection with Morris. Kateh visited campus on October 6, 1995, to observe the dedication ceremony for the Morris sculptures, shortly before he left for Liberia to pursue medical work among the Kru. During that visit, Kateh commented, “My dream was always to become a doctor, to go back and serve my people. Now that I know Samuel Morris wanted to become a doctor, there’s nothing in the world I’d rather do.”

A year and a half later, Kateh returned to Taylor for a brief visit... and what a story he had to tell! The following is his own account:

When I went back to Liberia it was quite exciting for me; I have always wanted to go back and serve my people. When I got back home I had to work for the government for one year in order to qualify for a license to practice as a medical doctor. During that time I started my internship at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Monrovia.

Dr. Emmanuel Sando and I were on call the night of April 5, 1996, when the civil crisis started in Monrovia, about 3 a.m. This incident started about 200-300 feet from the hospital. I ran out to talk to some of the military who were there, and they told me it was a fast operation and everything would be okay. Apparently that battle lasted the entire morning. In that process the ECOMOG, which are the peacekeeping forces that were there, decided to retreat. I went out to tell them there were doctors and nurses and patients at the hospital, but none of them could answer. Dr. Sando and I decided to stay. On the average we were seeing between 40 and 60 wounded persons a day.

I stayed there until April 29th, when the chief medical officer, Dr. Coleman, came back to the hospital. At that time we had a soldier who had been shot in the abdomen. We went to the operating room and during the surgery a bullet came through the operating room and passed just between Dr. Coleman and me. We were terrified, so we closed up and left. But my conscience was not serving me well.

I decided to go back to the hospital around 7:30 to 8:00. There was no electricity at the hospital, so I was going in with a flashlight. Just before I reached the hospital door, someone called to me saying, “Who are you?” I said, “Oh, I am Dr. Francis Kateh.” He said, “Come over here.” So I walked up to him. He grabbed the flashlight and my watch. I had some money, so he pulled it out and said he wanted my heart. I told him, “You must be joking.” He said, “I am not joking.” He took his knife and was about to stab me when I grabbed his hand. We tussled over the knife for almost five minutes.

Finally someone came. I don’t know who this person was, but he said, “No, you cannot kill this doctor; he has been helping.” Then this fellow grabbed him from behind and told me to run, and I ran. After that, people told me, “You have to leave the hospital. You have to leave because this person might come back.” And I told them, “If God wanted me to have died, I would have died right there. And because He has given me one more day to live, He did it for a purpose, and I have to stay right here and complete my internship.” I stayed there until the end of the war, completed my internship, and I am presently working at the Ganta Methodist Hospital, in Ganta, Liberia, which is where I have always wanted to work.

We have two doctors at the hospital, Dr. Barcolleh and me. Dr. Barcolleh is the chief and I am next to him. We see on average 200-225 patients a day. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are our surgical days and we average 8 to 9 surgeries on those days, so the workload is hard. There is a need for more doctors. If we could have people who specialize in different areas come in and help, it would make a big difference. We can learn from them, and they can also learn from us.

The need is all over Africa, from one country to another. Africa is a very large continent with a lot of natural resources, but people have not been trained enough to manage them. Because of the consistent conflicts in Africa there has been a brain drain from the continent, and many of the skilled, educated Africans are either in the United States or in Europe, trying to do the best they can. For the few that are still in Africa, sometimes it gets very difficult. Sometimes it takes sacrifice, determination and a lot of prayer. That is a problem; most people will leave because they cannot withstand the pressure, and they have to look for greener pastures.

While in Indiana, Kateh met with medical personnel to discuss the possibility of having American doctors assist in some of the medical work in Liberia. He was also able to discuss the need for resources and instruments to improve the facilities at the hospital. Kateh continues to serve his people in Ganta, Liberia.
The Revolutionary Bishop of Africa

The title of Ralph Dodge’s autobiography, The Revolutionary Bishop, is aptly chosen. As missionaries in southern Africa, Ralph and Eunice (Davis) Dodge—both graduates of Taylor University’s Class of 1931—sought to bring the Gospel to unreached peoples in the countries where they served. Over the course of five decades they ministered in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Angola and Zambia. What made Bishop Dodge a revolutionary among his contemporaries was his understanding of the need for indigenous leadership, both within the Church and in national government. Many African nations were already experiencing the painful process of social and political transition toward independence. Dodge’s perseverance in his convictions eventually prompted the white minority government of southern Rhodesia to kick him out of the country. But while the Dodges were gone physically, their vision still lived on for the people they served.

As a result of their efforts, many Africans pursued a more advanced education in Europe and in the United States than they were receiving in their own countries. The Dodges encouraged these students to return to their home countries upon their graduation so they could serve their own people and fill key leadership roles there.

Ralph Dodge has lived a long and extraordinary life of service. To celebrate his legacy, family and friends gathered recently in Dowling Park, Florida, for Dodge’s 90th birthday. He received a special gift after his birthday dinner—a bound volume of over 160 letters of greeting and tribute, written by friends, family and co-laborers. These letters provide a glimpse of the impact Ralph and Eunice Dodge had on the people and the places they served.

“You could see further down the road than most of us, and you challenged us to make haste in preparing for African
leadership in the church,” wrote Skip and Barnie Higgs, fellow Methodist missionaries. “Let’s face it, you really made us do it. ‘Success,’ you said, ‘is working yourself out of a job.’ And indeed, when independence came, the church had a large contingent of well-educated and qualified national leaders who were more than ready to become directors of Methodist programs and to fit into important community and government roles. You were the Bishop who was not afraid of change. Yes, Ralph, you led us kicking and screaming into the turbulent transition years. Without you, the story of Methodism in Rhodesia would have been very different. We thank God we could serve under your direction in that crucial time.”

In recognition of their life work, the Dodge family has established the Ralph and Eunice Dodge Memorial Scholarship at Taylor University. This scholarship will continue their desire to provide higher education for international students, particularly those from Africa, who wish to study at Taylor University and return to their countries of origin to serve God, the church, and their fellow citizens.

Prior to his coming to Taylor, Dodge had no intention of pursuing a missionary life. Rather, he intended to continue in his family’s farming tradition in Iowa. Following a particularly tragic year, he decided to pursue God’s will, and at that time decided to go toward a life of Christian service. In an interview published in the Summer 1981 issue of Taylor Magazine, Dodge noted the three traumatic events which occurred that year: “My father was killed in a train-auto crash; I survived a terrifying experience with a runaway team of horses; and I was nearly electrocuted when a power cord shorted while I was loading a rail car at a farmer’s elevator. These events, plus the prayers of my mother and the guidance of a dedicated pastor, turned me toward the ministry. So, on a rainy summer day in 1926, I applied for admission to Taylor University.”

Dodge began his studies at Taylor in the fall of 1926. With little financial backing, he worked hard to pay for his education, getting up at 5:00 every morning to milk the cows before breakfast. Because of his heavy work schedule, Dodge remained at Taylor for five years.

During his sophomore year, Dodge took notice of Eunice Davis, a freshman from western New York. They were both active in the student body: he was president of his junior class, she was vice-president of her sophomore class; he was a member of the Philaletheans, she was a Thalian; he participated in debates, she was editor of The Echo. Although their romance was on-and-off during their college years, Eunice accepted Ralph’s marriage proposal and the two were wed in 1934.

Ralph continued his education, earning a graduate degree from Boston University’s School of Theology, an S.T.M. degree from the Hartford Seminary Foundation, and a Ph.D. from the same institution in 1944. He had gone on to serve pastors in Massachusetts and North Dakota when the Dodgers learned that the Methodist Episcopal Church was looking for a young couple to take over the mission work in Angola. They arrived in the city of Luanda just before Christmas 1936, and remained in Angola until 1950, with a brief return to the United States during World War II. Following the War, they began working in the Dembos region, which was unreached by the Gospel at that time. Thousands came to Christ, and Dodge appointed the first pastors and evangelists to work in the Dembos.

After serving from 1950 to 1956 as the mission board’s executive secretary for Africa, Dodge was elected Bishop of Southern Africa, covering Angola, Mozambique and southern Rhodesia. Once again, he proved to be a true revolutionary, becoming the first bishop of Africa to be elected in Africa by Africans. Prior to that, all bishops were elected in the United States by Americans. Dodge was reelected Bishop in 1964, but that same year he was expelled by the Rhodesian white minority government. Still, the government’s actions were unable to hinder the movement already afoot as young Africans, through Dodge’s encouragement, were already studying in American colleges and becoming qualified to help their countries move toward a more just and equal society.

In addition to studying such skills as law and journalism, many of these students pursued Christian ministry. Those who studied at Taylor include Dr. Paul Kasambira ’75, professor of education at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, and Dr. William James Humbane ’71, who since 1991 has been executive secretary for the Africa Church Growth and Development Program of the United Methodist Church in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Upon his departure from Rhodesia, Dodge began working as chaplain at the Mindolo Ecumenical Institute in Kitwe, Zambia, while Mrs. Dodge served as field treasurer for the World Division of the Board of Missions in Zambia. During the mid-1970s Dodge headed up the Bishops’ Call for Peace and Self-Development of People. He traveled around the world in this capacity. He later returned to Rhodesia-Zimbabwe to serve for one year as interim bishop in 1979 when Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa left the post to become Prime Minister during the country’s move toward full independence from Britain. Following this final term as bishop, the Dodgers returned to the United States. Eunice died in 1982, and in December 1983 Ralph married Elizabeth Law.

The Taylor University Alumni Association awarded the “Revolutionary Bishop” the Legion of Honor in 1989; it is the Association’s highest award. Dodge was also named Alumnus of the Year in 1957. While he is enjoying his years of retirement, Dodge still has a missionary’s heart. He is active in Promise Keepers; he also maintains a garden and shares the fruits of his labor with others in the retirement community where he lives.—Randy Dillinger ’95

Ralph and Eunice (now deceased) Dodge both graduated from Taylor University in 1931.
First Impressions and the Taylor Tradition

Ed and Nancy Dodge were an unlikely pair when they first met as freshmen. But experience taught them: you can’t always trust your first impressions.

As a missionary kid in Africa, Ed Dodge ’57 was not prepared for the cultural adjustment necessary in coming to the United States when he returned at the age of 14. He spent his high school years in New Jersey, feeling very much like an outsider. When he came to Taylor, though, he felt at home for the first time since leaving Africa.

Indiana University Medical School, but to their surprise they discovered that Nancy was pregnant. “When the school found out that she was expecting, they terminated her job just like that,” Ed recalls. “But we made it through med school anyway. It was a struggle, but with help from our parents and working through medical school, we made it.”

In 1967, the Dodge family moved with their three children to Ethiopia, where Ed fulfilled his international health residency over the course of two years. It was not an unfamiliar place for Ed, even though he had never visited the country before. While his experience at the Public Health College in the city of Gondar was intended for his medical training, it was no less a ministry for Ed.

“The concept was to teach public health teams to go out and staff rural health stations,” he says. “This was a way of trying to meet the health needs of the people more quickly.” According to Ed, Ethiopia had very few doctors at the time—perhaps 20 for a population exceeding 22 million.

Ed saw many similarities between Ethiopia and the southern African cultures in which he was raised as the son of Ralph and Eunice Dodge. It was an altogether different experience for Nancy. “The first six months were difficult,” she says. “There were a lot of new smells, tastes and sights. But we had a close-knit community at the college. It helped to have other people in the same situation.”

Ed and Nancy are both grateful for the friendships they developed at Taylor, which for them have been deeper and longer lasting than any other friendships they have had. “I guess that’s because you live and grow together those four years that you are there,” Nancy says.

Many of their fondest memories were made in the Magee-Campbell Wisconsin residence hall. “One of the favorite places for couples to meet was in the parlors of Magee,” Nancy reflects. “Men would go up to the desk and ask for someone to be rung. Each girl had her own ring, and sometimes girls would peek down to see who was ringing and decide whether or not they wanted to answer it.”

“The men’s dorm was separated from the women’s dorm by solid doors,” Ed continues. “We could hear the noise from their side, but mostly the women could hear the noise on the men’s side.”

One of the highlights of Nancy’s Taylor experience was singing in the a cappella choir under the direction of Howard Skinner. “We practiced an hour to an hour and a half every weekday,” Nancy recalls. “We always said we got more out of the music than the people listening.” The group sang Latin songs as well as contemporary Gospel and spirituals. They recorded an album at a local radio station, and produced it on 78-rpm vinyl records. “It was a nice record,” Ed says.

Two of the Dodge’s three children came to Taylor, the third generation in the family to do so. While students at Taylor, Randy ’81 met his wife Colleen (Byers ’81), and Amy ’88 met her husband Paul Allford ’87. Son Jeff attended Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Each sibling pursued and attained graduate degrees, and each is currently living in Indiana. Randy recently received his Ph.D. in higher education from Indiana University. Colleen coordinated volunteer programs with the Monroe Country YMCA while they were living in Bloomington. Amy earned her M.S. in coastal zone ecology at the University of West Florida and worked with a company contracted to map wetlands for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She and Paul now live near Indiana Wesleyan University where Paul works as the reference librarian for off-campus library services. After receiving his Ph.D. in chemistry, Jeff received a post-doctoral, two-year fellowship at the University of Texas at Austin. He now works as a research chemist in Indianapolis. Ed and Nancy live in Inverness, Florida, where Ed practiced preventive and family medicine for 25 years.—Randy Dillinger ’95
Rebirth of a Nation: An Eyewitness Account

On Monday afternoon, May 12, 1997, a knock was heard on our front door, interrupting the prayer time of the three missionaries who were left at the International Center of Kinshasa, Zaire. The liberation of Kinshasa was imminent. The U.S. Embassy and our mission encouraged us strongly to leave at once. My youngest daughter e-mailed us saying, “Get out of there.”

Pastor Babaka was at the door. “I’m surprised you are still here,” he said. Missionaries who worked with his church had left two months earlier. “I’ve come to tell you to leave. It is too dangerous. We do not know what will happen.”

We decided to leave the next day. Wednesday everything was to be closed down for a “dead day” to be followed by two more. Laurent Kabila’s forces, the Alliance des forces démocratiques pour le libération du Congo-Zaïre (AFDL), were expected to arrive then. Tuesday we ferried across to Brazzaville on nearly the last ferry. (As of August the ferry still was not functioning.) The AFDL began its liberation of the city on Saturday, May 17. Fortunately it was a “soft landing” as President Sese Seko Mobutu had fled the day before. His general, Lioko Bokungu Mahele, counseled surrender to avoid bloodshed. He was accused of treason and then assassinated. There was some looting, but most Mobutu supporters fled. Many soldiers surrendered and turned in their arms.

In Brazzaville we were with many other evacuees from Zaire. There we could see across the river to Kinshasa. Hundreds of American and European troops had been prepared for the worst to happen; most left by the end of May. Brazzaville appeared a peaceful haven for refugees. We were able to find housing on the Salvation Army compound in an empty one-bedroom house in the north of the city. Hardly did we realize it was about four blocks from the villa of former President Denis Sassou.

We were told Kabila would keep the ferry closed until the end of June, so we arranged to fly back to Kinshasa on June 9. That flight never happened as we awoke on Thursday, June 5, to the beginning of a civil war. President Pascal Lissouba had confronted Sassou and his militia to disarm them. Sassou refused and attempted a coup d’etat.

On the first day of fighting two Salvation Army ladies told us, “Don’t worry. This happens every six months or so. After a day or so it’s all over.” Saturday came and the fighting continued.

Sassou and his “Cobra” soldiers had taken the area where we lived and were moving toward the center of the city. The U.S. Embassy decided to begin evacuations, but we were not reached as we were in enemy territory.

We waited through Monday and on Tuesday the French military evacuated us to a boat club; from there we were taken to the French ambassador’s residence. We then boarded buses and arrived safely and without incident at the military airport. With no planes going to Kinshasa, we left on a military plane to Libreville, Gabon, and returned to Kinshasa on Saturday, June 14.

Truly God is good! We learned that many in Zaire and in the United States had been praying for our safety. Many had prayed for Zaire and Kinshasa, and God intervened to liberate this people who had suffered through years of exploitation. The new Congo needs our continued prayers to rebuild on new foundations: biblical principles of love, justice, mercy and forgiveness. Satan still wants to use men to lie, exploit, loot, destroy and thwart the efforts to build a new nation. Changing a morally corrupt society can only be done through the transforming power of the Gospel. That is where real hope is found, and that is why we are here.

—Richard L. Steiner ’54

The Gospel of Jesus Christ Taking Root in the Congo

My wife, Kendra, and I have been working for about 20 years as United Methodist missionaries in the country now called the Congo. A few months ago it was called Zaire, and before that, various names such as Belgian Congo and Katanga. This country has a long history of war, suffering, domination and exploitation. It was recently acknowledged as the poorest country in the world.

Working in the Congo simplifies life—the stark daily realities of starving children, endless deaths from diseases that should have been eradicated long ago, and indescribable grinding poverty tends to cut through the mushy moral vacuums which makes life in the United States so perplexing. For three decades in the Congo the system of this world caused death; corrupt officials stole medicines and babies died; and soldiers and government officials extorted money, terrorized people and destroyed the poor, both spiritually and physically. Ancient tribal tensions would flare up and thousands of people would be butchered in a day.

On the other hand, the Kingdom of God brings life, and we, without apology, align ourselves with that Kingdom. We fly airplanes that carry the sick to hospitals and deliver vaccines to remote villages. We build hydroelectric plants which give villagers refrigeration, jobs, lights and hope. We bring schools, clinics and jobs. But most of all, we bring Good News. People are introduced to and are accepting a Gospel which has the power to bring transformation both in their own lives and in their desperately hurting society.

As I reflect back on twenty-five years of missionary work which started with a commitment that I made at a missionary conference at Taylor University, I have a deep sense of gratitude that I have been allowed to be part of what God is doing in Africa.—John Enright ’72

Richard Steiner as a senior at Taylor University in 1954.
Reflections on the Struggle for Life

For the past two years, Stefan Eicher ’94 has been working as a Community Based Health Care practitioner in Uganda through Food for the Hungry. He has written faithfully and has made a journal of his thoughts and experiences available to others. Following are excerpts from this journal.

The picture I had in mind during my support raising was that I was about to find myself arriving at a small collection of buildings within a walled compound out on some hillside, given the title “Hospital.” The picture would then expand to show me meeting two very Ugandan, slightly older men, a part of the “mobile clinic,” and I would join them and follow them around as they travel by foot and bicycle to houses on the hillsides around us giving out medicine and telling parents how to take care of their children with AIDS. Somehow I would try to take the concepts about community development work, taught to me during my training with Food for the Hungry, and surreptitiously sneak them in to the general AIDS work being undertaken.

It turns out that I am actually working with a program called Community Based Health Care (CBHC). This is a well-established community development program undertaken by the hospital in the surrounding village communities, which encompasses a variety of concerns such as provision of clean water, family planning promotion, health education, immunizations, as well as HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

It is curious for me to finally be here in the country that has the highest known rate of HIV/AIDS in the world. In one sense, however, I find myself quite unconscious of the reality of the situation. There is no visible pall of death hanging over every third person you sit down to lunch with.

March 7, 1996: Four afternoons each week Peter, a small, nondescript guy probably in his late twenties, goes to a little park nearby with a collection of animal-hide drums of various shapes and sounds, even an old wind-chime contraption. The sounds immediately attract a crowd of about thirty kids. Peter, eyes closed, hands beating, and neck straining, proceeds to lead these kids in an impromptu worship/prayer meeting. In between songs sung at the top of his voice over the din of the drums, he prays and adds morsels of teaching. A group of children crowd around the drums, adding with broken sticks their own syncopations; others contribute with homemade tambourines made of bottlecaps; the rest are dancing about in complete abandonment, singing at the tops of their voices.

Tears of joy came to my eyes. I could sense Jesus’ presence, accepting with his open arms their childlike enthusiasm, and the strength of His overpowering love for each ragged little child on that street.

March 25 April: I was returning to Kampala from Kisisi after my first three weeks of introduction there. In the 4:00 a.m. stillness I had stumbled out onto the road to wait for the bus that comes only once a day. A lone government forester was waiting with me for the same empty bus at the same empty hour of the morning. It was 5:00 a.m. when I spotted them emerging on the road out of the tube-lit darkness. I could see them at first by the silhouettes of their strappy packs. They were two young doctors on the verge of marriage. Rebecca, working at Kisisi, had told me of how she had met David over a patient in medical school. Now after a six-month separation between two Ugandan hospitals, they were going back to England for their wedding.

The bus arrived and we found ourselves in a world suddenly transformed. The drowsiness was shaken out of my body as the bus took off bumping down the road with eye-searing cabin lights and Zairean music blaring. I had to shout to ask about the abnormally high perinatal mortality rates at Kisisi. And of course AIDS babies came up next.

It was on this topic that the conversation turned from risks to babies of HIV+ mothers, to risks to doctors. In the months leading up to my arrival in Uganda I had studied AIDS, and my attention was always caught by any talk of the risk to health-care providers. I had read about missionary surgeons becoming HIV+ through accidentally sticking themselves with needles, but once again the book assured me that even these were rare: “You have to stick yourself accidentally 206 times to contract HIV.” In my mind, I did not have to deal with the virus; only the patient had to.

“I stick myself two to three times a week.” David casually said, dropping a bomb in my lap. “I double-glove; that way the extra rubber wipes off that much more blood before the needle breaks the skin.” I was jolted straight up in my seat. Suddenly, these were not two fleeting fiancé’s whisking themselves back to blighty after a fun little adventure in the bush. They were a man and woman who for six months had been handling variables of profound proportion. Rebecca had recently donated blood for an emergency. She described the horror of waiting for the information that could destroy her future. In her earnest eyes I saw the lifetime that passed during those hours she waited. In her eyes were years beyond her age. The test was negative, but David has yet to have his. He looked out the window, brushing the thought out of the way. His matter-of-factness upset Rebecca and they changed the subject. But I was left deep in thought as the Zairean music faded back into my awareness and the bus went hurtling through the twilight darkness.

Stefan Eicher (pictured here as a student) will be returning to his native India in 1998.
Kisizi, May 6: I grabbed a cup of last night's tea from the flask and before I knew it I was rushing off for morning chapel. I got there in time to catch the first Ruchiga hymn and sat through the devotional by one of the nurses as the sun streamed in, warming my sweatered back. After devotions I found myself looking for Moses, who was still asleep after being called from his bed late last night to attend to patients until 5:30 a.m. He awoke and told me I should go with Roland and Matthias, the other two CBHC staff, to a certain community that had asked us to address a meeting on family planning. We ran about (with a lot of standing around in between) trying to find a driver for our Landrover. We finally had to take a different Landrover out to look for a driver at his home nearby who was officially off-duty.

When we found him, he led us to a tiny thatched mud house. In its dark interior was a small group of people, two sitting on a bed leaning over a young man, propped up on his side. I heard the word “TB” and he looked to be in bad shape; yet he was talking loudly, if somewhat desperately. He greeted us and upon seeing me called out to a person in another room to put on milk for tea for the muzungu (a term used for Caucasian foreigners).

The walls were cracking and he was without a shirt, sweating on a mattress with no sheets. Daniel was helping the other two, leaning over him to give him some medicine. He was talking loudly but everyone else was silent. He told me that the two men with him were his brothers and that God loves him still. On the wall above me was a large poster with a heart and two figures, and the word AIDS and “love is beautiful, but...” I quickly shifted my gaze above the poster to a family picture, as I didn’t know how to respond and was only starting to put two and two together. Moses and the driver were calling me and I said “Kangende,” which means, “Let me go.” At that time he said something about coming along and tried to get up. I then realized that his two brothers were leaning over him not to prop him up, but to hold him down.

As I walked out, the driver tapped his finger against his forehead in a gesture. Moses said “HIV” and “he is a teacher at Ruberizi,” the secondary school just down the road where I had given my Ruchiga sermon a week ago. I asked, “How long has he been full blown?” Moses answered: six months. I had read about encephalopathy, which is the brain damage caused by the virus directly attacking cells in the brain (the other cells it attacks are in the stomach, which causes the characteristic weight loss and is why AIDS is called “Slim” here in Uganda). This was the first time I had actually seen someone at that stage. I asked, “How long has his mind been affected?” The answer hit me like a brick: yesterday. “You mean he was normal till yesterday?” “Yes.”

I am still trying to make sense of this, maybe because it was the first time I have actually met someone full-blown and bedridden. Walking away, I felt a heavy conviction that no matter what others think, no matter how foolish they may consider it, no matter how hopeless and lost things may seem, Jesus is the last and only relevant answer. It is precisely at that point, when our own understanding tells us that there is no more use in talking to a person whose mind is being destroyed, that Jesus is the most appropriate person to talk about, for it is then that only Jesus can heal and speak to this person.

Yet as I sit here and think about that young teacher with his two brothers holding him down, having watched their brother turn manic overnight, it fills me with horror, because that’s what they are doing right now; just down the road from me. And that’s what they will have to do now; tomorrow, and the day after, trying to force him to take his medicine and listening to him speak desperate and incoherent words every day till he dies his youthful death.

August 18, 1997: Since writing the words above, seated on my bed in my tiny room at the corner of Kisizi Hospital, 13 months and a lot more has happened. My Ugandan world has grown and solidified, and has become home. I have been overwhelmed by my acceptance here and the opportunities granted me to experience, form friendships and learn about life and work.

In September of last year Moses, the CBHC coordinator, left Kisizi for a year of study, and I assumed his responsibilities. A highlight has been the opportunity our CBHC team was given to introduce a health insurance plan to our village communities. It is designed specifically to benefit the rural poor, and as the first of its kind in East Africa, it is serving as a pilot project for the Ugandan government to be duplicated in the rest of the country.

My time at Kisizi Hospital comes to a close in January 1998. I will leave having gained tremendously, as my time here is one of preparation for a return to India in the area of community health. I have been haunted by the realities in India. Unlike Uganda, where through the efforts of an enlightened government and dedicated Christians such as the Kisizi Hospital community the transmission rates are being curbed, the Indian public does not even have a concept of AIDS. The gathering storm in India, it is said, will be far worse than that in Africa.—Stefan Eicher '94

Educational Program Offers Aid

For the past seven months, Richard '92 and Wendy Phillips have been working with the Scripture Union of Uganda on a program called Aid for AIDS, based in the city of Kampala. The program is designed for teaching attitudes and behavioral practices that enable a person to avoid high-risk (to HIV exposure) behavior and develop relationships in which they can help others avoid high-risk behavior as well.

Various groups have been established for persons of different ages. The program for parents focuses largely on maintaining positive relationships with teenagers on the principle that communication breakdown is one of the main causes of teen isolation.

Aid for AIDS trains and equips local workers in each region of Uganda, half of which remain untouched. Richard's role includes establishing administrative systems and training individuals to fill administrative roles.
Blair coordinating campus-wide intranet service

G ive a man a fish, you'll feed him for a day; teach a man to fish, he'll eat for a lifetime. The axiom holds relevance for many, including Ian Blair, Taylor University's coordinator of online services. While many organizations maintain a central core of web site developers for their internal use, Taylor utilizes a method of empowerment, with Blair acting as a facilitator. As students and faculty express interest in developing web pages, Blair teaches them how to use web development tools.

"We're trying to pursue a diversified approach where we encourage people to develop materials for their own use," he says.

Still in the first year of existence for Taylor's intranet, the President's Council made a decision to encourage academic development using web-based tools. The Council announced that grant money would be made available to faculty and staff to develop intranet web pages that would supplement or enhance the curriculum of Taylor University. Thirty-seven applications were received, and following review by a five-member committee, 16 grants totaling more than $30,000 were awarded (see sidebar). The grant money was partly intended to encourage faculty members who desired to develop online materials.

"A number of faculty had expressed interest in developing material but perhaps needed the impetus of a challenge grant to focus their attention and to help pay for other resources to assist in pulling that together," Blair says. "The idea was to give preference to grants that would extend and enhance the curriculum."

The internet has, by now, become a well-established part of society. Though lesser-known, the intranet is quickly becoming a vital component of large companies and educational institutions. Unlike its big brother, the intranet consists of internal web servers that can be accessed only by those computers which are connected to a particular organization's network.

"Intranet is a term that has evolved over the last couple of years to mean "inside." Intranet refers to a web site that is intended to be used within an organization. The worldwide web, as a whole, has sites which are accessible externally. Taylor has an internet site which is accessible to the outside. Taylor Online, the name we've given to our intranet, is for internal use only."

Both Taylor Online and Taylor World Wide, Taylor's external web site, serve as resources for those who visit the sites. For Taylor World Wide, frequent visitors include alumni, prospective students, parents, and potential employers of graduating seniors. Taylor Online, however, is most frequently used on campus by students and faculty as a means of supplementing the curriculum or coursework of a given class, and by campus organizations. A faculty member, for example, may choose to refer students to an online course syllabus rather than making 20 to 30 copies on paper.

Taylor Online may be accessed only by networked computers on the Fort Wayne and Upland campuses. Networked computers are found in the Zondervan and Lehman libraries, in offices and in computer labs.

Blair has served at Taylor University for the past two years, specifically as intranet coordinator since the creation of Taylor Online last year. He is also responsible for maintaining the system hardware. But the most important part of Blair's job, is his assistance to people who "have something to say online—staff, faculty and students who want to develop material and place it online."

Blair left his native Britain for California in 1982 to pursue graduate studies. He received an MBA from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles, and worked in the computer industry in the Los Angeles area until two years ago, when he found himself out of work. At that time, Blair felt ready to make some significant changes. After applying with Intercristo, he was contacted by Information Services regarding an open position at Taylor. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Upland with his wife Sherri (who works in the Communication Arts department at Taylor) and their two children. It was a considerable, but welcomed, change for the family.

"Having lived in California all that time, I had no first-hand experience of Indiana," Blair says. "In fact, I wasn't even quite sure where it was on the map. Making a switch from big-city life to the more rural area of Upland has been an adjustment we have enjoyed tremendously."

— Randy Dillinger '95

Grant recipients and proposed projects

W. Thomas Beckner, Intro to Criminal Justice for the Web; Ronald Benbow & Mark Colgan, Internet Resources and Communication in Mathematics Education; Steve Bird, Applied Social Statistics on the Web; Jeremy Case, Introductory Statistics; Mark Cosgrove, Course Development for Foundations of Christian Thought; Dan Hammond, Chemistry Applications; Barbara Heavilon, Course Development for British Literature and Restoration and 18th Century Literature; Larry Helyer, Course Development for Pauline Epistles; Bill Heth, Jerusalem Then and Now; Bonnie Houser & Jennifer Little, Zondervan Library Home Page; Leroy Kroll, General Inorganic Chemistry; John Moore, Biology Tutorial; Richard Parker, Music Department Home Page; John Schutt, Course Development for General Biology; Andrew Whipple, Biology Tutorial; Kevin Wickes, Making the WWW friendly for the "WWW Challenged."
Behind every great statistic is a careful calculation, and in today's informational marketplace, numbers have become gold in the hands of institutional researchers like Jack Letarte. The Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities, desiring to release more specific information to the mass media, began over the past several years to call upon institutional researchers from member colleges to help them achieve their goal.

The Coalition first contacted Letarte about four years ago to ask for his assistance in generating enrollment reports. Through research and analysis of data collected from member institutions, Letarte produces a spreadsheet of information. Some of this information has been included in publications such as Christianity Today, the Los Angeles Times and the Chicago Tribune. Because of the valuable service he has provided, Letarte was named a senior fellow of the Coalition earlier this year.

Letarte's service has involved much more than number-crunching. He has been a careful observer of national trends in information technology and was recently able to attend a database institute in Washington D.C. He was one of 20 individuals to receive a scholarship to attend the institute, which was sponsored by the Association of Institutional Research, the National Science Foundation, and the National Center for Education Statistics.

Combining his efforts with a colleague from Calvin College, Letarte gleaned from the institute valuable information for the Coalition. “One of the things we did there was look for ways in which the Coalition could make better use of the national data that was available,” he says.

One outgrowth of the institute is a “listserv” where institutional researchers from member colleges of the Coalition can review the information being produced as well as correspond and share ideas with one another. Through this medium of communication, Letarte has asked for and expects to receive much constructive feedback. “I’m inviting these people to critique the information and come up with questions that the data might be able to answer,” he says.

Letarte is pleased that the Coalition has resisted the temptation to enlarge its infrastructure and is choosing, rather, to call for assistance from member institutions. “It’s easier for Taylor to contribute a little bit of my time,” he says, “than for the Coalition alone to try to support someone whose expertise is in institutional research.”—Randy Dillinger ’95

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**Researchers and Academics in-Brief**

- Dr. Robert Davis continued data analysis for the SEPS instrument from the POLAR satellite. He is currently working with Taylor's involvement in the Indiana Space Grant Consortium.
- Dr. Barbara Dickey completed a three-week course audit on Mozart and his world, in Salzburg, Austria, in July. She gave a recital, with Dr. Lori White, at the Black Forest Academy in Germany.
- Dr. David Dickey also completed the Mozart course in Austria this summer.
- Dr. Paul M. Harms is serving as chairman of the Nominating Committee for the Indiana section of the Mathematical Association of America for the 1997-98 year.
- Dr. Al Harrison recently completed his 14th year as Band Camp Director at Spring Hill Camp in Evarit, Mich.
- Dr. Roger Jenkinson was elected President of the Geography Educators Network of Indiana for the fourth consecutive two-year term. He was also appointed as Acting Executive Director of the National Geographic Society Alliance program for the state of Indiana for a two-year period. Through these programs he attended a week-long conference in Washington, D.C., concerning geographic assessment and development.
- Dr. Betty Messer has been awarded sabbatical leave for the fall 1997 semester. She hopes to examine the use of computers in the teaching and research of languages at Indiana colleges.
- Wally Roth recently returned from an eight-month sabbatical leave to Lithuania (Klaipeda) Christian College in Klaipeda, Lithuania. He currently serves as faculty consultant for the AP Computer Science test.
- Dr. Ken Swan spent his 1996-97 sabbatical in Lithuania, teaching at Lithuania Christian College. “It was an extremely rewarding experience,” he says.
- R. Edwin Welch completed his Ph.D. in Instructional Systems Technology at Indiana University. The degree was awarded June 1997.
Distinguished alumni and friends recognized

Taylor University Fort Wayne presented three awards on May 23 to distinguished alumni and friends of the Fort Wayne campus. Gerald '43 and Violet '45 Ringenberg were named Distinguished Alumni for Service to the Homeless in Indianapolis and a member of Rotary International, Rick and his wife, Julie have three children: Bethany, Nathaniel and Kyle.

For more than 20 years, Paul and Ruth Steiner have sacrificially given of their time and resources to the ministry of the Fort Wayne campus. Ruth was active for many years with the "Friends of Fort Wayne Bible College," while Paul served 15 years on the Board of Trustees for the Bible College and for the past five years has continued serving on Taylor's Board.

Paul and Ruth have been very active in their local church and in their denomination, the Evangelical Mennonite Church, with Paul serving as denominational treasurer for six years. Paul has also been on the boards of national organizations such as the National Association of Evangelicals, the American Bible Society and World Relief Commission. He was president of Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company for over 23 years, which he continues to serve as Chairman of the Board. Several members of the Steiner family are alumni of Taylor University.

Alma Mater; Richard A. (Rick) Alvis '77 was named Distinguished Alumnus; and Paul and Ruth Steiner were named Distinguished Friends of the University.

The Ringenbergs' service to the Fort Wayne campus began 30 years ago when they moved to Woodburn, Ind., to pastor the Woodburn Missionary Church. They were active participants in "Friends of Fort Wayne Bible College" and had a special relationship with students at the college for many years. Each of the Ringenbergs' three children are also graduates of Fort Wayne Bible College. They are Roger Ringenberg '69, Dorcas McDeavitt '76 and Gary Ringenberg '79.

Rick Alvis served for 13 years with the Evansville Rescue Mission, the last seven of which he was executive director of all the mission's ministries. Since 1990, Rick has been with Wheeler Mission Ministries in Indianapolis, currently as executive director.

In addition to his mission work, Rick is also vice president of the International Union of Gospel Missions, a board member of Advocates for Rescue.

Frye named associate v.p. and dean of enrollment management

Herb Frye, Jr. '80 is not one to mince words, especially when he calls the last year and a half "... the most busy, hectic, challenging, rewarding, difficult time in my entire life." Indeed, the new associate vice president and dean of enrollment management on the Fort Wayne campus lay near death one year ago in a Fort Wayne hospital, the victim of a portal vein thrombosis (blood clot). He was told that he would probably need a liver transplant and that he should get his personal affairs in order.

After several weeks, however, the blood clot disappeared and Frye was released from the hospital. "It was a sign of God's miraculous providence in my life," he says. As last year's battle with the blood clot was an exercise in faith, his move to Fort Wayne this year was too. He left behind a secure job as vice president for enrollment management at Indiana Wesleyan University. "They were so good to me," Frye states, "but when I was offered the position, I was excited to rejoin the Taylor family."

This is now Frye's second employment experience at Taylor. His first was on the Upland campus where he served as dean of enrollment management after earning his B.S. in social work at Taylor. Frye's initial goals for his new job are simply to assemble a staff and to develop recruitment strategies. The challenges are daunting, but Frye is facing them in faith.

"When the Lord has called you to do something, He has supplied you with all you need to accomplish it," he says. Optimistic and energetic, Frye believes in Taylor Fort Wayne. "I am extremely impressed with the people," he says. "They are committed to students and to the University."

His enthusiasm for the Fort Wayne campus is not only evident, it is vital for someone in his position. "I have to believe in TFW or I couldn't promote it," he says. "I'm excited about telling others."—Jim Garringer
Reaching a lost generation in a time of social chaos

As an evangelical Christian liberal arts institution, Taylor University offers a safe haven where men and women are equipped with the knowledge and the tools to meet the future head-on. But what kind of world are they entering, and how is Taylor preparing these students to be active participants in a society that is becoming increasingly more distant from biblical Christianity? These are the questions we asked of Dr. James Spiegel, professor of philosophy, and Dr. Steven Bird, professor of sociology.

(Spiegel speaks)

In this century, there has been a shift in the medium of public discourse from the written word to the video image. It’s unthinkable to us today that people who attended the Lincoln-Douglas debates in the 1800s would sit for three hours in the boiling sun and listen to these painstakingly developed ideas. What we want now—and I think of our most recent presidential debates and campaigns—is nothing more than a six-second sound byte.

The students coming in now are some of the first ones whose maturing took place at a time when video finally reached its frenetic maturity. And now with the Internet, it’s more of the same in a lot of respects. Those in higher education have to constantly wage war against the inertia of video and the increasingly blurring line between information and commercialization.

Solomon says in Ecclesiastes, “The eye never has enough of seeing, nor the ear of hearing.” We are beings who desire to drink in images; we’re intrigued by anything new. The great attraction to video, I think, lies at least as much in the fact that it can give us so much that is new and different and so vast, at such a pace that you don’t have time to comprehend these six or eight images before you’re already looking at the next half-dozen.

(Bird speaks)

Important changes in the nature of the structural economy have taken place in the last 20 years that will restructure a great deal of what we experience in society. As we shift from an industrial economy to an informational economy, those things will make tremendous changes in our lives. Young people are growing up today not knowing about that shift.

The communications revolution is changing the way that we live. I can go online now and talk to people and never use my real name. We have none of the nuances of facial expressions; we have none of the accountability of social infrastructure. We’re building an entirely new way of interacting out in Cyberspace, if you will.

We’re going through a transition in the way that we corporately define truth. What I’m talking about is not what is really true, but how we socially agree on what we decide is true. Eventually we come to some common consensus. Evidence plays a role in that but it’s not always a critical role. What is happening now is that truth is becoming much more relativistic. This commonly comes under the rubric of postmodernism. A lot of Christians, of course, are deeply concerned by that.

Students coming in are having to make sense of a world that’s different, by and large, than the world that most of the staff and faculty know. There will be, as has always been true since industrialization, a so-called generation gap. People look around and they say, “Well, what’s going wrong with these kids?” What’s wrong with these kids is not them, it’s the social setting they find themselves in. They can’t find sets of commonly shared norms; everything seems transitory and unsure and so they find themselves despairing. All you have to do is look around any modern industrial or post-industrial society and you’ll see that the sense of common, shared norms has been fragmented.

We do have contending groups in society that want society to go their way. More and more, we’re not making any effort to mediate differences of view. People start perceiving the world as a set of contending groups seeking dominance instead of believing that there might be an absolute truth. Justice becomes power instead of some common set of moral obligations one has to another. These are issues that we’re going to have to wrestle with. We’ve been wrestling as a nation with them now for over 200 years. We haven’t resolved them yet, and we’re not going to resolve them tonight.

We have to decide what we believe and actively engage with the questions people in society are asking. We can’t just ignore questions because we find them uncomfortable. Taylor is a safe environment for intellectual exploration. There are clearly some things we don’t need to explore no matter how safe the environment. This is the place to wrestle with things, where the faculty and staff are guided by well-established and grounded ideas of Christianity, submitted to the Lordship of God, and saved by the blood of Jesus. That’s the place where we can look at some of these things more safely and not end up in a totally relativistic swamp like our society is facing. We do have a grounding that is true and we can turn to that. Taylor students can see that demonstrated and modeled for them.
Redemptive criminology: a practical approach

The Campus Safety program at Taylor is, like every other facet of the University, striving to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing society. Although the transformation of our culture sometimes has a dizzying effect on us, those who are called to serve the Lord at Campus Safety remain prayerfully focused on “educating men and women for lifelong learning and for ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need.”

A major challenge for our department has been developing and implementing approaches to law enforcement that are applicable to a Christian institution of higher education. Some would say that Christianity and policing are incompatible, but we have found that nothing could be further from the truth.

Campus Safety is first and foremost a group of believers who possess a firm understanding of human depravity and the fact that salvation can only be obtained through the blood of Jesus Christ. Viewing crime and indiscretion as a spiritual matter allows our personnel to avoid the pitfall of the “Us versus Them” mentality during the commission of their duties. Instead of viewing a person who has committed an impropriety as the source of evil, we approach each situation as a spiritual battle against powers and principalities that have been allowed to influence the individual’s decision-making process. We feel that Scripture guides us to examine crime and inappropriate behavior as matters of the heart that must be dealt with prior to the issuance of sanctions.

Campus Safety officers understand that looking the spiritual aspect of a person for the sake of expedient punishment leaves the job only half done. Our staff has taken the popular concept of community policing a step or two further in an effort to meet not only the material needs of our citizenry, but the spiritual needs as well.

Campus Safety personnel have derived great value from participating in the lives of Taylor students. Not content with merely performing security tasks, our officers revel with students as they investigate Scripture and great literary works for answers to the grand questions of life.

Intramural participation is a long-standing tradition among our officers. It is not unusual to find members of our staff romping with students on a rain-soaked flag football field, skinning their knees as they dive for a wayward volleyball, or playing a highly-competitive game of midnight basketball.

We glean professional benefit from letting students see us in a more personal light, but the relationships that emerge from such activities go much deeper than merely obtaining information about someone’s stolen bicycle. These are eternal alliances cemented by hours of enjoyable and sometimes tearful interaction that lends flavor to the special nature of the Taylor community.

Our officers know that our success as an agency depends upon the trust and cooperation of our community. But as former students—who have stood against the snares of the serpent—call us with news about their upcoming weddings, the birth of their children, or new mission assignments, a stirring of the heart occurs that is like no other.

Although our strategy is considered criminological heresy by many experts, it is hard to argue with its effectiveness. While other universities live in a perpetual state of fear of violent eruptions, Taylor has had only one burglary in each of the last three years. We offer numerous programs designed to prevent crime, but in the final analysis, this blessing is clearly the work of the Sovereign.

Campus Safety officers recognize this and take a prayerful approach to preventing crime on campus. We have not been infallible in this pursuit; but as violent crimes remain on an upswing in our country and two-thirds of Americans say they do not trust their neighbors, it is evident that there is something very different about our community.

At Campus Safety we feel that this difference is the result of directing those who are charged with misconduct toward the redemptive blood of Jesus Christ. Experience has taught us that encouraging people toward a personal relationship with the only Authority who can truly change behavior pays dividends, not just in terms of communal order, but from an eternal standpoint as well.

—Michael Row ’79

Perspectives on service and community

“Perspectives on service and community”

“[As a Christian officer, I strive to] perform my job to the best of my ability. I try to serve the community in a way which is pleasing to God, while maintaining the rules and regulations set forth by the University.”—Officer Terry Gugger

“I consider it a pleasure and honor to work for a department where each employee confesses to knowing Jesus Christ as personal Savior.”—Tim Enyeart, assistant director of Campus Safety

“I try to place the same value on people that Christ does. If He loved them enough to die for them then the least I can do is treat them with respect and dignity. I try to do each task with the admonition in mind that whatever I do I should do it as unto the Lord.”—Officer Jon Jenkins

Michael Row is director of campus safety.
President's Report 1997

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During chapel messages I often refer to the “hinge principle” as I attempt to encourage students in their Christian walk. I refer to the present day and its opportunities as the hinge that connects the past with the future. The direction that the future moves is dependent on the decisions we make in the present. In a sense this is the overarching message of the Bible. God is totally dependable and has been shown to be faithful through the record of His workings with humankind in both Old and newer Testament accounts. Our response in fidelity or disobedience determines the level of our growth, progress, happiness and prosperity. The additional element in this cause-and-effect relationship is the offer of grace that emanates from the unique quality of God’s love that offers forgiveness, redemption and restoration as we fall short of our responsibilities. In the institutional sense we have been celebrating 150 years of God’s unwavering faithfulness and abundant grace.

Today, during the present chapter of Taylor history, we are forging the hinge that will determine the future. Fortunately there is an unusual unity around the mission of the university. Many institutions struggle to agree on core issues and have given up on any agreement except to agree to disagree in a civil and tolerant manner. Tolerance has become the only core value in a highly individualistic culture. For faith-based, Christian institutions the issues are certainly not simple, but there is a “place to stand” as we work not toward tolerance alone but toward truth in a tolerant and civil spirit. Taylor in the present is firmly committed to the same biblical Christianity of our founders. The world grows and changes, issues arise, mores and folkways come and go, but “God is the same yesterday, today and forever.” I can report to you with high confidence that the Taylor University board, administration, faculty, staff and students, though highly diverse, are united around the historic Christian faith in the evangelical tradition.

The faculty have devoted the last three years of faculty retreats to the review, examination and affirmation of these core values often referred to by Dr. Milo Rediger as “anchor points.” Academic quality at both faculty and student levels is demonstratively growing in excellence. For a serious academic institution, this must be a primary goal. This growth in academic quality has been amply recognized by peer reviews from many sources. Such recognition is unprecedented in our history. We must be ever diligent to maintain the congruence between our spiritual and academic commitments. In our view of the world, they are really one and the same.

Besides maintaining a clear vision of our mission and the relentless pursuit of quality and excellence, we must insure at this present age, the resources and financial strength to carry our vision and dreams into the future. The Taylor Tomorrow Campaign is the hinge pin on which the fulfillment of the long-range plan pivots. I am happy to report that at this writing, we are on schedule with $30 million of the $75 million first-phase goal committed. We will leave no stone unturned as we make calls to enlist partners in the dream. We are now in the strongest position financially that we have been; yet, the demands of maintaining excellence seem unrelenting.

The most important element to secure the future is the quality of the people who offer their individual stewardship to the present task. Dr. Yost has given yeomanly service to Taylor University as provost/executive vice president. His report represents the operational side of the daily task. He is a manager par excellence to whom it would be hard to give too much credit for our current position.

Dr. Dwight Jessup, Wynn Lembright, Bob Hodge, Gene Rupp, Dr. Bob Nienhuis and Al Smith round out our executive leadership team. As you read their reports, you will begin to grasp the magnitude of God’s blessing. These reports reflect the efforts of those charged with faculty and staff responsibilities at this present time of opportunity.

We are putting all of the strength we can muster into the hinge of the present. It is bolted to the past securely, and I believe will support the future as we are obedient and faithful. It is my prayer that this report will bolster your confidence and secure your loyalty to insure that the vision of a quality evangelical Christian college can serve collegially in the world of higher education for the betterment of humankind and in obedience to the great commission. The future hangs on the hinge of our response.

Jay Kesler
The 1996-97 academic year was one of exhilaration and encouragement. It is always uplifting to have an opportunity to celebrate tradition and longevity, as was the observance of Taylor’s Sesquicentennial. We have seen the fruition of some of our long-range planning. The construction of the new Samuel Morris Residence Hall is the most observable; the complete funding of the first academic chair in Taylor University’s history is also noteworthy. We are now working on plans to build a new student dining commons/union on the Fort Wayne campus. This project will include a major renovation/addition to Lehman Library to accommodate the changing needs of the students.

In the spring of 1997, the University was the recipient of a wonderful collection of books authored by Owen Barfield, C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers and Charles Williams. This gift motivated the university to sponsor an annual symposium featuring C. S. Lewis and his friends. It also provided the motivation to define and design a space complementary and contiguous to the Zondervan Library to adequately display this collection for its best utilization. The collection is of significant quality and is surpassed only by one other in the United States.

This past year, Taylor University received one notable grant and will partner in a second. First, the Lilly Endowment granted Taylor University $3,150,000 to help address the concern of the “brain drain” from the state of Indiana. Each year for the next five years, the University will be committed to the selection of at least 25 high school graduates from Indiana with financial need, but who show promise for academic success. Taylor has chosen to call this the Samuel Morris Scholars Program. When these students complete the four-year degree program, efforts will be made to keep them in Indiana and help them achieve employment.

A second grant of $500,000 was received jointly with the Fort Wayne Police Department. The Center for Justice and Urban Leadership on the Fort Wayne Campus will be responsible for the administration of the grant. This grant will focus on the development of police officers for community-oriented policing.

Taylor University is quite healthy and continues to be optimistic about the present and future. Our greatest challenge at this time is to remain committed to the mission of this great institution and to avoid the tendency to allow the secularization of our society from becoming the standard by which we measure success.

Taylor University received the Edwin W. Brown Collection in the spring of 1997. The collection includes works by C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald, J. R. R. Tolkien, Charles Williams, Dorothy L. Sayers, Owen Barfield and G. K. Chesterton. Brown inspects the books as they are being shelved in the faculty lounge of the Zondervan Library.
How would you describe Taylor University Fort Wayne?

Time and again I am asked that question. Along the way, I have come to realize that I cannot describe the campus with one word, or even one phrase. Allow me, however, to attempt to describe the campus and the past year using three words.

Diverse. Take a walk across the campus and you will witness our diversity. An 18-year-old young woman and a 35-year-old mother of three sit side-by-side in the classroom, both starting their college careers with Dr. Cosgrove in “Foundations of Christian Thought.” A young black man, born and raised in urban Gary, sits in chapel next to a white farm boy from southern Indiana, worshipping God together. In Lehman Library, a young man whose public high school graduating class numbered over 650 does an on-line reference search with a young woman who graduated from a small Christian high school in a graduating class of seven.

Diversity extends beyond age, race and background to include how students attend Taylor. This past year found us preparing Taylor University courses for delivery over the Internet through our Institute of Correspondence Studies, renamed the Institute of Extended Learning. Now, people unable to attend one of the Taylor campuses will be able to study with Taylor professors and benefit from a Taylor learning experience.

Engagement. As the “college for urban engagement,” we desire to impact our community in positive ways. Each residence hall has a service coordinator who is responsible to assist resident assistants in planning service programs for students. In addition, each of our academic programs is including service components in the curriculum. Our goal, in this service thrust, is to create a “volunteer tradition” in the lives of students, which will continue well beyond their college education.

The idea of engagement, however, is not limited to students. Faculty are engaged as well, both on and off the campus. Numerous faculty are leading Bible studies and discipleship groups with students, not as a part of their faculty duties, but as an outgrowth of their heart for ministry. Some faculty have also been called upon to engage the Fort Wayne community through participation on community boards and service with community agencies.

Innovative. The Institute for Extended Learning and the “college for urban engagement” are both innovative expressions of Taylor Fort Wayne. But our innovative efforts extend beyond these two elements. The Samuel Morris Scholars Program, funded by a generous grant from the Lilly Endowment, provides scholarship assistance for academically-qualified, first-generation college students from Indiana to attend Taylor University. And the Center for Justice and Urban Leadership stands as a unique expression of Christian witness and service in two parts of the world—our prisons and our cities—where this expression is sorely needed.

Taylor Fort Wayne is diverse, engaged and innovative. By God’s grace, we have accomplished much, and we continue to trust God for great things as we look to the future.
Business and Finance
Allan Smith
vice president

The 1996-1997 fiscal year contained many significant highlights including the largest grant in the history of the school, a major gift to endow an academic chair, the beginning of construction on the new Samuel Morris Hall, the improvements to many facilities on both campuses and the operation of the institution on a balanced budget. We would like to highlight two additional accomplishments: a bond issue was completed for Morris Hall and we crossed over the $100 million threshold in total assets.

In May 1997, Taylor University issued a bond for two purposes. The major part of the bond, $4 million, is to be used for the construction of the new Morris Hall. The total cost of the facility will be just over $8 million. The balance of $4 million is being raised by the Taylor Tomorrow Campaign. Another $1.97 million was borrowed to take advantage of lower interest rates and to repay the 1990 bond issue.

It is certainly gratifying to know that the external public believes that Taylor University is a valid investment for their investment portfolios. The bonds were put out to the market on a late Monday afternoon in May 1997 and were completely sold by Tuesday evening. This quick sale of our bonds encourages us in our efforts to be good stewards of the resources that God has entrusted to us.

The second significant highlight is that those resources for the university and affiliates now total over $100 million. See box at left for a summary of these assets, related liabilities and net assets.

Please understand that we take our stewardship role of these assets very seriously. We understand that many of you have entrusted your gifts to Taylor University, and we thank you for your partnership with us.

1996-97 BALANCE SHEET
(in millions of dollars)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
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Construction of the new Samuel Morris Hall began in the summer of 1997 and is expected to be completed in the spring of 1998.
A primary reason for Taylor's high ranking as an institution of Christian higher education is the quality of its academic faculty. They are at the very center of Taylor's Christian learning community. We look to the faculty for leadership, instruction and mentoring of students. Without them the University could certainly not carry out its mission.

Professors at Taylor are distinguished in at least four ways. First, they are teachers and scholars—men and women admirably qualified by virtue of their own study and experience to commit to others that which they have learned. In academic competence and professional standing, Taylor requires teachers who have a firm grasp of their subjects and who bring an excitement of inquiry into the classroom.

Second, Taylor professors must be generalists, possessing intellectual interests beyond their own specialties. Because we offer an undergraduate education, because we are a relatively small college and because we teach the liberal arts within a holistic philosophy of individual growth and development, Taylor professors must have a wide range of intellectual and cultural pursuits, connecting theory and practice, personal and professional.

Third, faculty at Taylor are called to be lay theologians, students of the scriptures acquainted with Christian doctrine; professing a Christian world view, they integrate their faith and their teaching.

Fourth, the Taylor faculty are called to demonstrate a growing personal faith in Jesus Christ while investing themselves in the lives of their students. Professors at Taylor are expected to join hands with their students in the learning process, helping them, under God's power and direction, to grow in wisdom and knowledge.

A glance at Taylor's 142 full-time academic faculty and their accomplishments during the past year gives evidence of their ministry and vitality. Three completed their Ph.D. degrees. Three enjoyed sabbatical leaves of absence in educational and mission settings outside the United States. Seven earned promotions in faculty rank and five were granted tenure. At least 16 faculty on the Upland campus alone were published authors, producing 32 books, articles, and creative works. Most importantly, the faculty collectively taught 2,671 separate courses, sections, labs, practicums, discussion groups and independent studies in 1996-97 to 404 students on the Fort Wayne campus and 1,366 students on the Upland campus. They engaged in myriad related endeavors, chief of which were accreditation reviews by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) and the North Central Association (NCA).

Completion of the NASM review is yet to come, but the NCA assessment, the most comprehensive and highest educational evaluation of the University, has earned Taylor an unqualified ten-year accreditation renewal for both the Upland and Fort Wayne campuses.

William Fry, professor of English, receives the 1997 Distinguished Professor of the Year Award from George Glass, associate vice president for alumni relations, during the spring 1997 honors chapel. Fry is joined on the platform by daughter Kate and grandson Will.
Student Affairs

Wynn Lembright

vice president

Steven Garber, in his book, *The Fabric of Faithfulness*, writes that “the movement from childhood to adulthood has been worthy of culture’s greatest attention and perhaps its finest education” (page 81). I am regularly reminded that my work here at Taylor University and the work of my colleagues are worthy of our greatest attention. To be involved with students who have high aspirations supported by strong academic competencies and a desire to serve Christ is both a great blessing and a sobering responsibility. These students are worthy of the best we can give them. My assessment is that we are delivering the kind and quality of education our students sought when they first enrolled at Taylor.

The North Central Accreditation team completed its review of our educational mission this past May and awarded us a ten-year extension of accreditation. Contained in their report were the following selected comments surrounding student affairs.

- “Taylor University has chosen to link the curricular and co-curricular objectives in a way that insures that the institution’s mission of integrating faith, living and learning is accomplished both in and out of the classroom.”
- “The student development staff connects with students before they arrive on campus and they provide a seamless web of support and direction for students during their academic and co-curricular experience at Taylor University.”
- “The University’s unique approach in educating the whole student through the commitment and good work of the faculty and the student development staff is appropriate and makes Taylor University an attractive place for students to learn, grow, play and prepare for life after Taylor.”
- “Admissions is staffed by a dedicated group of professionals who work well together. Admissions materials are of high quality.”
- “Virtually all student development programs are equally strong in terms of organization, support, resources and student involvement.”
- “There is a strong sense among all personnel interviewed that students and their growth as learners, Christians and people ready to engage the world are central to their work at the University.”

I am aware of the challenges highlighted in the North Central report relating to minority recruitment and the need for expanded recreational facilities. I further anticipate a heightened sense of cooperation with academic affairs and information resources as we together wrestle with how to best introduce new and evolving high-tech resources into the residential life environment so as to enhance community life rather than detract or threaten the community ethos.

The confirmation that we are indeed realizing our mission is cause for thanksgiving, and the acknowledgment of known challenges will deepen our resolve to honor God and serve our students more completely.
The University development staff have had the privilege of sharing Taylor’s mission and vision with numerous friends in a public way this past year. We celebrated the 150th anniversary of Taylor University on both campuses by way of concerts, dinners and special events, all culminating in a great celebration during Homecoming on the Upland campus. At the conclusion of this celebration, the Taylor Tomorrow Campaign was inaugurated with the goal of $75 million to be raised over the next seven years. Scholarship dinners, donor recognition and other activities permitted us to share Taylor University’s story.

The Taylor Tomorrow Campaign of $75 million will provide new buildings for each campus, greater impact on the academic life for students and financial aid for students through scholarships and a larger endowment. At this time, we are pleased to announce that nearly $30 million of the $75 million has been identified. Much appreciation goes to donors who desire to become partners in continuing a strong, Christ-centered university.

The alumni department continues to influence individuals in a positive way on both campuses. More have returned for events like athletic meets, homecomings and concerts than at any previous time. Alumni on each campus continue to support their alma mater at a much higher rate than at the average four-year institution because they are grateful for the education they received at Taylor University.

The publications by the Fort Wayne and Upland campuses are important means of communicating the story of Taylor. Reader response registers at a very high level. Constituents appreciate and look forward to the “latest word” from their respective campus. The story of Taylor continues to be shared through magazines, brochures, class newsletters, parent newsletters and department mailings. Alumni and friends can keep in touch with Taylor using the World Wide Web.

Giving this past year has hit an all-time high. The Taylor Fund and Annual Fund together raised over $1.5 million that is used for student aid. Total giving on the two campuses was nearly $12 million. This record was made possible only because of many individuals. The donor who gave $10 is as important in God’s eyes as the person who gave $10,000.

University development is pleased to share this report with you. We thank each of you for being a part of the report and for your contributions of prayers and dollars. May we never lose the vision of a Christ-centered institution in Fort Wayne and Upland. Because God has blessed us, we are given a great responsibility of perpetuating the mission of Taylor University. To God be the glory!

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**FIVE-YEAR GIVING REPORT**

Upland and Fort Wayne campuses, fiscal years 1992-93 to 1996-97

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Taylor &amp; Annual Fund</th>
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*Special Projects include Capital Campaign and Lilly Grant
**Restricted includes annuities, endowments and scholarships
***Other include planned giving program, church matching gifts and TWO-TU Outreach
Planning and Information Resources

Robert Hodge  
vice president

Most of the long-range and strategic planning for the University is manifested in the ongoing Taylor Tomorrow Campaign. Two years into the plan, it remains a viable document that guides much of what we do. It is significant to know that with all the external forces upon us, the mission and vision for Taylor University remain intact with only minor clarifications over many years. How we educate may change, but who we are remains constant.

While maintaining the quality of education is the focus of its mission, Taylor provides ongoing attention to the inner workings of the institution as a whole. One mark of good administration at Taylor is its efficient, effective, yet transparent support of educational programs. These efforts have involved a broadening of the self-evaluation process throughout the administrative areas, repositioning the planning process to promote improved strategic budgeting and introducing project management to facilitate the timely and cost-effective implementation of new programs and services.

As we meet with others from private or state schools, I suggest that the Internet and World Wide Web may offer one of the single most applicable tools to help transform the way we teach students. It certainly has changed the way students learn. At the same time, there may be no greater risk to the Taylor ethos than the Internet. Most serious students of these technologies agree. We must be committed to the appropriate use of technology to improve the education of our students without falling prey to the hype of the day.

The use of high-tech throughout the University continues to grow and broaden. Where computing helps us do what we are already doing without changing much of who we are, high-tech creativity tools allow us to expand and amplify who we are. If language and communication help define our community, new media of communication may actually affect who we are. As such, the expansion of the Internet and the World Wide Web have demanded substantial discussion about their impact on the ethos, culture and community of Taylor University.

Projecting extremely rapid growth in data communications, information services has developed an up-to-date long-range communications plan for both campuses. Nearly all faculty on both campuses will soon have a high-speed connection to the Internet from their offices. After many months of forums and discussions open to all those who were interested, the senior administration accepted a recommendation to implement Internet access to each desk in the Upland residence halls for fall 1998. To assure the intentional and appropriate utilization of existing and future media, a model educational program will be developed to update and educate all members of the Taylor community on the appropriate use of multiple media. In addition, an Internet “filter” will be installed to add a level of mediation to the use of Internet. In the upcoming year, the unique needs of the Fort Wayne campus will be identified, and a plan developed to meet them.

The Internet and the World Wide Web play a significant role in the lives of students, faculty and staff at Taylor University.
I remember, as a first-grade school teacher, looking at the clock during the morning reading circle and thinking that the hands had stopped and it must be afternoon. However, my 21 years at WBCL have been quite the opposite, and I often want time to stand still in order to accommodate all the exciting possibilities that come our way. Plenty of exciting activities fill every day; there is never a dull moment.

After two years of planning, the Wheels for the World summer project was launched in June. Wheels for the World is an outreach program headed by Joni Eareckson Tada, a quadriplegic who speaks directly and optimistically to physically-challenged people nationwide via her radio program, “Joni and Friends” (JAF). WBCL’s goal of 150 mobility aids was far surpassed. Listeners donated a total of 415 used wheelchairs, folding walkers and other mobility aids during the four-week collection period. JAF Ministries will refurbish and distribute these items internationally to people who otherwise have no means for mobility.

To kick off the project, Joni spoke and sang at both a dinner for families of physically-challenged persons and at a rally held at the Fort Wayne Coliseum. The cost of the entire Wheels for the World outreach program was underwritten by project partners: Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company, Celina Moving and Warehousing, DeKalb Construction, Kruse International, Ed and Leone Neidhardt, and Taylor University.

Several large technical projects were also accomplished last year. The largest and most challenging was the construction of WBCJ in Ohio. A 500-foot tower and a 30-foot by 13-foot transmitter building now occupy our five acres on Route 117, a mile west of Spencerville. Because a sign-on is planned on Sept. 1, by the time you read this article, listeners in Lima, Celina, Spencerville, St. Mary’s and Wapakoneta will be tuning in to 88.1 FM for the sounds of Taylor University Broadcasting.

Another project was the installation of a new transmitter at the flagship station, WBCL in Fort Wayne. The original transmitter outlived its 12-year life expectancy to a ripe old age of 21 years. The $90,000 project cost was explained to listeners via a special mailing, and in just 14 weeks, 100 percent of the project was contributed.

As of early spring, listeners in Muncie, Ind., began hearing WBCL on a translator at 106.1 FM. Atop the Radisson/Roberts Hotel is a 20-foot antenna that receives WBCL’s Fort Wayne signal and rebroadcasts it to a 10-mile radius of Muncie. Unlike the stations built in Archbold and Spencerville for nearly one-half million dollars each, the translator is an $18,000 venture. It is our hope to add a translator in Marion next year.

We are humbled at the faithfulness of God in supplying every need through loyal listeners. We realize that without God, the 21-year success of WBCL would not have been possible. In a recent conversation with a colleague, I commented that I was amazed at what God has done through WBCL. Then I realized that I ought not to be amazed when God acts like God by blessing, loving and touching lives for His glory.
The William Taylor Foundation is the charitable planned giving arm of Taylor University. Its primary mission is to receive property (real or personal, tangible or intangible, outright or in trust); to hold, invest and manage any such property; and to distribute such property by way of grants, scholarships and stipends either for the direct or indirect benefit of Taylor.

Last year, the Foundation participated in several projects that involved alumni. In May, several alumni and other friends traveled with us on an exciting trip to Israel and three Greek islands. The Foundation also sponsored a trip to the Rose Bowl in January. Many participants were Taylor alumni living in Ohio who were there to support their adopted team. While the Foundation provided such opportunities for people with Taylor connections, we also provided more concrete ways for them to support our mission. This past year, we worked with over 50 individuals and families setting up wills and living trusts; many of them were first-time estate plans. Additionally, we were pleased to establish five new charitable trusts and 12 charitable annuities totaling more than $900,000. These tools provided income benefits and significant tax savings to the donors, but after a term of years or lifetime, the remainderment will come to Taylor.

Recently, we added another team player to our department—Joe Rediger. Joe had been working in Fort Wayne’s development office for 23 years. With Joe’s move to the Upland campus, all planned giving efforts are now concentrated in our office, which is located in Sickler Hall.

Joe Rediger, Nelson Rediger and I are excited about working with people who love Taylor. It gives us great satisfaction to know that we are not only providing them the tools they need to make wise estate-planning decisions, but also that we are helping them find joy in giving. We are committed to helping people invest tomorrow’s dollars in tomorrow’s students.

I encourage you to consider your own estate plan. Is it up-to-date? Will it carry out your desires? Do you even have a will, a trust, durable power of attorney, health care representative and/or a living will? All these are very important documents that need to be completed. If you don’t have these documents, the state in which you live will decide how to care for you if you become incompetent or unable to make decisions, and it will also decide how to distribute your estate upon your death. Because we want to be of assistance to you, please contact us for your estate-planning needs.

Forty-one alumni, friends and staff members of Taylor University embarked on the first annual trip to Greece and Israel in May 1996 sponsored by the William Taylor Foundation. The group paused for a photograph at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.
PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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Taylor University
Scholarship program benefits alumni dependents

Dependents of alumni have a special privilege when they enroll at Taylor University. Each student whose biological or adoptive parents are Taylor alumni—those who either graduated or accumulated 25 or more credit hours from Taylor—automatically receives a portion of Taylor’s endowed alumni dependent scholarships.

This effort to assist alumni dependents with their tuition began in 1990. Although the amounts are small, they are growing through the support of friends and alumni of Taylor. Charles Stevens, associate director of development, has coordinated the program since 1989, when a proposal for the scholarship was conceived. “The essence of this program is that there is a desire on the University’s part to encourage alumni dependents to consider Taylor and to help make it more affordable for them,” he says.

According to Stevens, four sources of endowed money are used to fund the program. The initial investment and impetus came in 1989 through the Rediger/Vernier Alumni Dependent Scholarship, which was created in 1979 by Dr. and Mrs. Milo Rediger, in honor of their parents. Three other scholarships were created in 1989: the Garnet I. Rice, the Ruth M. Flood and the Taylor University Alumni Dependent scholarships.

Funds for the Taylor University scholarship, according to Stevens, come primarily from memorial gifts of family or friends who want to honor someone special, but do not have enough to endow a new scholarship. However, “this source has been growing constantly from people who see the significance of the scholarship,” he says.

Currently, the endowment for the alumni dependent scholarships stands at approximately $836,000. The interest accrued from this amount is divided by the number of eligible students and awarded equally to them. According to Stevens, each recipient should receive between $200 and $225 this year.

Although small, “the amount is an expression on the part of the University that we are committed to the sons and daughters of alumni coming here,” Stevens says. “It’s not the size of the scholarships, but it’s the spirit of the program and of what we’re trying to do. Eventually, the program will produce significant funds for helping alumni dependents to attend Taylor.”

He adds, “This is the kind of program that always takes a while to increase because there are more and more students coming who are dependents of alumni. Even though the funds are increasing, the amount per student is not growing by leaps and bounds. However, it is growing by the commitment and consistent giving of various people.”—Eric Tan ’96

Frances White Ewbank Colloquium to focus on Lewis

Taylor University will host The Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends, Nov. 14 and 15, on the Upland campus. Several noteworthy activities will be featured and prominent scholars will participate in the weekend event.

Speakers for the Colloquium include Marjorie Mead, associate director of the Wade Center at Wheaton College; Dr. Edwin W. Brown, whose collection of rare books and manuscripts by C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald and other authors, was given to the University earlier this year; Taylor President Dr. Jay Kesler ’58; Pam Jordan, also of Taylor University; Bruce Edwards, of Bowling Green State University; Jerry Root, from Wheaton College; and a number of unannounced speakers who will present papers on topics related to C. S. Lewis.

David Payne will revisit campus to perform a special impersonation of Lewis. Payne first visited campus last spring for the dedication of the Edwin W. Brown Collection. In addition, the Taylor Theatre will host performances of Shadwelllands. Tickets for either the Thursday or Saturday performances may be reserved; complimentary tickets are available to registered guests of the Colloquium.

To register, please send $40 to The Frances White Ewbank Colloquium, English Department, Taylor University, 500 West Reade Avenue, Upland IN 46989, or register online at http://www.tayloru.edu/cslewis. Please make checks payable to Taylor University.

For further information, please call (765) 998-4971 or send e-mail to rchill@tayloru.edu.
Football families provide encouragement for team

Somewhere in the realm of a priori truth is the idea of the home team advantage. Every athletic team that has a place to call its own knows the infallibility of this belief. Imagine, then, a home team's bewilderment when the Trojan football team comes to town with a mighty contingent of zealous fans that outnumber the home crowd.

It is no rare occurrence for the Trojans to have such a supportive crowd for their visiting games, and at the heart of this support is an energetic group known as Taylor University Football Families (TUFF). Founded in 1982, the program is still unique among colleges and universities. This became evident to Jack Stover, president of TUFF and father of Taylor football player Chris Stover '98, when he contacted other schools Taylor was scheduled to play last year, to learn about their football family programs.

"I was surprised to find that there was no team that we played who had one," he says. "But of the seven or eight teams that I contacted, three of them felt strongly enough about what we were doing that they asked me to send them a letter outlining how we organized ours so they could start one of their own."

Head Coach Steve Wilt was equally impressed when he learned about the program. "In my coaching experience I've never seen a group like this that is so closely connected," he says.

TUFF requires no membership dues, and all family members of players are encouraged to attend the meetings. The group meets before each home game in the Stuart Room, located in the lower level of the Rediger Auditorium. There is no lack of fellowship at the meetings, with normal attendance ranging from 50 to 70 and a high turnout last year of over 100 for one meeting.

The group prays together for injured players and other concerns of the team and shares in team devotions as well. A special speaker is also brought in to share before each home game. Alumni who played football at Taylor are among those who speak, as well as members of the athletic staff and President Jay Kesler '38, who shares with the group each year for Parents Weekend.

This year, TUFF will provide grilled hamburgers and hotdogs after each home game, offering another opportunity for football families to fellowship with the team. Other events include a pizza party and a picnic by the Taylor lake during the playing season.

Another important role that TUFF has filled is that of coordinating special projects for the football program. Over the past two years, TUFF gathered about $15,000 to purchase video editing equipment and cameras for taping games and practices, Stover says. With this equipment, coaches and players are able to review the team's performance and determine ways to improve and develop strategies against specific opposing teams.

Before the start of each season, Wilt sends each football family a packet of information, with the schedule of games and information regarding travel and accommodations. Families often travel together and stay in the same hotel as the team for away games.

"There is no doubt in my mind that parents come to the games more because there is a football family program," Stover says. "We've made some very good friends who will stay with us long after Chris is done with Taylor football."

Wilt also qualifies as a Football Parent as his son Chad '00 is now in his second year of Trojan football. "Our family is totally involved," he says. "For my son to be connected with those families, I couldn't ask for anything better. We're excited, as a family, to be experiencing that."

With the support of TUFF, the Trojans are challenging the home court advantage, showing that it is not so important where one plays, but rather who fills the bleachers.—Randy Dillinger '95

Volleyball team visits Honduras

Seven members of the volleyball team traveled to Honduras for ten days in August that involved intense competition and service opportunities. The team played matches against the Honduran National Team in the Olympic Stadium in the capital city of Tegucigalpa.

Coach Angela Fincannon stressed the missions motive of the trip as much as the athletic competition. The team took Bibles with them and witnessed to the players on the Honduran team as well as to others whom they met. They also participated in church services, worked in an orphanage and spent time in a school where they led a volleyball clinic and shared their testimonies.

While in Tegucigalpa, the team stayed at the Humuya Inn, a bed and breakfast operated by Scott '91 and Mini (Barahona '92) Crook. Those participating in the trip included seniors Natalie Steele and Rebecca King; juniors Angela Olinghouse, Heather Pickerell and Laurie Dunkerton; and sophomores Brittany Huyser and Allison Heiser.

There is no doubt in my mind that parents come to the games more because there is a football family program

Jack Stover

Coach Angela Fincannon rallies the team in a pre-trip practice.
Laurie Winterholter: from non-runner to triathlete

Running for the first time as a freshman in college, Laurie Winterholter decided she liked the sport so much that for the last three years of her college career she ran as a member of the Lady Trojans’ cross country and track teams. After graduation, the competitive juices still flowed, leading her to compete in marathons and triathlons. (A triathlon is three events in one: swimming, cycling and running.)

In last year’s Detroit Free Press International Marathon, Laurie finished with a time of three hours and fifty minutes. In the Muncie Endurance, also last year, she covered the 1.2-mile swim, the 56-mile bike ride, and the 13.1-mile run in just five hours and 30 minutes. Comparing the physical demands of the marathon and a triathlon, Laurie sees similarities. “If you asked me in the last six miles of a marathon which is harder, I would say the marathon,” she says. “If you asked me in the last three miles of a triathlon, I would say the triathlon.”

Laurie’s steady improvement in the triathlon has brought not only success, but recognition. Last year, she was nationally ranked as a female triathlete and could have qualified for the United States’ world team. Although she did not pursue a berth on the team, she does have another goal: to compete in the Iron Man Triathlon in Hawaii. The Iron Man consists of the almost mind-boggling challenge of a 2.5-mile swim, a 112-mile bike ride, and a 26.2-mile marathon. “I saw the Iron Man on TV and thought it would be neat to do that,” she says. “It may take me all day, but I think I could do it.”

She is a long shot, at best, competing in the under-30-year-old division, where athletes typically hit their peak performances. To enter the Iron Man competition, she would have to win her division in any triathlon, which most likely would mean being the female winner. One other possibility would be having her name drawn by lottery. In the meantime, Laurie’s goals are to continue to train and compete at a high level while staying injury-free.

Laurie maintains a rigorous training regimen this year running over 1,500 miles, cycling nearly 3,000 miles and swimming about 200 miles. “The swimming is easy because I grew up doing it,” she says. Her training menu is long on pasta and short on fat. “It’s a lot easier to go out and train when you haven’t had a hamburger and fries.” She does, however, have one exception: “I like everything that’s chocolate.”

Another reason for her high-octane training routine is her location and job. After graduating from Taylor in 1992 with a degree in recreational leadership and physical education, Laurie moved to Adrian, Michigan, where she became the fitness and aquatics coordinator at the Christian Family Center. After her arrival, she began training with a group of friends who were also interested in running, swimming or biking. Although most of that group has now given up on athletic training, she continues. With access to the Christian Family Center’s swimming pool, Laurie is able to keep that end of her training “afloat.” She spends up to 25 hours per week swimming, cycling, and running.

Among Laurie’s most ardent supporters are her parents, Larry and Lynne. “We think it’s really neat that she’s been able to do this,” says Larry, adding that they run together whenever she comes home. “She’s getting better; I’m getting older. I don’t try to swim with her.” Laurie’s parents come to the triathlons to lend both practical assistance and moral support. “They don’t like the swimming part of the triathlon,” she says, because it is hard to tell in the crowd of swimmers which one she is. Others whom Laurie credits for her success include her cross country coach at Taylor, Ray Bullock, and Al Smith, vice president for business and finance.

While riding high on her newfound athletic success, Laurie gives tribute to God for what is happening in her life. “God has given me the ability and opportunity to do this,” she says, pointing to her life verse in Scripture, “Romans 12:1-2 says that I am to present my body as a living sacrifice.” Whether by wearing a t-shirt with a Christian message or sharing her life and testimony with her friends, Laurie attempts to be that living sacrifice. “He has allowed me to do this for His glory”—Jim Garringer

### Football Schedule

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<td>@ St. Ambrose</td>
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*Home Games in Bold  All Times Local*
Samuel Morris Hall projected for early completion

Students found a surprise waiting for them when they returned to school this year as the new Samuel Morris Hall has begun to take shape. By press time, Calumet Construction Corporation had completed the basement of the four-floor residence hall, including under-ground utilities. Superintendent Mark Hollingsworth anticipates the residence hall to be entirely closed in by Thanksgiving to allow work to continue on the interior over the winter months.

Along with the residence hall construction, Calumet poured two new parking lots, which were completed and ready for use by the middle of August. The lots are located at the corner of Second Street and Reade Avenue, adjacent to Swallow Robin Hall, and at the corner of State Road 22 and Reade Avenue, replacing the former gravel parking lot. The residence hall is scheduled for completion this spring and, according to Hollingsworth, should be handed over to the University by the beginning or middle of April.

One evening in the life of a student ambassador

I look at the phone nervously. My bright yellow script is clutched tightly in my sweaty palm. I look around me; my fellow “phonationers” are all talking cheerfully on their respective lines, and most are even smiling! I slowly dial the number in front of me, praying that the names printed on my purple and white sheet will not be home. “Hello?” a voice answers. I really start to sweat. “Uh, hello. This is Jennifer Howell, and I’m calling as part of Taylor’s annual phonathon.” I stumble through the rest of the call, and when I get to the dreaded question: “Would you consider a gift to Taylor?” I am almost shocked when the faceless voice says, “Sure, I think we could do that.”

For the 25 students who make 5,500 calls to alumni during Taylor’s annual phonathon in the spring, talking on the phone is a job. But it does get easier. After I made several calls that first night I had begun to approach the task with confidence, and I had made a bit of money for Taylor. By the end of the night, I was actually having fun talking to Taylor’s alumni.

I realized that—5, 10, 30 years ago—most of them were just like me. They knew about Taylathon and Sammy Morris and living in Upland. They went to classes and stayed up late writing papers, and even slept through their alarm once or twice. I wasn’t simply begging for money for a Little League barbecue, here. I was asking for support of a school that most already held dear.

“Taylor has meant a lot to me,” the voice on the other end of the line said. “I found Jesus at Taylor. That’s where God led me into ministry. Treasure your time there, Jennifer.” I hung up from that call with a greater appreciation for this place I so often take for granted.

“Do you have any prayer requests?” I asked yet another donor. There was a long pause on the other end. “Well,” the voice finally said, “I was diagnosed today with cancer.” As I filled out a prayer request form, I offered a prayer as well for my sister in Christ, part of my Taylor family.

Calls such as this one encouraged me that we have a greater cause at stake here at Taylor. I was doing more than begging for money. I was giving people just like me the chance to support Taylor and all that she stands for. The alumni, on the other hand, gave me the chance to glean a wealth of wisdom from those who have gone before me.

When the sheets were all tallied and the pledges were in, being a “fund-raiser” was not so bad after all. And I am not in the least bit ashamed to make the next call, confident that what I’m doing has a piece of eternity in it.

Jennifer Howell’97

Jennifer Howell served as a student ambassador for two years (one year as a student ambassador leader). She is currently serving with Greater Europe Mission as a student in Portugal.

Campaign Update

As of September 1, nearly $30 million of the $75 million goal for the Taylor Tomorrow Campaign had been identified.
Generations impacted through couple’s instruction

Down a quiet street in the town of Berne, Indiana, stands a cozy and inviting home surrounded by well-tended flowers. Each week Dr. Freeman and Mary Kay (Myers ’38) Burkhalter open their home to more than 30 music students. Even though Freeman celebrated his 89th birthday on September 16, he still teaches violin and voice. At the age of 85, Mary Kay continues to dedicate her energy to teaching piano.

The Burkhalters have been examples of perseverance and joyful service to many, whether it be the 96 times Freeman has directed Handel’s Messiah, the lifelong friendships they have built with other residents of Berne, or the personal interest and support they have given to Taylor University. It does not take long for one to realize a common bond that Freeman and Mary Kay share: a strong commitment to music education.

Freeman, like his siblings, was exposed to music early and often by his parents. “My father was interested in giving us all the music we could get,” he says. “So he bought a top-of-the-line phonograph and recordings of fine music. And that’s how I really grew to love the violin.”

As a young man Freeman became interested in radios and in 1922 helped build the first radio receiver in Berne. In addition, he sang and performed music throughout high school. Later, while studying at Moody Bible Institute, Freeman had his first opportunity to direct a choir. Freeman received his Bachelor of Music Education in 1934 and his Master of Music in 1941, both from Northwestern University. He then pursued a Doctor of Education degree, which he received from Columbia University in 1954.

Freeman spent most of his professional life in Berne, teaching music in the South Adams Schools from 1935 to 1975. This tenure was interrupted by World War II, when Freeman served overseas in the military from 1942-45. He later took leaves of absence in 1953-54 while completing his doctorate, and from 1966-68 when he received a Fulbright Lectureship to teach in Colombia, South America.

Mary Kay began her college experience at Wheaton College, but returned home after one semester. Her brother, Clair, also went to Wheaton the following year, but came home after he contracted scarlet fever. In the midst of the Great Depression, they were unable to continue their education. When Dr. Robert Stuart offered them scholarships, though, they came to Taylor and both graduated in 1938.

Mary Kay was teaching in her hometown of VanWert, Ohio, when a men’s chorus, directed by Freeman, came to her school for a performance. She was asked to accompany the group on piano. The two took notice of each other and there began a life-long relationship. They were married in 1946 and resettled in Berne, where Mary Kay taught in the local schools for several years. She later began teaching private piano lessons from home. One of her piano students went on to receive the highest piano award given by Purdue University.

Freeman’s high school students were ambitious. In 1963 they won a national competition, allowing them to perform at the annual convention of Rotary International. Throughout his 40-year service, Freeman led the band in achieving great recognition for their excellence, including the 27 times the band performed in state competitions.

Despite the prestige he could claim for his long tenure at both the high school and at the First Mennonite Church in Berne, where he served as minister of music for more than 50 years, Freeman’s satisfaction comes from sharing in the lives of the many students he and Mary Kay have taught and influenced. Some of their current students are now the third generation in their families to study under their tutelage. Mary Kay, too, was active in serving the local church, directing an 80-member children’s choir for many years.

The Burkhalters have also extended their service to Taylor where Freeman taught evening classes from 1960-64. He believes that a solid education is essential for Christian young people, and music is no exception. “A strong Christian university like Taylor should be the very best it can be,” he says.

For that reason, the Burkhalters have decided to give Taylor a major portion of their estate. Fifty percent of their gift will be used to create an endowed scholarship in memory of the Burkhalters, which will be given to a music major; the remaining 50 percent will be used to fund an endowment for the music department.

The Burkhalter’s gift will add even more strength to the music department and to the academic program as a whole. “I’m very happy with the way Taylor has developed scholastically,” Freeman says. “There are many things that have happened musically that I have appreciated.” — Randy Dillinger ’95

THE WONDERS OF TURKEY

Visit Turkey and the Seven Churches of: Isia, Simon (Revelation 1-3).

JULY 16-29, 1998

Mark your calendars for July 16-29, 1998. The William Taylor Foundation will sponsor the trip hosted by Ken and Beth Smith. For a brochure and more information please call 1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5144.
1915
Iris Abbey died on May 14 in Warren, IN. She was Taylor's oldest living alumna before her death. She lived in Upland from 1910 to 1994, when she moved to the United Methodist (UM) Memorial Home. Look for a tribute to Miss Abbey in the winter magazine.

1925
J. Lauren & Harriet (Leisure '26) Naden celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Aug 18. They were married in 1927 at the home of her parents. Lauren is a retired teacher, farmer, and published author. Harriet is a retired teacher. The couple have 4 children. They also have 15 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren. The Nadens reside at 29293 Hayworth Rd, Atlanta, IN 46031.

1931
Rev. Ralph Dodge recently celebrated his 90th birthday with a large number of extended family members. Included in this group were son R. Edward Dodge '57 and grandson Randall E. Dodge '81. Rev. Dodge & wife Beth's address is PO Box 4725, Dowling Park, FL 32064. ● Marguerite (Deyo) Pugh passed away on June 2 in Orange City, FL at the age of 90. She served as a UM missionary: 6 yrs in Panama and 25 yrs in Zimbabwe. In 1964 she was elected exec secretary of the Board of Global Ministries of the UMC. She was preceded in death by husband Dr. A. Wesley Pugh '22. She is survived by 2 stepdaughters Gerry (Pugh '42) Barr and June (Pugh '44) Bergwall, 2 nieces Lois (Deyo '52) Smith and Miriam (Deyo '55) Vallejo, and a nephew Arthur Deyo '62.

1951
Dorothy (Eells) Andersen died on April 13 in Chapel Pointe, PA. She had been an asst to the dean of admissions and registrar at SUNY at Buffalo.

1957
John Stroman retired as senior pastor from the 3,000-member Pasadena Community Church in St. Petersburg, FL. In Sept he joined the faculty of Trinity Theol Sem in Ghana, West Africa where he is teaching biblical studies for the 1997-98 academic yr. He also had a book published recently titled God's Downward Mobility.

1961
Dr. William & Becky Ringenberg celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on Aug 18. They were married in Berne, IN. In honor of their anniversary and Becky's retirement from public school teaching, the couple traveled to London and Switzerland where their ancestors lived. Bill continues as a prof of history at Taylor. Their address is 500 W Reade Ave, Upland, IN 46989.

1962
Margery Livingston continues to serve with BCM Intl in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Her e-mail address is marlivingston@juno.com. ● Karen (Hansen) Szabo passed away on Jan 9. Many lives were touched by her life of ministry through counseling, caring for the bereaved and the abused, and service with Young Life Canada which she established and developed into a vital organization. Surviving Karen is husband Dr. Michael Szabo who lives at 4204 107th St, Edmonton, Alberta T6J 2R9, Canada. The Karen H. Szabo Memorial Fund was established to support new staff training for Young Life Canada.

1964
John x & Anita (Weimer '63) Freeman have moved to 5717 Unit Ct, Hanover Park, IL 60103. John works for ServiceMaster, setting up a training program for inmates at the DuPage County Jail. Anita is employed at the DuPage County Purchasing Office.

1966
Joe & Elaine (Shugart '65) Vandegriff live at Rt 7, 307 Vivian, Brazoria, TX 77422. Joe's e-mail address is joev@tgn.net.

1971
Rev. Gary Evans has earned a DMin degree from Trinity Evangelical Div
School. This also means wife Wanda just earned her 3rd PHTS degree (according to Gary that's "Put Hubby Through School!") He is senior pastor for Highland Congregational Church. Son Todd will be a TU grad after student teaching this fall and daughter Tracie (Evans '91) Zander lives in MI with husband David and daughter Hannah. The Evans live at 4072 Clifton Ridge, Highland, MI 48357.

1972

Rev. Herb Buwalda, Jr. received the DMin degree from McCormick Theol Sem in parish revitalization. His thesis project was "Growing as an Inclusive Congregation." Herb is senior pastor at the College Ave UM Church in Muncie, IN. Wife LeeAnne (Keller '74) teaches 3rd gr in Muncie Community Schools. Their daughters Gina and Kelly are students at Hope College. The family's address is 4011 Coventry Dr, Muncie, IN 47304; e-mail is hjbuwalda@aol.com. ● Cynthia (Belon) Carlson went to Heaven to be with her Lord on July 9 at Vanderbilt Med Center, Nashville, TN after a courageous battle with cancer. At the time of her death, she was employed at Christ Presbyterian Academy. Among her survivors are sons Peter and Justin, 2 sisters including Deborah (Belon '79) Schrauger, and her parents. Memorials may be made to the Peter and Justin Carlson Educational Scholarship Fund, c/o Christ Community Church, 309 Church St, Franklin, TN 37064. ● Kathy Kitzmann was selected winner of the ACS Central Region Award for HS Chemistry teachers. Up to 9 regional winners are selected each yr. In addition to the HS honor this represents, Kathy received $1000 and her school received $500. Because of this award, Kathy is now a candidate for the James Bryan Conant national teaching award and will remain eligible for 3 yrs. Congratulations Kathy! ● Dr. David R. MacRae x and Kristen Griffith were united in marriage on June 12 in Grand Rapids, MI. David is a clinical psychologist in private practice. Kristen is a certified financial planner and is active in women's ministry. Their combined family also includes: Erin, 18; Shannon, 15; Adam, 12; Kristiana, 4; and Olivia 3. The MacRaes reside at 4065 Mont Katnich Ct NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. ● Karen (Seeley x) Sommer is working for Ohio National Day of Prayer after retiring from teaching in a Christian school for 10 yrs. She is also in the process of opening a bridal shop. She and husband Jon have 3 children at TU: Jena '97, Jon '00, and Aaren '01. Daughter Leah is a HS freshman. Jon is a health planning administrator for the State of Ohio Health Dept. They live in Wadsworth, OH and their e-mail address is jksom@juno.com. ● Alan & Sue (Koerner) Sutton live in Barrington, RI where Alan is a missionary chaplain with Community Chaplain Services. He serves in nursing homes and also works at Barrington Baptist Church. Sue works at Barrington Christian Academy. Their 2 daughters, Stacey (21) and Bethany (19), attend Gordon College and son Jesse (14) is a HS freshman. They would love to hear from friends! Their address is 14 Burr Ave, Barrington, RI 02806.

1973

Leah (Powers) McGarr died unexpectedly on May 17, 1997. She was a prof at Johnson and Wales Univ in Providence, RI where she was dearly loved. Leah was also an aquatics instructor for the American Red Cross. She loved to camp with her family. Survivors are husband Peter and 2 sons, Luke (10) and Noah (7) who live at 161 Adamsville Rd, Westport, MA 02790.

1974

Scott & Lynn Hughes live at S Park Rt, Box 1511, Jackson, WY 83001. Scott is a federal law enforcement officer with the rank of detective sergeant for Teton County, WY. He has coordinated several presidential and vice presidential visits to Jackson Hole and coordinated the Baker-Shervenadza Summit. He is also on a SWAT team. He is currently assigned to a Regional Drug Task Force. He was voted Peace Officer of the Year in 1984. Wife Lynn is a communications supervisor in the Teton County Sheriff's Office and was featured on the television show Rescue 911. Together they enjoy motorcycling and make an annual pilgrimage to Walt Disney World or Disneyland! ● Matthew & Christine (Purdy) Reese live at 26927 Glenridge Ct, Olmsted Twp, OH 44138. ● Madonna (Jervis) Wise was named principal of West Zephyrhills Elem School. Madonna has been with this district for 23 yrs, having served as a district school administrator, teacher, and guidance counselor. She is also a licensed mental health counselor. Madonna & husband Ernest reside in Zephyrhills, FL. They have 3 children: Jason (18), Mamie (15) and Rachel (3).

1976

Dr. Louis ("Buzz") Gallien is chair of the education dept at Mercer Univ. He and wife Lee reside at 2984 Crestline Dr, Macon, GA 31294. ● Karen (Sulfridge x) Iseminger completed her PhD in medical ethics. She is asst prof of nursing and philosophy at the Univ of Indianapolis, a medical ethicist for the Gynecologic Oncology Group, and has a clinical practice at Fortville Family Practice. Her address is 19814 Tomlinson Rd, Westfield, IN 46074. Voice mail is 317-788-6113. ● Keith & Cindy Thompson announce the birth of Hunter Andrews on March 21. Sisters are Morgan Blair (6) and Madison Taylor (3). Keith is working for Highlands Ins Group as senior vice pres for commercial lines. They live in Lawrenceville, NJ.

1977

Berry & Lynn Huffman are the proud parents of Matthew Noah born June 24, 1996. The family resides at 17440 Charter Pines Dr, Monument, CO 80132. ● Susan (Wilson) Palomba was named manager of health care planning and administration in The Timken Company's Human Resources and Logistics Ctr. She
started her career with the company in 1977 as an assoc industrial engineer. She and husband Dennis live in North Canton, OH. • Gordon Pritz was named principal at Marietta HS. Prior to that, he coached the McEachern HS wrestling team to a record-setting 7 consecutive state AAAA wrestling titles. Gordon & wife Ginny (VanTreuren) live at 1646 Reflections Trail, Powder Springs, GA 30073.

1980

Brian & Andrea Burnett have adopted 2 children, Rebecca and Mark. They arrived in the Burnett home on June 26 from a Russian orphanage. The Burnetts are serving in Russia as tentmaker missionaries. In addition, Brian is a prof at Nizhny Novgorod State Univ. Their e-mail address is 73204.2040@compuserve.com.

• David Gaines continues teaching at Dayton Christian Schools. He is the social studies dept chair and teaches at the Troy campus. He, wife Cathy, and children Zachary (10), T.J. (6), and Carianne (9 mos) live at 111 Lynnfield Cir, Union, OH 45322. • Rev. Eric & Darcella Jarmon reside at 4040 Balwynne Park Rd, 1st Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19131. Eric is a social worker for the Women's Christian Alliance and also pastors the Transformed New Life Christian Fellowship Church in Mt Holly, NJ. He is working on his PhD in church admin at Trinity College & Sem.

• Allen & Debra (Boetsma) Mechling announce the birth of Isaac Joseph on Oct 23, 1995. Siblings are Daniel (11) and Stephanie (8). Allen works with controls and building automation systems and Deb is a full-time homemaker. The Mechlings reside at 6811 Azalea Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46214. • Doug & Kathy Treu are missionaries in the country of Chile, serving with the Assoc of Baptists for World Evangelism since 1995. He is the business administrator and Kathy teaches in the Christian school. Daughter Lia is in 1st gr this yr. Their e-mail address is 105226.62@compuserve.com.

International Aid assists victims of North Dakota’s “500-year” flood

Hal Olsen ’53, director of disaster relief for International Aid, Inc., led a team of volunteer workers to Grand Forks, North Dakota, May 5-12. This town of 70,000 was 85 percent inundated by the flooding Red River. International Aid sent eight truckloads of relief supplies and two teams of volunteers to help with cleanup. With 5,000 homes damaged in Grand Forks, victims could not even hire people to help them with the cleanup of their homes. The following is Olsen’s account in his own words.

When I was a student at Taylor, we had a number of students from North Dakota. Checking the alumni directory, I found that Gordon Johnson ’50 lived in Grand Forks. I phoned Gordon, who, with his wife Delores, had just gotten back into their home after having been evacuated because of the flood. I asked him if he needed help. “We sure do!” Our basement took in four feet of water,” he said. “We’d welcome your team’s help!”

Soon the International Aid team, made up of two ladies and seven men ranging from ages 37 to 65, was busy helping Gordon and Delores. The flood warning had come so suddenly that the Johnsons had no time to prepare. All of Gordon’s Taylor notes were ruined; his yearbooks were finished. He had collections of magazines and books in his basement that were ruined.

“We live ten miles from the flood plain of the Red River,” Gordon said, adding that they had no flood insurance on their home. “We never expected the flood to hit our house.

International Aid volunteer Amy Williams scrubs the Johnsons’ flooded basement.

I found that Gordon Johnson ’50 lived in Grand Forks. I phoned Gordon, who, with his wife Delores, had just gotten back into their home after having been

International Aid team members had ruined items out of houses following the flooding in Grand Forks.

We have lived here for 35 years.” Gordon is a retired junior high school teacher and his house is just a block away from the school where he taught.

One of our workers would hold up a book or some other item and Gordon would say, “No I want to save that.” Then he would look at the soggy, brown thing and say, “No, throw it out.” This happened over and over. Team members pushed the ruined items through a basement window and wheelbarrowed the stuff to the street, adding to the huge pile of debris. The whole street had brown, soggy piles in front of the homes.

There were many tears and hugs when the job was finally done, “Taylor University alumni relations has taken on new meaning,” kidded the Johnsons. Proverbs 14:21 says, “Blessed is he who is kind to the needy.” As surely as the Johnsons had become needy, the International Aid team was blessed as they helped this couple and other victims of the “500 Year Flood” in Grand Forks, North Dakota.—Hal Olsen ’53
1981

Carol (Lowery) Anderson and husband Scott reside in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, along with their 3 children, Erica (13), Ryan (10), and Elyse (3). Reda Pump Co employs Scott as an application engineer. Both Carol & Scott are involved in ministry in a growing expatriate church. Their overseas address is Reda Pump Co, Box 30480, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. ● Steve & Vicky (Halupnik) Clinkescales along with son Michael (2) welcomed Peter Frank on April 28. Steve is dir. of singles and small groups at Mission Hills Church in Littleton. Vicky is at home with the boys at 739 Kittredge St, Aurora, CO 80011. ● David & Kathy (Hubbs) Harden and their 3 children, Jonathan (7), Christopher (5), and Rachel (2), have moved to Farmington Hills, MI where David is the dean of students at William Tyndale College. They can be reached at the college address: William Tyndale College, 35700 W 12 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48331. ● J. P. & Christine Zinn welcomed Emily Christine on May 14. The Zinns live at 18 Briarllea Dr, Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada. Their e-mail address is jpzinn@auracom.com.

1982

Thomas “Nor” Kemner was named vice pres for advancement of Bryan College (TN). He & wife Kathy live in Dayton with their 4 children: Lauren (8), Brian (5), Jennifer (3), and Claire (1). Tom & Kathy recently hosted a mini-golf reunion of former First-Easters including Brian Dawes ’81, Todd Shinabarger ’81, and Jim Stimmel ’81. It was reported to be a great time and slightly less great golf! Tom’s e-mail address is kerrtno@byanet.bryan.edu. ● Doug Oliver is pastor at Trinity Church of God in Boca Raton, FL. Wife Kandy and children Caleb (8), Rachel (6), Rebekah (4), and Josiah (3) are enjoying the sunshine and warm weather. They would appreciate contact from any TU alumni in the area. They can be reached through the church at 1251 SW 15th Ave, Boca Raton, FL 33486.

1983

David x & Becky (Black ’88) Moe joyfully welcome Alexis Karrin born Nov 7, 1996. Siblings are T.J. (7) and Chelsea (8). The family lives at 509 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Peters, MO 63376.

1984

Anthony x & Gail (Woolsey ’83) Faircloth live at 5806 Dallas Ave, Pensacola, FL 32526. Their e-mail address is tony_gail_faircloth@wfc.com. ● Rick & Connie (Collins) Harlen have been blessed with a healthy, happy son Evan Dane born Nov 1, 1996 following a pregnancy and delivery filled with miracles! The Harlans reside at 9636 Pepperidge Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46236. Connie continues employment with Arthur Andersen and Rick is a lighting rep with Westfield Lighting. ● John & Pam (Miller) Hays reside in Chicago where John is pastor of LaSalle Street Church. Pam teaches childbirth classes and stays home with Greta (8), Caroline (6), Alex (4), Amanda (2), and Caleb Benjamin, born at home on May 5. Their address is 5850 W Race Ave, Chicago, IL 60644. ● Charles & Kate (Ingold ’85) Payne live at 298 Persimmon Ln, Elizabethtown, PA 17022, with sons CJ (10) and Andrew (8). Charles is the owner of CHP. Their e-mail is adslspro@aol.com. ● Ron & Tammy (Hinman ’84) Scott are the proud parents of Joshua Price born April 19. Brother Tyler is 3. The family’s address is 2590 Gay Paree Dr, Zeeland, MI 49464. ● Jim & Michelle (Green) Steinbeck welcomed Abigail Grace into their family on June 15, 1996. Sisters are Amanda Joy (7) and Allison Hope (5). Michelle enjoys being a stay-at-home mom and also enjoys living less than 1 mile from her "old TU roommate" Maribeth (True) Fleischhauer. The Steinbecks’ address is 5002 Mallard Crossing Ln, Cincinnati, OH 45247.

1985

Dan Edwards finished a degree in clinical psychology in April at the Univ of Florida. He is now in a clinical fellowship at the Univ of Rochester (NY) Med Ctr specializing in pediatric psych. He will be moving to Charleston, SC where he will be joining a consulting organization. Dan, wife Genie, and children Taylor (7) and Sarah (4) live at 36 Cobb Terrace, Rochester, NY 14620. ● Christopher & Susan (Cook) Kniola are the proud parents of Laura Louise born March 11. Brother Nicholas is 3. The family resides at 5661 Carrolton Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46220. ● David & Patty (Link) Tarlach are proud to announce the birth of Evan David on Feb 13. They live at 2835 S Home Ave, Berwyn, IL 60402. ● Scott & Elizabeth Timmons joyfully welcome Katherine Elizabeth born Oct 6, 1996. The family lives at 2526 E Northgate St, Indianapolis, IN 46220. ● Scott Wagoner is pastor at Archdale Friends Meeting (NC). The church is growing and is presently in a building program of a 16,000 sq ft Family Life Ctr. He moved there in 1995 after 5 yrs in Muncie (IN) serving as asst superintendent of the Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends. He & wife Lynda have 2 children: Erin (9) and Chad (5). They enjoy the mountains and ocean. They live at 119 Ridge Creek Cir, Trinity, NC 27370. Their e-mail is afmtg@infoave.net.

1986

Marla Amstutz is a forecast analyst for the biochemicals division of Boehringer Mannheim Corp in Indianapolis, IN. Her e-mail is marla2@ix.netcom.com. ● Scott & Robin (Sample x) Bacon are the proud parents of twin sons born 3 months early on Aug 20, 1996. Trent and Tyler are now doing well! Sister Rylee is 6. Robin stays home with the children. Scott is asst principal at Blue Valley HS in the Kansas City area. Their address is 823 N Arroyo Dr, Olathe, KS 66061. ● Charles & Kristen Bauer joyfully welcome Isaiah Merrill born April 14. Sister Chloe Grace is 2. Charles is asst dir of the Christian Resource Ctr in Giltner, NE, where he is a ministerial resource to local churches and individuals in a variety of capacities. Kristen is a full-time homemaker and lay minister in the area. They live at 1201 S "J" Rd, Aurora, NE 68818. E-mail is cbauer@hamilton.net. ● David & Michelle (Mathes x) Becker now reside at 6301 Beacon Hill Dr, Plano, TX 75093. David is in private practice as a family practicing sports medicine physician.
He joins Steven Meliopez MD. His office address is Presbyterian Hospital of Plano, 6200 W Parker Rd Apt 103, Plano, TX 75093. Michelle is a homemaker and fulltime mother to Megan (4) and Garrett (1). Robert & Denise (Dester) Cossins proudly announce the birth of Daniel Jackson on May 11. Siblings are brother Kris (13) and sister Jacy (11). Rob owns and manages a technology solutions company, Celertas-Technologies, based in Kansas City. Denise is a homemaker. The family lives at 18950 W 215th St, Spring Hill, KS 66083. Matt & Nan Hoblith joyfully welcome Bailey Jane born April 26. Brother Josh is 3. Matt is still at EDS as a systems engineer. Nan is a full-time mom. Their address is 3312 Ashley Dr, Orton Twp, MI 48359. Marty & Faith (Champoux) O’Leary live in Wixom, MI. Marty works for General Motors at the Milford proving grounds as a senior project engineer. Faith homeschoo### 1987

Kevin & Stephanie (vonGuten) Fitzharris proudly welcome Jon “Connor” born June 30. Sister McKenna is 2. The family resides at 1132 Westover Rd, Ft Wayne, IN 46807. Marc & Sheila (Harris ’88) Graber are the proud parents of Madison Paige born June 8. Sister Lindsey is 4. Their address is 866 W Main St, Berne, IN 46711.

1988

Ruthanna Denton married Robert Bridges on June 7 in Winston-Salem, NC. The couple’s address is 4184 Fox Meadow Ln, Winston-Salem, NC 27107. Dr. Richard & Amy (VearLee) Elias are the proud parents of Peter Reese born Feb. 24. Richard is a

A Gentle Touch from the Healer

After reading the article by Jacob Chan, I thought I should write and share my story. On July 29, 1996, I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. My life changed dramatically that day. I have dreaded hearing those words all of my adult life. I lost my mother to cancer when I was a sophomore at Taylor. Since my 40th birthday I felt like I had a cloud over my head. That Monday the cloud settled on my life. But from that day on God had a plan for me.

My walk with the Lord wasn’t quite up to par, and hadn’t been for a few years. But my first instinct was to call our pastor and ask for prayer. Boy, did the church go into action! Prayers were being offered and answered right and left from getting the doctor’s surgery schedule cleared to having the insurance company approve the doctor even though his group wasn’t with our HMO! The surgery lasted seven and a half hours and I lost 15 pounds from fluid and the tumors.

Because I was experiencing pain before and after surgery, I was on morphine. I had terrible death dreams because of this. I couldn’t or wouldn’t sleep because I was afraid of what I would dream next. The chaplain at the hospital, who was a member of my church, taped some scripture verses on the walls of my room. Joshua 1:9 was one of them. That verse continually reassured me, “...Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Other verses of encouragement were Isaiah 43:2, 4, “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.”

I had my first chemotherapy treatment a week after surgery. Two weeks later my hair started falling out. All along I said it wouldn’t bother me, but when I ran a comb through my hair and it came out in clumps, it really hit me that I had cancer. I had five more chemo treatments, ending in January of 1997.

In February I elected to have a second-look surgery to see if the chemo had cleared up the cancer that remained af-
dentist and Amy is a full-time mom. They reside at 1715 Exeter Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. Brothers are Jake (6) and Luke (4). Matthew & Gall (Mercer) Moore joyfully announce the birth of Emma Elizabeth on April 27. The family lives at 4400 Elkis Ave, Nashville, TN 37209. Kevin & Cheryle (Clark '89) Nill are the proud parents of Peyton Olivia born Feb 28. Kevin & Cheryle met at TU and have been married for 7 yrs. The family lives at 12776 Edenbridge Ct, Jacksonville, FL 32223. Matt Ringenberg and Kasey Dyer were married on March 1 in Granger, IN. The groom's parents are Dr. William '61 & Becky Ringenberg. Other TU participants were Tim Kern, Dirk Rowley '89, Tom Archbald '87, Mark Ringenberg '91, and Peter Ringenberg '96. Matt is working on his dissertation for a PhD in social work. He is project co-coordinator for research being done at the Univ of Washington Med Ctr on diagnosing mental illness in children. The couple's address is 6732 Dolan Pl, St Louis, MO 63139. Dave & Karin (Holl) Rogers are proud to announce the birth of Keirsten Elaine on Dec 17, 1995. Brother Alex is 4. Dave earned his MLS in spring 1996 and is working as a law librarian in Chicago. Karin is a stay-at-home mom. The family lives at 1066 Spring Garden Cir, Naperville, IL 60563. E-mail address is kerogens@flash.net.

1989
Jodiene Gamez married Rod Anderson on July 20, 1996 in Saginaw, MI. TU participants were Janel (Gamez '93) Force and Jami (Miller '81) Kinzer. Jodie is teaching US History at Jenison HS and Rod is a research asst at the W.E. Upjohn Institute. The couple's address is 5898 Bayberry Farms Dr Apt 6, Grandville, MI 49418. Michelle Hollar married Scott Sanchez '93 on Aug 10, 1996 in Goshen, IN. In the wedding from TU were Stacey Bishop, Jodi (Fuhrmann '87) Phillips, Shawn Campbell '92, Eric Hehman '95, Brett Michel '92, and Mike White '91. Michelle teaches 1st gr at New Paris Elem School. Scott owns/operates S&S Lawn and Property Management. He is also asst football coach at Fairfield Jr/Sr HS. The couple lives at 6894 CR 21, New Paris, IN 46553. Mike & Lori (Williams) McDivitt joyfully welcome Elizabeth Anne born April 7. Siblings are Matthew (almost 3) and Sarah (20 mos). Mike teaches at Oak Hill HS and Lori is a full-time mom. Their address is PO Box 273, Swayzee, IN 46986. Thor & Kristen (Heisler) Thomsen have moved to N4492 Ware Rd, Waupaca, WI 54981. Thor continues to work for Saf-R RMP Systems in sales/marketing. Kristen has joined Waupaca Family Medicine as a family physician. David Woodring & Barbara Gail Davis were married on June 21 in Fort Smith, AR. In the wedding from TU were Troy Mounsey '89 and Stacey Peters. The couple lives at 2816 36th St, Fort Smith, AR 72903. E-mail address is woody@ipa.net.

1990
Ed & Cheryl (Hubers) Bixby joyfully announce the birth of Elizabeth Anne on April 15. Sister Lucy is 2. Their address is 3941 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55409. Troy Felton has moved to 518 N Oriental St, Indianapolis, IN 46202. His e-mail is tfepton@iu.edu. Troy is a programmer/analyst at USA Group. John & Laura (Schneck '89) Graham are happy to announce the birth of Joshua on May 23, 1996. Brother Nicholas is 3. The Grahams live at 3735 Maxwell Rd, Toledo, OH 43613. Steve & Dana (Michel) Heiniger proudly announce the birth of Jordan McKenna on March 26. Brother Colton is 3. The family's address is 6922 Bumaster Ct, Indianapolis, IN 46214. Matt & Joleen (Burkholder) Hurt are the proud parents of Caleb Matthew born May 11 (Mother's Day). Grandparents are Tim '63 & Carolyn (Williamson '64) Burkholder. The Hurt family lives at 218 E Erie St No 1, Albion, MI 49224. With thankful hearts, Kent & Joan (Munson) Myers announce the birth of Ryan Thomas, Elizabeth Anne, and Christian James on May 14. The triplets and their parents reside at 8551 136th Ct, Apple Valley, MN 55124. David & Liz (Foote) Olrich joyfully announce the birth of Joshua David on Nov 3, 1996. Sister Devon Lorae is 5. David is employed with Donnelly Corp of Grand Haven, MI. Liz is teaching 2nd gr at Ravenna Public Schools. The family lives at 526 James St, Spring Lake, MI 49456. Ann Miraglia married Jamie Harrison on July 20, 1996. TU participants were Sarah (Miraglia) Medrks '92 and Kelley (Hughes '88) Corsten. Jamie is a construction project mgr and Ann teaches kindergarten. They live at 171 E Lake Ridge Dr, Glendale Hts, IL 60039. Mark & Linda (Lewis) Sweeting are living in the Bahamas. Their address is PO Box SS-6489, Nassau, Bahamas. Their e-mail is mgs@bahamas.net.bs. Dan & Juli (Embre '89) Tibbetts are the proud parents of twin girls, Anna and Claire, born Nov 11, 1996. Dan is teaching and coaching track and football. Juli works part-time as a social worker in Floyd County.

Kathy Strapp lives in Columbus, Ohio, with husband Mike and daughters Stacey (center) and Amy. She would love to hear from old TU buddies. Her e-mail is KSTRAPP@aol.com.
Schools. The family lives at 509 Charlton St, Rome, GA 30165. • Mitch & Melissa (Miles ’93) Beaverson have moved to 161 Findlay Ct, Elyria, OH 44035. Mitch is working for Allied Signal.

1991

Rick & Dawn (Roth) Bolt joyfully announce the birth of Nicolas Richard on April 21. Rick is a systems analyst at Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati. Dawn is a case mgr for CRI (social work agency). The family lives at 4576 Wood Forest Ln, Batavia, OH 45103.

• Bob & Sherry (Schrack) Boyack are the grateful and proud parents of Katy Joy born June 29. The family lives at 108 McAree, Waukegan, IL 60085.

• James Ebert graduated with an MDiv from Yale Univ. He is now an asst dean at Sarah Lawrence College in New York, and concurrently, began his doctoral studies in psychology at Columbia Univ. He is working on a book, a collection of essays and short stories. Assistance is provided by Stephanie Moody, a medical research resident at the Univ of Pittsburgh Med School.

• Scott Robison ’93, an evolutionary biology PhD student at Ohio Univ, and Shawn Maxwell, a high-flying although never without a sense of humor computer consultant in Chicago.

• Todd & Lynn Hardy are proud to announce the birth of Mitchell James on Nov 24, 1996. The family lives at 230 Deershadow Rd, Maineville, OH 45039.

• Rev. James Land lives at 218 N Walnut, Union City, IN 47390. His e-mail address is landtech@bright.net.

• Andy & Maria (Willis x) Meier are the proud parents of Austyn Forrest born on Dec 11, 1996. Maria teaches HS math and Andy is a self-employed flooring installer. The family lives at 922 Sherman Ave, Janesville, WI 53545.

• Michael Mortensen has been named assoc dir of development for the Taylor Fort Wayne campus. He, wife Christine (LaRue ’92) and daughter Ashlyn live at 6102 E - 300 N, Bluffton, IN 46714.

• Scott Popejoy is senior pastor of Oxford Junction Assembly of God. He, wife Kathleen (VanHorn ’93) and daughter Elizabeth Grace live at 209 3rd Ave N, PO Box 39, Oxford Junction, IA 52323. They would love to hear from TU friends!

• Mark Ringenberg and Kristine Place were married on Jan 4 in Muncie, IN. Parents of the groom were Dr. William ’61 & Becky Ringenberg. Other TU participants in the wedding were Greg Kroecker, Angie Parks ’93, Matt Ringenberg ’88, and Peter Ringenberg ’96. Mark works at Enterprise Co and Kristine is employed at the Mineola Elem School. The couple resides at 1328 Bowman St, Clermont, FL 34711.

• Mike & Kristen Robertson proudly announce the birth of Troy James on Oct 18, 1996. Mike has been transferred from the police dept to an inter-agency narcotic division. The family resides at 11 Trappers Run Dr, Asheville, NC 28805.

1992

Matt & Jennifer (Schuster) Brummond have recently moved to 2792 Craig Ct, Marietta, GA 30062 with their 2 children, Seth (2) and Claire (1). Matt is an attorney specializing in nonprofit organization law with the firm Bird & Associates, PC. They would love to hear from Taylor friends. E-mail them at Mbrum85@aol.com.

• Brian & Diane (Bendure) Carlson are the proud parents of Ashley Taylor born March 17. New aunt and uncle are Shawn ’90 & Janet (Bendure ’90) Reckhemmer. The Carlsons live at 6130 Millhollow Ln, Ft Wayne, IN 46815.

• Vince & Chris (Schutte) Geddes are happy to announce the birth of Jordan Anne on July 10, 1996. Their address is 5174 Platt Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. They would love to hear from TU friends!

• Dan Gin and Joe Imhof graduated from DePaul Univ on June 14. Dan graduated with an MAE degree in human services/counseling. Joe graduated with an MS degree in information systems. Both men attribute their scholastic achievements to being 2 of the original 42 “mod-men” from West Village.

• Jael Norman married George Lippert on May 25 in Tiffin, OH. TU participants were Heather (Myers) Day, Kate Massot, and Emily (Braley) Vanest.

• George works as a graphic illustrator and Jael is an education and training mgr at North Carolina Baptist Hospital. The couple lives in Winston-Salem, NC.

• Steve & Kimberly (Lochridge) Patterson are the proud parents of twins Karl Andra and Kyra Lauren born April 24. Son Jordan is 4. The family has moved to 2107 Kensington Dr, Waukesha, WI 53188. Steve is working for Ray Knitter Assoc. Kimberly enjoys being at home with the children. There is never a dull or quiet moment in the Patterson household!

• Marc & Tamila (Doornbos ’91) Plastow are the proud parents of Alexandre Marc born March 27. Sister Ashlyn is 2. The family lives at 609 N Columbia, Warsaw, IN 46580. Their e-mail is mplastow@ctbinc.com.

Dan & Luci Ross

• Dan Ross married Luci Jackson on Feb 22 in Kokomo, IN. TU participants in the wedding included Dr. Jeffrey Bennett, Craig Gunther, Aaron Pike, Brent Croxton, Paul Zazzo, Dan Mouw ’93, Gary Ross ’95, and Carrie (Pigott ’95) Ross. The couple moved back to Upland where Dan, a former member of the TU golf team, is the PGA professional at Walnut Creek and Club Run Golf Courses. Their address is 318 W Taylor, Upland, IN 46989.

• Rev. Reuel & June (Roddy) Sample joyfully welcome Reuel K. Sample II born March 8. Reuel is a Presbyterian minister currently serving as a Navy Chaplain on the aircraft carrier USS George Washington. June was a math teacher, but is taking time off to stay at
home. They reside at 1047 S Lexan Crescent, Norfolk, VA 23508. **Brian & Susan (Styer) Scott** are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter Payton Nicole born March 15. The family’s address is 1552 Bethlehem Rd W, Marion, OH 43302. **Marine Capt Daniel Seibel** just completed a 6-month deployment with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), which embarked aboard the ships of the USS Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group. Early in the deployment, Seibel’s unit evacuated 2,500 US citizens from Sierra Leone. The evacuation was conducted jointly with French, Nigerian, and Sierra Leone surface ships. Equipped with the 22nd MEU landing force, helicopters, Harrier attack jets, high-speed assault hovercraft, landing craft, tanks and armored and amphibious assault vehicles, the 22nd MEU provided theater commanders with a wide range of capabilities. The 22nd MEU can evacuate civilians, rescue downed pilots, conduct reconnaissance and serve as initial landing force ashore. **Dave Smith** is mgr for banking at MeesPierson (Bahamas) Ltd. **Cassandra (Edgecomb) ’88** is principal of a primary school, Sesame Academy. Their address is PO Box CB-12631, Nassau, Bahamas. **Traci Southern** x lives at 660 W Dempster St Apt 2E, Mt Prospect, IL 60056. Her e-mail is tricin@truman.org. **Alida Stark** married Jason Stellman on June 14 in Budapest, Hungary, where they work together as missionaries planting a Calvary Chapel church. Robiv (Vergoz)

**Montgomery** was maid of honor. The couple’s address is Egry Jozef u. 15 VI.37, 1111 Budapest, Hungary. Their e-mail is 100263.303@compuserve.com. **Kelly Tipple** graduated in June 1996 from Georgia State Univ (GSU) with an MBA. After completing an administrative residency at Bradley Mem Hospital, she received a Master of Health Admin from GSU. He is currently the dir of the Cleveland, TN office of the Arbor Management Group, LLC. Arbor is a physician practice management and support company. Wife Lori (McGuffin ’89) is an adjunct psych prof at Cleveland State Comm College. The Tipples live at 1216 Robinhood Dr NE, Cleveland, TN 37312. **Brett & Wendy (Miller x) Walker** are the proud parents of Zipporah Elizabeth born June 16. Brother Levi is 2. The family resides at 160 N Washington St # 15, Perry, MI 48872.

**1993**

Jennifer Lambert married Kenny Burkhart on June 10, 1995, in Pigeon Forge, TN. They now live in Northwest Ohio. Jennifer teaches 1st gr at CD Brillhart in Napoleon Area Schools. **Denise Crum** is program mgr for the Coalition of Christian Colleges & Universities in Washington, DC. **Janel (Gamez) Force** teaches 5th gr at Roanoke Elem School. Husband David teaches in Southwest Allen County Schools. The couple lives at 1078 Allen St, Roanoke, IN 46783. E-mail is Gamez2nd@aol.com. **Richard & Tammi (Beller x) Gaddis** are the proud parents of Jacqueline Rose born June 4. Sisters are Evelyn (3) and Madeleine (1). They live at 3415 Thorne Rd, Cleveland Heights, OH 44112. Richard has started his residency in internal medicine at The Cleveland Clinic Fdn. **Jan Elliot** married Dan Hagen on May 25 in Glen Ellyn, IL. TU participants were Shannon Hubert ’94, Cassie Boyd ’95, Sharon (Elliot ’81) Christensen, Robyn (Elliot ’77) Stubenauch, Karen (Elliot ’78) Henderson, and Juli (King ’86) Elliot. Both graduated from Valparaiso Univ with JDs. Their address is 538 E Hawthorne Blvd, Wheaton, IL 60187. **Marc & Jackie (McConnell) Kline** proudly welcome Leah Ann born Oct 29, 1996. The family resides at 1603 Jonathon Dr, Portage, MI 49002. **Kelly Klopfenstein & Bryan Goossen ’92** were married on Nov 16, 1996, in Indianapolis, IN. TU participants were Tami (Steinman ’92) & Andy Clement (92), Brad Smith ’92, Paul Keller ’92, and Alyn Goossen x’97. They live at 1823 Maple Ave, Noblesville, IN 46060 with their dog, Bongo. E-mail Kelly at kellyg@gracecc.org or Bryan at Bryan_Goossen@bmc.boehringer-mannheim.com. **TR & Angela (Lyons ’94) Knight** have moved to 509 S Main St, Upland, IN 46989. No more commuting from Frankfort! E-mail TR at knight@busprod.com. **Keith Knapp** continues to serve as the exec asst to Senator Richard Lugar. His responsibilities include travel with the senator, assisting in scheduling, and maintaining day-to-day personal activities. His home address is 1533 Oronoco St, Alexandria, VA 22314. **Tim & Beth (Brix) Popadic** joyfully welcome Landon Stephen born April 12. The family resides at 329 Hackمatack St, Manchester, CT 06040.

1994

Robert Bright received the JD degree from the Univ of DC School of Law on May 20. He will be practicing law in his hometown of Point Pleasant. His address is Potter Creek Rd, Box 87, West Columbia, WV 25287.

**Todd Clark** and Louise McGeachin from Scotland were married in Cyprus on April 12. Mike Hieb was a groomsman. Both Todd & Louise are married for Youth for Christ Intl in the Middle East North African office. Their address is 134 Randall St, Tekonsha, MI 49092. Their E-mail is toddclark@compuserve.com. **Landy Givach** lives at 3429 SW 69 Ave, Miami, FL 33155. His e-mail is LandyG@jun.com. **Sheri Lichty** married Doug Bonura ’96 on July 20, 1996. They are working with Youth With a Mission (YWAM) and went to Thailand this summer. Their address is 18981 Morris Rd, Conneautville, PA 16406. **Deborah McClish** earned an MLS from IU in Dec 1995. She is now the youth services librarian at the Rockford Public Library. Her address is 1609...
1995

Cassie Boyd x is employed with Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom Entertainment. Her address is 4772 Walden Cir #218, Orlando, FL 32811-2907. • Bonnie Casey is attending Central MI Univ pursuing a master’s degree in physical therapy. She has been granted a graduate fellowship scholarship. For her new address call 616-866-8923. • Nelson Dewey is teaching for 2 yrs at Pan American Christian Academy as a HS science tchr. His address is PACA, Rua Cassio de Nogueira 393, Sao Paulo, S.P, 04829-310 Brazil. E-mail is Paca@opus.com.br subject: Nelson Dewey. • Max Fulwider graduated from Belmont Univ with a master’s in music ed in May. During the summer Max had the opportunity to play saxophone with Christafari, a contemporary Christian band. • Eric Haar lives at 3809 Scotwood Dr, Nashville, TN 37211. E-mail is ehaar@juno.com. • Kara Kenne x married Josh Matthews on Aug 3, 1996 in Naperville, IL. TU participants were Eric Wood, Stacy Scott ‘96, Don Mitchell ‘96, Brad David ‘96, and Kristina Martin ‘97. The couple resides at 5307 N Hernlock Dr, Muncie, IN 47304. • Amy (Watson) Nickel spent the last 2 yrs teaching at Gospel Outreach in Chicago and has loved it!

Bonnie Casey

1996

She is now a career missionary with Wycliffe Bible Translators and leaves in Jan 1998 for Africa orientation and then will teach 3rd gr at the American School of Yaounde, Cameroon. For the next yr she will be raising support and can be reached c/o Chris & Cindy Watson, 1499 Cedar Tree Ct NE, Swisher, IA 52338. E-mail is amy_nickel@Sil.org. • Susan Schuster and Benjamin Rice were married Dec 28, 1996, in Chesterton, IN. TU participants were Angie Hamsho, Leslie Darby, Michele (Schoonmaker) West, Chris Loose, Lisa (Wold) Ramsey, Theresa (Conner) Board, Jennifer (Schuster ‘92) Brummund, Kim (VanOordt ‘94) Veen, and Caryn Grimstead ‘96. Ben & Susan are finishing master’s of linguistics degrees at the Summer Institute of Linguistics, Univ of Texas at Arlington. They are with Wycliffe Bible Translators and are assigned to Southeast Asia. Lord willing, they will be leaving in Aug 1998. Their e-mail is susan_rice@Sil.org. • Elbert Thompson’s address is PO Box N - 1907, Nassau N 1907, Bahamas. His E-mail address is elbert@batelnet.bs. • Jennifer Vlack married Scott Bruce on Oct 14, 1995. In the wedding from TU were Elisa (Webber) Sterner, Bonnie Casey, Sara Renaud x, Dave Deibol, Chris Koepper, Dave McGinness ‘96, and Brian Rugg ‘93. The couple lives at 6060 Oakwood Dr Apt 5G, Lisle, IL 60532.
Joe is finance mgr for AJ’S Family Fun Centers. ● Sarah Annette McClung married Joel Ethan Leichnetz on March 8 in Richmond, VA. The couple lives at 1725 Gurtler Ct Apt 1, Orlando, FL 32804. Joel works for FDS Inc and Sarah works in the legal dept at Walt Disney World. TU participants in the wedding were Matthew Hicks, Eric Moyen, Curtis Strohl, Will Hobbs, Nikki Nelson Pappas, George Leichnetz x’95, Terra (Twardy) X’95 Saffren and Andrew LeMaster ’97. ● Jeff Penn is teaching at Taejon Christian Intl School in Taejon, South Korea for at least 2 yrs. His address is 210-1 1 Jung Dong, PO Box 310, Taejon, Republic of Korea. E-mail is headmist@tcos.kaist.ac.kr. ● Melodie Ringenberg married Tim Smith ’94 on Sept 28, 1997, in Indianapolis, IN. Parents of the bride were Dr. William ’61 & Becky Ringenberg. TU participants were Elizabeth Gortner, Jana Weir, Denise Endsley x, Anne Oliver, Peter Ringenberg, Craig Hand ’93, Chris Wynkoop ’94, Shawn Vaughan ’94, Jeff Greene ’94, Mike Falder ’94, Mark Ringenberg ’91, and Matt Ringenberg ’88. Tim is employed with Ait & Witzig Engineering as environmental project mgr and Melodie is employed at National City Bank as a sales asst. Their address is 8961 Broadwell Pl #206, Fishers, IN 46038. ● Angie Sagers married George Rowley on March 22 in Oakland, IN. TU participants were Rachel Jarvis, Dawn Mcllvain, Brian Rickert ’95, Steve Snodgrass ’98, and Wayne Rowley ’99. The couple resides at 3407 Maple Leaf Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46250. ● Suzie Sheetz is teaching choir and general music at Franklin Twp Middle School near Indianapolis. Her address is 4038 Willow Bend Dr Apt C, Beech Grove, IN 46107. ● Pacific County Environmental Health Specialist Lars Seifert has been named “rookie of the year” by the Washington State Environmental Health Assoc. Seifert was nominated by the dept of community development director who said Seifert had helped the county take great strides in improving its environmental health program in just his first year out of school. In addition to inspecting sites for proposed septic systems and his other regular duties, Lars helped improve and implement the county’s septic system designer program. He also writes a monthly column in the Chinook Observer. He lives in Long Beach, WA. ● Suzanne Thomas married Christopher Ryan on Nov 30, 1996

Fort Wayne and Upland Alumni Councils Unite to Serve

The Service and Outreach Committee of the Upland National Alumni Council (NAC) decided to plan a joint event with the Fort Wayne NAC for the annual summer project this year. On Friday and Saturday, June 20 and 21, all the planning came to fruition when a total of ten council members met on the Fort Wayne campus with the goal of painting Hauser Hall.

With equal representation from both campuses, the group began their long day of work. Voices singing “Jesus Loves Me” and “Do Lord” were heard as they worked diligently to achieve their goal. Those who participated were, from the Upland campus, Harold ’50 and Gigi (Beischer) ’49 Beatrice, Tim Himmelwright ’83, John Nelson ’52, Toni Barnes and Sherri (Perkins) ’59 Gorman; and from the Fort Wayne campus, Lois (Haycock) ’68 McKuen, Bill Gerig ’61, Don Hamm and Ada Mae (Smith) ’44 Hauser, Joyce Gerig ’61 prepared meals for all the workers.

Hauser Hall was named after Ada Mae Hauser, who worked for many years on the Fort Wayne campus. Now at the age of 86, she came to the worksite and told the painters of her being born and growing up in Oren, Indiana. Fifty years ago, when she was asked to come to Fort Wayne to do “laundry” and housekeeping for the Fort Wayne Bible College, she felt privileged to come. She smiled as she told her friends of how she emptied 51 wastebaskets each day as well as performing her other routine chores. John Nelson asked if she had ever dated. Ada Mae smiled shyly and said she had “no time for it.” However, at the age of 53, Ada did marry a retired missionary from South America and they lived on campus. She described evenings of sitting at his feet while he told her stories of his journeys.

After a brief lunch, Toni Barnes shared for devotions with the group. In her homily, Toni explained that just as these two alumni councils have joined together to work on a special task, so should the Upland and Fort Wayne campuses. They should “pray until something happens” and support one another whenever a need arises.

As the tired workers got into their automobiles bound for Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois and Upland, they said prayers for one another and began looking forward to working together next year.— Sherri (Perkins) ’59 Gorman
In Wheaton, IL, TU participants in the wedding were Jena Thomas ’00, Michele Anderson ’97, Max Fulwider ’95, Gary Ross ’95, Toby Bohl ’96, Kent Parsons ’95, and Eric Hefman ’94. The couple lives at 1470 Stonebridge Trail, Wheaton, IL 60187. ● Mary Ruth Van Veldhuizen and Matthew Brunton were married on June 1, 1996. The couple resides at 18707 36th Ave W, Apt L 103, Lynnwood, WA 98037. ● Jeremy Wade is youth dir for Calvary Church in Cedar Grove, WI. ● Jennifer Zimmerman is pursuing a master of arts in religion at Trinity Evangelical Div School. Her address is 2065 Half Day Rd D1136, Deerfield, IL 60015. Her e-mail address is g346184@trin.edu.

1997
Becky Loutrel attended Youth for Christ’s Summer Institute on Mission and Evangelism held May 29 to June 5 at Huntington College. The week was training for those going into (or considering) full-time ministry with Youth for Christ. Dan Buck ’98 was there as an intern, and Paul Nurmi FWBC ’73 is an exec dir of East Central Youth for Christ. ● Beth Lin Hartzler married Matthew Thomas Harrell on Dec 21, 1996. TU participants were Molly Orebough, Gretchen Newhouse, Paula Hartzler, Mark Radke, Brad David, Kurt Phelps ’95, Craig Edwards ’95, Christopher Adkison ’95, Aimee Black ’97, Erin Hill ’97, Matt Brown ’97, Jennifer Hartzler ’99, and Carrie Hartzler ’01. The couple resides at 469 E Park Dr, Huntington, IN where Matthew teaches at Huntington North HS. ● Mary Kutschke is an instructor at Sylvan Learning Ctr. She works with beginning and academic reading, elem math, and study skills for students in 6th through 12th grades. She resides at 5731 Glendale Rd, Ft Wayne, IN 46804. ● Kristin Lundberg and Scott Brunsting TUFW were married on July 12 in Waukesha, WI. TU participants were Angie Smith, Curtis Brunsting, Josie Koepper TUFW, Matthew Demorest TUFW x, Karen Borders ’96, Ann Soper ‘96, Bob Sweeney TUFW ’98, and Ryan Smith TUFW ’99. Officiating the wedding was Rev. Bud Hamilton ’68, chaplain and athletic dir for the Ft Wayne Campus. Kristin is employed at ServiceMaster as a programmer/analyst. The couple lives at 2448 Emerald Ct Apt 106, Woodridge, IL 60517. ● Amy Pearson lives at 1743-B N Wells St, Ft Wayne, IN 46808. Her e-mail address is Amy_Pearson@sweetwater.com.

New faces in the family
Congratulations to the families of all these youngsters!

(From center, then clockwise from the right) Ryan Thomas, Elizabeth Anne and Christian James take a well-deserved break after heating the rush hour home (all three were born within three minutes of each other to parents: Kent and Joan (Manson ’90) Myers); Nicholas (3) and baby sister Louna (at one week) are the pride and joy of Susan (Cook ’85) and Chris Kosa; Matthew, Sarah and Hannah are the children of Mike and Lori (Williams ’88) McDewitt; Troy James gives mom and dad (Mike ’91 and Kristen Robertson) a smile to hold on to; Payton Nicole is the newborn daughter of Brian and Susan (Ster) Scott, both ’92 grads; Twin sisters Anna and Claire are a double blessing for Dan ’90 and Juli (Embree ’99) Tibbetts; Bailey Jane, daughter of Matt ’86 and Nan Hobelth, checks out her new world. Devon Lane (5) and Joshua David (3 months) strike stunning poses in this pair of photographs. Mom and dad are David and Liz (Boot ’90) Olrich.
Healing in the Wake of Genocide

Since August of 1996, Debbie Bowers ’96 has been working with the Indianapolis-based African Leadership, an organization founded in 1990 for the purpose of assisting African leaders in full-time Christian ministry. She recently spent one week in Rwanda with other African Leadership personnel, visiting churches in the country. Debbie reflects on her first visit to the Land of a thousand hills . . .

“Witwande?”
“Bazimungu.”

I had to bend over close to ask her name, closer to hear her reply. For the children of Rwanda have lost their voices. Bazimungu is an eleven-year-old girl from the town of Nyamata, in central Rwanda. We had driven for an hour on rutted dirt roads, past soldiers and checkpoints, over hills and through river valleys to visit the church at Nyamata. The church had been left just as it was found after the genocide in 1994, giving outsiders a glimpse into the nightmare that suddenly invaded the lives of little girls like Bazimungu.

Voices on the radio had called for Hutus to unite and kill their Tutsi neighbors. In the past, the churches of Rwanda had been a haven in times of unrest. So once again families grabbed a mattress, some rice, and ran to the church. Only this time the church was not sacred. The brick structure at Nyamata was blown apart in several places as the militia used grenades to force their way inside.

I picked up my skirt to step into the church, but there was no place to put my foot down. The aisles were full, the benches were broken and covered. I could not step without treading on the bones of the deceased. There was a shoe here, a pot, bones with frayed clothes still attached, and skulls with huge gashes in them from the machete blows that ended life.

The killing was not caused by civil war, but organized genocide of a kind almost more disturbing than the holocaust. Hutus who had lived peacefully next to their Tutsi neighbors for years went next door to kill them. Children saw their parents hacked to death by their teachers. Hutus refusing to partici-}

pate lost their lives trying to protect Tutsi friends. Uncles killed half-Tutsi nephews and nieces. In less than 100 days, nearly one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were brutally killed.

If I am unable to grasp the horror of what happened, my trip to Rwanda left me equally unable to understand how these people can smile and rebuild and learn to forgive.

I stepped back out into the sunshine and saw two little girls standing under a tree watching the “wazungu” from a distance. One of them just gave a shy smile. The other one was Bazimungu. Did she live here? Yes. Had she been here when the Interahamwe came? Yes. What happened? She ran to the church with her parents and siblings. This church? Yes. How did she survive? They killed someone with a machete and the person fell on top of her. She hid under the body until they finished killing and left. Then she crawled out and ran into the forest. Did her family survive? No. They are still inside.

That was my first day in Rwanda. I grew up in East Africa, so I was not having culture shock. I would call it soul shock. I saw scars everywhere—on legs and arms, on the backs of little heads. But the scars that I could not see are the hardest to heal.

In 1994 when I was working with Rwandan refugees in Kenya, I learned that the children had almost literally lost their voices. Three years later I still never heard anything above a whisper. But the smiles have returned, and they reflect something that surprised me.

As we traveled around the country visiting churches and listening to stories, I discovered this: the Christians of Rwanda, facing so much tragedy, had more hope for the healing of their land than I did. The genocide is over, but random killing continues in parts of the country. How could it happen in a country where 80 percent of the people professed to be Christian? Will children come to church when they only remember it as a slaughter-house? What will keep it from recurring?

The response to this last question came from Kedress, a woman who had lost 40 family members and has chosen to forgive: “Because God will not let His people suffer more than they can bear. He will heal.” I think I expected to hear something about the new government or the trials. But the simplicity of her answer struck me as profound.

As humans we are always doing more damage than we are capable of undoing. In the end, reconciliation will come only through the power of Christ’s love to overcome evil. In a country that is still heavy with mistrust and fear, only Christ can open hearts to repent and forgive.

Rwanda is too complicated for a short explanation. The story is not over yet, and I don’t pretend to understand God’s purposes. But one thing is clear to me: somehow, slowly, the Body of Christ in Rwanda is being refined.

On Easter Sunday 1997, a man named Edson stood up in a gathering of over 3,000 people and confessed to killing Helen’s husband. He asked for her forgiveness. Helen rose from where she was seated and publicly forgave him, and Edson accepted Christ. There is tragedy behind this story, but there is also an incredible testimony to our Savior’s healing power. For this He died. May He continue to honor the faith of His children in this Land of a thousand hills.—Debbie Bowers ’96

1 Hutu militias that carried out the killings across the country.
In the Footsteps of Bishop William Taylor

I knew when asked by Campus Pastor Chuck Gifford ’69 to lead the Australia team, that I would be visiting the same continent as Taylor’s namesake, Bishop William Taylor. My acquaintance with some of his writings had referenced the fact that he visited that continent on two different occasions, 1863-1866 and 1869-1870. So, in preparing for the trip, I was hopeful there might be some vestige of his ministry surviving in Australia and that, by chance, we would be able to make some connection. Little did I know how specific this connection might become.

Our initial place of orientation and ministry landed us in the capital of Australia, Canberra. This was a good place to be introduced to the Australian culture as there is a good mix of the bush country and plenty of tourist opportunities to acquaint oneself with the culture, lifestyle and origins of the Australian people and continent.

After six days, we moved to the seaport city of Sydney. Our itinerary in this city was developed by Mr. Darrell Furgason, who has his own ministry in Australia focused on college-aged students. He, up to this time, had very little contact with the present-day Taylor University community or historical roots. He suggested that we utilize our time in Sydney by immersing ourselves in the inner-city culture. To accomplish this, he had made a prior contact with a city church, Newtown Hope Mission Church, that was within walking distance of our lodging. Darrell had personal ties with the pastor, James Watt, and they had an established ministry/outreach to society’s dropouts. It was an area inhabited and visited by the homeless and heavy drug users.

The experience in this part of Sydney was more poignant than any of us had imagined. These were desperate people with virtually no direction, no hope, no visible conscience, and little to motivate them to proceed to the next day. It was, by most students’ accounts, the most socially arresting environment they had experienced in their lifetime. We did see some very obvious signs of God at work there, but also came to realize that “a cup of cold water and a hot meal given in Jesus’ name” might be the only act of mercy and grace extended to these people for some time. It was in this setting that Bishop William Taylor was revisited.

One afternoon, while examining some of the church’s plaques, I noted a directory of former pastors dating back to the founding of the church in 1859. On this directory was the name of Rev. Joseph Oram, about whom I thought I had read in some of Bishop William Taylor’s writings on his visit to Sydney, Australia. Sure enough, after going back to my room and rereading some of Bishop Taylor’s biography, I discovered that in 1863 Bishop Taylor visited “a large Gothic Wesleyan Methodist Church in the center of Newtown and held revival meetings there.” He had assisted Oram in conducting the services and also raised money to add balconies to the sanctuary to increase seating and improve the acoustics. Upon examination, I could tell that the balconies had been altered after the original structure was built. This was that church!

What an amazing thought to realize that 134 years later, a group of students from Taylor University were now working through the outreach of the same church to meet the needs of those who entered her doors. Certainly the people, the culture, the sights and the sounds were different. The old Gothic structure had lost much of its original brilliance and was now barely a carcass of what it had once been. Yet there is life in that church now as there was then, as invitations are given to “drink of this living water from which you will never again thirst.” I think Bishop William Taylor would have been as much at home in this environment with our Lighthouse students as he was in 1863.—Wynn Lembright, vice president for student affairs
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Compaq  Lucent Technologies  Wal-Mart

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Achtung!

Attention current and past residents of Morris Hall. The residence hall in which you live(d) is soon to be dismantled—don’t let your memories be buried in the rubble. Send your anecdotes and photographs of your life in Old Morris to the address on the right, attn: university editor. These will be compiled in a special commemorative feature in an upcoming issue. Please limit entries to 500-700 words and 2-3 photographs. Include a SASE if you would like your photographs returned.