Winter 1998


Taylor University

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The fall meeting of the Taylor University Board of Trustees devoted much time to the reaffirmation of the university’s mission statement. One of the primary concerns centered on the challenge of maintaining our historic mission while developing new and innovative programs through the Fort Wayne campus. This is an important and necessary activity because we are committed to the maintenance of unquestioned academic quality and spiritual integrity, while responding to today’s challenges.

The Upland campus is experiencing continuous growth in quality and solid enrollment with mostly traditional 18- to 22-year-old resident students. This profile is what we understand and what we do best after over 150 years of experience. Some have asked, “Why not continue as we are and not worry about the future?” Our desire is to do both; that is, to preserve the traditional program in Upland while responding to the needs of others for whom Upland is not an option. We do not want to exclude students who cannot afford to attend a traditional residential campus or non-traditional students who want a Christian education.

Due to the pressures of inflation and less money available from government sources, Taylor, like all private colleges and increasingly public institutions, has had to make up the difference for needy students through private donations. While we have been moderately successful in this effort, we are aware that many families cannot afford to send their sons and daughters to a private Christian college. They express the desire to do so but often settle for a junior college or a more affordable public school. They are grateful for such support groups as Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship or Campus Crusade for Christ, but recognize that the nature of secular education precludes Christian content from the curriculum itself. In some cases there is even hostility to the Christian gospel.

Unwilling to ignore the plight of these families, even though the Upland campus is full and each year our selectivity becomes greater due to a large waiting list, we expanded to include the Fort Wayne campus. The attempt, in addition to having a core of 500 or more traditional students where 275 can be resident students, is to create alternative programs that provide options for families whose economic situations make a Christian education a faint dream at best and to interact with an urban environment more conducive to specific majors.

The challenge is to maintain the distinctions and core values of our mission in an atmosphere of greater diversity and less control than we enjoy in a rural residential environment. Many of our sister institutions find this discussion quaint in that, because of location or declining enrollment, they had to deal with these challenges decades ago. Our development of the Fort Wayne campus is not driven by either of these factors, but by the desire to make the Taylor experience accessible to worthy students who, because of economic realities, need an urban location and user-friendly delivery systems. We are enriched by the Fort Wayne community and its added resources. Jobs are available, students can commute from home and co-op programs can be tailored to meet individual needs.

Board member Dr. Joseph Brain reminded us that the discussion for Taylor University, in historical context, is a “back to the future” issue. Taylor was founded with the intent of making quality Christian education available to families on the frontier who could not afford to send their sons and daughters “back east” to the colonial colleges. The Fort Wayne campus and the development of new approaches is right in the center of our historic mission. The new challenges are not unlike the old. Certainly it will be a challenge to monitor student behavior with a larger population of students living off campus with jobs. With less daily contact and varied life situations, it is quite a different challenge to provide a Christian education for older students who are single parents or working poor who want to improve their education and life options. Obviously, we must be adaptive to these differences that affect student life.

Taylor, however, has thrived on the idea that Christian values and behaviors cannot be coerced, but are motivated by the heart. In the final analysis, the only valid Christianity is that which “comes from within.” In the words of Milo Rediger, “love prompts far more than the law demands.”

As we move ahead and as committed faculty and staff affirm their Christian faith in the changing context of each generation, and as the Board of Trustees and alumni pray, love and support our mission, we can continue our journey “back to the future” with confidence. Through these efforts, we are carrying on the vision of Fort Wayne Bible College and Summit Christian College and beginning to provide opportunities for more students to have the Taylor experience. This year we have 444 students enrolled in Fort Wayne and 1,885 in Upland—an increase of 800 students in this decade. To each family represented by these students, Taylor’s growth is a unique blessing. As the future unfolds and as we together keep our vision clear, the resource of our faith will prove no less effective to the future than it was to the past. With these truths in mind, “back to the future” for Taylor University takes on fresh excitement and fulfills our historic mission in ways compatible with the expectations of the 21st century.
Taylor Fort Wayne's unique vision
Exploring TFW's Christ-centered, urban-focused mission (page 2); facilitating urban ministry (page 6); finding common ground (page 7)

Parents Weekend
A retrospective view of a very special weekend

Homecoming 1997
Afterthoughts from your director of alumni programs; alumni award winner profiles

In search of a bottom line that won't bottom-out
One student's search for (and discovery of) answers to financial aid and tuition questions

Lithuania's new spirit
A new hope dawns as Christianity takes root among the youth of Lithuania.

Standing tall over North America
Cancer survivors celebrate a successful climb of Mt. McKinley.

In Memoriam
1997 was a year of mourning for the Taylor community, with the passing of such prominent individuals as former Taylor Trustee Dr. Lester C. Gerig (page 12), former Taylor president Dr. B. Joseph Martin (page 13) and Taylor's longtime oldest alumna Iris Abbey (page 32).

16 Academics: Online grant recipient update; history and business trip to Hong Kong
17 Academics: Education department adjusts for new standards; Benjamin's sabbatical journey
18 Fort Wayne: TUBI dedicates new station; communication arts department obtains facility
19 Admissions: Indiana initiates family college savings plan; Leadership scholarship competition
20 Upland: The Jumping Bean provides gourmet coffee
21 Athletics: Steve Wit signed to professional basketball league in England; Don Odle hangs it up
22 Development: Betty Freese honored with scholarship
23 William Taylor Foundation: Arthur and Nelle (Alspaugh) Hudson profile
24 Alumni: Class News and Notes
31 Alumni Spotlight: Keryon Knapp
The vast majority of Taylor alumni never have the opportunity to return to campus as employees. Even rarer is the employee who graduated from one campus and now works on the other. We asked several alumni-employees to share memories of their Taylor experience. The following pages feature some of their responses. Pictured above are alumni-employees (clockwise from back left) Bud Hamilton ’68, Doug Barclay FWBC ’71, Char Binkley FWBC ’65, Herb Frye ’89, Ada Mae Hauser FWBC ’64, Corey Lester TUFW ’93 and Lisa Paul ’92.

The early years of Taylor Fort Wayne have included an ongoing effort to determine the distinctives and characteristics of the new campus. We have a significant heritage, both as part of Fort Wayne Bible College/Summit Christian College and as part of Taylor University. We have a strong history of training men and women for Christian service and a new opportunity to offer a thoroughly Christian liberal arts education.

But it is, in my opinion, the urban setting of Taylor Fort Wayne that really gives the campus its raison d’être. Fort Wayne is Indiana’s second largest city. To be sure, it is not urban like Detroit, Chicago or even Indianapolis is urban. But like its larger cousins, Fort Wayne has all of urban America’s problems: drugs, senseless violence, blighted neighborhoods and grinding poverty. In many respects, Fort Wayne has the potential to become a laboratory environment where urban initiatives can be developed and tested before being implemented in the larger cities.

Cities are not going to go away and they cannot be ignored. The movement of people from rural to urban areas continues at an ever-increasing rate. In 1900, approximately nine percent of the world’s population lived in cities. Today, that number is nearly 49 percent.

Convinced that Christian higher education cannot ignore the city but that it must, in fact, seek ways to significantly impact the city, Taylor Fort Wayne has decided to take the initiative. Determined to help set the standards for a new kind of Christian college—those located in and seeking to impact the urban environment—we have chosen to describe ourselves as the “College for Urban Impact.”
Fort Wayne

by Dr. Robert Nienhuis

Being located in the city and making a significant impact on the city are two quite different things, however. So, in our attempt to engage the city, there are two specific areas that will receive our attention.

Diversity

We have decided to take seriously the charge of President Jay Kesler that a quality Christian educational experience be “accessible to all worthy and qualified students regardless of socioeconomic background.” We will, in a deliberate and focused fashion, seek to make our campus more representative of the diversity which is so much a part of our culture.

The early results are encouraging. In the 1996-97 academic year, the student body included 30 African-Americans (seven percent of the total enrollment), six Hispanics (1.5 percent), two Asian-Americans and one Native American. Additional efforts to recruit and retain qualified minority students will continue.

Along the way we have begun to learn that if a minority student is to feel comfortable on the campus, he or she will need to have minority faculty and staff with whom to relate. As a result, special effort has gone into the recruitment of minority faculty and staff. At the present time, we have two African-American faculty members, three African-American contract staff and an Asian-American hourly staff person.

Ministry opportunities abound for traditional students as well as nontraditional students such as Judy Lindsay.

“As a Taylor alum, I am proud to be working for the school where I learned to draw nearer to God. I have seen Taylor do nothing but progress since I was a student, which seems like only a few years ago. Taylor has never bent its stance as a Christian school, and I am more excited than ever, as a Christian and parent, to be part of that heritage.”

—Kayleen J. (Brown ’82) Reusser, secretary, Institute for Extended Learning
Diversity is not strictly a matter of race, however. It is also reflected in age and location. Today, some 80 percent of our students are between the ages of 18 and 24. The other 20 percent are classified as “non-traditional,” meaning that they are over 24 years of age, are married, are independent of their parents and/or are working full time.

In addition, the Fort Wayne campus possesses an interesting mix of commuter and residential students. Presently, 45 percent of our students live on campus while the majority of the others commute from their parents’ homes to the campus.

**Academic Programs**

If Taylor Fort Wayne is desirous of impacting the urban culture, our academic programs must reflect that emphasis. Some of our programs, such as urban ministry and criminal justice, are almost wholly focused on urban issues. Here, students are brought face-to-face with urban issues and problems and are challenged to work to discover and implement solutions.

Some academic programs seek to expose students in a more secondary fashion. One of our larger programs is elementary education. Upon entering the program as freshmen, students are observers in elementary classrooms across the city, providing a first hand look at urban education. Later, as part of a course in educational psychology, students work as tutors with urban children. Student teaching, the capstone of an education student’s training, can be done in any number of urban settings should the student so desire. The result is a graduate who has been exposed to urban education from the beginning to the end of his or her training.

Finally, all programs are expected to address urban culture where appropriate. For example, a course in world history could include a lecture on urbanization and the development of cities, a course in English literature may include a work by an urban writer who writes about life in the city, and a course in science might include a section on the impact of cities on the
environment. Field trips, research assignments and internships also expose students to the urban emphasis of the campus.

The Student Life program must also be an active participant in this urban engagement. Student ministry teams will work with urban ministries and organizations, and Taylor World Outreach programs will be asked to target both traditional missionary efforts and urban works.

The anticipated result is students who upon graduation have an understanding of and a heart for the city. Of course not all will live and work in the city, but it is hoped that all students will view the city not as a vast wasteland but as a vast mission field. Those who will be led to live, teach, work and minister in the city will go with the understanding of what it takes to make a meaningful impact for the Kingdom of God in the city.

Like the “land-grant” colleges of the 19th century with their mission to serve the needs of their state, Taylor Fort Wayne has a Christian responsibility to be involved in meeting the needs of the community in which it is located. Faculty and staff are being encouraged to get involved with community and civic organizations, lending expertise and leadership to grassroots efforts to enhance the community. Students are being challenged with opportunities to engage the community in a positive and productive manner. Their youthful enthusiasm and “can do” optimism are desperately needed in a world filled with jaded and cynical people.

Ultimately, our desire is to be “salt and light” (Matthew 5) in our own community. The task before us is considerable, but we believe many students desire what we have to offer: quality education in an urban setting where a diverse student body and challenging academic programs stretch the faith of our students and equip them for a lifetime of ministry and service.
The Center for Justice and Urban Leadership

Facilitating urban ministry

by Dr. W. Thomas Beckner

Taylor University Fort Wayne has been identified as a campus for urban engagement. As a way of actualizing that vision, the Center for Justice and Urban Leadership has been established as a vehicle for community collaboration and initiative. The Center is unique in that it will address from a Christian perspective the problems of crime and other urban issues that affect our communities. Its mission is “to educate and develop leaders for service through positions of influence in urban and criminal justice settings and to promote constructive change within these communities.” The design of the Center incorporates already-existing Taylor Fort Wayne programming, yet allows for the expansion of other components as resources permit.

The Center houses the American Chaplaincy Training School (ACTS) which convenes each summer, bringing together prison and jail chaplains and administrators, pastors and volunteers from across the country to study in an intensive one-week program. Last summer, 54 men and women from 23 states participated in this event. The course is offered for academic credit and provides an opportunity for current social science majors to interact with a diverse group of professionals already engaged in vocational ministry. It also fulfills part of the 18-hour requirement for the Justice and Ministry certificate available through Taylor. The certificate combines this on-campus experience with distance education courses in offender-based ministries offered through Taylor Fort Wayne’s Institute of Extended Learning, and is designed for those who want to upgrade their education but, because of ministry obligations, are unable to enroll in full-time studies.

Another initiative of the Center already in place is the Samuel Morris “Passages” program. “Passages” provides educational, recreational, spiritual and cultural opportunities for urban youth. The program uses a mentoring approach to encourage excellence in school, home and community, and to promote the pursuit of post-secondary education. As such, it is designed to act as a bridge into the university’s Samuel Morris Scholars Program. “Passages” also incorpo-

Dr. W. Thomas Beckner, director of the Center for Justice and Urban Leadership, is a former prison chaplain and nationally recognized teacher for prison ministry.

rates current Taylor students who are willing to assist with mentoring or to serve as tutors.

Each fall, the Center will host an urban symposium which will bring together urban leaders from across the country to dialogue and share their vision for solutions to urban

“Center” continued, page 8
Reflections of the past... a vision for the future

Finding common ground

by Michael D. Mortensen '91

Little did I know in the fall of 1970, when my 28-year-old dad, Phil Mortensen, first stepped foot on the Fort Wayne Bible College campus, that 27 years later I would return to campus to serve as associate director of development.

Little did I know that one day I would attend, let alone graduate from, Taylor Upland.

Little did I know as a senior at Taylor in 1991, representing the student body on the Presidential Strategic Planning Council, that I would be involved in discussions concerning buildings that needed to be constructed in Upland, and about a future campus that was part of the Plan for Actualization.

Nearly seven years later, I am not only working on that campus, which I visited weekly as a kid, but pursuing funds which will provide resources for new programs and buildings at Taylor Fort Wayne. It is a task for which I have great passion and enthusiasm.

As an alumnus, I have experienced the academic quality and Christian heritage that is so much a part of Taylor community life. During my student years at Taylor, my professors taught me to further my critical thinking skills. This forced me out of my comfort zone and caused me to wrestle with my beliefs. Ultimately, it led to my claiming of faith in Jesus for myself rather than merely holding on to my parents’ faith.

Taylor University taught me the importance of expanding my cultural horizons. Student programs such as Taylor World Outreach and World Opportunities Week increased my awareness of the diverse world around me. As a student I had the opportunity to travel to England and later to New York City, to experience firsthand people of different cultures and beliefs.

“God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.” This phrase is often repeated at Love Church, in the inner-city church my parents pastor in Fort Wayne. While I have not always realized the truth of this statement in the midst of trouble, God has indeed remained faithful to give me the desires of my heart.

Coming back to Taylor is, for me, a good example of this. Jeremiah 29:10-11 reads, “I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

As a new associate director of development, I hold these words close to my heart. They challenge and encourage me as I seek to bridge the gap between Fort Wayne Bible College alumni and friends, and current students, faculty and staff of both campuses.

Fort Wayne Bible College had a rich heritage of training pastors, missionaries and teachers. Many of her graduates are making an impact in churches across the United States and throughout the world. Countless individuals have come to know and love the name of Jesus through alumni of the Bible College.

“Common ground” continued, page 8
Year after year, the Bible College was dependent upon God for monies to pay the bills. God always provided, and the ministry continued. Much the same, Fort Wayne Female College and later Fort Wayne Institute, as predecessors to Taylor University, and even Taylor itself, could have (or, as some may argue, should have) shut its doors many times over. However, God raised up leaders to take bold steps to make Taylor Upland what it is today.

Under the faithful leadership of Vice President Dr. Robert Nienhuis and his administrative council, Taylor Fort Wayne is rising to new heights with a new vision to become the college of urban engagement. With the recent adoption of a four-year plan for the Fort Wayne campus, empowered by an aggressive pioneering spirit, a bright future is certainly dawning.

The Fort Wayne campus has always been strong in its Bible, elementary education and psychology programs, but is now receiving further recognition for its criminal justice, urban ministries and public relations programs. Innovative thinking has led to the creation of programs like the Samuel Morris Scholars Program and the Center for Justice and Urban Leadership.

Taylor Fort Wayne provides students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience every day. Students are challenged to engage themselves in urban work and to participate in activities outside the classroom, often joining faculty or staff members.

With the continual growth of America’s inner cities, the associated problems and concerns have likewise grown. In response, Taylor Fort Wayne is committed to the task of training students to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ whether they be pastors, teachers, criminalists, public relations practitioners or social workers.

Little do I know what Taylor University will be like when my daughter Ashlyn begins her college education. But I do know that if we remain steadfast and faithful to God’s promises, a great future awaits us.

“Center” continued

problems. The inaugural conference was held in September and featured leaders from Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Memphis and Los Angeles, as well as pastors from the Fort Wayne community. The symposium focused on faith-based empowerment and included an opportunity for the participants to testify before a U.S. Congressional subcommittee hosted by Representative Mark Souder (Indiana, District 4). Both the symposium presentations and the Congressional hearings were open to the public and provided a unique educational experience for Taylor students.

A new initiative for the Center will be a law enforcement chaplaincy course to be offered for the first time during the summer of 1998. Modeled after the successful ACTS program, the new offering will involve experienced police and sheriff department chaplains and administrators who have academic credentials to assist Taylor faculty in delivering a one-week course that will equip the men and women who minister in this critical area. The course will help to identify and equip a core of pastors from the Fort Wayne community to serve local law enforcement agencies.

The Center is organized around four areas of concentration: education, research, agency services and communications. The educational programs described above form the core of Center activities, but the Center will also assist justice and urban agencies through descriptive or theoretical research that will identify emerging trends and improve the effectiveness of programs already in existence. It will also facilitate collaboration with these agencies in the areas of policy analysis, leadership or program development and implementation of program models. Finally, the Center will act as a clearinghouse for information and will identify resources that will assist with intervention efforts in criminal justice and urban sectors of the community. Recently, the Center established a “listserv” through which prison and jail ministers can communicate electronically, sharing their concerns and resources and helping each other with solutions to common problems. The organizational structure establishes a foundation from which Taylor Fort Wayne can fulfill its commitment to urban engagement, both locally and nationally.

Dr. W. Thomas Beckner is director of the Center for Justice and Urban Leadership in Fort Wayne, Ind. Serving with him as “Senior Fellows” of the Center are Dr. Ronald Powell, head of Taylor Fort Wayne’s criminal justice department, Dr. Joseph Jones, associate professor of criminal justice, and Dr. Richard L. Gray, head of the urban ministries department at Taylor Fort Wayne.

Individuals who presented papers at the urban leadership symposium this fall included (back row, l to r) Taylor Board member Dr. William Ponell, Dr. Joseph Jones, Dr. Robert Lapton (Atlanta, GA), Dr. W. Thomas Beckner, Rev. David Bates (Chicago, IL); (front row, l to r) Dr. Larry Lloyd (Memphis, TN), Dr. Richard Gray, and Mrs. Kathy Dudley (Dallas, TX).
Parents Weekend: A Family Gathering

Excitement grew as parents began to arrive. While those who came late sought rapidly diminishing parking spaces, others could be seen walking beside their sons and daughters on the sidewalk. While perusing the bookstore, one student asked, “What else do you want to buy me, Mom?” (Umbrellas were a hit, as it rained most of the weekend.) “I’ve lost my dad,” another student said in passing. “I left him in the hall and now he’s disappeared.”

Countless parents came bearing blessings from home such as winter clothes and homemade brownies.

Over 600 families visited Taylor for Parents Weekend, held this year over the weekend of October 24. While the vast majority of parents traveled via automobile, a smaller number could have opted to ride bicycles or even walk from home. Many of these parents are faculty or staff members at Taylor.

Justin Heth was privileged to have his family on campus for the weekend. His father, Dr. Bill Heth, is chair of the Biblical studies, Christian education and philosophy department. Justin is currently in a Greek course with his father... and enjoying it! “I wish all my classes were like his,” Justin says. “He really brings his personality into the classroom.”

A sophomore Christian education major, Justin sees his dad four days a week in class. During the football season, he saw the rest of his family regularly for home football games. (Justin is the starting middle linebacker for the Trojans), Dr. Heth and his wife, Susie, have three other children: Joey, a high school junior, Jamie, a ninth-grader, and Julie, in sixth grade.

Although they have other opportunities to see Justin, Parents Weekend was a unique event for the Heth family.

“It seems like Parents Weekend is a little more intimate than most,” Justin says. His father agrees: “It gives us an excuse to be there with him and find out what’s going on. That’s why Taylor has Parents Weekend—to create an environment that facilitates those kinds of relationships.” The Saturday morning chapel service for football players and their families and the following breakfast for fathers and sons were just two special events of the weekend which the Heths attended.

Many parents, however, do not live as close in proximity to their sons and daughters at Taylor. Junior Nathalie Cowells’ parents and four younger siblings have been in Kiev, Ukraine, as missionaries since last January. Knowing it would be a rough weekend for Nathalie, her parents had a basket of flowers delivered to her residence in Swallow Robin Hall.

“Seeing families and how they enjoyed being together was hard,” Nathalie admits. “It’s not that I didn’t want them to be happy, but I just wanted that too.” Still, good memories of the weekend were made as Nathalie joined roommate Sara Weinraub ’00 and her parents for an Ivanhoe’s run.

Other special events for families included a music department concert on Friday night featuring the Taylor Sounds, the Concert Chorale, the Taylor Ringers, the Taylor Jazz Ensemble and the Symphonic Band. In addition to the football game, the men’s and women’s soccer teams also played at home. The nationally-renowned contemporary Christian vocal group GLAD performed in the Rediger Chapel/Auditorium on Saturday evening, followed by an ice cream social in the Hodson Dining Commons.

Speaking before the crowd at the Saturday family breakfast was Dee Brestin, author of bestselling books and Bible study guides and a contributing writer to Focus on the Family and Guideposts. Her daughter and son-in-law, Sally and Jeremie Solak, are both juniors at Taylor.—Abigail Reese ’99
Memories of Homecoming 1997

Once a year, on a weekend in October, Taylor University alumni make their pilgrimage back to the place they once called “home” in Upland, Indiana. It has been my privilege for the last five years to coordinate Homecoming weekend. Through this experience, I have learned that Homecoming is not just an event to write in one’s calendar, but its significance is discovered through the fellowship of the Taylor “family” and the bond of the body of Christ.

Homecoming as we know it would not be possible without the help of many dedicated volunteers. At the core of the planning process is a cabinet of 70 students with two co-directors. These students begin planning for the event in the spring and meet regularly for several weeks prior to Homecoming weekend. They decorate all corners of the campus with purple and gold balloons, hang signs and prepare the Hodson Dining Commons for the Alumni Brunch, among other responsibilities. I watched the faces of these students during Homecoming 1997 as they waited for alumni to arrive and later as they interacted with those who have gone before them.

Many alumni were, as usual, gathering outside the gates of the football stadium following the Alumni Brunch. The warmth of this sunny autumn day was a perfect match for the conversation and laughter I heard while waiting for the halftime events to start. Later, I stopped by the Student Union (a.k.a. “the Dome”) to see if things were ready for the 40th-anniversary reunion of the class of 1957. At first, the room was too warm, but with the help of a readily-available and always-helpful maintenance man, we cooled the room down as quickly as possible. As I was leaving to attend another reunion, I felt compelled to give a warning about the temperature of the facilities to one member of the class of 1957. “That’s okay,” was the response. “We’re from the South and we’re used to hot weather!” What a blessing that remark was, and how indicative of the spirit of so many alumni who had come for the weekend.

Meanwhile, the class of 1977 was having its 20-year reunion in Helena Memorial Hall. A memory they will surely never tire of retelling is of being trapped briefly in the elevator. A more heart-warming memory for me, however, was the time I spent listening to Nancy (Steiner ’77) Keller share with her classmates. Nancy’s husband Gene died on August 24 after a battle with leukemia. Her calm spirit and warm smile took me by surprise. She was not here to be comforted by classmates, but rather to testify of the Lord’s goodness to her.

I was inspired by the words Dr. Ken Gangel ’57 shared during the Sunday morning worship service. His message titled, “The Power of Impossibility Thinking” was based on Jeremiah 32 and focused on the limitless power of God. It caused me to reflect on my own life and realize that what would be an impossible situation for me is never too great for our Lord to handle. On this note of reassurance, Dr. Charles Gifford ’69, campus pastor, had us greet one another with the benediction, “God bless you.” Thus, Homecoming 1997 became another memorable weekend in the Taylor University tradition. —Marty (Cleveland ’78) Songer
In Honor of Their Excellence

A sort of kinship exists among all who claim the honor of being Taylor alumni. This is most noticeable at the annual Alumni Brunch during Homecoming weekend. On October 11, a gathering of such distinguished persons assembled to recognize six individuals and one couple for their accomplishments and contributions outside the Taylor community as well as within.

First to ascend the platform as a member of the Hall of Honor was Stacy Mendham, who accepted the award, Distinguished Young Alumnus for Professional Achievement. Graduating with honors in 1994, Mendham originally intended to use her degree in psychology as a counselor. While working with teens through internships, however, she felt called to minister to youth. It is her commitment to teenagers, manifested in her efforts as the director of the chapter of Campus Life in Rockford, Michigan, that merits recognition of her professional achievements.

Receiving the award, Distinguished Alumnus for Professional Achievement was Rob Staley ’79. As principal of Concord High School (Elkhart, Ind.), Rob was instrumental in transforming the school into a caring and cooperative educational institution by initiating a leadership team, developing a vision statement and establishing personal contact with students and parents. Rob is an active participant in community efforts in Elkhart. He is also a published author, speaker and presenter at statewide educational conferences.

For Darrel Hotmine ’89, the award, Distinguished Young Alumnus for Personal Achievement, is one of many honors he has received throughout his relatively brief career. Hotmine was chosen as a recipient of the award based on his service to the community of Athens, Ohio. He has dedicated much time and effort as a co-founder of the Good Works “Kids’ Club,” as a volunteer at Impact Christian Youth Camp and in his role as a “big brother.” Hotmine has put his training at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine into practice outside of the workplace to benefit the needy.

Without the generous sacrifice of time, attention and enthusiasm made by various people, the Taylor community could not enjoy the richness of personal interaction that is uniquely its own. Bob and Carolyn LeMaster exemplify such commitment. Their membership on the Parents Cabinet while their son Andrew attended Taylor allowed them to actively support the Christian principles foundational to Taylor University. The LeMasters have distinguished themselves by their encouragement of and hospitality toward both students and alumni of Taylor University. For their commitment to Taylor University, Bob and Carolyn LeMaster received the 1997 Distinguished Friends Award.

Harold Beattie ’50 is recognized for his dynamic personality and servant attitude. Beattie served with distinction on the National Alumni Council. He has also coordinated fundraising efforts for Taylor through such events as the Grand Rapids Area phonathon. Beattie was honored as Distinguished Alumnus for Service in acknowledgment of his persistent support of Taylor University.

Donald Granitz ’52 has functioned as the president of the Parents Cabinet, the Taylor University Athletic Hall of Fame Board, and the National Alumni Council. He also extended his service to Brazil as a missionary for 16 years. For his dedication to Taylor University, Granitz received the 1997 Distinguished Alumnus for Service award.

Kent Fishel ’66 was recognized for his diligence in furthering the Gospel and serving Christ and the Church. Fishel has had the opportunity to speak throughout the United States and has authored a devotional series for youth. For his visible efforts to convey the truths of God’s word, Fishel was recognized with the Distinguished Alumnus for Personal Achievement award.—Marie Murphy ’01

The Clint Greenhouse and the George Glass Track and Field Complex were both dedicated during Homecoming 1997—the greenhouse on Friday, October 10, and the track the following day during halftime of the football game.

The Clint Greenhouse was named in honor of Nels and Betty Clint, a couple who generously gave to Taylor University through scholarships and a unitrust of which they named Taylor University a beneficiary. Although the Clints had little formal education of their own, they desired to help others pursue such an education. Members of the Clint family who attended Taylor include daughter and son-in-law, Bette (Clint ’66) and Kenneth ’65 Flanigan, and their son, Dan Flanigan ’98. Kenneth is currently a member of Taylor’s Board of Trustees.

For over 43 years, George Glass has devoted his time and energy to Taylor, beginning as a student and athlete. He has served as athletic director, cross country and track coach, and currently serves as associate vice president.
In Remembrance of a Servant-Leader

Dr. Lester C. Gerig, trustee emeritus, passed away August 1 at the age of 86 at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne. He had served on the Taylor University Board of Trustees since 1955. For 17 years he was chairman of the board and was subsequently named a trustee emeritus.

“Dr. Gerig was a man ahead of his time,” reflects Dr. Daryl Yost, provost/executive vice president. “He was a visionary with a heart to serve God and His Kingdom and was tireless in his efforts to make Taylor University everything that God had intended it to become.”

“Over the years, I grew to love and respect Dr. Gerig,” says Nelson Rediger, associate executive director of the William Taylor Foundation. “I remember when in 1960 the old administration building burned down, and later when Taylor almost moved to Fort Wayne, I watched Dr. Gerig’s leadership in discussing the need for new buildings and a commitment to stay rooted in Upland. I was impressed with his dedication, not only to Jesus Christ, but also to Taylor University.

“Dr. Gerig reminded me of my father in his wisdom and soft-spoken, gentle voice,” Rediger continues. “In everything his attitude was, ‘Do what is right.’ He was 100 percent committed to Taylor University in his thoughts and actions.”

Dr. Jay Kesler, president, wrote about Gerig: “A Christian gentleman and business leader, Les Gerig moved Taylor University to a new level of professional management and excellence. He recognized the need for a partnership between clergy, educators and the business community. I credit Les Gerig with building the foundation that has allowed Taylor University to become the institution that it is in the 1990s. His legacy is among the greatest contributions made over 150 years of Taylor University history.”

Rosie Kerlin, chair of the Board of Trustees, drew much inspiration from Gerig. “Dr. Gerig was a truly godly man—a godly leader—whose ‘heart was made gentle by God.’ He was a wonderful example of what a Christian leader should be,” she writes. “I knew and experienced his gentle responses and actions in all situations in my time on the Board with him.”

Geri was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred Mae (Ehresman), who died October 12, 1996. The couple shared 63 years of married life together.

Gerig was born on May 23, 1911, in Flanagan, Ill., to Peter and Malinda Gerig. He was the youngest of four children. After attending public schools in the Flanagan area, he enrolled in Browns Business College in Bloomington, Ill., where he majored in business and corporate law. He graduated in 1930.

During his lifetime, Gerig received due recognition for his service. In 1964, he was presented the Appreciation Award by the Taylor University Alumni Association for his contributions in improving the University. Four years later, he was recognized with the Honorary Citizen of Upland Award. In 1969, he received the honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Taylor University. In 1982, he and Mildred received the Distinguished Friends Award from the Taylor University Alumni Association. He was also honored with the Business and Professional Leader Award in Insurance by the Religious Heritage of America. Gerig Hall stands today as a visible testimony of his love for Taylor University.

An active supporter of public and community service, Gerig served on numerous executive committees.

Additionally, he was a board member of various organizations and associations including the Allen County Health Planning Council; Fort Wayne Foundation, Inc.; Fort Wayne Futures, Inc.; Fort Wayne Medical Education Foundation Advisory Board; Junior Achievement of Fort Wayne and Allen County; and the Evangelical Mennonite Church of North America (Fort Wayne). He held memberships in Brookside Church, Fort Wayne Quest Club, Fort Wayne Rotary Club and Fort Wayne Life Insurance Underwriters Association.

Gerig developed an interest in politics and remained a committed member of the Republican Party. His political achievements included serving as campaign chairman in Senator Dan Coats’ congressional elections from 1980 to 1988. He was also involved in Senator Dan Quayle’s congressional elections from 1976 to 1978.

Gerig is survived by sister Sylvia Knuth; two nieces, Charlotte Perillo and Lois Sorenson; and a host of relatives, friends and business associates grateful for his example, his love and his leadership. A memorial service for Gerig was held August 5, at the Brookside Community Church in Fort Wayne.—Eric Tan ’96
Memoriam: President B. Joseph Martin

In memory of Dr. B. Joseph Martin (1906-1996), Taylor University's 24th president.

Dr. B. Joseph Martin had proven himself a capable and aggressive leader when he became Taylor University's 24th president on January 1, 1960. His greatest success as an administrator of higher education was realized at Wesleyan College (Macon, Georgia), where he served as president from 1953 to 1960, during a time of expansion for the school that included the construction of several new facilities. Martin helped raise the school's endowment, increase its support from churches and liquidate a $185,000 debt that existed when he took office.

Martin was ready for the challenges that faced Taylor University as a growing educational institution. He sought to establish long-range goals that would improve the school's financial condition. But on January 16, just two weeks after Martin was named president of Taylor, Wright Hall, the administration building, was destroyed by fire. As the "nerve center" of the University, the building contained the majority of Taylor's institutional documents, several classrooms, and a great number of historical items—all of which were permanently lost within moments.

The fire dealt Martin a severe blow, which he considered to be divine indication to relocate the school. The Board of Trustees entertained the idea and a decision was finally made to relocate in Fort Wayne. A Methodist minister, Martin also looked favorably upon the prospect of reunion with the North Indiana Conference of the Methodist Church. Such a move would not only give ownership of the school to the Church, but the accumulated financial burden as well. However, subsequent meetings proved fruitless concerning both the intended move to Fort Wayne and reunion with the Methodist Church. When Martin resigned the presidency in 1965, the board discontinued the negotiations.

Martin was born in Bourg, Louisiana, on August 21, 1906, the oldest son in a family of twelve. His father was a Methodist minister. Martin received an A.B. degree from Pasadena College in 1935 and a Th.B. degree from the same institution the following year. Further studies led him to the University of Southern California, where he earned his Th.M. in 1940 and a Ph.D. in 1945. In 1954, he received an honorary L.L.D. degree from Houghton College.

After serving as a minister in various churches from 1931 to 1945, Martin entered the realm of higher education. He was professor of sociology at Pasadena College (1935-36), vice president of Asbury Theological Seminary (1945-48), vice president of Oklahoma City University (1948-49), and president of Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia (1953-60). In addition, he served as executive director of the Methodist College Foundation of North Carolina from 1950 to 1953. He also held posts as secretary-treasurer for both the Independent College Foundation of Georgia and Women's Colleges of the South and as president of Church Colleges of the South (Protestant and Catholic). After Martin's presidency at Taylor, he returned to Louisiana and served as professor of philosophy at Nicholls State University from 1967 to 1974. He was named professor emeritus in his retirement.

Martin was a determined and steadfast proponent of Christian higher education. In a paper entitled, "Uniting Oxford and Aldersgate," Martin addressed the idea of Christian scholar-ship. "Not only must we staff our colleges with consecrated teachers," he wrote, "but they must be capable teachers, possessed with the 'know-how.' Our Christian colleges must always remain fervently Christian, but they must also be academically sound. When our youth graduate from our colleges, they must have had an Aldersgate experience of a 'warm heart' and an Oxford educational experience of mental discipline that will enable them to compete on equal terms with graduates of other colleges."

In the same paper, Martin issued strong directives for the mid-century American Church, saying, "...this age demands Christianity at its best. An anemic, vacillating, uninspired and unimpassioned Church has no future in a world such as we face in the unborn tomorrows. We must have normal, not nominal Christianity... Our disjointed times demand a religion with the vigor and intensity of the New Testament. Anything less than that is subnormal." Martin was married to a Taylor graduate, the late Evelyn Duryea '27. Her father and mother were both on the Taylor staff for a number of years: he as a field representative and she as campus hostess. —Randy Dillinger '95
Tuition and the Search for Solutions

Anyone paying the price of higher education in the modern world must, at some point, wonder where his or her thousands of dollars end up, and why it must take a small fortune to reap the benefits of an education. As a student, I was curious, so I went to the business office and had the delight of making the acquaintance of Allan Smith, vice president of business and finance, who prefers to be called Al.

Although I was not sure how a student asking for a peek at Taylor's 1997-98 budget would be received, I was warmly welcomed and immediately shown the basic breakdown of an individual’s tuition costs. As might be expected, the category with the largest percentage is salary, wages, and benefits, at 48 percent. This includes salaries for all full-time employees, whether faculty, administration, or support staff. An additional ten percent of a student’s tuition covers meals and expenses related to the dining commons.

On further inquiry, Al stated that one of the factors influencing tuition increase is the level of salary increase that faculty and staff receive. Another factor is that as cost of living increases, so too does college tuition.

As the cost of higher education has skyrocketed, financial aid has been forced to increase as well to maintain affordability; scholarships alone comprise 17 percent of the tuition cost, and are typically awarded on a need basis. This helps to ensure the diversity and balance of the Taylor community. Financial aid also receives a boost from donor gifts and endowments. In addition, Taylor receives state-funded aid in the form of scholarships and grants. Furthermore, three percent of tuition is diverted to debt service and another three percent is used for payment on utilities.

With about 78 percent of tuition claimed by these categories, not much is left to work with. The remaining 22 percent covers miscellaneous needs. So where does the money come from for the remodeling of the Nussbaum Science Center? The answer is found in the year-end budget process. Taylor intentionally budgets for fewer students than actually attend in order to allow for unique yearly issues. These unique issues include making progress on the deferred maintenance list of which the Nussbaum Science Center renovation is an example.

Tuition is no small expense for most families, and the cost of putting one or more children through school can put family finances in a tight and frustrating bind. Taylor is a unique school, full of vitality, personality and outstanding programs; it is a community to which people are drawn and for which they are willing to pay a significant price. Each year that price increases. The question is, how long can the average individual finance this kind of bill?

Al predicts some serious changes will be made in the education system, involving the less traditional approach of distance learning, Commuter programs, two-year degrees with universities, individual courses offered via the Internet, and other such ideas have been seriously discussed and will likely play an important role in the near future at Taylor University.

The administration and staff at Taylor are reviewing the options carefully. For now, the burden remains with students, who definitely get their money’s worth at Taylor University—an outstanding education in a vibrant Christian atmosphere.—Susan Sutherland ’00

Football team celebrates victorious season

It was truly a season to remember.

With a 39-28 victory over Olivet Nazarene University on November 15, the Taylor University football team closed the 1997 season with a 7-3 record. It is the team’s best record and first winning season since the 1989 campaign, when the Trojans went 7-2-1.

What is more impressive is that the Trojans had a record of just 1-9 in 1996. Taylor also finished 5-1 in the Mid-States Football Association’s Midwest League this year, good for second place—which is the team’s best finish in the conference. In the final NAIA Football Poll, the Trojans were ranked No. 24.

And if that were not enough, 11 Trojans earned All-Conference honors. They were slotback Chad McBeth and defensive lineman Chad Wilt, who were both named to the First Team; and to the Second Team, running back Quinn Hirschy, offensive lineman Jason Hartong and Ryan Mitchell, tight end Chris Stover, defensive lineman Jon Lembright, linebackers Pete Demorest and Justin Heth, and deepbacks Jeremy Jenkins and Andy Krider.

Taylor will open the 1998 season on September 12 at Anderson.—Mark Varner

For schedules and scores, visit the Taylor athletic department online at www.tayloru.edu/~athletics.

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Season Record: 7 wins, 3 losses.
Catching the new Spirit of Lithuania

In 1991, Lithuania was the first Baltic republic of the former Soviet Union to regain its independence. That same year, an English Language Institute was founded in Lithuania with the twofold purpose of witnessing for Jesus Christ while meeting the need for learning the English language. A four-year Christian college was later added, which today bears the name of Lithuanian Christian College (LCC). I was privileged to take a sabbatical from Taylor University to teach at LCC during the 1996-97 school year, along with Wally and Marlene Roth.

Living in Lithuania tends to unspoil you, especially as an American. Lithuanians are grateful for everything they have—what Americans consider a necessity, they consider a privilege. My Lithuanian language instructor was Virginia, a 19-year-old only child who lived with her parents in a two-room flat. A student at LCC, she wanted to live with her friends in the dormitory, but her parents could not afford the cost of 50 lita per month (about $13).

A small country once engulfed by the Soviet government, Lithuania continues to look east toward Russia, where the economy has deteriorated so badly that employers often do not have enough money to pay their workers. In many areas Russia has returned to the barter system. In order to survive, people are compelled to trade whatever they can in order to scratch out a living, much like Russian peasants have done for centuries.

One may interpret the situation as typically Russian—tough times, yes, but far from a pre-revolutionary scenario. However, Lithuanians view the circumstances seriously. For the Baltic people, fear of what might happen, though not openly discussed, is always present.

Economic growth is found in Lithuania. When the Soviets left, most people received ownership of their own houses or apartments. Restaurants, grocery stores, hotels and shops have sprung up all over. In Klaipeda, where LCC is located, few restaurants and businesses existed prior to 1992; now, one can leave LCC and go to any one of many restaurants and businesses. The free market system is working in Lithuania.

The Lithuanian people have more than just economic hope, however. The youth are energized by the possibilities for the future. To fully understand this new hope, an understanding must be gained of what has happened to the Church in Lithuania.

Out of 37 churches in Klaipeda, only three survived the Soviet era. When I attended the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the sanctuary was full of middle-aged and older women who had kept the church alive after their husbands were exiled to Siberia. I heard that Lithuania lost half of its male population during World War I, and again during World War II. Then, under communism, one fourth of the male population was deported to Siberia.

But the story of the Church in Lithuania continues to unfold in the life of its youth. In 1986, Giedrūs Saulytis, a suicidal drug addict, was handed a Bible. Through his reading, he discovered the reality of Christ. He then felt called by God to start preaching. As an evangelist, he established preaching points throughout Lithuania and planted 22 churches in major cities and towns. As a result of his ministry and the ministry of many others, numerous Bible studies for teenagers were started. Out of these Bible studies came hundreds of Lithuanian youth energized by the power of the Gospel. I consider it a privilege to have worshipped with these remarkable young Christians. Over 150 individuals under the age of 22 attended the Free Church in Klaipeda. Such is the new spirit of Lithuania.

LCC was established during the same time that these Bible studies and Christian fellowships were being formed. The idea for the evangelical college was first suggested by Johannes Reimer of Logos. After the college was established, volunteers from North America came to teach at the college. Professors live in the dormitory with the students in a simple, close-knit and friendly environment.

Over dinner one evening, I asked several students to tell me their stories. Vaidus seemed to reflect the essence of the Lithuanian youth: “My parents are nonbelievers,” he began. “In fact, they profess atheism. My grandmother, however, was a devout Catholic. When I was a child, she told me Bible stories. When I asked my mother about the Bible, she replied that they were simply stories. My father left when I was a child; my mother said he could not find work and became discouraged.”

I asked Vaidus how he became a Christian. He told me it was through a Bible study group that he was encouraged to become a believer. “Everyone in the group found Christ as Savior,” he shared. Through faith in Christ, the young man found a true and personal expression of the liberty which had come to the country as a whole. “Lithuania was free, and so were we!”

Despite his parent’s initial opposition to his desire to study at LCC, Vaidus did enroll—a decision rooted in his faith. He said to himself, “Now I am a Christian, and I am determined to go… so here I am.”

So far, seven Taylor students and two professors have spent a semester at LCC.—Dr. Kenneth Seay
History, business collaborate for Hong Kong trip

Discovering David’s 19th Psalm in the Milky Way... Working out on the StairMaster to the rhythm of Chopin for a physical fitness class... Studying personality disorders through Flannery O’Connor’s short stories...

Integrated studies, such as these, offer different perspectives which enable students to grasp interrelated concepts across traditional disciplinary boundaries. This will be the case for a group of history and business students when they travel to Hong Kong and mainland China during the month of January.

Dr. Alan Winquist, professor of history, and Chris Bennett, associate professor of business, will link the two fields when they lead the group of 14 students to Asia. Accompanying the group will be Bennett’s wife, Linda, a nurse at Taylor’s Haakensen Health Center, who will provide medical assistance as needed. The students are fairly evenly divided between history and business. Many of the planned activities for the group have mutual relevance for both disciplines.

“There is a lot of overlapping,” Winquist says. “You have to bring in the business element to really understand the history of East Asia.” Winquist has traveled with history students to China and Hong Kong in the past, but this is the first time a joint venture has been planned between the history and business departments.

Bennett, who takes business students to Asia every other year for the January interterm, also believes that the history and business of Asia are inextricably woven together. “You cannot separate international business from the history and culture of the people,” he says. “I hope the history students will see that economic development has been a large player in the development of history, especially in developing countries. And I want my students to understand that successful business enterprise is dependent on more than just technical skills.”

The trip has particular timeliness, as on July 1, 1997, Hong Kong was reacquired by the People’s Republic of China after more than 100 years under British colonial rule. Bennett and Winquist are excited to observe the changes in Hong Kong, though neither expects to see significant visible changes this soon after the change in government. “The changes are behind the scenes, in structure and government and influence,” Bennett says.—Abigail Reese ’99

Departments establish online study materials

Imagine learning DNA replication by watching an animated model, or looking up a book in the library from a computer in your dorm room. These possibilities are becoming reality through the recent web development grants awarded to faculty to develop departmental home pages for Taylor Online, the university’s internal network.

Students in Dr. Mark Cosgrove’s Foundations of Christian Thought, for example, may find links to other home pages on the Internet related to the course material. The music department has created a home page with photographs of Taylor ensembles and audio recordings of some concerts.

Several academic departments are represented on the menu of Taylor Online. These include, on the Upland campus, Biblical studies; business, accounting and economics; chemistry; Christian education; communication arts; computing and system sciences; education; English; environmental science; geography; history; mathematics; political science; psychology and sociology. On the Fort Wayne campus, the English and biology departments are represented.

The Institute of Extended Learning in Fort Wayne is soon to offer degree programs through the world wide web, thus making possible a Taylor education for many who would otherwise be unable to attend the university. The Institute will offer associate of arts degrees in Biblical studies, criminal administration and general studies, though a starting date has not yet been established.

Although Taylor Online may be accessed only by networked computers on the Upland and Fort Wayne campuses, Taylor’s world wide web home page may be accessed by any browser at www.tayloru.edu.—Dale Graver ’91

Unconditional ten-year reaccreditation granted by North Central Association

On September 1, 1997, President Jay Kesler announced Taylor University’s unconditional reaccreditation with the North Central Association for the next ten years. Kesler attributed the accomplishment to the efforts of the entire institution and to committee members who spearheaded the self-study, which spanned more than two years.

According to Dr. Stephen Bedi, associate vice president for academic affairs, this event is significant for the university because without accreditation federal financial aid would not be available and the value of a Taylor education would not be recognized by graduate schools and other institutions of higher education.
Robert Benjamin’s travel to nine countries on three continents may not seem as impressive as Jules Verne’s fantastic journey, Around the World in 80 Days, but Benjamin’s is not fictional.

“It was certainly a new experience. As a boy growing up in a small town in Ohio, I never expected to travel around the world by myself,” he said. “I found that other cultures are much different from Upland’s. I really enjoyed trying to communicate with people using their language and experiencing various ethnic foods.”

Benjamin, associate professor of accounting, spent his first sabbatical in his 18 years of work at Taylor on a 135-day expedition around the world. Leaving Indianapolis on January 30, 1997, he visited England, Belgium, Togo, Lithuania, Kenya, Hungary, Malaysia, the Philippines and Japan, before returning to the United States on June 14. In the course of his travel, Benjamin also made transitional stops in Nigeria, the Netherlands and Germany.

“I discovered that there was a great need for business and accounting personnel on the mission field, along with others like mechanics and medical staff,” Benjamin says. “At Taylor, we train students for servanthood; after this trip, I now feel that I am better prepared to train my students for worldwide service.”

Benjamin’s trip was one with a mission, an odyssey with the objective of assisting and advising Christian mission organizations in reviewing missionaries’ income taxes, consolidating financial statements, auditing accounting records and installing computer accounting programs. “I thought there might be a need out there for computing and accounting help,” he says. “I also have wanted to improve my knowledge of not-for-profit accounting and have given thought to doing this type of consulting after retirement.”

Benjamin’s initial plans for the trip began in November 1995, when he contacted four mission organizations to extend his services to them. The following year he contacted 13 more organizations. He received requests for assistance from Arab World Ministries, Greater Europe Mission, the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, Lithuania Christian College, Open Door Mission, Kijabe Medical Center, Africa Inland Mission and The Evangelical Alliance Mission.

Not only did Benjamin traverse some 39,000 miles, but he also experienced cultures in Europe, Africa and Asia. Throughout his expedition, Benjamin maintained e-mail contact with his family and Taylor University. These messages eventually expanded into a 96-page journal.—Eric Tan ’96

New standards for teacher certification prompt changes in Education Department

Taylor University’s education department is revising its standards for the teacher certification program to meet new requirements for student evaluation set by the Indiana Professional Standards Board (IPSB). The IPSB now requires students to demonstrate competency through performance-based assessment.

The primary method currently used by the education department for student assessment is the teaching portfolio, consisting of the student’s philosophy of education, sample lesson plans and accomplishments made during student teaching. The portfolio begins with the student’s first education class and is completed four years later after his or her student teaching experience. The education department faculty is now writing the criteria for evaluating the teaching portfolio.

At the time of this writing the IPSB had not yet finalized its requirements, thus Taylor’s education department has concentrated on refining its own program for the interim. According to Dr. Joan Kitterman, chair of the department and director of teacher education, the basic structure of the education program will remain the same. “We just need to refine the way we assess performances,” she says. On October 1, Kitterman submitted a “Plan for Assessment,” required by both the State of Indiana and the federal government.

Kitterman is confident that Taylor will meet the new standards being set by the IPSB. “We have a strong education department,” she says. “Taylor University is far ahead of many other colleges, especially since we already use the teaching portfolio in assessing our students.”—Eric Tan ’96

The education department hosted a retirement party this fall in honor of three faculty members who have concluded their tenure at Taylor University. The recent retirees were (back row, l to r) Helen Rogers, who retired in August after 21 years of service; Dave Hess, who served 30 years at Taylor before retiring this year; and Jane (VanZant ’58) Hudson, who retired in December after serving her alma mater for 31 years. Other familiar faces at the party included (seated l to r) Dr. Mildred Chapman, who taught in the education department for 35 years, retiring in 1991; and Jennie Andrews Lee, former education professor who taught at Taylor from 1951 to 1975.
Colby joins alumni/church relations

With Bill Gerig’s retirement this year, a position opened for a new director of alumni and church relations. As a representative to not only Taylor Fort Wayne alumni, but to Summit Christian College and Fort Wayne Bible College alumni, the position called for someone with connections in all corners of the Fort Wayne campus constituency.

Enter Rev. Brian Colby, a 1994 TUFW graduate who, being in the right place at the right time, can rightfully claim alumni status from all three institutions. Starting his college experience at Fort Wayne Bible College in 1988, he experienced both name changes on the Fort Wayne campus and has returned once more to serve as the director of alumni and church relations.

Communication arts department obtains facility

The communication arts department at Taylor Fort Wayne has a new home. On August 27, the public relations and journalism branches of the department were relocated to the lower level of Witmer Hall. Tentatively called the communication arts complex, the area now accommodates two faculty members, 22 publications staff and some 40 majors and 15 minors.

Prior to the move, the department was physically dispersed. While the faculty had offices located on the second floor of Witmer Hall, the publications staff and other students did not have a place to call home. The publications staff had shared the use of computer equipment in the Macintosh lab with other majors. The new arrangement provides both the facilities and working environment necessary for both the publications staff and students in the department.

“This is an ideal situation for us,” says Mark Vermilion, director of public relations studies. “This office complex facilitates the growth we have had in the department in terms of our academic program. It also facilitates the student publications which we have expanded.”

This growth has included the addition of a student newspaper, The Express, which was established last year, and the yearbook, which previously was not under the domain of the communication arts department.

“It makes it very nice for us to have everything right here together,” Vermilion says.

Michael Smith, associate professor of communication arts, rejoices at the new arrangement. “By having the journalism and public relations offices side by side, along with our newsroom and our yearbook office,” he says, “we are creating a sense of identity. Already, we have had students come by and hang out down here, which is what we want to encourage.”

With its newly-acquired space, the communication arts department also includes a conference room, a darkroom and a newsroom for newspaper staff.

The new facilities will allow for curriculum expansion and computer upgrades, which will promote the inclusion of additional graphic design courses. “We have wanted to add those courses before,” says Vermilion, “but with the basic courses we were offering, the computers we had were already overloaded.”

Though there are undoubtedly growth pangs yet to be weathered, the communication arts department in Fort Wayne finally has a self-acknowledged sense of unity. According to Vermilion, the new complex was expected to be fully functional by the end of the fall semester.—Eric Tan ’96
High schoolers contend for competitive scholarships

Part of Taylor University's recognition in the field of Christian leadership comes from its offering of sizable scholarships for outstanding high school leaders. While leadership scholarships are created to assist and motivate students toward excellence, they also give Taylor faculty and staff members the opportunity to meet these prospective students.

Each fall, in cooperation with Taylor Student Organization's leadership development department, the admissions staff hosts the High School Christian Leadership Conference. Concurrent with the conference is a less-recognized gathering of 30 students participating in the Christian Leadership Scholarship Competition.

"The Christian Leadership Scholarship Competition is an intense time for thirty individual students; but the rewards of competing in such a high-caliber competition give them a sense of what to expect as a student at Taylor," says Brent Ellis, director of leadership development.

Before finalists are chosen for the competition, the admissions staff works through a systematic review of the applications, which this year totaled 412. To assist in the process, the admissions staff organizes two committees consisting of current and retired Taylor faculty and staff members. Committee members evaluate the applications, looking for strong writing skills, clarity of thought, favorable references and experience in school or church leadership. Based on this review, the pool of applicants is then narrowed to 30 competitors and three alternates.

The task of selecting the most qualified candidates is one taken seriously by committee members such as Walt Campbell, associate vice president and dean of students. "I spend a significant amount of time reviewing the applications," he says. "I always ask the question, 'What if it were my son or daughter?'"

This year's competition was held Saturday, November 8, beginning with all 30 competitors in the morning. By the afternoon, twelve were selected for the remainder of the competition. Each of the top three finalists will receive an 80 percent (of tuition) four-year renewable scholarship, while each of the other nine finalists is awarded a 40% scholarship. The remaining 18 competitors receive $1,000 scholarships to attend Taylor University. The scholarships are renewable and contingent upon the recipients' enrollment at Taylor University. Eleven of the 12 finalists from last year's competition are currently attending Taylor.—Marie Murphy '01

Indiana introduces family college savings plan

Indiana State Treasurer Joyce Brinkman held a press conference at Taylor University Upland on September 25 to announce the start of a new program designed to encourage Indiana residents to save money for their children's college education. The Indiana Family College Savings Plan (IFCSP) will enable a family to establish a tax-deferred savings account for a beneficiary, earning up to 11 percent interest.

An account may be opened with an initial investment of as little as $50 or as much as $25,000, with monthly deposits as low as $25. Total additional deposits for any given year must not exceed $9,405. The account may only be used for tuition, room and board, and books. Additionally, federal and state income taxes will be based on the beneficiary's rate once withdrawals are made. Any individual with a social security number may be named as beneficiary.

Accredited public universities, technical schools and private colleges—both out-of-state and within Indiana—have been approved to receive funds from the IFCSP. This approach is unique among such programs elsewhere, many of which restrict funds from being used in other states.

Brinkman shared two influences which led to the creation of the IFCSP: the low percentage of families in the United States who begin saving for their children's education before they enter high school (estimated at 15 percent), and the difficulty the State of Indiana has had in retaining college students upon graduation.

The first step Brinkman took in her effort to curb this reality was to urge the Indiana General Assembly to create the Indiana Education Savings Authority (IESA) in 1996. Brinkman serves as the organization's chair, which governs the IFCSP.—Randy Dillinger '95

For more information, call the IFCSP at 1 (888) 814-6800, or visit the IFCSP website at www.che.state.in.us/ifcsp.
Students returning to Taylor this fall found a new study partner awaiting them. Over the summer the student union acquired a friendly sight and a comforting smell in the form of a new coffee bar, the Jumping Bean. Those in need of a dose of unhindered caffeine can now find it in the soft yellow cups with the word “Panache” on the side. For the decaf crowd, concessions are made in the form of rich dark cocoa, imported teas of all kinds and decaffeinated coffee. Business has been good; so good, in fact, that it defies the image of a first-year business struggling to make it off the ground. Being drawn by the aroma of fresh-brewed coffee, I ordered myself a hot mocha, found a quiet corner and sat back to observe this new venture.

Those who pay attention to the latest trends cannot possibly have over-
looked the rebirth of the gourmet coffee bar. Its rise in popularity in America is perhaps inspired by the sidewalk cafés of Europe. Though coffee bars can be found almost anywhere, they thrive in downtown areas of heavily-trafficked cities. They attract a diversity of patrons, appealing especially to those with a taste for culture and art, academics and poetry, good conversation, or those who simply like to spend time alone.

Coffee bars are not a new concept, but they are being discovered by the younger generation. Ben and Rebekah Eisner, a couple from the foothills of the Rockies, found that one of their favorite pastimes was conversing over coffee in the shops around Boulder, Colorado. Ben is a junior at Taylor, and the Jumping Bean is his brainchild, the dream which he shares with Rebekah, his wife of nearly two years. The couple met in 1994 and were engaged shortly thereafter. Before Ben resumed his last two semesters at Taylor as a communications major, they discussed the possibility of owning and operating a shop of their own. They began to seriously investigate and pray about it not long after tying the knot.

Several failed attempts brought to a halt the idea of opening a storefront in Indiana. After more prayer and deliberation, the Eisners drafted a proposal to open the Jumping Bean in the Student Union on campus. The proposal was met with immediate enthusiasm, and after a month it was approved. One individual loaned the Eisners enough money to purchase all the equipment they needed to start up: coffee grinders, brewers, espresso machines, gourmet coffees, flavorings, and other trimmings as needed. The Eisners then signed a contract with Creative Dining, the company that provides Taylor’s meal services.

While these events were unfolding, the Lord was proving Himself faithful to Ben and Rebekah in many ways. Elizabeth Violet, their first child, was born on May 28, 1997. With Rebekah caring for her at home, Ben returned to Colorado for coffee bar training with a friend who runs a coffee shop near Boulder. He learned the ropes of brewing drinks and making friends with customers and then returned home to his wife and daughter.

When the Jumping Bean opened to the public on August 8, business started with a bang and has not slowed since. For the couple it means staying busy at the shop Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. to midnight, while managing classes and caring for Elizabeth the rest of the time. At present, they have not hired any student employees. “Family owned and operated” means just that for the Eisners.

As I observed the coming and going of unfamiliar faces, I noticed again the friendly smile that is offered to each, and the diversity of the faces that gratefully receive their cup of warm comfort. A well-dressed student, striding in for a black blend before a morning class, was followed by one dressed in sweats and a cap, asking for a steamer to go. Next in line was a professor who presented her frequent buyer card to be punched and her own mug for a refill. Having finished my mocha and gathered my information, I left, convinced that the Union is more complete with the sound of the cappuccino machine whirling its contents to foam within earshot of those whose heads are bent over books or inclined in conversation.

“God has used it for us and for Taylor,” Rebekah states. “It has the close community atmosphere that both the students and the Jumping Bean can benefit from.” — Susanna Sutherland ’00

Taylor University gained some ground in the U.S. News & World Report annual guide to the best colleges and universities in America. Now ranked third as one of the best liberal arts colleges in the Midwest, Taylor gained two positions over last year’s ranking.

The survey takes into consideration graduation rates, student selectivity, academic reputation, retention rate, alumni giving, tuition and financial aid. Taylor has been recognized 10 times out of the last 11 years that U.S. News & World Report has ranked colleges and universities in America.— Eric Tan ’96
Odle concludes illustrious, inspirational athletic career

Ask any Trojan athlete who competed under Coach Don Odle's leadership what he thought of the man and you're likely to hear him referred to as more than a coach; he was a friend, mentor and example. This becomes clear when one considers that four of his players—Steve Brooks, George Glass, Joe Romine and Larry Winterholter—followed in his footsteps as athletic directors at Taylor University. Glass '58 notes that it was Odle who led him to Christ early in Glass' freshman year. "His walk with Christ through the years has been my example," Glass says.

Odle was an example for Winterholter as well, and not only of being a Christian, but of having a good laugh once in a while. "He had such a high energy level, great enthusiasm for life and a sense of humor that was always on," Winterholter says. "Most importantly, he cared about the spiritual welfare of his players. That came through loud and clear. God truly gave Coach the heart of an evangelist, not just in the Philippines with Venture for Victory, but wherever he went."

Athletics has certainly been a mainstay throughout Odle's life and career—33 years of which he devoted to Taylor University as a coach and athletic director. Even while still a senior at Taylor, Odle coached the Trojan baseball team. "I was the head coach and the shortstop on the team, which was a little unusual," he says. "Things like that could happen back then." That was 1942. Now, more than half a century later, he has decided to call it quits—after 30 years of baseball, 50 years of golf and 70 years of basketball (he started playing at the age of seven). And who would he invite to commemorate the glory days, but his own players—in particular, 14 former basketball players who have served on staff at Taylor. Each of these men has contributed a significant portion of his professional career to Taylor, and collectively they span 274 years on staff. The gathering took place at the Odle home in Upland on September 15.

It was a joyous occasion for everyone as memories and laughs were shared, and for many, the reunion was a long time coming. In Odle's words, "Many times the guys had kidded me, saying, 'Coach, when are you going to hang it up?'"

Finally, the day had come and the answer to that question could be fully understood only by the men who gathered with Odle that day.

In a letter he had written to the 14 men, Odle shared that he never wanted to lose his sense of humor, nor to become a "cynical old man." He now reflects on the ceremony with obvious gratitude for the friends who share in some of his greatest athletic memories: "The emphasis was on the fellowship, the camaraderie, the years of service that these graduates have committed themselves to. That's the story."

It is with pride that Odle refers to these men. "They saw the opportunities to work with young people at Taylor and to multiply their own lives," he says. "There had to be some deep commitment on their part."

The group that gathered at the Odle home that afternoon consisted of Steve Brooks '80, Dr. Tim Burkholder '63, Dr. Tim Diller '62, Tom Essenburger '69, Gary Friesen '75, George Glass '58, Dr. Roger Jenkinson '60, Jack King '59, Nelson Rediger '67, Dr. Carl Rice '49, Dr. Bill Ringenberg '61, Dr. Joe Romine '70, Rick Seaman '78 and Larry Winterholter '64. —Randy Dilling '95

Wit signs pro basketball contract

Former Taylor athletes who gathered at the home of Don Odle included (l to r) George Glass, Rick Seaman, Bill Ringenberg, Roger Jenkinson, Tom Essenberger, Gary Friesen, Joe Romine, Steve Brooks, Odle, Tim Diller, Carl Rice, Tim Burkholder, Jack King and Larry Winterholter. (Not pictured: Nelson Rediger.)

Former Taylor athlete who transferred to Taylor in 1995 from the College of Dupage, a junior college in his home state of Illinois, while at Taylor, he was named both an NAIA 3rd Team and an NAIA Honorable Mention All-American. In 1995-96, he was selected as the Mid-Central Conference Player of the Year.

In addition to his role on the court, Wit will be conducting basketball clinics in schools. —Mark Varner

"This is something that I hoped would happen," Wit says. "I don't feel like I am done playing basketball yet. I have had a lot of fun playing to this point, and I would like to see what else I can do."

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Betty Freese recognized at annual scholarship dinner

Betty Freese HA'83 entered the Hodson Dining Commons on the evening of September 27 for the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner, as she had done the year before as a representative of her late husband, Bob, for whom a scholarship was established for education majors. Since this was the first year the scholarship had earned enough interest for an award, Freese expected the evening to include a meeting over dinner with the scholarship recipient, senior Sarah Krause.

As expected, Freese did meet Krause, and the two took their place at the designated table. Seated with them was a freshman, Kelli Yordy, who seemed to be sitting alone. "I was a little concerned about her sitting by herself, so I asked her what award she was receiving," Freese recalls. "She told me that it was an alumni internship. Well, I knew about one internship named for Alice Shippy, so I told Kelli, 'That's the one in honor of Alice Shippy.'" But Freese was in for a big surprise: the alumni internship Kelli was receiving that evening was named in honor of her!

The Betty Freese Student Alumni Internship was established this year by Drs. James '62 and Frances (Woy '62) Terhune, the couple's third such internship. Each internship provides $750 for hiring one student each semester to work closely with the office of alumni relations. The intern's job description reads like a calendar of special events: supports the alumni office for activities and events such as homecoming, senior buffet and program, alumni meetings, and student alumni education meetings—otherwise known as "freshman ringing," "sophomore mugging," "junior haggling" and "senior cramming." In addition, the intern helps with the day-to-day operations of the alumni office as well as working on other projects.

Freese first came to Taylor University in 1955, when her late husband, Robert, enrolled as a student. After Robert graduated, he worked as an admissions counselor while Betty worked as a secretary to Dean Milo Rediger. The Freeses moved to Columbus, OH, but eight years later returned to Taylor where Robert accepted a position in the education department, which he held for the next 21 years. Betty began as a secretary in the alumni office in 1971 and was soon promoted to alumni director. The Terhunes became acquainted with Freese when they were students at Taylor, and later they renewed contact through the National Alumni Council.

In a letter to Taylor University, James Terhune shared his thoughts on Freese and why her name was chosen for this internship. "I have long appreciated her skill as an administrator and planner as well as her gift in serving as a warm host in the alumni office," he wrote. "That always meant so much to me as a returning alumnus... I believe she symbolizes long-term commitment to Taylor University."

In addition to their most recent decision, the Terhunes had previously established internships in honor of two other individuals: Alice M. Shippy (1904-90) and Wilbur M. Cleveland (1924-85). First titled the Alice M. Shippy Alumni Award in 1983, the Terhunes revised the title to include "student alumni internship" in 1996. Shippy served at Taylor from 1955 until shortly before her death in 1990. Her association with the alumni office extended over a period of 28 years. Cleveland, a 1949 graduate of Taylor University, served his alma mater for 29 years, functioning as alumni director, director of public relations, university editor, senior editor and director of grant proposals. Under his editorship, 85 issues of Taylor Magazine were produced. Cleveland's daughter, Marty (Cleveland '78) Songer, serves as director of alumni programs.

For each of the three student alumni internships, preference is given to applicants who are dependents of alumni. Applications for the internships are due in the alumni office March 1 and are awarded for the following school year.—Randy Dillinger '95

Campaign Update

As of November 17, 1997, the Taylor Tomorrow Campaign total stood at $32 million. At the end of this first year of the seven-year campaign, over 42 percent of the $75 million goal has been reached.
Patience pays great rewards for the young at heart

It is a wonderful occasion when a man or woman receives the unexpected blessing of a new friendship. A little over a year ago, Arthur x'34 and Nelle (Leisman '43) Hodson found themselves in that same scenario. Although they were long-time residents of Upland, they had little contact with each other before last year. That they would connect in their golden years has come as a welcome surprise and gives evidence, Nelle says, of God's hand in their relationship.

After Nelle's first husband, James Alspaugh '39, passed away in 1983, she was content to live as a single woman and was surely not out "beating bushes," as she says, to find a husband. Art's first wife, Mary, died in January, 1996. During this time Art was living in Fort Smith, Arkansas, though he would often return to Indiana for business meetings. Following one such meeting, some of Art's friends asked how he was doing.

"I told them how devastated I was after my wife had died. I didn't have anybody to eat with; I didn't have anyone to talk to," he says. One of these friends asked Art to sit down and proceeded to give him the names of three Christian women who were available. "One of those names was Nelle's," Art says. "And I said, 'Well, which one do you recommend?' And he said, 'Well, they're all nice people, but I recommend Nelle.'"

"I got this call from friends," says Nelle, "and they said, 'Arthur is in town and we were just wondering if you would have dinner with us.' Well, I hesitated because I had already made plans, and after all, I was living in the northern part of the state. But I don't know, somehow I said yes. So much of what has happened to us we think has been ordained. It just couldn't be happenstance. "No way," agrees Art. "People our age finding each other, with the same philosophy, background, experience and love for the community and for each other (Nelle: "and for God, and available")—is very unusual."

"Nelle told me before we got married that for quite some time she had felt like she was in neutral," Art continues. "She wanted to get out of neutral." Life was not bad by any means, Nelle responded, "but surely there was more to life than what I was experiencing. But now I tell him, 'Gee whiz, can't we go back to neutral for a little bit?'"

Art notes that it was never his intent to jump into high gear. "But you see," says Nelle, "Arthur introduced me to a whole new world, the banking world; I had the education world and I've introduced him to many of my friends. We have many friends in common, and that is good. We share many pleasant experiences."

Many of these experiences revolve around life in Upland, where both Art and Nelle were born. During his school years, Art wanted so badly to play basketball, but his commitment to honoring his father and mother was a stronger desire, and he would return after school every day to work on the family farm. In 1945, Art's father, who was president of the Upland Bank for many years, suffered a heart attack. Nine years later, a second attack claimed his life. Soon thereafter, Art decided to accept a job offer as the bank cashier. He excelled in his work and was promoted to executive vice president and trust officer, then to president, and eventually to chairman of the board, a position he held until he retired in 1977.

Nelle's father, Rev. Edwin Leisman, graduated from Taylor in 1925, and as Nelle says, "there was no question in his mind; his children were going to Taylor." It was in Upland that Nelle met her first husband, James Alspaugh. He was in the military during World War II, and after the war the couple returned to Upland.

Although Upland was not Nelle's first choice for a town in which to settle, she fell in love with the community and spent more than 30 years teaching home economics in the local high school. She taught the same subject at Taylor from 1958 to 1960. James and Nelle had one son, Michael Alspaugh '78. Michael's son, Shawn, has been accepted as a student to Taylor for next fall. He will represent the fourth generation of Alspaughs to attend Taylor University.

Art and Nelle are fond of sharing their belief that together they can accomplish more than they ever could individually. Nelle particularly enjoys being able to make decisions with Art for charitable gifts which they contribute to organizations such as White's Institute, a residential and educational community for troubled youth in Wabash, Indiana. Although he never had children, Art has come to think of White's residents as the children he never had. In May 1997, White's Institute broke ground for a new community center which will be called the Hodson Campus Center. But to Art and Nelle, the name on the building is not as important as what the name gives evidence of—that someone cared enough to contribute to a worthy cause.

This evidence is readily seen at Taylor University as well, as the Hodson Dining Commons bears the name and portrait of Art and Mary Hodson. Still active as contributors to the university, Art and Nelle have both been eager to further Taylor's vision for the future through a number of scholarships they have established. In addition, the Hodsons have established three annuities and a unitrust with the William Taylor Foundation.

Although the Hodsons have acquired financial blessings over the years, they have actively sought the Lord's will in stewardship of the resources He has given. "Our underlying philosophy," Nelle shares, "is that what we leave in this life, we leave in the lives of other people." Through their gracious lives, Art and Nelle Hodson have exhibited that one truly is more blessed through giving than receiving. — Randy Dillinger '95
1924
Eloise (Abbey) Fenstermacher passed away on Aug 14 in Warren, IN. She lived in Upland from 1908-92. Preceding her in death were husband George '22 and sister Iris Abbey '15. Survivors include daughter Dorothy (Fenstermacher x'47) Villwock and son Robert Fenstermacher '50.

1939
Rev. Donald Barnes died on Aug 5 in Muncie, IN. He had been a minister in the North IN Methodist Conference for many years. He was awarded a doctor of divinity degree in 1969 from TJ. Surviving is wife Hope (Wiggins x'41) Barnes who lives at 4809 W University Ave, Muncie, IN 47304.

1942
Jean (Wood) Lowe passed away on Aug 7. She is survived by her husband of 54 yrs, Wendell '43, a son and 1 grand-daughter. Wendell resides at 17831 Anthony Ave, Country Club Hills, IL 60478.

1943
Russ & Trudy (Johnson) Clark celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on Sept 22. They were married in 1942 in Miami Beach, FL. Their sons are Dr. Russell, Jr. '68, David x'70, Rev. James '73, and William x'75. The Clarks live at 7075 S 950 E, Upland, IN 46989.

1950
Paul & Ruth Erdel will retire at the end of Dec 1997 from their years of service as full-time missionaries in Ecuador with World Partners. Their address is 1610 Charlotte St, Mishawaka, IN 46545. • Wes Robinson passed away June 9 at the age of 71. Having seen battle in Europe during World War II, Wes was a decorated veteran. He received the Purple Heart, among other honors, for his wartime service to the United States. He was one of only six survivors of the Battle of the Bulge from his 210-member unit of the 106th Infantry Division. • Gene x & Janet (Norse x'47) Watkins celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug 9. They reside at 250 Apache Tr, Woodland Park, CO 80863.

1952
Jesse Howat went to be with the Lord on April 24 following a brief illness. He is survived by wife Phyllis (Berry) who resides at 524 Illini Dr, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

1959
President Jay Kesler '58, Janie (Smith x) Kesler, Sherry (Perkins) Gormanous, Cleo (Murdock) Purdy, and Janet Berst recently gathered and compared notes on their lifetime careers. Janie is a busy wife to our college president; Sherry is an assistant to the principal of a private school in Winnetka, IL; Cleo is a kindergarten teacher in Irvine, CA; and Janet is a computer analyst and programmer in Chicago, IL. They agreed unanimously that they enjoy their career choices and are thankful for their Taylor education.

1963
Dr. Tom Atcitty and Dr. Wayne & Diane (Whittle x'64) Hoover met in Gallup, New Mexico, last April for a great time of Taylor fellowship. • Dr. Ronald VanDam was inducted into the Mid-America Athletic Trainers Assoc. (MAATA) on March 22. He is head athletic trainer at Central Missouri State Univ. In 1988, “Doc” was inducted into the Missouri Sports Medicine Hall of Fame; in 1994 he was inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. He & wife Jonell (Willis '63) live at 210 SE 591, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

1967
Richard Anderson was named Principal of the Year by the Indiana Assoc of Student Councils. Richard, principal of East Noble HS, was surprised with the honor last fall. He has been an educator for 30 yrs and principal at ENHS for 15 yrs. He & wife Peg live at 1108 Richard Rd, Kendallville, IN 46755.

1969
Sheila (Solomon) Beers is a contract worker in the circulation dept of The Rochester Sentinel. She is enjoying this aspect of the newspaper business after working as a reporter and page editor elsewhere. She resides at 110 Logan St, Argos, IN 46501.

1976
Ed Gomez was appointed under-secretary of state, for
sports, physical
fitness and
recreation by
Dominican
Republic
President Dr.
Leonel
Fernandez.
Gomez resides
in Miami and is
guidance counselor at Miami
Jackson HS. At Taylor he
played under legendary
coach Don J. Odle whom he
credits for being an inspira-
tional role model for his
success. Ed’s mailing
address is 966 NE 153rd St, North Miami Beach, FL
33162. ● Vanda (Fickel)
Niemi received her MD
degree from The Ohio State
Univ on June 9, 1995. She
is currently a resident in
neurology at Rush-Presbyte-
rian-St. Luke’s Med Center in
Chicago. She & husband
Robert have a daughter
Vanda Elisa, born Feb 26,
1996. The family lives at
6628 N Maplewood Ave, Chicago, IL 60645. Email
Vanda at vniemi@rush.edu.

1978
Mary Ann (Williams)
Randolph is minister of
church life and assimilation
at the East Side Church of
God, Anderson, IN. She &
husband Gary have 2
children, Brooke (16) and
Daniel (13). The family
resides in Alexandria, IN. ●
Dr. Barbara (Conway)
Schneider would love to
hear from classmates! Her
email is MSchnei149@
aol.com. She is at home with
daughters Carly (7) and
Kiersten (3). Husband
Michael is an architect. He is
on the board for Christian
Living Resources and
Habitat for Humanity. He is
helping the church in a
building program. They live
at 22130 NE 13th Pl,
Redmond, WA 98053. ●

America. Email
is Yschool_Peb@sil.org. ●
Randal & Nancy (Zeller)
x Smith live at 3110 Southwood
Dr, Highland
Village, TX
75067. Their
email address is
thesmiths@hconamp.net.
●
Nancy (Grande) Graham
is principal of Charlotte HS,
Sarasota, FL. The 4-time
Golden Apple Teacher
Nominee was named Lee
County HS Teacher of the
Year in 1991 and was listed
in Who’s Who Among

1979
Brian Jones had a devo-
tional published in the Upper
Room daily devotional in the
July/Aug 1997 edition. The
subject of the article was his
brother Trent, who has
Down’s Syndrome. He
shared how Trent’s love for
Christ has been an example
to family, church and
community. Brian was named
the “1997 Wal-Mart Teacher of
the Year” in his local area.
As a result his school was
awarded $500 as part of the
award. He is teaching 3rd gr
at South Decatur Elem
School. His address is PO
Box 6, Westport, IN 47283.

1980
Steve Chance has been
dominated a “Staley Distingui-
shed Scholar.” This
recognition places him
among the top public

speakers in the country. He
continues to serve as exec
child of Golden Clay Ministries.
He and wife Randi live in
LaMirada, CA. Their email is
GoldenClay@aol.com. ●
Tim Hill was named vice pre-
ident for marketing at Software
AG Americas where he will
be responsible for all North
American marketing and inside
sales organizations.
Previously he was an exec at
Iomega, a $1.2 billion manufac-
turer of com-
puter storage systems. Tim &
wife Janet
(Triggs) & family live in
Reston, VA.

1981
Brian & Lorene (Muthiah ‘84)
Coffey are the proud parents
of Cannaan Joseph born July
9. Siblings are Jordan (7),
Jesse (5), and Micah (2).
Brian is senior pastor at First
Baptist Church, Geneva, IL.
Lorene is a stay-at-home
mom and is involved in
church activities. The family
lives at 625 Winnebago Tr,
Batavia, IL 60510. ● Jim &
Kathy (Kuechenberg)
Mozdzen & their children
Daniel (10) and Kelly (8)
announce the adoption of
Grace Anne Han-Xi. Grace
was born June 2, 1995 in
Wuhan, China and was
placed in their arms October
30, 1995. The Mozdzens are
now in the process of
completing their 2nd adop-
tion from China and hope to
be bringing home their new
little one (Sarah Faith)
sometime in early ‘98. The
family lives at 7N182 Barb
Hill Dr, St Charles, IL 60175.

1982
Kevin & Deana Dayton are
the proud parents of Spencer
Lee born June 25. Spencer
joins siblings Darcy (5) and
Heidi (3). Kevin is employed
as a systems analyst by
Amway Corp. The family
lives at 4532 Chandler Dr,
Hudsonville, MI 49426. ●
Mark & Kim (Ramsland ‘83)
Mentzer have relocated to
Missouri after Mark assumed
the position of National Sales
Mgr for Landau Boat Co.
Landau manufactures
aluminum boats distributed
nationwide and into both
Canada and Mexico. The
couple & 4 sons live at
20701 Cole Rd, Lebanon,
MO 65536. ● Mark Sumney
is dir of the Institute of
Extended Learning at Taylor
Ft Wayne. Previously he
worked at Fort Wayne
Newspapers, Zondervan
Publishing House and
Benson Music Group. He &
wife Tracy have 3 children:
Jonathan (6) and twins Emily
and Caleb (22 mos.). Their
address is 6303 Brandonwood
Ln, Ft Wayne, IN 46835-2534.

1983
Don & Kelly (Aho x’84)
Granitz have moved to
Brazil for at least 3 yrs. Their
address is Rua Michigan,
719 - Jarbim Quebec 86060-
140, Londrina, Parana,
Brazil. Children are
Courtland Lee (2), Devin (3)
and Brittany (6). Their email
is kgldsercomtel.com.br.

1984
Mike & Pam Chupp are
missionaries with World
Gospel Mission serving at
Tenwek Hospital in western
Kenya. Since June Mike has
been medical superintendent
for the hospital (300-bed
institution). Their children are
Steven (4) and Melody (2).
He invites medical alumni to
get in touch with them via
email at tenwek@maf.org.
Mike would love to talk about
how alumni can volunteer for
Cancer survivors successful in McKinley climb

The crew assembled, performed safety checks, and prepared for the rugged weeks that lay ahead in their attempt to scale the tallest peak on the North American continent—Denali (Mt. McKinley), rising above a veiled shroud at 20,320 feet above sea level. More than two years of preparation and study had consumed the lives of Bob ’81 and Mary Ellen Summer as they sought to organize a team of cancer survivors to summit the mountain. Their purpose: to raise funds for research and camps for children suffering from cancer. A survivor himself, Bob was motivated to do something that would bring hope to others afflicted with the disease. Bob and Mary Ellen were not sure whether they could attain both their physical goal of reaching the summit and their financial goal of raising $100,000. To assist in the process, the couple formed a nonprofit organization, Cancer Survivors on McKinley. But finally, the day had arrived, and the dream was coming to fruition.

“Our first team member to arrive in Alaska, on June 5, was Walter Murch,” Bob shares. “We met the others in Anchorage before driving to Talkeetna and meeting our guides on June 10. Our scheduled flight in single engine ski-equipped planes to Kahiltna Glacier the following morning was possible due to extremely cooperative weather. We walked to the airstrip in Talkeetna with Denali in the distance. After we had said our goodbyes, we were on our way; over two years of planning had finally come together.

“The good weather that day continued. Everyone was in great spirits as we established our base camp, though a sobering event unfolded as the Llama high altitude helicopter landed at the base camp. A ranger was suspended underneath from a 50 foot cable, trying to recover the body of a climber who had died on Mount Hunter. On the second flight, two bodies were suspended from the helicopter. The bodies of both the ranger and climber were gently lowered to the base camp, reminding us all that there was a real danger beyond the beauty and wonder of this place. Even so, we began our ascent up the West Buttress of Denali.

“Every team member made the summit,” Bob continues. “There were no injuries, everyone got along, and the weather was unbelievable—so perfect that we were able to stay on the summit for about 45 minutes.” Bob had reached his personal goal as four cancer survivors held the flags of eight camps for children. “I thank God that we were able to reach our goal,” Bob says.

Bob and Mary Ellen hosted a final fundraiser toward their goal on October 18, in which they sought to auction off the equipment donated for the climb. Through this effort they were able to surpass their financial goal of $100,000. Also on the team was Bob’s brother, Tom Summer. Bob and Mary Ellen live in Soldotna, Alaska, with their three daughters: Jessica (10), Rebekah (9) and Danika (7).
Lisa (Walter ’89) Baird, David Baird ’87, and Mark Syswerda ’93. Brian is chief economist at Griffin, Kubik, Stephens & Thompson (investment banking) in Chicago and Brenda is a vice president at Fidelity Capital Markets. They live in Glenview, IL. • Michael & Cheri (Griesmeyer) Brady are the proud parents of Karina Marie born Sept 25. Brother Justin is 2. The family lives at 4301 Lamont Dr, Kettering, OH 45429. • Mark & Judy Cornfield proudly welcome Jacob Earl born Oct 27. They reside at 64 W 5th St, Corning, NY 14830. • Stephen & Christine (McDowell) Golden joyfully announce the adoption of John William. John was born on Oct 16, 1996. John’s adoption is the result of many people’s prayers, especially their niece, 11-yr-old Amanda, whose childlike faith and steadfastness in prayer led John miraculously to Chris & Steve. Christine left her position as public info officer with the NY State Dept of Taxation and Finance to become a full-time mom. The Goldens live at 1301 Park Blvd, Troy, NY 12180. • Paul & Allison Harris announce the birth of Olivia Louise on March 11. Paul is working on his PsyD and Allison did research for the Univ of Chicago. They have moved for Paul’s internship at Vanderbilt Univ. They look forward to hearing from Taylor friends! Their address is 2000 24th Ave S, Apt #18, Nashville, IN 37212. • Ione Locker and Jimmie Friedly were married on June 1, 1996. Sharon (Locker ’83) Augsburger was the maid of honor. Jim’s 2 sons, Justin (21) and Jarret (17) were his best men. Jim owns his own veterinary practice and Ione works for Kaman Sciences Corp as a test supervisor for the communication systems in Cheyenne Mt/NORAD. Her email is friedly-cos3@kaman.com. They were married Mountain Man style, circa 1850’s, as Jim is very involved in rendezvous, muzzle loading, and black powder shooting. • Darrell & Susan (Vinton) Stone joyfully announce the birth of Lauren Rose on Sept 8. Siblings are Darrell III (8), David (6) and Gregory (4). Darrell is a regional mgr with Standard & Poor’s and Susan enjoys staying at home with the children. Their address is 4 Francine Pl, Millington, NJ 07946. • Kimberly (Zehr) Wells has been named exec dir of the Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence. The CAEPV was founded by State Farm Ins in May 1995, as an independent not-for-profit entity focusing on the prevention of domestic violence.

1986

Jon & Kenda Campbell are the proud parents of Kamryn Jordyn born Oct 11. Brother Ryan is 1. The family lives at 6436 Midfield Dr, Ft Wayne, IN 46815. • Cheryl (Franklin) Davis and sons Jordan (9) and Tristan (6) reside at 7160 N Layman Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46250. Cheryl has gone back to teaching now that the boys are in school full time. • Diane Laffoon is dir of ministry for Genesee Area YFC in Flint, MI. For the past 6 yrs she had been HS ministry dir for Miami YFC. She now lives at 5679 Lakeview Dr, Perry, MI 48872. Her email is DiLaff1201@aol.com. • Marine Capt Steve Newman recently participated in training exercises while on a 6-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian oceans with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit. • Todd & Susan (Miller) Raisch have moved to 2356 Pembroke Ct, Mahwah, NJ 07430. Todd remains golf course superintendent at The Ridgewood Country Club and Susan has started her own Creative Memories consulting business. • Jeff Raymond has been named sports information dir at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. He had worked in the TU athletic dept since 1991. Jeff & wife Deborah live at 2070 E Valley Rd, Montecito, CA 93108. • After teaching art and Spanish in MN, Kristen Thorn spent the last 5 yrs serving with TEAM at an MK school in Venezuela, teaching art, piano, yearbook and math. She’s excited about returning to Venezuela (after an extended furlough to deal with a TMJ problem) because she is returning to a new ministry with a church planting team. Her main responsibilities will be in the areas of music, evangelism and teaching English. She can be reached at Apdo 077, Barquisimeto, Lara, 3001-, Venezuela or email at 75127.1110@compuserve.com.

1987

Dan & Kris (Leffingwell) Chilcott joyfully announce the birth of Elizabeth Ann on July 2. Brothers are Jonathon (6), Andrew (4), and Trey (2). The family lives at 419 W 350 N, Sharpsville, IN 46068. • Richard Frieder has taken a position as program mgr at Deluxe Corp. He & wife Adele (Heinrich x’89) have 2 daughters, Emily (6) and Elisa (4). They live in the Twin Cities area. • Dave & Elizabeth (Dowden) Straley are proud to announce the birth of Catherine Anne on June 9. She was welcomed home by Christopher (6), Allyson (4) and Nicole (2). The Straleys reside at 8136 Quincy Ct, Ft Wayne, IN 46835. • James & Jodi (Williamson) Worth are the proud parents of Ezekiel James born Aug 19. Sister Devin is 2. The family lives at 163 Hedges St, Marietta, GA 30060.

1988

Mark Brown was invited to join the Moot Court Board at the Univ of Wisconsin Law School. In the spring competition he was voted as giving the best oral arguments. Mark is a 3rd yr law student. He & wife Sonya (Merrill ’90) reside at 1023A S Sunny Vale Ln, Madison, WI 53713. • Michael & Kimberly Stephens Brown proudly announce the birth of twin boys Aaron Stewart and Jordan Cain on Aug 12. Brother Graham is 2. Michael is a land use planner and Kimberly is dir of counseling at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. The family resides at 1014 S 2nd St, St Charles, IL 60174. • Nancy (Crum) Fortenberry lives at 780 Smalls Ferry Rd, Enon Valley, PA 16120. • Darren x & Daisy Groves joyfully announce the birth of Abram Alexander on Oct 4. Their family lives at 1213 E Corrington, Peoria, IL 61603. • Steve & Lisa (Stephan ’87) Halloon proudly announce the birth of Jacob Steven on Aug 5. Their address is 666 Charter Hall Dr, Palatine, IL 60067. • Doug & Anna (Huyett x)
Kelley are the proud parents of Caleb Isaac born July 15. Siblings are Jeremy (5) and Whitney (3). The Kelleys' new address is 3235 Rathbun, Birch Run, MI 48415. Scott & Tammy (King) Ooley joyfully welcome Carissa Breanne born May 29. Brother Jordan is 3. They live at 671 Springmill Dr, Mooresville, IN 46158. Michael Truax lives at 103 Carriage View Dr, Wildwood, MO 63040. His email is Michael.Truax@frucon.com.

1989
Jay & Wendy (Carlson '90) Dellis proudly welcomed Stefan James into their lives on Aug 14. He was born in Romania on Dec 28, 1993. They live at 6833 James Ave S, Richfield, MN 55423. Email is jaydellis@msn.com. Jay Hubbard received his MBA from IU in May. He & wife Kelly moved back to Wheaton, IL where they will temporarily reside until their new home is completed in West Chicago. Jay is marketing mgr for Tour Edge Golf, a custom-fit, golf club manufacturer. Believe it or not, he gets paid to play golf! Kelly works for a computer consulting firm. Steven & Deb (Smith) O'Keefe are the proud parents of Victoria Rose born April 30. Gabriel is 2. They reside at 2717 Longwood Ct, Ft Wayne, IN 46845.

1990
Jacki Belle is dir of promotion and program development at The Institute for World Spirituality, an organization dedicated to interfaith cooperation on solving local and global problems. Her address is 6346 N Wayne #3, Chicago, IL 60660. Email is KiDove@worldspirit.org. Wally & Laura (Bernd '93) Campbell are foster parents at Boys Hope boys home. They live at 823 Gaffield Pl, Evanston, IL 60201. Terry & Elaine (Thayer) Johnson announce the birth of Alison Kate on Nov 27, 1996. Brother Taylor is 5. Terry is a 2nd gr tch & Elaine is proud to be a stay-at-home mom. Their address is 1556 Shady Ln #106, Bedford, TX 76021. Brian & Marcia (Diller) Motter joyfully announce the birth of Paul Everett on Aug 11. They live at 105 Bowman Ct, Englewood, OH 45322. Chris & Heather (Miller) White and son Teddy have moved to 4 Little Oak Ct, O'Fallon, MO 63366.

1991
John & Susan Hein proudly announce the birth of John David Hein, Jr. on July 29. John continues with the legal dept at Brotherhood Mutual Ins. Their address is 1109 Lynn Ave, Ft Wayne, IN 46805. Susanne (Peterson) Kelly is a franchise jazzercise instructor. She is also serving a 2-yr term on the governing board of The Music and Drama Co. In their spare time, Susanne & husband Ed keep busy acting, singing and dancing in local theater productions. Their well-loved pets include Pembroke Welsh Corgis Lady Boxcar and her son Skipper. The Kellys live at 25 Judy Dr, Londonderry, NH 03053-2919. Daniel & AnnJanette (Cyper) McCorkle are serving a 2-yr term as missionaries in Sydney, Australia, with Campus Crusade for Christ. They are doing evangelism and discipleship with students at Sydney Univ. Their address is Unit 2, 105 Smith St, Summer Hill, NSW 2130 Australia. Cara Meinert married John Langford on June 7. TU participants were Marcy Bremneman, Jill Faber, Amy Meinert '00, and Ivy Barnhart. John works at Lipsome Manufacturing Co as a chemical engineer and Cara, after teaching HS science for 3 yrs, is now employed at IU Med Center as a research technician in a pulmonary lab. Their address is 6873 Walnut Bend Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46254. Debbie Miller and Adrian Chan were married in Dec 1996. Adrian teaches 4th gr and Debbie tutors students from the int'l schools. She also volunteers with Young Life. Their address is Bk 480 Jurong West St 41, #05-308, Singapore 640480. Todd & Dara (Stickel) Syswerda are thrilled to be back at Taylor! Todd is serving as a prof in the music dept this yr. Their address is 500 W Reade Ave, Upland, IN 46989.

1992
Jeff Bennett earned his DDS in May 1996 and is practicing dentistry at Dental Care, Inc. His address is 1212 W Carter, Kokomo, IN 46901. Aaron & Kristi (Brown) Gonzalez are the proud parents of Gabriel Aaron born Jan 24. They reside in Cedar Falls, IA, where Aaron administers Agape Christian School and Kristi works part-time as a family practice physician asst. Peter & Jamie (Costas '81) Carlson announce the birth of Gabrielle Grace on Feb 8. The couple is serving as missionaries among the refugees in Athens, Greece. They've made a 2-yr commitment, and are open to being career missionaries there as the Lord leads. They are with Int'l Teams. Email address is PJGCarlson@compuserve.com. They would love to hear from you! Paul Lugauer's address is PO Box 8841, Keystone, CO 80435. Email is plugauer@usa.net. Mike McGee married Tricia Rau in Greenwood, IN on May 10. Ken
Crabb x was in the wedding. Mike works for American United Life. The couple lives at 157-K Love Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46142. In Aug, Sarah Powell completed an MS at Mankato State Univ in experiential ed. She is adventure coordinator at Wolf Mountain Conference Assoc in Grass Valley, CA. Her address is 16555 Jericho Rd, Grass Valley, CA 95946. Email is sarahep@leo.net. Jennifer Price is asst women’s basketball coach at San Diego State Univ. Previously she worked at North Carolina State as an asst for their women’s team. Her address is 5666 Amaya Dr #198, La Mesa, CA 91942. Her email is jprce@email.sdsu.edu. After 4 yrs teaching middle school social studies at Roosevelt Intl School in Lima, Peru, Doug Woodward is computer coordinator at the American Community School in Amman, Jordan. His address is ACS c/o US Embassy, Amman, Jordan.

1993

Tim Cheung is an animator for Pacific Data Images in Palo Alto, CA. He is working on Ants, a full-length computer animation from DreamWorks and PDI, and has completed his second short animated film. Ted & Nicole (Davis) Diffin have 2 children, Virginia (3) and William (2). Nicole loves being a mother and watching her children grow and change all the time. Their address is PO Box 835, Dublin, PA 18917. Amy Heck and Loren Benner were married on June 7. Loren is a senior accountant at Brown & Shielitz and Amy is exec dir of House of His Creation, a ministry serving pregnant and parenting teenagers. The couple’s address is 201 Church St, Landisville, PA 17538. Ivan & Siang-Ju Lee live at 21-E Mandalay Ville, Mandalay Rd, Singapore 308208. Marci Sloat married Mark Reschke on July 26 in Portland, OR. TU participants were Amy (Ireton) Rose, Jene (Shuler) Tutton, Stacie Shopp, Kevin Sloat ’90, and Beth Parker-Sloat ’91. Marci teaches 5th grade and Mark works at Tektronix. Come visit them in the beautiful Northwest anytime. They would love to hear from you! Email is edward@pop.integrityonline.com. Their address is 10986 SW Durham, Tigard, OR 97223.

David & Anne Chamberlin have moved to 1611A N Van Dorn St, Alexandria, VA 22304. David is an assoc in the media practice at Burson-Marsteller. Email is dchamberlin@bigfoot.com.

1994

Jeff Dillon is working on an MBA at Vanderbilt Univ. He & wife Cynthia live at 1410 25th Ave S Apt 904, Nashville, TN 37212. Anne Elifson married Tim Saalfrank on Aug 17, 1996 in Wheaton, IL. TU participants were Jennifer West, Margo Horsey, Nicole (Aschliman) Schrock, Julie Shinabery, Kaie Robertson, Chad Beck x, and Kevin Diller ’93. They reside at 8213 Bridgeway Cir Apt 2B, Ft Wayne, IN 46816. Tim teaches middle school and Anne is a medical social worker. Joel & Julianna (Gurley ’95) Fletcher are living at 3 Lindburgh Dr, Waynesboro, VA 22980. Joel is working as the asst controller at Neuman USA, Ltd. Neuman is an aluminum packaging manufacturin- branch of Neuman Austria. Julianna just resigned her position as an admin asst due to the upcoming birth of their first child!

Stephen Gah is out of the army and is working in AMD as an analyst programmer. His address is 24-A Jalan Pari Burong, Singapore 488691. Email is stephen.gah@amd.com. Juliana Higgins lives at 1101 Broadridge Ln, St Peters, MO 63376. Email is pedagogue@ aol.com.

Nelson Kefauver is employed by Reusch Intl, which does foreign currency exchange for companies that do business overseas. Previously he was in the army, mainly in Germany as part of Operation Joint Endeavor supporting the forces in Bosnia. His address is 3941 N Pine Grove Ave, Chicago, IL 60613. Jason Mucher is media specialist and sports info dir at Houghton College. His address is 7464 Centerville Rd Apt 2, Houghton, NY 14744. Email is jmucher@houghton.edu. Jeff Ramsdale has moved to 223 E Jackson #21, Muncie, IN 47305. His email is jtr@ontario.com. Brent & Anne Elise (Larsen) Rudin have moved to 8829 Castle Hill Dr NE, Rockford, MI 49341. Brent is asst dir of admissions at Cornerstone College. AnnElise is the social worker at Heritage Healthcare Centre. Jackie Sevier married Kurt Magnus on June 28 in Columbia City, IN. TU participants were Chris (DePlante ’95) Westrum, Scott Westrum ’96, Jennie Halukasa ’97, and Kari Nelson x’95. The couple now lives at #204, 335 Saddleback Rd, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6J 4M5. Email is kmagnus@ gpu.srv.ualberta.ca. Jeff & Kristin (Collwell x’93) Shupe are the proud parents of Colwell Samuel born Aug 25. The family lives at 75 Atterbury Blvd #303, Hudson, OH 44236. Heather Snowden married John Patrick Timmons on June 14. Heather is working on a master’s degree in secondary special ed, behavioral/emotional disor-
ders and John is teaching and working on a master’s degree in music ed. The couple resides at 2894 Shelly Ln, Aurora, IL 60504. ● Karen Stafford married Chris Thornton ’95 on June 15, 1996 in Chambersburg, PA. TU participants were Brianna (Thompson) Wasson, Eric Tower ’96, and Jim Spiegel (faculty member). The couple lives at 212 N Oak Park Ave #1DD, Oak Park, IL 60302. Email is christthornton@hotmail.com. ● Amy Stewart graduated with an MA in counseling from Asbury Theol Sem in May. She is working at Moody Bible Institute as a counselor. She would love to connect with anyone in the area or stopping through! Her address is 38 W Harrison #2, Oak Park, IL 60304. Email is arstewar@moody.edu. ● Brianna Thompson married Andrew Wasson on Aug 31, 1996 in Akron, OH. TU participants were Cassandra (Thompson ’91) Coggburn, Karen (Stafford) Thornton, and Robin (Niedermeyer) Holland. Andrew works for the Akron Brass Co as a mechanical engineer. Brianna is an intern at The Chapel in the college ministry dept while she finishes her MA in Religion as an extension student of Trinity Intl Univ. They live at 1036 Blossom Dr, Akron, OH 44319.

1995
Joyce Dotson and Jeffery David Lopes were married on Feb 15 in Parma, OH. They reside at 91-889 Puamoaole Apt 8C, Ewa Beach, HA 96706. ● Mark Goddard is a software engineer for Third Planet Publishing. His address is 18800 Lina St Apt 703, Dallas, TX 75287. Email is mgoddard@cyberramp.net. ● Kristin Kroehler has moved to 315 Lake Ave Apt 2B, Hendersonville, NC 28739. She is a licensed funeral dir and dir of aftercare and public relations for Thos Shepherd & Son funeral directors. ● Krista Schrader and Jim Pope ’96 were married on July 5. Nicole Swihart, Leanne Puls, Hollie (Shearer) Parker, Matt Moulton, Allison (Horsey ’94) Cochran, Chris Holtman ’96, Matt Wallace ’96, Ben Waymouth ’96, and Marty Beasley ’93 participated in the wedding. The couple’s address is 1426 S Raber Rd, Columbia City, IN 46725. ● Nathan & Amy (Torode) Smith live at 610 Arcadia Ter #106, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Email is smitty24@webtv.net. ● Peter & Diana (Molloy) Van Der Noord joyfully announce the birth of Harrison Paul born April 28. Pete is the chief financial officer for America Holdings Corp and Diana is a stay-at-home mom. The family lives at 928 16th St W, Bradenton, FL 34205. ● Sara (Brown) Waddell accepted a position in the career planning dept for Mid Plains Community College. She also spent 2 weeks in Bugulma, Tatarstan last summer ministering in the Russian community. She & husband Jerry live at 1906 Birchwood Rd, North Platte, NE 69101.

1996
Joseph Balluck, Jr. lives at 2421 N Bell Ave #201, Denton, TX 76201. Email is u_braendel@venus.twu.edu. ● Becky Delzer married Andy Peterson ’95 on Sept 21 in Valparaiso, IN. TU participants were Ben Delzer, Jodi (Simons) Mulder, Alissa Peterson, Elizabeth (Dalton) Jefferson, Traci Tiberi, Mike Styer ’95, and Mike Falder ’94. The Petersen’s reside in Nashville, TN. ● Todd & Rose (Cross ’94) Horton live at 513 Brentwood Oaks Dr, Nashville, TN 37211. Todd is part-time youth dir at a church in Nolensville. He will be starting seminary classes in Jan. Rose is admin asst for 3 ministers at First Baptist Church in Franklin. They love having company and are just off the highway as you travel to Florida! ● Rachel Jarvis and Steve Wood were married on Aug 16. TU participants were Angie (Sagers) Rowley, Dawn Mcllvain, John Bastian ’98, Jon Baker ’98, and Mark Adams ’97. Their address is 12531 Portland Ave #410, Burnsville, MN 55337. ● Katherine Ledingham married Jamie Johnson on June 29, 1996. TU participants were Carrie Abert and Jenny (Cooper ’94) Ridner. Katherine teaches at Harbor Light Christian School. They reside at 619 Elizabeth St,
Alumnus seeks to encourage men through counsel

When Kenyon Christian Knapp '92 entered Taylor as a freshman in 1988, he intended to pursue a degree in computer science. In the years that followed, however, he discovered he had a love for counseling. He dreams of a day when he will have his own counseling center with a team of co-workers.

Knapp’s dreams may yet come true, but for now God has led him to be a key player in a pioneering ministry of the American Family Association’s (AFA) Outreach Division, which was created in 1993 as a ministry to men.

Through AFA Outreach, Knapp’s activities include organizing and coordinating men’s and couples’ workshops, writing for the Division’s Encourager newsletter, and traveling to conferences as a representative of AFA.

A typical men’s workshop begins on a Wednesday evening when 12 to 16 participants arrive in Tupelo, Mississippi, home to the ministry. The workshop staff members include professionals and counselors in addition to AFA’s full-time staff. For the next four days the group participates in lectures, personal journaling and group counseling sessions.

Knapp’s passion for his work is evident. “I can say with confidence that hundreds of men have already been helped by the ministry,” he says. “I have seen marriages restored where divorce papers were already filed and delivered. I’ve seen grown men cry because, for the first time in their lives, they were experiencing true friendship, forgiveness and acceptance.”

Knapp would have likely pursued a different course in life had it not been for the psychology class he took as a Taylor sophomore which grabbed his interest. Through that class, he knew he had found his niche. Following his Taylor education, Knapp signed on as a social worker at a Christian orphanage in North Carolina for two years. “It was a rewarding experience,” he recalls. “I see God’s hand in it now. I did a lot of unofficial counseling every day with the kids. At that point, I knew I wanted to go into counseling.”

Knapp pursued graduate studies at Georgia State University while simultaneously earning a diploma in Christian counseling from Psychological Studies Institute. In January 1997, he began his Ph.D. studies at the University of Mississippi.—Randall Murphy, editor of American Family Association Journal

Winter 1998 / TAYLOR 31
Dear Miss Abbey

Iris Abbey ’15 entered Taylor University as a freshman in 1911. There were no paved roads on campus; Sickler Hall was not yet a landmark; fields and farms covered the area that now boasts the Nussbaum Science Center, Wengatz Hall, and the Zondervan Library. For the past several years, Iris had often been referred to as Taylor’s oldest living alum. On May 14, however, she passed away after 104 years of life on this earth.

Miss Abbey, as she was affectionately known, was born September 7, 1892, one year before Taylor University moved to Upland. She lived most of her life in the same house, located at 126 West Wright Avenue. Hers was a family rich in the Taylor tradition. Her father, Merritt O. Abbey, was head of the school’s maintenance department. He supervised, among other projects, the construction of Swallow Robin Hall. Iris’ aunt, Sadie Miller ’10, taught piano at Taylor from 1910 to 1948. Sister Eloise ’24 married George Fenstermacher ’22, who taught German and violin at Taylor and was dean of men from 1935 to 1944.

Iris lived during extraordinary times in world history. She lived during the administrations of 19 U. S. presidents beginning with Benjamin Harrison; in her lifetime the U. S. experienced the Spanish-American War, the First and Second World Wars, the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam and the war with Iraq; she saw the rise and fall of the Soviet Union, and the building and tearing down of the Berlin Wall. “I think the time I have lived has been the most interesting time for the nation,” she said in an article appearing in Taylor Magazine (spring 1992), “There were so many inventions, so many changes.” She remembers the turn of the century (“People made such a fuss about it”), and her first car ride—all of a quarter mile in length (“We never made it to the top of the hill”).

Miss Abbey was a courageous woman with an independent spirit. She pursued an education at a time when women were not especially encouraged to do so. “My mother was so proud of me when I finished high school,” she once said. “In those days, that wasn’t so popular.” Iris was the first Taylor student to give a piano recital in the newly-constructed Helena Memorial Music Hall, in 1912 (the photograph on the right was taken following that recital). Having never married, she devoted her life to teaching until her retirement in 1965. With fond memories, we dedicate this issue in memory of Iris Abbey.
Come home to Morris Hall one last time

Former and current Morris Hall residents, be sure to set aside the weekend of May 29-30, 1998. Don’t miss this opportunity to share good times with old friends on this very special weekend.

You will be among the first to tour the new Samuel Morris Hall as well as one of the last to visit your own former residence hall before its dismantling. It just wouldn’t be the same without you here to help us usher in a new era in the Samuel Morris legacy. For more details please call Joyce Wood at 1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5117.

Morris Hall Reunion
May 29-30, 1998

Your Presence is Requested