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Vegetables for the 21st Century
Hopeful anticipation of a future in God’s hands

As a small boy I began to calculate the probabilities of whether I would live to see the year 2000. For some reason, I’ve always been part of the group in the general population who thought such thoughts as, “I’ll bet I’ll die before my birthday and miss my cake and presents.” For whatever reason, I became used to adjusting to disappointments and the answer, “no.” Given this proclivity, I should be a sitting duck for the doomsayers, prophecy buffs and Y2K alarmists. Strangely, I’m not. In fact this last week three books came across my desk and I, for various reasons, felt obligated to read them because in each case I know the author and feared each would be disappointed if I had no opinion.

The first was titled “Beyond the End Times,” by John Noe. The author is a member of the International Preterist Association, an organization dedicated to challenging the date setters, prophecy faddists, prophecy cults and what they consider erroneous interpretations of prophetic and historic texts in the Bible. They convincingly emphasize the “World Without End, Amen” promise.

The second book came from Chuck Swindoll and various members of the Dallas Seminary faculty. The first chapter, by Swindoll, sets the tone with caution and an emphasis on preparedness and obedience. The rest of the book is more theological and technical with the predictable and familiar themes of Dallas theology. It is moderate and generally the theology of many, if not most, evangelicals and is presented with humility and pastoral concern.

The third book, by longtime friend Dr. Richard Swenson, M.D., who after writing best-selling “Margins” and “The Overload Syndrome” sent me the ominous-sounding “Hurling Toward Oblivion.” Dr. Swenson projects the vectors of population, disease, sin, natural disaster, war, etc. and concludes using mathematical models, exponential growth, history and probabilities to develop “a logical argument for the end of the age.” Just as a matter of curiosity I scanned my bookshelves and found a seemingly disproportionate number of titles on the end-time theme. Most Christian publishers, many secular ones and a broad range of authors from Billy Graham to Robert Bork have taken up the cudgel.

Why then am I not alarmed? Perhaps my circuits are overloaded. Certainly I have an excuse for withdrawal in that I receive daily e-mail from a prophecy junkie which I dutifully read lest I miss something really new. Anyway . . .

Here I am involved up to my eyebrows in the future, investing all my energies in youth and their hopes and dreams. We are daily planning, building facilities, revising, tweaking, innovating, hoping, projecting — all activities that believe in the future. How and why do we do it in light of all of the prognosticators, warnings, handwringing and publishing? For me, and I suspect most Taylor-type evangelicals, the old advice seems a good way. “Live as if Christ came yesterday, is alive today and coming again tomorrow.” I read the books, listen to the commentary, weigh the arguments and acknowledge that most have something of value to say though I may not want a whole meal of their making.

Certainly on an individual basis mortality is a reality and in the larger sense we believe that God created the cosmos. We can face the future with its anticipations, dreams, dangers, promises and pitfalls because of our faith. It certainly seems to be a tragic irony that so many Christians are first to join the alarmist bandwagon and cry, “wolf.” In the meantime, the watching world is losing faith in the central message of the Church and credibility is being forfeited.

I hope this issue of the Taylor magazine fills you with hopeful anticipation of a future in God’s hands, while realizing that there are dangers and avoidable negative outcomes for the prudent and prepared. Somehow one of my favorite quotes seems an appropriate ending.

From Garrison Keillor’s “We Are Still Married”:

To know and to serve God, of course, is why we’re here, a clear truth that, like the nose on your face, is near at hand and easily discernable, but can make you dizzy if you try to focus on it too hard. But a little faith will see you through. What else will do except faith in such a cynical, corrupt time? When the country goes temporarily to the dogs, cats must learn to be circumspect, walk on fences, sleep in trees and have faith that all this wooling is not the last word.

Even so . . . Come Lord Jesus.

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ON THE COVER—Taylor graduate Scott Nelson found himself on top of the world in the Windy City, where he works for Big Idea, Inc., the creators of VeggieTales.
Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."

Hebrews 12:28-29

Flames from the annual prairie burn, depicted in the numerals above, are a reminder of God's work on Taylor's campus. The fire is set each year to consume the dead weeds and grasses, allowing the living plants to develop deeper roots. Like this prairie, Taylor University has experienced a time of refinement - of growing deeper, stronger roots. This photographic look at the '90s offers a reminder of the people and events that have been part of God's refining hand on Taylor University.
The Sesquicentennial Pageant was the highlight of Taylor's 150th year celebration in 1996. Notable attendees included descendents of Bishop William Taylor, and Charles Colson, president of Prison Fellowship Ministries.

The 1993 ribbon-cutting ceremony at the grand opening of Taylor University Fort Wayne marked the return of the institution to the state's second largest city.

One of the more visible reminders of the Taylor Tomorrow Capital Campaign is the presence of the new Samuel Morris Residence Hall, the third building to be named for the nineteenth-century disciple and Taylor student. The '90s saw the completion of Taylor's first successful capital campaign, raising $8.8 million, and the launch of a second, more ambitious campaign, with a $75 million goal.
The combined leadership of President Jay Kesler '58 (left) and Provost Daryl Yost HA '96 (right) guided the University through a decade of growth and refinement. Under their watch the University developed an international reputation as a Christian institution pursuing academic excellence and nurturing the spiritual development of students and staff members alike.

Taylor senior Joel Sonnenberg captured the hearts of Taylor University and the nation as CBS correspondent Carol Marin, of Public Eye With Bryant Gumble, visited the Upland campus. Sonnenberg, who was severely burned over 88 percent of his body as a toddler, used the opportunity to speak about forgiveness and the work of the Holy Spirit in his own life.

Few have touched the hearts of the Taylor community the way Jere Truex '68, pictured here with his mother Maxine Sanders, did. Combining humor with his deep spiritual walk, Jere once said he would rather be a quadriplegic walking with the Lord than an able-bodied person who did not know Christ. His death in 1996 came more than four decades after he was stricken with polio as a child.

The Upland physics department got a boost into outer space with the addition of Hank Voss as researcher and faculty member. Voss, pictured here with student Robert Fox '02, initiated Taylor's work with NASA and oversaw the building of the first Taylor solar-powered car. His presence is one indication of Taylor's growing ability to attract international scholars.
The Taylor Trojans football team made their first post-season tournament appearance ever, closing the 1998 season with their best record in recent years. Team member Jon Jenkins '00 contributed to the success with this rush for a touchdown.

Arguably the fastest man to ever don a Taylor uniform, Murage Njoroge '97 set numerous school records and won individual national championships while leading the track and cross country teams to unprecedented success.

As Desert Storm raged in the Middle East, the Taylor men's basketball team stormed Kansas City en route to their first-ever Final Four appearance. Ty Platt '92, pictured here, shoots in traffic against the Northern State Wolves.

Natalie Steele '98, an athlete, scholar and Christian leader, embraced excellence in every facet of life during her four years at Taylor. While winning multiple All-American awards in volleyball and basketball, Steele led both teams to conference championships and national tournament appearances.
French peas have replaced flannel board characters as the top way to teach children the story of Joshua and the walls of Jericho. The peas, with their thick French accents and bad attitudes, mock the Israelites in “Josh and the Big Wall!,” a 30-minute cartoon starring a tomato, a cucumber and an asparagus as the people of God.
The video is one in a 12-part VeggieTales series, a production of Big Idea, Inc. – the company that has children asking for their vegetables. Big Idea is quickly positioning itself as a media mogul, producing quality animated videos that teach biblical messages – “Sunday morning values, Saturday morning fun.”

The company, which began with a borrowed budget of $250,000 and three employees in an unheated Chicago storefront, now employs over 100. Almost 11 million videos have been sold, and major toy manufacturers and clothing companies are bargaining for a piece of the veggie garden.

When “Very Silly Songs,” a collection of comical tunes, was released to the general market, it flew to the number one position of all non-theatrical children’s videos in just two weeks. At the same time, VeggieTales videos held the top 10 video positions in the Christian market.

Creator Phil Vischer’s goal is to make his company one of the top five family media outlets. To do this, Big Idea is matching its vegetables against Disney, along with other names like Nickelodeon, Fox Kids and Henson. It is an ambitious goal for a company that lives by the words of one animated asparagus named Junior: “God’s way is the best way!”

God’s way led two Taylor graduates, Scott Nelson ’96 and Tim Toll ’99, to careers built on the backs of a talking tomato and his sidekick cucumber. Scott, who graduated with a degree in computer science and artificial intelligence, left Upland to work for a consulting firm in Chicago. He enjoyed the technical aspect of his work, but longed to incorporate his skills with a ministry. His dream job, he told a friend in casual conversation, would be Big Idea.

Three days later he ran into a friend who knew someone at Big Idea; just a few days after that the company had his résumé. He toured the offices and talked “tech” with other Big Idea employees. But no job offer came from the company. “God was teaching me to dream bigger and be patient,” Scott says. “Then He suddenly started putting the pieces in place.”

While on a consulting job in Detroit, Scott checked his voice mail and got the message that Big Idea was hiring. Within a week, Scott had an offer.

“I’m working at a dream job,” he says. “It started as a whim, and then it came true.”

With one Taylor graduate on the inside track at VeggieTales, another was sure to follow. But even before Tim knew of his fellow Trojan inside the walls of the vegetable kingdom, he had set his sights on a position with Big Idea.

“I knew I had wanted to work there since I was a sophomore [at Taylor],” Tim says. “I saw the opportunities they offered, the mission they stood for and the quality of their videos, and I decided they were my top choice.”

Waiting for his number one choice took patience – applying required four interviews at VeggieTales headquarters – but the wait was well worth it. “I’m convinced I was being prepared to take this position,” Tim says. His Taylor education in computer graphics gave him firsthand experience with the programs and systems he uses at Big Idea.

That’s not surprising, says Dr. Timothy Diller ’62, head of Taylor’s computer system sciences department. Recruiters from major firms often target Taylor students as future employees and have found them well prepared for entering the workforce. In fact, the last year 85 percent of Taylor computer science students completing practicums had job offers before returning for their senior year. Tim, who held out for the Big Idea position, was the last of his classmates to accept a position.

Scott and Tim oversee the rendering process, which is the technological equivalent of making a tossed salad from tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots and peas. The rendering process takes animation, special effects and modeling, and combines the individual elements to create the final frame – a split-second shot of what viewers actually see on the videos.

In VeggieTales videos, there are 30 frames a second, for a total of 50,000 frames per show. Each computer can render one frame every six minutes – that’s one second’s worth of video every 90 minutes. Left on its
own, a single computer would take seven months to render an entire 30-minute video. Fortunately for VeggieTales fans, Scott and Tim operate multiple computers that complete the rendering process in a much shorter period of time.

Their work also involves adapting industry standard software programs to meet the demands of VeggieTales artists. Big Idea uses the same animation software as George Lucas used for special effects in the recently released episode of Star Wars, although Tim notes it is hard to compare tomatoes and cucumbers to explosions in space.

Life at Big Idea isn’t all work, however. Jokes and belly laughs abound; it’s hard to be completely serious in a company where the CEO’s title is chief vegetating officer. The whole office fell victim to one practical joke on April Fools’ day, when an employee synchronized every computer to begin ringing like an old rotary telephone. Unfortunately, the culprit couldn’t remember how to make the ringing stop.

But working for Big Idea isn’t all about computer skills and comedy. Working at VeggieTales is about communicating the gospel message and equipping parents to raise better children. A quick visit to their website, www.bigidea.com, makes the company’s mission clear: “to markedly enhance the moral and spiritual fabric of our society through creative media.”

“The world is full of media companies that are out to make a buck,” claims the Big Idea website. “The world desperately needs a media company that is out to make a difference.”

Scott felt a kinship with the mission of Big Idea from the first time he saw a VeggieTales video. “I had a little soapbox – it didn’t seem like there were a large amount of Christian media companies pursuing excellence,” he says.

“With VeggieTales, the message was right on target. The creative value and the technical value matched the Biblical message. Growing up in this age, it’s a blessing to see an alternative to what’s on television.”

What makes VeggieTales so enjoyable, however, is the way Christian messages are couched in comedy. Adults notice references to Monty Python and Gilligan’s Island. Silly Songs, short interludes of nonsensical humor, appeal to audiences of all ages. Scott fell in love with “The Hairbrush Song,” a Silly Song featuring Larry the Cucumber in a towel, mourning the loss of his hairbrush. Tim’s favorite is “I Love My Lips,” where Larry is subjected to an ink blot test that produces a series of free associations:

“If my lips ever left my mouth,
packed a bag and headed south,
that’d be too bad. I’d be so sad. ...
If my lips moved to Duluth,
left a mess and took my tooth,
that’d be too bad. I’d call my dad.”

Their twelfth video, “Larry Boy and the Rumor Weed,” was released in July and plans are underway for a 70-minute film suitable for release on the big screen. The film, titled “Jonah and the Big Fish,” will be the longest veggie experiment to date.

It seems VeggieTales has found its Promised Land – the intersection of ministry, creativity and technology. And at the heart of it all are two Taylor graduates, tickled as tomatoes to be part of the process.

—Amber L. Anderson
Taylor grad helps others live a low-tech lifestyle

The potential Year 2000 difficulties are no problem for Lehman’s Hardware.

“All our products have always been Y2K compliant,” says Glenda (Lehman) Ervin ’84, communications manager for her family’s business. Lehman’s, a 15,000 square foot hardware store that caters to the Amish and others committed to self-sufficient living, sells only non-electrical products. Fears of electrical problems at the turn of the century have made Lehman’s the place to shop for low-tech supplies to help modern families stave off a high-tech Y2K crisis.

Y2K, however, was the farthest thing from the mind of Jay Lehman, Ervin’s father and owner of Lehman’s Hardware, when he opened the doors in 1955. A Mennonite living in the heart of Amish country, Lehman founded his business with the intent of meeting the daily needs of the Amish, a religious sect that shuns most modern inventions. The business grew, thanks in part to the boom in wood stove sales following the 1970s oil embargo, and the Lehman name became synonymous with non-electric products for self-sufficient living.

With the threat of an electrical shut-down looming on the millennial horizon (see Looking Forward, page 12), the family-owned and operated hardware store found it had cornered the business on a market it never set out to dominate. Y2K gurus touted Lehman’s as the place for supplies, and suddenly the small company was flooded with requests for everything from wood stoves to grain mills.

“It’s a bit overwhelming,” says Lehman, a quiet,
gray-haired man with a soft spot for his grandchildren, his Model T, and pot-bellied stoves.

The influx of business has caused a few laughs along the way, like the woman from Miami who wanted a wood-burning stove for her apartment, or the man who bought canning supplies to preserve his store-bought vegetables. Lehman’s employees meet customers’ naïveté with patience, attempting to answer the endless string of phone and e-mail requests for help in using the non-electric items.

While the business was unsolicited, Ervin has enjoyed the challenge of the recent boom in business. Her past career in public relations for a Fortune 200 company never afforded her the opportunity to speak with Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal, The Los Angeles Times or USA Today, all of whom have sided up to the Lehman’s hitching post for an interview.

As a child, born on the mission field and then transplanted to rural Ohio, Ervin never dreamed of working for her father’s store. “I didn’t see a place for myself here,” she says. Her chore of dusting the stoves did not hold her interest, so she pursued an education at Bluffton College and then at Taylor.

After graduation, she moved to Fort Wayne, involved herself in her successful public relations career and earned her MBA. When she and her husband Scott decided to start a family, she fully intended to return to work after her maternity leave.

“When I went back to work, everything had changed,” Ervin says, “My co-workers put their kids in daycare. You could afford all the fancy toys for your kids, but the fact was you weren’t with them.”

At the same time, her father’s small family business was growing as fast as her newborn son. The need for a public relations director was apparent, and Ervin was willing to fill the role. She and her family moved to the Kidron area and Ervin went to work part-time for Lehman’s. Scott works as a civil engineer in Canton, Ohio.

The arrangement suits everyone well.

Brandon, Ervin’s three year-old son, and his newborn sister Allison have an Amish day care provider near the store. Ervin sees the experience of staying in an Amish home as good for her children.

“The Amish don’t separate work from fun,” Ervin says. “English [non-Amish] women rush through their work so they can have fun. For the Amish, the work can be fun. I see my son developing this attitude, and I’m proud of that. For him, raking the yard is work and play.”

Combining work and fun is something Ervin does well. She delights in showing the nuances of the Lehman’s storefront, pointing out her favorite features like the handcrafted pottery or the bells imported from Germany. She also enjoys working with her family. Her father still oversees much of the day-to-day business, while her older brother Galen is vice president of the Lehman’s operations. Her brother Kevin Kurtz-Lehman is the catalog editor. (Ervin has a sister, Wendy, who is not employed at Lehman’s.)

Much of the satisfaction in their work is rooted in their Mennonite-Christian philosophy. “We don’t just sell products,” she claims. “We promote a way of life. There are parts of the simple, back-to-basics life that should not be forgotten.”

Self-sufficiency is the mantra for the Lehman family. “It makes sense to have some element of self-sufficiency,” Ervin says. “We shouldn’t be so totally reliant on something we have no control over.”

While some of the Lehman’s customers operate totally non-electric homes, most practice a degree of self-sufficiency. Ervin and her husband Scott, for example, heat
Ervin's three-year-old son Brandon loves the replica antique toys, including this train which is elevated above a checkout counter at Lehman's Hardware.

“It makes sense to have some element of self-sufficiency,” Ervin says. “We shouldn’t be so totally reliant on something we have no control over.”

David '83 and Debbie (Sheron '83) Entwistle and children Kristen, Cameron and Lauren

their home with a wood burning stove but use electricity for other appliances.

A handful of unusual customers has frequented the Lehman’s store and mail order business. The Freemen of Montana placed an order, which was never delivered because of insufficient payment, just weeks before the infamous standoff. More welcome visitors have included Martha Stewart and Julia Child.

Ervin categorizes each of the 300-400,000 annual visitors into one of two categories: the serious and the curious. Serious visitors are active participants in the self-sufficient lifestyle. For them, a trip to Lehman’s is a supply-seeking mission for products they could not find elsewhere. These customers mingle with the curious, who window shop through Lehman’s, admiring the collection of wood stoves, the antiques adorning the walls, and cast iron children’s toys.

David '83 and Debbie (Sheron '83) Entwistle are curious visitors to Lehman’s. The store is just 30 minutes from their home in Canton, making it a frequent destination of an afternoon drive.

“We bring all our out-of-town company here,” Debbie says. “You see things you can’t find anywhere else.” They recently purchased one of Lehman’s special wagons as a gift for their three children, Kristen (9), Lauren (6) and Cameron (3).

The sight of the Entwistle family perched on the balcony of the Lehman’s store, watching a toy train make its way around an elevated track, makes Ervin smile. The fascination in their eyes tells her Lehman’s is meeting its goal of opening the eyes of children and dusting off memories for others.

Amber L. Anderson
What is Taylor doing about the Year 2000 (Y2K)? Information Services has defined and is coordinating a project to assess Taylor's exposure to the Year 2000 problem. (For an explanation of the Y2K problem, see "Where? What? When? Why?" on page 13.) Our goals are, first, to ensure as far as possible that the health and safety of all students, faculty and staff at Taylor University are not affected adversely by any internal year 2000 problem; and, second, to maintain as well as possible the functionality of Taylor University's business processes through the Year 2000 transition.

Resource coordinators in various areas of both campuses worked with information services professionals and faculty and staff members to assist in this endeavor. The hardware and software for all computers on both Taylor campuses have been evaluated and, where necessary, extensively tested. When any software or equipment failed the test or was known to have date-related problems, the equipment was updated or replaced. Contingency plans for mission-critical items are in place. The contingency plans describe what to do in case something was overlooked and a piece of equipment or software failed because of a date problem. All testing and upgrading should be complete by the end of October 1999.

During the spring and summer all PCs on both campuses were scanned for problems and either upgraded or replaced. PC software was upgraded to the Y2K compliant version. The telephone system and network were upgraded. Most building controls and other equipment were determined to have no date problem. The vendors who have replied to our queries expect to have no problems with Y2K. The utility companies are confident that, barring winter storm issues, they will be able to supply Taylor with basic utilities.

Our concern for the safety of students extends to their travel as well. As a result the University has postponed the start of the January-term for one week (see Taylor's website for the adjusted dates) and has temporarily suspended most international travel during J-term. —Author

Jessie Lennerz, Ph.D., is the director of Taylor's information services and oversees the Y2K preparations.

SHAPING ATTITUDES

Perhaps the best way to think about the new millennium is the same way we should think about each new day. At 6:30 a.m. on weekday mornings millions of alarm clocks "ring" in the new day. Many, if not most, Americans rise to work or school with less-than-enthusiastic thoughts such as, "Ugh! It's morning already!" What if, however, an alarm clock signaled the first day of a vacation or a pleasant trip? In these cases people would greet the day with enthusiasm and hope for the good things to come. The key to anyone's future is to enter each day with positive attitudes, and those attitudes will affect what actually occurs during the day. Just as each of us needs to fight the 6:30 a.m. negative morning blues and think of all the good things that can and will occur each day, so too, we need to examine our attitudes about the dawn of a new millennium.

Already millions of Americans are waking up to the new century and new millennium thinking "Ugh! It's 2000 AD already!" Alarm and negative thoughts about the year 2000 and the millennium future abound, and are understandable in some ways. Wars and racism are rampant. Family life seems to be disintegrating. Immorality pervades society at all levels. Technology threatens personal values. Unless checked, these problems could continue and poison our future. But thinking pessimistically about the new millennium will be
What is Y2K?
The Year 2000 (Y2K) problem is real. Many hardware and software programs used a two-digit field for tracking years (1999, for example, was recorded as 99). When the actual year becomes 2000, computers may not recognize 00 as a valid year. What will actually happen for any given piece of hardware or software is unpredictable.

How bad will the problem be?
No one knows where the problems will occur or how bad they will be. Many problems have already been found and corrected. Most people will experience no worse problems than they would during a winter storm. Utility companies can’t prevent winter storms from causing temporary problems.

What should I do?
God is still in control. Do not fear the future (Matthew 6:25-34). If a device uses a calendar to control events, check it. Watch out for inaccuracies in billing and records for years to come. Some churches are partnering elderly people with young couples who will assist with any problems that arise.

Should I store food, water, cash?
Prepare as you would for a winter storm. Don't stockpile more of anything than you would need for a week or two. Use ordinary commercial dried and canned food. Remember that excess cash in the house is a temptation to thieves. Be sure you have one or two good flashlights in the house.

Where can I get more information?
Check vendors' Y2K status by calling, writing the vendor or searching the World Wide Web. Look at the Taylor University web site, www.tayloru.edu, or search the web for information on "year 2000." A believable report gives names of reputable people, dates, and references so you can verify the accuracy of the report. If the dates are over three months old, the situation has probably changed. Ask yourself what the motivation is of the person writing the article.—Jessie Lennertz
Y2K. Hmm? I wonder if God foresees how He’ll handle this predicament? It seems that the Y2K date dilemma may be beyond His control. Everyone knows that computers and software programs were unheard of when God laid the foundations of the earth. The author of Hebrews admits that nothing like computers even existed when God was working on creating the universe: “What is seen was not made out of what was visible” (Heb. 13:3, NIV). We have come a long way since then.

Not only that, but God already gets His days mixed up with His millennia. I know the Apostle Peter was puzzled about this because he quoted Psalm 90:4 in his second epistle: “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day” (2 Pt. 3:8). Hey, that’s the Y2K problem right there! Really, if God gets His days and His millennia confused, we certainly shouldn’t be too hard on our computers and their programmers for a small, two-digit date problem. Besides, the Lord Himself told us that He doesn’t think like we do: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord” (Isaiah 55:8). So it looks like we’re going to have to handle this one on our own, friends.

Tongue-in-cheek aside, the Y2K “crisis” is small when compared with the apparent glitch in God’s salvation program that transpired when the Savior was crucified by human hands. What could have been more disastrous in the course of human history than the death of God’s beloved Son? Yet the omnipotent (“He can do it!”), omnipresent (“He is here!”), omniscient (“He knows it!”) Father-God comprehends everything that could, should, would, might have, did or does happen. He was not surprised when powerful human leaders crucified His Son (cf. Acts 4:25-27). In fact, Peter declares that God Himself planned it all out ahead of time (Acts 2:23; 4:28).

This does not mean that God planned Y2K; but it does mean that the human responsibility for Y2K will not hinder God’s kingdom program one little bit. To turn one of Joseph’s lines (Gen. 50:20), “What humans intended for good turned out to be bad; but God will use it for the good.” Let’s be prudent in the face of Y2K; but even more, let’s be optimistic. Why? It’s simple: “Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and Y2K” (Heb. 13:8, Y2K Version). So let’s pray like the early Church did in the book of Acts: “Now, Lord, consider [Y2K] and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus” (Acts 4:29-30). Amen! —Dr. William A. Heth is chair of the Biblical studies, Christian education and philosophy department.

“Let’s pray like the early church did in the book of Acts...”
Loose on the Internet
Giving children guidelines for playing online

The Internet is another media device like a newspaper or television. It has the distinction of being two-way. Just like you need to know the content of the television show before letting your children watch it, you also need to know what is on the Internet. Sites like www.gospelcom.net and www.crosssearch.com have “What’s New” sections and directories. But don’t limit your knowledge to just Christian sites. There are many other fun “kid” places, including Nickelodeon, Lego and Nintendo.

Before you turn your children loose on the Internet, you should discuss basic guidelines for Internet surfing. The following tips offer parents a good starting point for encouraging healthy Internet use.

- Talk to your children about where they are going when they get on the Internet. Keep an open mind during the conversation so they are not afraid to talk about sites that you may think are inappropriate. If you are quick to condemn a site without good reasons, your children may not choose to share their favorite sites with you in the future.

- Try to distinguish what is your personal taste versus something that is ungodly.

- Talk to other parents who have the Internet at home. Find out what has worked and what hasn’t. Share your experiences with them.

- Make a family “Internet Guide,” like a television show listing. Talk about it as a family. As members of the family, find new sites and talk about whether they should be added to the list.

- Talk to your kids about the benefits and dangers of using search engines. They can help you find what you are looking for, but they also can take you to places you shouldn’t go.

- Talk to your kids about giving out personal information over the Internet. If they are at a site that has a form requesting information, make sure they check with you before completing the form. There are sites on the Internet where you can find where people live and even get driving directions to their address. These sites can be useful if you are looking for a long lost friend, but not so good if someone is looking for your child.

Author Bill Lee is a father of five and the lead programmer/analyst for Taylor’s information services department. This summer Lee led “God Is Bigger Than the Internet,” a day-camp teaching children how to make wise decisions while using the Internet.
Campbell recognized for work with students

After 30 years in student development, Walt Campbell, TUU’s associate vice president/dean of students, isn’t easily shocked. Campbell was shocked, however, when his name was called as the recipient of a prestigious award at the annual Association of Christians in Student Development conference. This year’s conference was held at Biola University in California.

ACSD gives two awards annually. One is given to a newcomer in student development. The second, which Campbell was awarded, is the Don L. Boender Distinguished Service Award, given to an individual who has demonstrated excellence over a career.

Dr. Sam Shellhamer ’67, vice president for student development at Wheaton College, read the motion naming Campbell as the recipient. “Early in his [Campbell’s] career, he received recognition for developing a comprehensive new student orientation program which became the prototype for many freshman-year programs on our campuses today,” Shellhamer said.

Campbell was present in 1979 when two Christian student development organizations decided to join, forming ACSD. He has participated in the conferences ever since.

“I am thrilled that Walt could be honored in this way,” says Wynn Lembright, vice president for student affairs. “He has a history of clemency in helping students and always finds time for them. It grows out of his faith in Christ.”

Taylor has a long history of active involvement in ACSD. TUU will host the ACSD conference in June of 2000.

Internationally-known speaker accepts dean of chapel position

Internationally-known preacher and musician Dr. Richard Allen Farmer will make his home on the Upland campus as the new dean of the chapel.

Farmer, president of RAF Ministries, formerly resided in Texas.

“We are thrilled that such an accomplished musician and preacher would come to Taylor,” says Walt Campbell, who led the search for the new dean.

Farmer first heard about the position through Steve Bedi, associate vice president for academic affairs. Farmer was integral in the spiritual growth of his daughter Lori, said Bedi.

A graduate of Nyack College and Princeton Theological Seminary,

Farmer is committed to using expository preaching, music and seminars to promote renewal in churches. He served as dean of the chapel at Gordon College, Wenham, Mass., from 1988-92.

While at Taylor, he will continue his work with RAF Ministries part-time, traveling and speaking as an ambassador for the University.

Farmer’s wife Rosemary has accepted the position as director of ethnic student services. Mrs. Farmer has taught at Gordon Couwell Seminary in Boston, Mass. Her position at Taylor is a shared student affairs/academic affairs role that includes faculty responsibilities of teaching and serving as a resource to faculty.

The Farmers have a young son, Timothy. For more information on the Farmers, visit their website at www.rafmin.org.

Lightning causes fire in maintenance building

Building number two of the Boyd Buildings and Grounds Complex was partially destroyed on June 28 when a fire gutted one end of the building. The state fire marshal ruled the cause of the fire to be an electrical surge caused by a lightning strike.

Two vehicles, a van and a truck, were destroyed in the fire. A third vehicle, used for recycling pick up, suffered smoke damage before being driven from the building by a fire fighter. No one was injured in the fire.

The burnt structure has been demolished and a new building will be rebuilt in midwinter, says Al Smith, vice president for business and finance. He anticipates rebuilding and replacing the vehicles and other building contents will be a $300,000 to $350,000 expense.
Fixing our eyes on Jesus

After just three years in the campaign, we are pleased to announce a nearly 75 percent completion rate. At this point, it becomes easy to see the campaign as a financially-driven endeavor with the solitary goal of reaching the $75 million mark. Falling prey to this thinking is erroneous and dangerous. When we succumb to this money mindset, we become like Peter who began to sink when he took his eyes from the true goal, Jesus.

Many things have been achieved with this campaign, but the goal is not merely to construct more buildings. Rather, we have embarked on this campaign as a means of building an eternal kingdom. Not here at Taylor – to say that would be vain. Instead, as a community of heaven-citizens we seek to train our brothers and sisters for service on this earth to bring more into the new heaven and new earth. The Taylor Tomorrow Campaign is one of God’s tools to provide His people with education and encouragement.

The closer we come to reaching our goal, the more firmly we must “fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith.” It is for His cause that we embarked on this campaign: may Taylor’s commitment to equipping men and women for ministry be enhanced by this endeavor. The campaign theme states it well – “anchored in the past, focused on the future.”
Foundation for Student Commons underway

Steel poles and Caterpillar tractors mark the location of Taylor University Fort Wayne's future Student Commons Center. Construction began mid-summer.

The Fort Wayne library renovations received a boost with the announcement of a $500,000 grant from the English, Bonter, Mitchell Foundation. This is the second major grant from this foundation. The money will be used to help finance renovations and additions to the Lehman Library. The library connects to the new Student Commons Center, shown above.

A graduate of Nyack College and Princeton Theological Seminary.
Ringenbergs are Taylor’s Chicago campaign connection

“When God ordained the marriage of Ron ’77 and Frances (Valberg ’78) Ringenberg, there must have been much rejoicing in heaven by Taylor alums,” says George Glass.

As co-chair of the leadership gift phase, Glass works closely with the Ringenbergs, regional vice chairs of the leadership gift phase of the Taylor Tomorrow Capital Campaign. “Taylor is very fortunate to have Ron and Frances on its team,” he says.

The Ringenbergs, who live in Wheaton, III., oversee the Illinois region of the campaign, meeting with alumni and friends to discuss giving to Taylor. Working with the campaign has been a great way to meet fellow alumni, says Ron, a vice president for Hyperion Solutions, an analytic software company. Ron’s brothers Roy ’75 and Rae ’80 also are Taylor graduates, as is Frances’ brother Peter Valberg ’64.

For Frances, the campaign is just one more way to connect with the University. The daughter of a professor (Dr. Julius Valberg), Frances was at home at Taylor long before she enrolled as a student. After graduating and moving away, Frances maintained connections by serving on the National Alumni Council. Now a student at Wheaton Graduate School working on an advanced Bible degree, she is grateful for the Biblical training and spiritual encouragement she received at Taylor.

The Ringenbergs have two sons, Ross, 16, and Joseph, 14. While neither son has committed to attending his parents’ alma mater, Ron and Frances are committed to supporting Taylor University, a place they would be proud to send their sons.
Christ - the foundation of our work

The Taylor Tomorrow Capital Campaign – Anchored in the past ... focused on the future.

As I look at this phrase, the directive of our campaign, I am reminded of 1 Corinthians 3:11. I feel as though we are doing what this verse admonishes – building on the foundation of Jesus Christ.

We are building on the anchors of the past – a solid foundation. Christ has been the solid rock at Taylor for 153 years. As we focus on the future, that focus must continue to direct our eyes toward Jesus Christ. He must be our center; we must not waiver from what has made us strong.

This, in a nutshell, is what Taylor University is about – a school that is anchored in God, focused on God. As we work toward our goal for the campaign, may we never become proud of what we have or are accomplishing. May we not feel strength in ourselves but wholly lean on Jesus – the focus of Taylor University.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Jerry P. Cramer, Director of the Capital Campaign, at:
1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5112 • 236 West Reade Avenue, Upland, IN 46989-1001
Dr. Jared Gerig honored as Legion recipient

Legion of Honor award was given to Dr. Jared F. Gerig, former president of Fort Wayne Bible College, on May 21. The Legion of Honor is Taylor's highest alumni award; only 13 have been granted in the University's history.

The recipient returned to TUFW from his Glendale, Ariz., home to receive his award at this year's alumni banquet. Gerig, now 92, addressed the audience of mostly FWBC graduates, applauding the merger between their alma mater and Taylor.

Gerig, a 1929 graduate of the Fort Wayne campus, also earned undergraduate degrees from Malone College and Cleveland State University. Summit Christian College conferred upon him its final doctor of divinity degree in 1992.

He served as dean of FWBC for five years, president for 13 years and chancellor for 20 years. Gerig is the author of the FWBC history, "A Vine of God's Own Planting." While Gerig was president, the enrollment grew to over 600, library holdings more than doubled, community outreach expanded, the correspondence studies program enlarged and three major buildings were added.

After retiring from education, Gerig pastored a small congregation in Sun City, Ariz. The church, which began with 35 people, now has 1,100 regular attendees.

The Gerig family has a long line of Taylor connections. Gerig's father-in-law was the business manager at FWBC, where Ira Gerig, Jared's brother, also taught. Gerig's sons, Dr. Wes Gerig and Bill Gerig, also served at the University. Bill is the former alumni director. Wes, a current professor of religion with a 42-year background at the Fort Wayne campus, says this award was a great honor for his father.

WBCL has early success in fundraising efforts

WBCL will build a new addition to its existing complex, thanks to the results of its HeartSounds for Tomorrow project. The project also includes updating studio equipment, refurbishing existing office and studio areas and purchasing a digital satellite.

Project plans totaled $641,000. An early anonymous gift of a $245,000 matching grant started the fundraising and encouraged WBCL listeners to give generously. Three days of on-air fundraising were planned; the goal was reached early in the third day.

"Our foremost goal was that God would be glorified in all this," says Char Binkley, station executive director. "The way it all came together, we really feel it is evidence of God at work."

The first day on-air saw little progress toward the goal. Only $20,000 was raised in 11 hours of receiving pledges. The second day, however, $60,000 was raised in the morning alone. The influx of callers required the quick installation of three additional phone lines.

The HeartSounds goal was reached on the third day, after just 25 hours on-air. The gifts from the more than 2,500 donors totaled $681,000 as of June 15.

Current plans for growth include a $300,000 building expansion with additional office and studio space. Binkley anticipates a groundbreaking in early fall and a spring 2000 completion date.

Additional components of the HeartSounds project include $156,000 in studio and office upgrades and $30,000 in computer and broadcast equipment upgrades. New satellite dish and digital conversion equipment will allow WBCL to continue broadcasting Focus on the Family and other programs. HeartSounds also includes funding for improved phone and Internet services.
Diller awarded professor of the year honors

Professor Diller accepted the award at TUU's honors chapel.

The Taylor University Alumni Association awarded Dr. Timothy C. Diller, chair and professor of the computing and system sciences department, the 1999 Distinguished Professor Award. An accomplished scholar, author, leader, professor, researcher and linguist, Diller has been a member of Taylor's teaching faculty since 1981.

Diller states that others are more qualified for the honor than he. "Within my own department I know there are colleagues who are much better in the classroom than I am. I look forward to the day when they'll get this award."

His colleagues, however, are quick to offer praise of Diller's accomplishments. Dr. Art White, professor of computing and system sciences, says Diller is "dedicated to teaching, to Taylor University, to Christ and to the students. This is evident in everything he does, and the way he lives his life daily."

Diller believes the Distinguished Professor Award carries with it an increased responsibility to teaching. "This award is a very humbling experience because I see the areas in which my teaching falls short. This award really puts the pressure on me to become a better teacher than I currently am." -Kelly Fontara '99

Faculty Update

This list represents accomplishments, research and publications by Taylor faculty members. Each listed individual provided information regarding his or her own activities.


Jeremy Case, assistant professor of math, TUU, performed research in the fall of 1998 with Andrew Forbes '99 to solve a problem in the College Mathematics Journal. Forbes presented "The Toy Problem" at the Michigan Undergraduate Mathematics Conference at Alma College in February 1999, based on his research with Case. Their solution was published in the March 1999 issue of the College Mathematics Journal.

Gary Cooper, former vice president of Lincoln National Bank, Fort Wayne, Ind., recently has been named professor of finance, TUU.


Albert Harrison, professor of music, TUU, presented a trombone recital for Elderhostel with the Kokomo Park Band and the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra. Harrison also taught at the Salvation Army Music Camp.

Dennis Hensley, associate professor of journalism, TUFW, was the opening speaker at the Midwest Writers 1999 Summer Workshop. Hensley spoke on "Setting Writing Goals for a New Millennium." He also published "How to Flip the Creative Switch in Writing Fiction." in the July/August 1999 issue of the Writer's Journal.

Tena Krause, associate professor of physical education, health and recreation and head women's basketball coach, TUU, was named Mid-Central Conference 1999 Coach of the Year.

Joe Lund, professor of psychology, TUU, is surveying the Upland student body using the UCLA Loneliness Scale. Student assistants include Jana Blazek '00 and Megan Garmer '02.

Robert Moore-Jumonville, part-time faculty member in the history department, TUU, recently completed his Ph.D. in history from the University of Iowa.


Rachel Smith, associate professor of art, TUU, presented "Making Peace with the Past to Promote a Future: The Development of a New Type of War Memorial for the Twentieth Century" at the 3rd Annual Conference on the New Europe at the Crossroads in Berlin, Germany.


Kevin J. Wickes, assistant professor of psychology, TUU, coauthored Transracial Children: The Adjustment Issues and Concerns in "Asian and Pacific Islander Americans: Issues and Concerns for Counseling and Psychotherapy." In the same text Wickes also coauthored Vietnamese Refugees: An Approach to Assessment, Treatment and Mental Health.
Playing with purpose

The Taylor Trojans find victory through serving others on Europe trip

“Football is a classroom,” says Taylor Trojans Coach Steve Wilt. “It’s a man-maker.”

Coach Wilt’s approach to football is not merely to win the game, but to prepare men to win in life as well. Doing this, he says, requires being a champion for Jesus Christ. His athletes got a lesson in this as 27 members of the team traveled to Europe for 14 days of football and ministry.

Football is a growing sport in Europe, offering Christians a prime opportunity to combine God and the gridiron. The Trojans played in south Germany and Austria, winning both games at 52-0 and 49-0. The real success, however, came at halftime or after the games when Taylor team members shared their testimonies with their competitors.

In the Czech Republic, Taylor travelers met up with Pete ’98 and Beth Demorest. Pete is the defensive coordinator for the Brno Alligators; Beth teaches English and is a cheerleading coach. The Trojans and the Alligators spent three days practicing and touring together, forging friendships that allowed one-on-one conversations about faith.

“The Czech people have been very hardened by communism, so they are not very trusting of church or any type of religion. That is one reason we stress a personal relationship with Jesus Christ,” Pete says. “The Taylor players and coaches had opportunities to talk and share with our players. I know many bonds were made during this time.”

In Blansko, Czech Republic, the football team organized flag-football clinics over two days, with almost 200 attending each day. Players shared their testimonies and 32 individuals came forward at the invitation time. Additional ministry times occurred in schools, orphanages and refugee camps. Football players dressed as clowns, shared their testimonies, distributed footballs and t-shirts and played with the children.

Tight end Jeremy Flynn ’00, like many of his teammates and coaches, shared his testimony while on the trip. Time schedules and language barriers made one-on-one conversations with the children difficult, but the help of a translator enabled Flynn to share the story of God’s work in his life.

“I learned that the Lord’s love can break down all barriers, including language,” Flynn says. “He took us half-way around the world to share his gospel through football.”

Another barrier the Trojans faced was the residue of communism that wounded many of the people they met. “In such a strong atheist country, you can sense and feel the oppression,” Wilt says. “Openness to the gospel will happen through the youngsters.”

Wilt feels the trip was a beneficial experience for the Trojans as well. “The guys came away with a sense of the needs of the world,” Wilt says. “I think they have a better understanding and sensitivity toward missions.”

Coach Ron Korfmacher agrees. “I think the coaches and the players had the opportunity to mature and grow in short period of time, in a way that will continue to bear fruit in the long term.”

Dean and Peggy Stewart, the parents of Taylor football player James Stewart, led the team in devotions and worship. Also traveling with the team were Coach Wilt’s wife Diane and daughter Brittany; Ken ’65 and Elizabeth ’66 Flanigan, parents of Trojan Andy Flanigan; Bill Bauer; Eric Hehman; Ron Korfmacher; Eric Hayes; and Danielle Leas.

High altitudes didn’t slow the Trojans. The team won both games, including the one played on this field in Innsbruck, Austria.

Trojan Chad Wilt ’00 was a favorite among the children at a refugee camp in Kosovo, where the team visited and played with the children.
Dr. Scea delivers gift annuity to Foundation

Dr. Walter “Wally” Scea ’38 delivered more than 2500 babies in his career. As a physician at St. Vincent Mercy Hospital in Elwood, Ind., Scea ushered two generations of babies into this world before his retirement 18 years ago.

More recently, however, Scea has delivered a gift to Taylor University. He and his wife Bobbie recently gave the University two gift annuities. A charitable gift annuity provides donors with a guaranteed income for life and considerable tax savings, while making a significant contribution to Taylor.

A romantic at heart, Scea says he wanted to give back to the University that guided him into a medical career. “And if I hadn’t gone into medicine, I wouldn’t have had my wife, daughters or granddaughter,” he says. “I get choked up thinking about it. My whole life hinged on going to Taylor.”

Scea came to Upland from Dickey, North Dakota. He first heard of Taylor when a gospel team from the University visited his home church. “How they made it to a town of 185 people is a mystery to me,” he says. “It must have been God’s will for my life.”

The young men with the Taylor team shared their enthusiasm for the Lord and for their University with Scea, and he decided to make the long trek from North Dakota to Indiana, a $32 train fare at the time.

At Taylor, Scea was headed for a career in business until Dr. G. Harlowe

Scea and his wife Bobbie have provided for their future and the University’s gift annuities.

Evans x’25 encouraged him to pursue a medical career. After four years he left Taylor with a solid education and strong friendships that have lasted his lifetime. He went on to the University of North Dakota, where he studied medicine and met Roberta Finlay, a secretary in the public health lab.

Wally and Bobbie were married in Chicago, with Taylor friends presiding over the simple ceremony. After two years of internships and two years in the Air Force, they settled in Elwood, which had the two things Scea was looking for in a town: a hospital and a golf course.

Elwood quickly transformed into more than just a place to work or play golf. The town became home, and the Sceas raised their daughters Mary and Susan there. After 34 years of delivering babies and healing the sick, Scea retired and the couple moved to Muncie, Ind. St. Vincent Mercy, however, did not forget its favorite physician. The staff recently chose to name a conference room after Dr. Scea, an honor that reflects his significant contribution to the community.

With their consistent faithfulness as donors and their recent gift annuities, the Sceas are significant contributors to Taylor University as well. Scea worked with Nelson Rediger and Ken Smith of the William Taylor Foundation to establish two gift annuities. One annuity provides for Bobbie and their daughter Susan, who suffers from a debilitating lung disease. (The Sceas’ other daughter Mary died as a young woman.) The other annuity provides for Wally and Susan.

“This gave me an opportunity to help Taylor and help our daughter,” he says. “It’s a mutually happy arrangement.”

Oberammergau Passion Play

June 1-16, 2000

Join the William Taylor Foundation for a 16-day tour of Europe. The highlight of our trip will be the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany. The Passion Play has a history dating back to 1634. Performed just once every 10 years, the play is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

For ticket info:
Call Ken Smith of the William Taylor Foundation, 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5144 or e-mail knsmith@tayloru.edu
Foundation, WBCL welcome new representative

Teaching runs in Alan “Al” Rupp’s blood. After graduating from Taylor in 1968, he began a 31-year teaching career in the Fort Wayne public schools. Now he has a new career—teaching friends of WBCL and Taylor University how to plan their estates.

Rupp returned to Taylor University in August as a financial planner, a position that is divided between the William Taylor Foundation and Taylor’s broadcasting network, WBCL. Rupp will work with friends of WBCL and TUFW as they consider estate planning options.

Rupp’s connections to Taylor and the Fort Wayne area will make him a valuable asset, says Ken Smith, director of the William Taylor Foundation. As the father of two Taylor students, Sara ’98 and Laura ’00, the husband of a graduate, Jo Ann (Liechty ’68) and a graduate himself, Rupp is a familiar face in Upland. Thirty years of work in the Fort Wayne area made him a familiar face there as well.

“I’m excited about the possibilities and glad to be connected to Taylor as more than an alumnus and a parent,” Rupp says.

Rupp’s professional background also prepared him for the position. After graduating from Taylor, Rupp earned a master’s degree from Purdue University. He taught for three years at Weisser Park Junior High in Fort Wayne, before becoming an original faculty member of Northrop High School in 1971, where he served for 28 years. He introduced computer science classes to the Fort Wayne Community Schools and was the lead teacher in writing curriculum for computer education.

Three years ago, with the possibility of an early retirement, Rupp began to look at second career options. He enrolled in a series of classes toward a degree as a certified financial planner. He completed the classroom and testing portion of the degree this summer.

Two years ago he sent his résumé to Smith, asking to be considered for future positions. None were available at the time. Recently, however, Smith and WBCL Station Manager Char Binkley determined to create a position between the Foundation and the station. Rupp was the perfect candidate.

“There is no doubt in my mind that God has orchestrated all of the details and led me to this position,” Rupp says.

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A Gift That Keeps Giving
CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

Worksheet

Enter your gift amount $_____

Multiply by annuity rate from table on the right x _____

to find your guaranteed annual income = ________

Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

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For more information or an annuity application, call Ken Smith, executive director of the William Taylor Foundation at 1 (800) 882-3456, ext. 5144.

New: $2,500 minimum investment with single annual payment.
Alumni office says goodbye to George Glass, Taylor champion

When George Glass ’58 was first hired at Taylor, President B. Joseph Martin made one thing clear: he wasn’t hiring Glass for a year, he was hiring him for life. Thirty-nine years later, Glass can look back and say that the largest portion of his life was spent at Taylor.

Glass retired July 1, after serving 13 years as the associate vice president for alumni relations and 26 years as a cross country coach, professor and director of athletics.

Glass’ career has had many highlights. He was selected as the coach of the year by opposing coaches in 32 different seasons, and at one period his cross country teams won 14 consecutive conference championships in addition to 12 state NAIA titles. He served as a judge at the 1984 Olympic games and was a chief official at the 1996 games.

His years of service and dedication to the University were recognized with the naming of Taylor’s George Glass Track and Field Complex. Glass also was awarded the Legion of Honor, the alumni association’s highest award, in 1998.

More importantly, however, Glass has left his imprint on the hearts of countless Taylor alumni. Rob Shevlot ’81 was a freshman when his father died. Glass, his coach, became the father figure in his life. “He’s one of the two heroes in my life,” Shevlot says.

While Glass’ coaching ability was well respected, it was his faith that made the difference. “Coach Glass was more concerned about the spiritual life of his athletes than their athletic ability,” Shevlot says. He remembers one message that Glass continually shared with his athletes: it’s a message Shevlot says Glass lived every day.

“I remember him telling us, ‘Men, you’re better than you think you are. Keep Christ as your focus and you’ll have a winning combination.’”

Electronic giving offers convenience for donors

Giving to the University is now more convenient, thanks to the Electronic Gift Program, which began in August.

The program allows donors to designate a certain amount to be automatically withdrawn from their bank account each month. The amount is then transferred to Taylor University, and a notice appears on the donor’s monthly bank statement. The process is similar to direct depositing a paycheck.

Initiation of this program came at the request of alumni and friends. Joyce Helyer, associate vice president for development, researched other institutions with automatic giving programs and encouraged the University to implement the program as a convenience and time-saver for donors.

“As a development office, we want to be as ‘user friendly’ as possible and meet the needs of our donors,” Helyer says. “I believe we will see more of our donors choose to use this option in the future.”

The Electronic Gift Program is available on both campuses. Donations to Upland will be deducted on the 15th of the month; interested donors may contact Joyce Helyer at (800) 882-3456. Fort Wayne donations will be deducted on the 20th of the month. Call Sherri Harter, (219) 456-2111, with questions.
Missionaries talk “tech” at ICCM conference

Some of the most notable Christian minds in computer technology converged at Taylor for the annual International Conference on Computing and Missions, ICCM, held in early June, was what one organizer called a “Promise Keepers for techies.”

ICCM began in 1989 as an opportunity to gather computer users for brainstorming on technology and its uses on the mission field or at the sending agency. “Ten years ago, there was no existing group to discuss the emergence of high-tech computers and missions,” says Bob Hodge, an ICCM founder and vice president for planning, strategic initiatives and technology at Taylor University. “Now we have ICCM, which is organized by the missionaries, for the missionaries.”

Individually, the technical decisions of the missionaries who attend the ICCM conference allow for communication and information flow between missionaries, their agencies and even unreached people.

“Technology is the nervous system of the body of Christ,” says Pete Holzmann, president of the International Christian Technologists Association and program chair of ICCM. “We’re the hidden means of coordinating the body’s action.”

Past years have yielded ideas that, when put into action by ICCM attendees, brought positive results for the progress of world missions. One idea, which in part had its origin at ICCM, is www.XC.org, a mail-networking hub that 200,000 Christians now use for discussing missions and Christian-community related topics. This year’s hot topic was the development of consistent standards for web presentation that would allow different missions agencies to exchange information via the Internet.

New missions technologies find a showcase at ICCM. The winner of this year’s Best Practices contest was a DVD-ROM of the JESUS film. The disk, which operates directly with the Internet, allows families with DVD-equipped computers to view the film in eight different languages and play an interactive Bible trivia game.

For the most part, ICCM just happens. It is not sponsored by any group, has no denominational or agency ties, and has no organized committee or governing body. Sessions are loosely formatted, and most say the biggest benefits come from the late night talks in dorm rooms or lounges. The fellowship is what Holzmann calls the “meat of the conference.”

“Some people here rank with the best in the country,” says Bill Jack, a longtime ICCM attendee. “Others just figured out the ‘on’ switch. Our challenge is to minister to both.”

ICCM organizers made use of technology to reach those unable to attend the conference in person. Peter Crossing, missions information specialist with the Sydney (Australia) Centre for World Mission, joined ICCM participants by watching live video of the conference through the website, www.iccm.org. “Participation meant a pre-planned commitment to stay up all night, with ICCM as the main agenda for the whole time,” Crossing says.

ICCM’s high-tech focus in a spiritual setting is unique among other Christian conferences. “We all go to technical conferences and spiritual conferences every year, but never is there the bonding that we find at ICCM,” Jack says.

“We’re a bunch of nerds with the same desire,” says Nathan Ehresman, computer programmer for Operation Mobilization. “to take the gospel to the nations.” –Amber L. Anderson

Second Lewis Colloquium planned

The Second Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C. S. Lewis and Friends will be held on Nov. 12-14 at Taylor. The main speakers are Dr. Peter Kreeft, professor of philosophy at Boston University and Dr. Christopher W. Mitchell, director of the Wade Center at Wheaton College. Papers are invited on Lewis or related authors. For more information about registration, contact: Dr. Richard Hill, Program Coordinator, Taylor University, 236 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN 46989-1001; e-mail: rchill@tayloru.edu; phone: (765) 998-4971.
1929

Lena (York x) Roth died on June 16 in Gaithersburg, MD. She was 93. Lena was a key official in the Baltimore YWCA during the 1960s, directing the Intl Cir which provided social activities and immigration services for thousands of women.

1934

Helen (Gilmore) Traw passed away on Dec 6, 1998, following a 3-yr illness. Surviving is Lilburn, her husband of 58 yrs, 3 sons and their families. Helen spent 15 yrs as a volunteer youth dir of the Richland United Methodist (UM) Church. She & Lilburn were retired HS teachers and farmers. Her address is PO Box 96, Richland, MO 65556.

1937

Rev. John Miller died in his home on May 11. He was a retired pastor and an Air Force veteran of WWII. Surviving is wife Marcella (Hubner x'39) who lives at 4409 Green Pine Dr, Louisville, KY 40220.

1938

Rev. Marie Heinemann passed away on April 12 in Sioux Falls, SD. She was an ordained minister with World Gospel Mission and served for more than 35 yrs in Burundi, Africa.

1943

Vern Miller hit a hole-in-one on a 144-yl 12th hole at Lighthouse Golf Course in CA. Though he felt humbled by this accomplishment, he remarked, "I'm really very good!" Keep up the good work, Vern.

1944

Phyllis (Steiner) McCoy is in her 12th yr as office mgr/exec secretary of the Anaheim District Office of the Church of the Nazarene in Orange, CA. She is also the secretary of the district NWMS Council. She resides in Orange, CA.

1946

Rev. Harold Homer passed away on June 10 after a short illness. He had a severe stroke at the end of May and did not recover. Surviving is wife Dorthea who lives at 1551 Franklin St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

1949

Margaret (Sherman) Brown now resides at 1924 Kolb Farm Cir, Marietta, GA 30008. Margaret edited and compiled the class of 1949 history and book of memories for their 50th class reunion. • Miriam (Litton) Long has moved from South Bend, IN to be near her children in the Indianapolis area. She is currently working in the education dept of the Community Church of Greenwood after retiring from elem administration in the public schools. Her address is 674 Georgetown Rd, Greenwood, IN 46142.

1950

Carl Daugherty peacefully went to be with the Lord on Oct 6, 1998 after struggling with bone cancer. Carl was on Taylor's first football team and passed away just 3 weeks before his 50-yr reunion with the rest of the team. Carl met his wife Sara at Taylor, where she was a secretary. He had a long career as a teacher and spent his retirement as a Bible student at Lancaster Bible College, where he made friends with students and professors alike. Sarah would love to hear from TU friends. She resides at 401 Eden Rd Apt D-2, Lancaster, PA 17601. • Richard Spahr passed away on June 6. He was a veteran of WWII and served as a missionary for 42 years in Ethiopia. Surviving are wife Norma and daughter Mary Ann Spahr x'91. Norma's address is 9620 Taylor St NE, Blaine, MN 55434.

1951

Rev. Lowell Townsend died June 9 in Knoxville, TN. He was a pastor in the North IN Conference of the UM Church for 43 yrs. Lowell is survived by wife Peggy, daughter Kate (Townsend '72) Linsner and son Joel. Peggy's address is 7320 Winchester Dr, Knoxville, TN 37919. • Gardiner Wyman is now serving as part-time pastor of Brookfield Community UMC. He previously retired from Methodist ministry and served as a Hospice chaplain for 5 yrs. He lives at 8357 W 44th St, Lyons, IL 60534. Email is Gard66@mediaone.net.

1952

Roy Hoover passed away on May 14. He lived in Ocheyedan, IA.

1956

Jarvis Steiner retired after 43 yrs of teaching. He volunteers at Wildlife Prairie Park as a tour guide. He & wife Barbara live at 1506 Southmoor St, Pekin, IL 61554.

One of the best parts of my job is compiling and editing class news for each Taylor Magazine. I rejoice with you in the blessings and mourn with you as I learn of your sorrows. Photographs are what bring class news to life for me, and thus I regret that we cannot continue to print each one that is sent in. Because of our increasing number of alumni and the volume of news we receive each quarter, we will no longer be able to print baby pictures in the magazine. Photographs of alumni will still be printed, and family photographs are very welcome. Please continue to send in birth announcements — we want to hear about our future alumni!

Marty Songer, director of alumni relations
1959
Gertrude (Trudy) Dahl passed away on June 15 after a valiant fight with cancer. Surviving is her sister Mary (Dahl '54) Brower. ● Sherry (Perkins) Gorman was former member of the Taylor National Alumni Council, has been awarded a $1,000 grant from her school, the North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka, IL. She will be visiting gardens throughout the US during this summer to learn more about master gardeners and victory gardens. Sherry credits her 107-yr-old grandmother for instilling the passion for horticulture and gardening. Sherry lives in Kenilworth, IL. ● Eugene Lehman, husband of Naomi (Sipe) Lehman, died of a massive stroke on June 9. Naomi’s address is 946 Mill Pond Rd, Berne, IN 46711. ● Paul & Gloria (Shepherd) Nelson have retired and are living at 1916 Laurel Oak Dr, Bel Air, MD 21015.

1963
Lawrence Uhrich was awarded the National Award for Teaching Excellence as an adjunct prof at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, MA. He resides in Tewksbury, MA. Email is LuhrichTew@aol.com.

1964
Colonel David Golden is now the chaplain at The Citadel, a military academy in SC. He officially retired from the US Army on July 30, after many yrs of service as a chaplain. He & wife Alice (Hendrickson ’63) will be living on The Citadel campus.

1965
Garrett Crow, Univ of New Hampshire prof of plant biology, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach and conduct research in Costa Rica during the 1999-00 academic yr. He is one of approximately 700 US grantees recognized with this prestigious award. Crow’s appointment with the Universidad Nacional includes teaching a seminar/field course in tropical aquatic plants at Palo Verde National Park, developing a bilingual Internet course on tropical aquatic plants, and advising students. He & wife Charlyn live in Durham, NH.

1966
Dr. Ronald Oakerson was named academic vice pres and dean of Houghton College. He has served as prof of political science at Houghton since 1992 and chair of the history and political science dept since 1997. He & wife Elizabeth live in Houghton, NY.

1967
Nelson Rediger and daughter Erin ’99 completed the 1999 Indianapolis Life 500 Festival Mini-Marathon. The event drew 22,933 entries. Many other TU faculty, staff, students and alumni competed in this race.

1969
Chip Jagger has been named assoc exec dir for development at Ball State Univ. He will oversee the major gift program and help provide leadership for university development. Previously he was dir of university communications at BSU, and prior to that vice pres for univ rel at Taylor. Chip, wife Verna & children Heather ’02 and Craig ’00 live at 1330 Valhalla Dr. Upland, IN 46989. ● Richard Muller works for the US Army Corps of Engineers as program mgr, environmental support to the military. He & his family live in Chesapeake, VA. Email is richard.j.muller@usace.army.mil.

1972
Steve Clough won the Phil Daghliden Award from IU for excellence in English ed. He is a teacher at Homestead HHS. Wife Donna (Duren ’75) also won an honor this year. She was awarded the Lilly Summer Creativity Grant. They live in Ft Wayne, IN.

1973

1975
Michael Pierce was accepted into the doctoral program at Florida State Univ. His duties as a grad assistant will be two-fold while working on his PhD: teaching the undergraduate ESOL course and joining forces with the multilingual/multicultural education dept of

Four decades of alumni served with CIM/AIMM

While working on the history of the Congo Inland Mission (CIM) and/or Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission (AIMM), Jim Bertsche ’44 discovered that Taylor University connections with CIM/AIMM abound. The following is a list of Taylor graduates who have served with CIM/AIMM:

Jim Bertsche ’44
Jenny (Shuppert ’45) Bertsche
Sandra Bertsche ’72
Timothy Bertsche ’78
Robert Bontrager ’45
Mable (Busch ’44) Bontrager
Howard Habecker ’54
Marlene (Short ’56) Habecker
Marjie (Neueneschwander ’66) Culbertson
Ruby (Moser ’56) Neueneschwander
Milo Nussbaum ’51
Lorri (Berends ’71) Nussbaum
Stan Nussbaum ’71
Glenn Rediger ’77
Milo Rediger ’39
Elmer Rediger ’52
Gloria (Bridson ’52) Regier
Glenn Rocke ’41
Ina (Rowell ’42) Rocke
Ned Stucky ’62 honored for 41 years of coaching

Ned Stucky ’62 has been coaching basketball camps at Taylor for over 41 years.

Coach Don Odle hired Stucky, then a freshman and student manager for the Taylor basketball team, when he needed a camp counselor. He has worked with the camps ever since.

Over the years, Stucky’s commitment to children was exhibited not only as a camp counselor, but also as a teacher and counselor at East Bay Middle School in Portland, Ind. “Kids are the same — energetic, curious, wanting to learn,” says Stucky. “They have a good environment here [at Taylor] to do it in. Not only does it teach them how to play basketball but how to live.”

Stucky was never a stranger to Taylor. His mother, Rowena (Walker ’34) Stucky was a Taylor graduate as well as his sister, brother-in-law, niece and both of his own children. Daughter Amy ’92 is an instructor in the athletic department while his son, Jason ’99 helps with the camps.

“Taylor is in our blood,” says Stucky.

On August 6, Stucky was honored with a recognition award for the many years he served the Taylor community through basketball camps. “Taylor Basketball Camp has influenced thousands of young boys and girls from around the world,” he says. “I appreciate and enjoy the opportunity to help contribute to this positive experience for them.” —Arna M. Smith ’87

the college of education in developing new ESOL infusion curriculum for elem and English education majors. • LCDR Bob Vogler was selected for promotion to commander in the Navy Nurse Corps. He is in charge of nursing informatics at Naval Medical Ctr, Portsmouth, VA. Bob, wife Susan & children Becky (15) and Robbie (9) live at 424 Wessex Dr. Chesapeake, VA 23322. Email is lcdrrn@yahoo.com.

1978

Mike Alspaugh was named the 1999 recipient of the Interscholastic Officials Assoc Award for Track and Field. He has served as an Indiana High School Athletic Assoc (IHSAA) licensed track and field official for 12 yrs. Each year the IHSAA, in cooperation with the National Federation of Interscholastic Officials Assoc, recognizes and honors an outstanding official in 11 sports. Statewide, there are more than 8,000 licensed officials. Mike & wife Carole (Akers) have 2 children, Shawn ’02 and Matthew ’17. They live in North Liberty, IN.

1979

Kevin Johnson x graduated from the Brooks Institute of Photography with a major in motion picture and is now self-employed. He, wife Lisa & children Camden (3) and Graham (almost 1) live in Greenwood, IN. Email is kjohnson@compuverse.com. • Michael & Denise (Gehrke) Lane & their 3 daughters Heather (15), Amanda (12) and Michaela (9) headed to the northwoods of Wisconsin to serve God in camp ministry. In June, they began serving at Ft Wilderness. This is a mission position as they have to raise all of their support. If you would like to be a member of their support team, contact them at Ft Wilderness, Box 715, McNaughton, WI 54543 or email michaellane@juno.com.

1980

Paul Beach recently hosted a group of family and friends at his home in Hampton, NJ. Among those gathered were TU grads Martha (Beach ’75) Covington and Gail (Roessler ’76) Loehr. • Jeffrey McFarland was promoted from major to Lt Col and was given command of the Infantry Training Battalion at the US Marine Training Ctr in Camp Pendleton, CA. This battalion trains as many as 50,000 Marines per yr. Lt Col McFarland was awarded the Bronze Star during the Desert Storm engagement, among other honors. He lives in Carlsbad, CA.

1981

Vickie (Kepley) Biles works at R&M Manufacturing as mgr of contracts administration. Sadly, she lost her husband Jeff to cancer in July of 1995. Vickie & sons Patrick (12) and Michael (7) live at 548 Crossbridge Dr, Westminster, MD 21158. Email is vbiles@qis.net.

1982

John & Eileen Moser are the proud parents of Hadassah born Dec 14, 1998. Siblings are Meriam (14), John Paul (12), Mark (10), Hannah (8), Peter (6), Hosea (4) and Seth (2). John is senior pastor at Community Gospel Church in Melrose Park. The family lives in Maywood, IL. Email is MortahMC@aol.com. To see the Moser children, visit www.xmark.com/moser.

• David & Susan (Schuneman) Wilkie are the busy parents of Jennifer (12), Julian (10), Jonathan (8) and Josiah (2). They live in Auburn Hills, MI. Email is david@rlmenvironmental.com.

1983

Andrew & Monica (Sheets) McTaggart joyfully welcome Robert Gleen born Sept 12, 1998. The family lives in Australia. Email is mmctaggart@hotmail.com. • Robert & Kara (Boehm) Molnchouse are the proud parents of Benjamin Gregory born May 10. Brothers are Thomas (9) and Daniel (5). Monica is a counselor/adjunct faculty member at College of DuPage/ DeVry Institute of Tech. The family resides at 1920 Glencoe St, Wheaton, IL 60187. Email
is molenh@cdnet.cod.edu. • Kelly Neer is assist campaign finance administrator in the office of Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell. He & wife Cheryl (Hochstetller ’85) live in Columbus, OH. Email is kneer@sos.state.oh.us.

1984

Robert & Brenda (Harris) Barr are the proud parents of Benjamin born Sept 23, 1998. The family lives in Mebane, NC. • David & Kathy (Newell) Dinkler are happy to announce the birth of Luke Jeremiaah on June 18—on his dad’s birthday and brother Matthew’s 2nd birthday! Sisters are Alyssa (10), Rachel (8), Cassandra (6) and Julie (4). Kathy makes good use of her el ed degree by homeschooling. They live at 12 Chestnut Dr, Eastampton, NJ 08060. • Bill Ferrell received his THM from Dallas Theol Sem last Dec. While in Dallas, he served as an assoc pastor and worked in the business office at The Heights Baptist Church. He has accepted a position as pastor of ministries at Florida Bible Church in Miramar, FL. God has blessed them during their relocation with 2 close TU friends to welcome them! Barb (Rediger x’86) Burklin and Mary Pat (Mahoney) Snagala have been very helpful. Their new address is 11516 SW 51st Ct, Cooper City, FL 33326.

Melody Gongwer graduated from the career training program in child & adult psychiatry at the Karl Menninger School of Psychiatry & Mental Health Sciences, Topeka, KS. Dr. Gongwer was a Seeley Fellow. These prestigious fellowships are funded by The Seeley Foundation, which has supported professional education at Menninger for more than 40 yrs. Dr. Gongwer plans to join the Center for Behavioral Health, Bloomington, IN. • Dwight & Diane (Rutter ’86) Kingdon have moved to 11656 Kittrun Ct, Cincinnati, OH 45231. Email is dkkingdon@gateway.net.

1985

Steve & Cheryl Bauman are starting their 8th yr with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They have moved to 13035 Guildhall Cir, Orlando, FL 32828. They will provide systems and computer support for Wycliffe’s US headquarters. Email is Steve.Bauman@wycliffe.org.

1986

KC Carlsten is marketing dir for DC/IA 2000 for Youth for Christ. Her address is 6078A Blue Ridge Dr, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126. Email is kccarlsten@aol.com. • Judy (Harrison) Kirkwood is publicity coordinator for the theatre and performing artist series at Taylor Univ. She & husband Jay have 2 children, Heather (12) and Marissa (8). They live in Marion, IN. Email is jdkirkwood@taylor.edu. • Steve Newman was promoted to the rank of major in the USMC last yr. He recently returned from his second six-month deployment with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC) to the Persian Gulf where he served as staff judge advocate. In that role he managed all legal matters for the commanding officer and the 1500 Marines on board the three-ship flotilla. Steve also served as the education officer organizing and teaching college credit courses to 700 Marines who wished to work toward a degree. He, wife Kelly & children Joshua (6) and Emily (4) have moved to Charlottesville, VA. The Marine Corps has assigned him to study at the Army Judge Advocate Generals College which is part of the School of Law at the Univ of VA. He will receive the LLM degree specializing in criminal or int'l law. • Tim & Tina (Trisel) Oberholtzer are happy to announce the arrival of Rachel Naomi on Aug 7, 1998, the birthday of her great-grandmother whose middle name she shares. Tina is staying home with Zachary (2) and Rachel for awhile before returning to work as a speech therapist. Email is tzroberholtzer@webtv.net.

1987

Daniel x & Susan Houston live at 37580 Mallory St, Livonia, MI 48154. Dan works for Ford Motor Co and has had several assignments taking him across the country from CA to MI. He is currently a mgr in the global parts distribution activity for Ford Customer Service Div. Dan studied at TU for 2 yrs before transferring to the Univ of MI, graduating with a BA and subsequently earning an MBA from Eastern Michigan Univ. Sue is an English instructor at William Tyndale College. Email is dhousto@hotmail.com. • Cliff & Jennifer (Luttrell) Jordan are pleased to announce the birth of Emmale Paige on March 16. Siblings are Claire (6) and Andrew (3). The family’s address is 154 Roquemore Rd, Clemmons, NC 27012. Email is cjordan@bellsouth.net. • Michael & Robyn (Landt) Miller now live at 27600 Denmar Ct, Warren, MI 48093. • Mike & Julie (Mervau) Walters proudly announce the birth of Sarah Grace on March 26. Siblings are Rachel (3) and Daniel (almost 2). Their address is 8546 S Maple Ct, Zeeland, MI 49464.

1988

Doug & Anna Marie (Huyett) x’88) Kelley joyfully announce the birth of Joshua Douglas on July 2. Proud siblings are Jeremy (7), Whitney (5) and Caleb (2). Their address is 3235 Rathbun Rd, Birch Run, MI 48415. Email is kelleydoug@aol.com. • David & Janice (Lambert) Williams are the proud parents of twins Greyson and Nathaniel born June 8, 1999. The family lives at 8916 Bells Lake Rd, Apex, NC 27502.

1989

Tad Atkinson requests prayer for his father who has cancer. For further info email Tad at Maradin@aol.com.
Matthew & Shirley (Rider) Constock are the proud parents of Joseph Rex born July 23, 1998. The family lives in Everett, WA. Email is shirl_constock@juno.com.

Tim & Ashlyn (Feil '90) Holz are thrilled to announce the birth of Elizabeth Joy “EJ” on April 30. Sister Makenna is almost 2. They live in Richfield, MN and have a new email address: taholz@gateway.net. They praise God for His blessings and goodness!

Brian & Denise (Groff) Luke, along with children Lydia (8), Rachel (7) and Daniel (4), have moved to Harmony Heart Camp in Northeastern PA. After 8 yrs as missionaries in Newark, NJ they have transferred to World Impact’s camping ministry. As program dir, Brian’s role is to serve World Impact’s city ministries through camps and retreats. Their new address is 1285 Heart Lake Rd, Jermyn, PA 18433. Email is bdluke@juno.com.

David & Traci (Stewart) Mason proudly announce the birth of Taylor Leigh on Nov 9, 1998. Siblings are Kudyn (7) and Maxwell (3). David is a deputy sheriff for Franklin County and Traci is the dir of administration for the Ohio Credentialing Board for Chemical Dependency Professionals. Traci is pursuing an MBA at Capital Univ. They live at 5005 Hubbardton Pl, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Email is DTMASON@aol.com.

Rob & Lynn (Schafer) Thomas live in Westmont, IL with their sons Robert (6) and William (3). Rob works in customer service at Harris Bank in downtown Chicago. Lynn is a sales assoc for Family Christian Stores and homeschools the boys. They are very active in their church.

1990

Jacki Belile was ordained on June 6 as an American Baptist minister. She has been called to be the interim pastor at Phoenix Community Church in Kalamazoo, MI. Email Jacki at jbelle@aol.com.

David & Jill (Richmond '91) Kaufman are the proud parents of Hannah Michel born April 30. The family lives in Indianapolis, IN.

Darin & Tara (Dellaughter) Lehr are happy to announce the birth of Evan Ray on Oct 26, 1998. Sister Whitley is 3. After teaching elem school children for 6 yrs, Tara enjoys being a stay-at-home mom. The family resides in Delphie, IN.

Bob & Kathlyn (Hess) Purdy are the proud parents of Benjamin Boden born March 11. Siblings are Jonathan (4) and Ali (2). They live at 6216 Hunter Wood Dr, Ft Wayne, IN 46805. Email is BPurdy@aol.com.

Linda Sechrist x is dir of membership services at the Duneland Chamber of Commerce in Chesterton, IN. She plans Chamber events, recruits new members and leads 6 commit-tees. Linda resides in Porter, IN. Email is sechrist@ncun3co.net.

Toby & Kristin Shope are the proud parents of Carter Alexis Ayres born March 31. Toby is youth pastor at Bethel Baptist Church and Kristin is an independent kitchen consultant with Pampered Chef. The family lives at 2192 Oakdale (down), Cleveland Hills, IN 46118.

Steve & Christa (Ittzes '92) Upton have moved from St Louis to Logansport as Steve has accepted a new position as dir of worship and music at Cross-Wind UMC. Christa gave up teaching piano lessons to be a full-time mom and home- maker. Their new address is 2220 Spear St, Logansport, IN 46947.
Jill Jousma married Burke Sage on April 4, 1998 in Grundy, MI. In the wedding
of the two, Tu were Lori (Horvath '91) Hoffman, Kristin (Irish '93) Kile and
Misty (Tin Holt '93) Spethof. Jill is a 1st gr teacher at
Vanguard Charter Academy and Burke is the
owner of the Alger Heights Calif. Their
address is 1874
M沃 Berends Dr SW
#1, Wyoming, MI
49509. •

Christopher &
Alisa (Berzon)
Pujol are the proud parents
of Noah Christopher born June
13. The family lives in
Sugarland, TX. Christopher is
an information systems analyst and
Alisa is a stay-at-home
mom. Email is taylor92
@aol.com. •

Michael x &
Alison Risher live in
Goodlettsville, TN. Michael is
owner of MRC Consulting. He
is a certified MCP with
Microsoft in Visual Basic,
Windows 95 and 98. Email is
mrischerMCP@netscape.net. •

Dan Seibel is part of the air
combat element, Marine
medium helicopter Squadron
261, 22nd Marine expeditionary
unit that deployed to the
Mediterranean in Sept. Dan is
assigned as the flight officer,
senior test pilot, night systems
instructor, and terrain flight
instructor for the squadron in
the deployment. Email is
seibz@worldnet.att.com. •

Scott x & Mitzi (Giselbach)
Thomas live in Ft Wayne, IN
with sons Alex (18), Aaron
(14), Samuel (7) and Ethan
(almost 2). Scott is a graphic
designer and Mitzi is mgr of
communications at Brother-
hood Mutual Ins Co. •

Mark & Julie (Howell) Turner are
the proud parents of Katherine
Suzanne born June 28. The
family has moved to
15852 Wood-
land Dr, Dearborn, MI 48120. Mark is a
production programming
analyst with Ford
Motor Co. Email is
mturne21
@ford.com. •

Michael '84 &
Susan (Walter)
Weddle announce the birth of
Sister Lexi is 2. Mike is a
recruiter and part owner of
Career Directions, Inc. Susan
loves staying home with the
girls. They live at 6280
Meadowlark Ln, Maple Grove,
MN 55360. Email is mike
@career-directions.com. •

Jay & Amanda Weitekamp
are the proud parents of
Annahly Elise born March 11.
Jay is assoc pastor at
Reynoldsburg Alliance Church
and Amanda is a stay-at-home
mom. They live in Reynoldsburg,
OH. •

Ben & Jane (Moore)
x Wilson joyfully announce the
birth of Salah Elise on Oct
and Elise means “of God.”
Siblings are Hannah (6),
Samuel (4) and Elasah (2).
The family lives in Nappanee,
IN. Email is Ben.JaneWilson
@juno.com.

1993

Darren x & Stacey (Bruce
x) Griffis bought their first
home last summer in sunny
Orlando, FL. Darren is a
computer consultant for
Lockheed Martin and Stacey
loves staying at home with
daughter Ashley (almost 2).
Email is darren.griffis
@worldnet.att.net. •

Dawn (Greer) Griggs earned an
MSW in 1997. She is now a
contract psychotherapist for 3
agencies in Kokomo. •

TR &
Angie (Lyons '94) Knight
are the thankful parents of
twins Emily Marie and Rachel
Laura born June 8. TR is
network/systems engineer at
Tu. They live at 455 S Main St,
Upland, IN 46069. •

Alan &
Amy (Nordquist '91) Muia
& son Denny Paul (6) reside at
2727 N 27th St, Mt Vernon, WA
98273. Alan is dir of student
activities and auxiliary services
at Skagit Valley College. Email is
amui@fidalgo.net. •

Cheri Armstrong works for
Conseco Funds Group as a
public communications
specialist. Her new address is
9482 Old Oak Dr, Fishers, IN
46038. Email is clarim
@aol.com. •

Philip &
Martha (Smith) Berg are the
proud parents of Asher Dylan
works at Jerusalem Univ
College in Jerusalem, Israel.
Email is pmberg
@netvision.net.il. •

Robert
Bright lives at Box 54A, Lova
La, Mason, WV 25260. Email is
robwbright@yahoo.com. •

David & Anne Chamberlin
joyfully welcome William David
born June 13. The family lives
in Alexandria, VA. Email is
ananchamb@aol.com. •

Thirty-three alumni gather
in Washington, D.C.

A Tu alumni gathering was held in
the Washington, DC area on April 19.
Joyce Helyer, associate vice president
for development, was the host for the
evening and Phil Loe, professor of
political science, was the guest
speaker. Denise Crum '93 coordinated
this event. Thirty-three alumni
and parents were in attendance.
Steve & Michelle (Romig) Gambill are the proud parents of Jacob Harris born Oct 8, 1998. Steve is an assist principal at Cartersville Elem, School and Michelle is a stay-at-home mom. They live in Cartersville, GA. ● Nicole Mayer and Norman Yatooma were married on Aug 2, 1997 in Bloomfield Hills, MI by Dr. Jay Kesler ’58. Nicole is teaching 1st gr at Detroit Country Day School. After graduating from IU School of Law, Norman began his business law practice in the Birmingham and Detroit offices of Butzel Long. The couple resides at 1543 Georgetown Dr, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. ● Mitch & Pam (Lepley ’92) Piersma joyfully announce the birth of Ryan Richard on July 1, 1998. They live at 402 E Franklin St, Otsego, MI 49078. Email is mjpiersma@aol.com. ● Joseph & Amy (Nelson) Sevic are the proud parents of Andrew Joseph born Aug 7, 1998. Amy works for GE Plastics in customer service. Email is amy.sevic@polymerland.com ● Nicole Thrasher is a missionary with Pathfinders Intl and is serving in Albania. She and other relief workers are attempting to meet the basic needs of former residents of Kosovo.

1995

Matt Jeffrey earned an MA in ed leadership from Aurora Univ. He is a 7th gr geography teacher and HS wrestling coach. Email is mjjeffrey15@aol.com Anyone who is passing through Chicago and needs a place to stay is always welcome! ● Eric Pawley earned an MA in linguistics from the Univ of Texas in Arlington in preparation for service with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Thailand. He will work with national translators to provide the Bible in the heart languages of minority people groups in mainland Southeast Asia. Email is Eric_Pawley@sil.org. ● Ryan & Judi Small joyfully announce the birth of Alexander Ryan on May 10. The family lives in Marion, IN. ● Karen Temple has moved to Columbia, SC where she is the dir of the press in the Univ of South Carolina press dept. Email is wr72@aol.com ● Todd Walton is attending USAF pilot training at Laughlin AFB, TX. Upon completion of training, he will return to work for the Wisconsin Air National Guard in Milwaukee. Email is toddl@prontonmail.com. ● Don & Anne (Turner x) Wierenga are proud to announce the arrival of Ethan David on April 10. Don is an administrator at Bethphage IN. Anne is a full-time homemaker. Email is DWierenga@juno.com. The family lives in South Bend, IN.

1996

Todd & Hollie (Smith) Gilman are the proud parents of Jacob Michael born Sept 5, 1998. The family resides in Richmond, VA. Email is gilman_h@juno.com. ● Lori Hope married Jonathan Franklin on Jan 9 in Miami, FL. Lori does grant writing. The couple’s address is 15888 SW 95 Ave #107, Miami, FL 33175. Email is jonathanfranklin@popline.com. ● Mike Hollar married Emily Vardaman on June 6. He is operations/cost analyst for the Intl Health Care group in the Professional Health Care Div of Kimberly-Clark. The couple’s address is 7073 W Harcuvar Dr, Tucson, AZ 85743. ● Jesse & Danielle (Jarrett) Holt have moved to 3109F Darden Rd, Greensboro, NC 27407. Jesse is attending NC State furthering his engineering degree. Email is j.dholt@ mindspring.com. ● Rebecca Kraft and Scott Touzel were married on Dec 31, 1998 in Warren, MI. TU participants were Janie Casey, Naomi (Pawley) Dorey. Samuel Kraft ’00 and Karen (Kraft ’91) Hummel. Scott is employed by Gerber Products and Rebecca is a part-time substitute teacher and full-time homemaker. The couple’s address is 16 N Stewart Ave, Fremont MI 49412. ● Tracey Larsen married Jeff Wilenstein on June 19, 1998. TU participants were Jennifer (Von Eschen) Wiley and Tracey (Ritsema) Striegel. The couple lives in Zeeland, MI. Tracey is a kindergarten teacher for Zeeland Public Schools. Email is Iarsen@zeeland.k12.mi.us. ● Eric Mathiasen is now IT protection coordinator for Cargill Investor Services in Chicago, IL. Email is eric@mathiasen.com.

Suzie Polsgrove married John Weber on April 25, 1998. TU participants in the wedding were Penny (Polsgrove ’91) Smarrella, Sarah (Morrow ’97) Landt, Kim (Kile ’88) Polsgrove and Carri (Stanek ’97) Hammers. John is a 1995 grad of Wheaton College and is a stockbroker at Olde. Suzie is an office supervisor at Adecco Employment Service. The couple lives at 1275 Britarbrook Dr, Apt 104, Wheaton, IL 60187.

1997

Michael & Jenifer (Hendrickson) Averill live at 4205 Manchester Ln, Monroe, NC 28110. Email is maverill@gateway.net. ● Corrie Bau is in Ghana, West Africa working with Youth for Christ, Liz Guilie is serving there as well. Email Corrie at corriebauaer@ighmail.com and email Liz at
lizguille@ighmail.com. They would love to hear from TU friends! • **Amanda Bichlmeier** has moved to 101 S Dicks St, Muncie, IN 47303. Email is abichlmeier@bsu.edu. • **Betsie Kim and David Bell ’95** were married on June 13, 1998 in Birmingham, AL. TU participants were **Elizabeth Germann, Tracy Jensen, Sarah (Kutschke) Sikes, Tammy Spaan, David Ballast**.

'B95, Matt Brunton ‘96, Jason DeRouchie ’95, Jason Dreistadt x’95, Joel Gilbert ’95 and Eric Marcotte ’95. David & Betsie began new ministry positions this fall as teachers at Charlotte Christian School in Charlotte, NC. Email is davidandbetsie@juno.com. • **Geoffrey & Carrie (Wheeler) Mallinson** live in Randwick, NSW, Australia. Carrie is a missionary with Youth for Christ. Email is yfycgccw@yfc.org.au. • **Justin & Kelly (Garfield ’96) Moore** live in Ballwin, MO. Justin is attending Logan College of Chiropractics and Kelly is a marketing assist...

1998

**Lindsey Elliott** married Ped Wilson on Jan 30 in Wheaton, IL. Participating in the wedding from TU were **Ronda (Vanest) Myers, Nicole Franz, Summer Black ’97 and Josh Elliott ’00. The couple lives at 6472 W 200 N. Wabash, IN 46992. Email is willson2@juno.com. • **Heather Myers ’97 and Evan Kittleman ’98** were married on May 15, 1999 in Bryan, OH. TU participants were **Sally Dechert ’97, Mari Tom ’99, Molly Piersma x’97, Dave Prentice ’96 and James Miles ’98. Correspondence can be sent to 236 W Read Ave, Upland, IN 46989. Email is evskitleman@tayloru.edu. • **Juli Perzee married Jonathan Dimos ’96 in Wheatfield, IN on July 18, 1998. TU participants in the wedding were Melana Gonyea, Allison Ritter, Daria (Arnold) Chacon, Mark Adams, Mike Wooten, Jeremy Joyner, Aaron Brown, Beth (Tippett ’96) Barr, Ryan Spence ’96, Michelle Ransdale ’98, Beth Klima ’98 and Matthew Dimos ’95. The couple lives at 11766 W Chenango Dr #2, Morrison, CO 80465. Email is jdimos@shilden.com.**

**Evan ’98 and Heather (Myers ’97) Kittleman**

**U.S. News and World Report rankings place Taylor on top**

Taylor University returned to the US News and World Report survey of America’s best colleges as one of the top three Midwestern liberal arts colleges. Taylor ranked third, behind Hillsdale College (Mich.) and St. Mary’s College (Ind.). Over 120 colleges were surveyed in the Midwest region.

Last year Taylor shared the number two spot with Hillsdale, while St. Mary’s held the number one spot.

The survey, which hit newsstands on Friday, Aug. 20, measures factors including academic reputation, freshman retention and graduation rates and alumni giving rates. Taylor ranked highest in the percentage of freshman in the top 25 percent of their high school class (71 percent) and the alumni giving rate (41 percent).

This is Taylor’s twelfth time to make the list in the 13-year history of the survey. Other institutions in the top ten include St. Norbert College (Wis.), Principia College (Ill.), Ohio Northern University, Otterbein College (Ohio), Augustana College (S.D.), Bethel College (Minn.), and Simpson College (Iowa).

For more information on the criteria and rankings, visit www.usnews.com/usnews/college/rankings.
Past and future alumni gather in Jordan

May 1999 brought six past and future “Taylorites” together in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Mark ’92 & Emily (Brailey’92) Vanest, Lisa Curless ’92 and Travis Vanest ’94 left their homes in Damascus, Syria, and traveled south to visit Doug Woodward ’92 who is living and working in Amman, Jordan. Mark and Lisa took full advantage of their Personal Touch Staff experience, by giving Pam Crane ’03 a full introduction to Taylor.

Mark completed his masters in applied linguistics from IU and is busy working at the American Language Center (ALC) in Damascus. The most enjoyable aspect of his job is planning training seminars for local English teachers. Emily loves being the mother of Leila (2) and Abigail born March 14. She also enjoys cooking and playing hostess to Syrian guests and providing a home-away-from-home for local singles (including Lisa and Travis).

Travis is finishing his third year of working in Damascus. He spent the past year teaching English at the ALC after teaching at Damascus International School the year before. He will continue his education through Indiana Wesleyan University for the summer and then move on to his next undetermined adventure. Travis has just finished cutting an album of songs which he wrote and performed, with the help of Taylor professor Jim Spiegel and Basement Studios of Upland.

Lisa Curless completed her second year of teaching at the Damascus Community School after finishing a masters of curriculum from Ball State University. She is looking forward to next year and the opportunity to continue building her ninth and tenth grade English curriculum, as well as continuing to build the high school forensics and drama programs. Her email is lisac@cyberia.net.lb.

Doug Woodward is teaching elementary/middle school computers and coaching various athletic teams at the American Community School in Amman. His email is dwoodwar@acsamman.10.

Alumni office plans Taylor Family Gatherings in several communities

The Alumni Office may be traveling to your area! We have missed seeing many alumni, friends and parents who haven’t been able to return to campus for Homecoming and other campus events, so we are coming to see you. Would you be interested in helping us host or plan a Taylor Family Gathering? If so, please contact Sharon Campbell in the office of alumni relations, at 1 (800) 882-3456 or e-mail shcampbel@tayloru.edu.

Taylor Family Gatherings are planned for the following locations. Call or e-mail for more information.

October:
Pittsburgh, Penn.
Johnstown, Penn.
Washington/Altoona, Penn.

November:
Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn.
Milwaukee, Wis.
Lexington, Ky.
Boston, Mass.

December:
Canton/Akron, Ohio
Calumet, Ill.
Tiffin, Ohio
Portsmouth, Ohio

January:
West coast of Florida
South Bend, Ind.

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Calumet, Ill.
Tiffin, Ohio
Portsmouth, Ohio

January:
West coast of Florida
South Bend, Ind.

Look for the homecoming flyer in your mail, or visit www.tayloru.edu/upland/alumni/hcgatherings for more information.

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5. 100% cotton super heavyweight tee with traditional TU Athletics design. S. M. L. XL $12.95; XXL $13.95.

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Taylor grad teaches students how to win at life

Upland was a long way from home for these Summer Honors students, all from Modesto, Calif. The students (back row: Kristina Valencia, Celene Celedon; front: Dee Lopez, Julia Vizcaino and Cesar Cuellar) first heard about Taylor from Kevin Cripe '86, an elementary school teacher and their chess coach.

Cripe took Cuellar and Vizcaino under his wing when they were still in grade school, and first brought them to the campus on their way to a chess tournament in New York (see picture on right). Six years later, Cripe convinced Cuellar, Vizcaino and three of their friends to return to Taylor for the Summer Honors program. Cripe made the trip possible by working with the Summer Honors staff and helping to cover the students' traveling expenses.

The students are grateful for the new experience and hope to return to Taylor after finishing their senior year of high school. In the meantime, however, they are thankful for the guidance of their mentor and his wife, Crystal.

"He opened the world for us," Cuellar said. "I didn't know there was a world beyond California, and now I've been all the way across the United States."