Summer 2007

Taylor: A Magazine for Taylor University Alumni and Friends (Summer 2007)

Taylor University

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aspirations

The bulletin board in the Sickler Hall prayer chapel is where students, faculty and staff members post prayer requests.

prayer

In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart.  
*John Bunyan*

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.  
*Martin Luther*

More tears are shed over answered prayers than unanswered ones.  
*Mother Teresa*

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.  
*Philippians 1:19*

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.  
*Philippians 4:6*

Go back and tell Hezekiah, the leader of my people, “This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the Lord.”  
*2 Kings 20:5*
20 A prayer for Virginia Tech
Lynn (Matthews '67) Davis made it through one of the nation's worst tragedies with faith and prayer.

22 Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
Even though he is battling a devastating illness, life is good for Wally Roth '59.

24 Brothers in arms
Mark Andrews '87 struggled with his calling to be a Christian soldier until God "deprogrammed" him of that notion.

28 Grace like rain
Kyle Martin '01 prayed for revival and God answered that prayer in unimaginable ways.

30 Prayer and remembrance
Taylor University's new prayer chapel will honor the lives of five special people and call the community to a deeper reliance on prayer.
Of gratitude and reflection
Four years. Where did it all go? It seems like only yesterday they arrived with questions like, “Where is the Reade Center?” or “What is a KSAC?” After hundreds of hours in classrooms, chapel services and many campus activities, those college days that seemed to have just started had come to an end. And as our seniors reflected on the laughter, tears, things learned and life-changing experiences, they rejoiced in God’s faithfulness and reflected upon His goodness so evident in their lives.

While at Taylor, my mind set has changed completely. The friends I’ve made and a few professors here have helped me to become more critical of my faith and who I am as I continue to develop.

Seth Barnes ’07

Taylor has become my haven of hope, love, joy, friendships, hurt, tears and so many other things. This is a place created to glorify God and, to me, it does ... I know that leaving this place I feel prepared for world service, but I know God is going to rock me to my knees in many other ways in these years to come. I wouldn’t trade anything in the world for these four years at Taylor and am committed to serving Jesus with what I’ve learned.

Amy Wong ’07

One of the lessons I have learned while at Taylor is that you can never invest too much in someone. It is so important to pour our lives and experiences into other people in order for them to grow and surpass us in whatever we have done. Another lesson taught to me at Taylor is that each and every one of us is gifted and we need to use our gifts to glorify God. One of the last lessons I learned at Taylor is that I need to back-up my files because who knows what could happen?

Jonathan Chacko ’07
Three more years

What an odd request it was for my grandfather to make that cold night as he held my dying grandmother’s hand. As we all stood at her bedside, waiting for the end, my grandfather tearfully asked God to give them just three more years together. Soon her body relaxed and the attending nurse said it would not be long. Within a few minutes, she had drifted off to sleep.

But the next morning she awakened. She was better. Stronger. A week later, she went home. A few weeks after that, my grandparents moved to a nursing home where they spent their last days together. She died on November 1, 1997—almost three years to the day after my grandfather prayed that prayer.

Does prayer change my situation or does it change me? I believe it does both. According to the Apostle John, when we pray according to God’s will, He hears us. What a powerful thought: the King of the universe, in the midst of holding the heavens together, actually takes the time to listen to what we have to say and is willing to act upon it.

But I believe that as we genuinely come before God’s throne of grace, the things that seemed so important just a few minutes ago suddenly fade into insignificance so that we, like Isaiah, can only answer, “Here am I. Lord. Send me.”

Many from our Taylor University community have experienced the power of prayer in the same way and we have included a few of their stories in this issue, which is specifically devoted to prayer: We are told to cast our cares upon the Lord. My grandfather did that 13 years ago. I pray that each of us will do that today and for the rest of our lives.

James R. Garringer
Editor
Leading with passion

While the word "passion" may be overused in today's society, Tamara Shaya '08 has a special passion for Taylor University and the people of Iraq.

A communications major from Cincinnati, Ohio, Shaya was elected Taylor's student body president during Taylor Student Organization (TSO) elections last spring.

Her parents, both born in Baghdad, Iraq, trace their ancestry to the ancient city of Ur, home of Abraham of the Chaldees. Like Abraham, Shaya is a Chaldean. It has been 18 years since her last visit to Iraq but she hopes one day to go back.

"Ever since I was six-years-old, I felt God leading me to return to Iraq," she said. "God has given me a huge passion for the Iraqi people and although I don't know when He will lead me to return, I trust His plan for my life. The Iraqi people need hope—and Christ is the source of that hope. I pray I can share that hope with the Iraqi people."

Shaya took an unlikely road to her new position as TSO president, confessing that her first impressions of the Taylor campus on a snowy January day four years ago left her nonplussed. But it was the community she experienced among the students, faculty and staff that drew her in.

"It was also the Holy Spirit's conviction that led me to come to Taylor. Both my parents and I heard clearly from God that He wanted me at TU," she added.

During her presidency, Shaya said her goals include a focus on social justice, being available to students and encouragement.

"I want our students to get more involved in discipleship relationships where they feel comfortable sharing their struggles," said Shaya. "Encouraging the students to find out what their unique gifts are and how to use them for Christ is also an area I will concentrate on next year."

"I couldn't be more excited to be working with Tamara as TSO president," said Dr. Skip Trudeau, Taylor's dean of students. "She is a deeply committed Christian and seeks to live her faith in all aspects of her life, and this is manifested in her being an excellent student. She is a prime example of what we want Taylor students to be."

"It is an honor to have the trust and support of the student body," Shaya said. "The position of student body president is not one that I take lightly; therefore I intend to seek God's guidance on decisions and work my hardest to ensure the students are engaged spiritually, academically, relationally and emotionally."
Vision quest

Troy Tomasik ’09 has always had a dream and a plan—now he has $10,000 to help make it a reality.

Tomasik, a Taylor University sophomore majoring in business and chemistry, and his fledgling business, Tiergan Technologies, won the Evansville New Venture Creation Competition this spring with his concept for the mass production of carbon nanotubes. In winning the event, Tomasik outpaced entrants from a number of larger state universities and claimed a check for $10,000.

It marked his first win after two strong finishes at competitions in Indianapolis and Taylor. “(Winning at Evansville) was pretty exciting,” Tomasik said. “There were some pretty great plans and I was thrilled that I got first place.”

Tomasik’s interest in nanotubes began in high school; his dual skill sets in chemistry and business are admittedly an unusual combination. “It is one of those God-given interests. I’ve always enjoyed chemistry and business. I was excited that I could work it out that I could major in both of them,” he said.

“The Lord blessed Troy’s preparation,” said Professor Michael Bates of Taylor’s Center for Research and Innovation. “(He) overcame 11 other teams from around the country with a very credible and effective presentation to a group of six judges composed of seasoned southwest Indiana business people.”

“It was very appealing to the Evansville community,” Bates added. “Evansville is the center of the plastics industry. Carbon nanotubes fit very well into the future of plastics. His high-tech, futuristic solution will fit the needs of southwest Indiana and Indiana in general.”

Although he has two years of college classes left, Tomasik is already looking toward possible graduate school courses in chemistry and perhaps business.

“God willing, over the next ten years this business will have a serious impact on the world through the process of commercialization,” he said. “In the next ten years I see carbon nanotubes being incorporated into products ranging from electrical wiring to clearer flat panel displays, extremely strong and lightweight composite materials, and even conductive plastics and paints.”

“Without the assistance of Professor Bates I would not have had the contacts and knowledge to accomplish this,” he said. “The chemistry department has been helpful and knowledgeable. When I come across an impasse they are always quick to lend advice. It makes it more possible for an undergraduate like me to conduct high-end research.”
Refreshing the Taylor brand

What is Beyond the Mind?

In the ever-changing world of collegiate communications, marketing, fund raising and recruiting, brand is crucial. Those attributes that comprise a brand's identity and promise—in other words, "What makes Taylor, Taylor?"—have been studied extensively during the past months to create new branding materials including a tagline, new institutional colors, a new logo and seal for Taylor University.

The branding elements, including the new tagline, Beyond the Mind, which has been used for over a year, were commissioned following the arrival of Taylor President Dr. Eugene B. Habecker '68. Their impact has been felt in a wide range of university publications and on the Taylor Web site (www.taylor.edu), which got a major facelift with newer, bolder colors and design elements.

"Dr. Habecker is passionate about Taylor University, its history and its mission," said Joyce Wood '81, associate vice president for university relations and marketing. "He asked our art director Steve Christensen and the rest of the creative team to design a new logo, color palette and seal that would convey what we have historically known and understood about Taylor's Christian and academic climate; and to also give us a visual framework for increased global engagement for the future.

"The key to the whole process was alignment—this was a total team approach that involved many creative professionals from across the campus," she added.

The seal, unveiled during recent Board of Trustees meetings, is a departure from Taylor's most recent iteration and adds a shield, olive leaves and different view of the globe to a reworked torch, flame and the Latin Lux et Fides (Light and Faith); and the logo represents a return to and update of the historic and familiar cross and crucible design, originally conceived by Dr. Milo Rediger '39.

Steve Mortland '85, Taylor's dean of enrollment management, said the tagline needed to be short, to the point and identify Taylor in a way that was different from its peers.

"The promise of Taylor that I began to work with was the promise that a Taylor education would prompt change in a student's life: change in the way they think, the way they serve and the way they live," he said. "We say that choosing Taylor is more than a four-year decision—it's a 40-year decision."

Mortland said the phraseology amplifying the historic emphasis on whole-person education, Christian scholarship and leadership is accurate but well-worn and that Beyond the Mind opens new avenues of identifying the Taylor University distinctives.

"It is the awareness that a Taylor education does not stop at the education of the mind, but delivers a value-added component," Mortland said. "The choice of the word 'Beyond' is essential because it is not 'siloh language' and does not lead the hearer to the impression that (the benefit gained from this) experience is separate from the Taylor experience.

"It calls for stretching and reaching. (These are the) essential elements of a challenging education," he added.
Thinking globally, camping locally

For the 200 students who took turns living in a cardboard shantytown this spring, the aim was learning and empathy with a bit of adventure thrown in.

As part of Social Justice Week, the group built their cardboard campus in the field between the Nussbaum Science and the Reade Liberal Arts Centers on Monday, April 30, and by the end of the week had experienced the homelessness and hunger, if only a taste, that is endured by a large portion of the world’s population.

“The reason was not so that we could understand what it is like to be homeless. If that was our mission, we failed,” said Caitlin Staples ’08, who was a member of the organizing committee.

“We could not understand what it was like because we could go inside at any moment,” she continued. “It does give us a taste of something that other people may go through (and) the discrepancy between us and the majority of the world.”

Participants for the week were asked to limit their food intake, go inside only when necessary, wear the same clothes and limit the amount of personal items in their cardboard hut.

“The students initially said, ‘This will be fun,’” related Dr. Mike Jessup, professor of sociology. “The fun wore off as the week progressed because you are getting limited food—rice and beans—for the week. And we encouraged them to fast at breakfast and lunch so they could experience what hunger would be like.”

Along with sleeping outdoors, the Taylor students were encouraged to participate in early morning prayer times and to take advantage of a number of speakers and films whose topics included sex trafficking and the plight of Africa’s children.

“From my perspective, the Bible, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament, shows an overwhelming concern for the oppressed. That is a theme,” Jessup stated. “The Israelites were oppressed by Pharaoh. Christians were oppressed. Jesus was the model of marginality; He became a refugee in Africa and Asia. He did not occupy a position of power.

“The commitment to social justice is not a suggestion but a fairly clear biblical mandate,” he added. “Since at Taylor we take our Bible and our faith seriously, likewise, we should take social justice seriously.”

Staples agreed. “If the mission is to align our hearts with God’s, then we need to care about these things like He does,” she said. “This is such an opportunity and we don’t want to pass it up.”
A brilliant sky, excited graduates, proud families and honorary degrees all marked Taylor University's 2007 commencement exercises on May 19 in Wheeler Stadium. Along with the great weather, it is safe to say the event will be remembered for Dr. Bill Pannell's colorful address' three main points—believe, behave and burp.

Pannell, an emeritus board member at Taylor and a Fort Wayne Bible College graduate, took the audience on a sometimes humorous, sometimes wistful journey through the 60 years that have passed since he arrived in Fort Wayne as an 18-year-old college freshman. His exhortation to the class was to believe in the power of God in their lives, behave because the world is watching and to burp—a reference to the Dr. Seuss tome *Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories* telling the graduates to throw off conventionality and go where God leads.

In addition to the honorary doctorate awarded Pannell during TUFW commencement services a day earlier, Taylor officials awarded honorary doctorates to Marta Gabre-Tsadick and her husband Demeke Tekle-Wold. The couple founded Project Mercy, a humanitarian relief organization that addresses hunger, HIV-AIDS and numerous problems in the African nation of Ethiopia.

The couple was recognized for their "distinguished and persevering service to the children, youth and poor adults of Yetebon, Ethiopia, and the surrounding communities," said Dr. Steve Bedi '65, Taylor's provost.

Along with Pannell, Gabre-Tsadick is an emeritus board member at Taylor.

Among the 415 graduates, 185 received cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude honors. Two elementary education majors, Mindy (Peterson '07) Zurcher, Prospect Heights, Ill., and Jennifer Miller '07, Elmhurst, Ill., were honored: Zurcher for achieving a 4.0 GPA and Miller as Taylor University's 18,000th graduate.

"As a freshman, I knew that I was capable of keeping a 4.0. I wanted much more out of my Taylor experience than just the academics," Zurcher said. "I tried to keep my studies in balance as I volunteered in different ministries and invested in relationships ... I am very glad that I achieved my goal, but I am also thrilled to have developed lasting friendships these past four years."
Faculty accolades

**Solomon Abebe**, associate professor of education, helped publish *Factors Influencing Teachers’ Decisions to Refer Students for Special Education* in the *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences*, Volume XI, No. 2, pp. 41-47.

**Mick Bates**, director of the innovative enterprises program for the Center for Research and Innovation (CR&I), presented *Entrepreneurship: Conceptualization to Commercialization*, at the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance annual conference in Tampa, Fla., in March 2007.

**Barbara Bird ’99**, assistant professor of English and director of the writing center; and **Pam Medows**, associate professor of education, each received a $3,000 grant from Indiana Campus Compact (ICC). ICC facilitates the promotion of service-learning in higher education by awarding sub-grants to students, faculty and staff from Indiana colleges and universities who create projects, curriculum and programs that enhance education.

Under the leadership of **John Bruner**, communication/new media instructor; and **Kathy Bruner**, assistant professor of communication/new media, the communication arts department won a 2007 Bronze Telly Award for a promotional video produced for Taylor’s Center for Research and Innovation. The Tellys honor the best in local, regional and cable television as well as the best in video and film production.

Professor of psychology **Mark Cosgrove**’s book *Foundations of Christian Thought* is a finalist in the philosophy category of the ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Awards.

**Jody Fernando ’98**, visiting instructor of education, presented *Transitioning from Language Teacher to Teacher Educator* at the national Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) conference in Seattle, WA.


**Roger Jenkinson ’60**, professor of geography, co-produced the *Indiana Academic Standards for Social Studies*. The initial draft received a favorable review from The National Geographic Society.


Twenty-eight Taylor professors are participating in the Teaching Squares Program. Over the course of seven weeks faculty are divided into groups of four who then observe each other teach in their own classes. Each square then meets to discuss their observations, ask questions and exchange ideas. The Teaching Squares Program was initiated last year by twelve science division faculty who participated in the Educational Issues Seminar.

**Mick Bates**, director of the innovative enterprises program for CR&I; **Matt DeLong**, associate professor of math; **Lee Erickson**, professor of business; **Rukshan Fernando ’98**, social work instructor; **Angie Fincannon**, associate professor of physical education and human performance; **Scott Geier**, coordinator of academic enrichment services; **Leon Harshenin**, associate professor of music; **Barbara Heavilin**, associate professor of English; **Bill Toll ’71**, professor of computing and system sciences; **Mark West**, associate professor of modern languages and **Quinn White ’87**, associate professor of education, were the recipients of $500 mini-grants. The week of May 21-25 was spent working on instructional technology projects to be showcased at Taylor University’s Technology for Teaching Conference August 16-17.
Alumni honor Spiegel

The Taylor University Alumni Association named Dr. Jim Spiegel the 2007 Distinguished Professor at Taylor University. Spiegel, a professor in philosophy, joined the Taylor faculty in 1993. He has authored five books, written numerous journal articles and has given a number of professional presentations and workshops including, most recently, an all-night lecture on the history of Rock-n-Roll.

In addition to his classroom work, Spiegel is an accomplished author. His book *How to be Good in a World Gone Bad* was honored by the 2005 Christianity Today Book Awards with the Award of Merit.

"(Dr. Spiegel) is respected as an author, mentor, scholar, musician and friend," said Terri (Kesler '85) Collins, Taylor’s associate vice president for alumni relations. "The integration of faith and learning is central to all that (he) teaches both in and outside the classroom."

Spiegel and his wife Amy (Bell'96) are the parents of four children: Bailey, Samuel, Magdalene and Andrew.

“The integration of faith and learning is central to all that (he) teaches both in and outside the classroom.”

NCATE

Taylor University’s education department has received a six-year reaccreditation (ending in 2013) from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

The reaccreditation caps a two-year process.

According to Dr. Carl Siler, a professor in Taylor’s education department and the director of teacher education, meeting NCATE accreditation standards helps institutions prepare new teachers for updated and more rigorous licensing standards in many states. He said NCATE accreditation standards incorporate the model state licensing principles developed by a task force of the council of chief state school officers.

"The NCATE process ensures that teacher preparatory institutions meet standards so candidates exhibit content knowledge, effective teaching methodologies and various attitudes and attributes to ensure that all students can learn," he said.

"The success of the NCATE reaccreditation visit is directly attributable to the quality of Taylor University education students, arts and sciences departments and the education department," Siler added.
At the beginning of the 2006-2007 season, Taylor University senior basketball players Amanda Bond, Amber Bond, Jenny Dawes and Allison Easterhaus chose Romans 15:5, a passage that talks about endurance, encouragement and unity in Christ, as their verse for the year.

By the time the season had ended, the four had encouraged, endured and unified as they led the Lady Trojans to their first-ever appearance in the Elite 8 of the NAIA Division II tournament, played in Sioux City, Iowa.

"I never saw a group of seniors lead the way they led to bring a team together," said Lady Trojans Head Coach Tami Krause, whose career record now stands at 331-224. "They applied it wholeheartedly. They would not settle for anything less. It was rewarding to see how God blessed them."

The team played well all year, compiling a final record of 23-12. Three of those losses came at the hands of cross-county rival Indiana Wesleyan, who finished the season as the undefeated national champion; six more came at the hands of teams ranked in the nation’s top five.

"(At Indiana Wesleyan) when we were at their place we led for 30 of the 40 minutes," Krause related. "The last 10 minutes it was back and forth—it was just anybody’s game. It gave our ladies the confidence to say, ‘We could play with anybody in the country.’"

"I told them to keep believing in what they have done all year, to have fun and glorify the Lord," she added. During Taylor’s NAIA tournament run, the team defeated Dakota State and Iowa Wesleyan before bowing to Cedarville 64-55.

"That was just some of the confidence and determination they built. Going into that national tournament, those seniors ... wanted to go out there and do something," said Krause. "I felt that if they ... played with that determination and confidence in the Lord, He was going to let them use their abilities to the fullest."

"I couldn’t have asked for a better senior year," exclaimed Amber Bond ’07. "The team this year was definitely the closest team that I have ever been a part of ... I will miss the relationships and the friendships that I have made on the team. They are friendships that will last for years to come."

"The cool thing is that our relationships aren’t over just because we aren’t teammates. It’s deeper than that," said Jenny Dawes ’07, the daughter of TU grad and former athlete Brent Dawes ’88. "We are sisters in Christ and our faith in Christ will keep us united forever."
Spring 2007 sports review

Baseball – Paced by first team All-MCC players Tad Litwiller ’07, Matt Maple ’09, Chris Nycz ’07 and Paul Passiales ’09, the Trojans finished 25-25. Litwiller hit .351 with four home runs, stole 15 bases and was named winner of the Gates-Howard Award. Ricky Pease ’07 and Michael Bentley ’07 were MCC honorable mentions.

Golf – The Trojans finished tenth at the NAIA Region VIII Championship, and placed two players, Matthew Hall ’07 and Ryan Johns in ’09, on the All-Region Team. The team finished sixth in the MCC.

Softball – The Trojans’ record was 13-24 overall and 6-9 in the Mid Central Conference (MCC). Jessica Fankhauser ’10 earned first team MCC selection and was honored as conference Pitcher of the Week following her no-hitter against St. Francis. Amy Richardson ’07 joined Fankhauser on the MCC first team.

Men’s track – Taylor finished third in the MCC, in a sixth-place tie at NCCAA nationals and 32nd in the NAIA nationals. Mitch Jones ’07 placed second at nationals in the pole vault and won All-MCC and All-American honors. He was joined by four Trojan teammates on the All-MCC team: Mark Beckford ’09, Ian Brown ’09, Michael Babich ’09 and Dave Voss ’09.

Women’s track – Lilly York ’07 set a school record of 36:15.32 in the 10K and then broke her own record with a time of 36:31. York was also named Lady Trojan Athlete of the Year. The team finished sixth in the MCC and 10th in the NCCAA.
Passionate prayer

I recently heard that Don Odle ’42 once said the thing he appreciated most about the knee replacements he received later in life was that they allowed him once again to kneel in prayer.

Are we passionate about prayer? Do we realize the power that is unleashed when we cast our cares upon the Lord? Do we pray that His kingdom will come and His will be done on earth, as it is in heaven?

In one of my favorite Bible passages, God tells us through the words of the writer of Hebrews 4:16, “Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Over the past 15 months, we have realized anew the need for prayer. When we come to God and pour out our hearts to Him, we have the dual privilege of aligning ourselves with the heart of the King of Kings, and bringing our requests, whatever they may be, before Him.

God, in His word, commands us to pray on all occasions for all things. Nothing is too small or too great for us to bring before our Heavenly Father. In the pages of this magazine, you will find account after account of believers from our Taylor community who have taken God at His word. One prayed for revival. Another prayed for a means of outreach and ministry. Yet another prayed for strength, comfort and guidance during her darkest hour.

By now you have probably learned that we are about to build a new Memorial Prayer Chapel, dedicated to the lives and memories of Laurel Erb, Monica Felver, Brad Larson, Betsy Smith and Laura VanRyn. We wrestled mightily within our spirits to find an appropriate way to not only celebrate the legacies these five beloved community members left us, but also to pay homage to the memories of others from our community whose losses are no less real and no less felt—even today.

There is another reason we want to build a prayer chapel. Prayer must be foundational to all that we do. Yes, the science building expansion, new chapel and athletic field complex, along with many other capital building projects are still in our plans, Lord willing.

And yes, our Vision 2016 initiatives of global engagement, centers of excellence, increased graduate program offerings and enrollment continue to be planned and materialize. But I believe it is significant for this vision that before any building project is started, that the first new facility we construct is a place for remembering and for prayer.

To paraphrase another, the foundation on which all ministry work and all leadership is built is our prayer lives. Unless we pray, unless we cast ourselves fully upon the Lord, we run the risk of trying to build in our own strength rather than fully depending on the Lord. As Psalm 127 says, “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.”

Today, I call upon each of us, especially those who are part of the Taylor University family, to rededicate ourselves to prayer and to seek His face and His purposes in every part of our lives. In fact, as it is so often with our God, I learned recently of a new movement of the Holy Spirit that has already started on our campus, and has called a number of our students to a greater reliance upon Him and a deeper commitment to prayer.

I want that for my life. I want that for Taylor University. And I want that for the Kingdom of God. We are God’s workmanship, created for good works in Christ. I pray that each of us will take up that calling in a new and fresh way.

“Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain.”
Engagement: The mission of Taylor University

Star Trek's The Next Generation Capt. Jean-Luc Picard used the command, "Engage" to begin new adventures in the Starship Enterprise. Engage—an interesting choice of word. Engage can mean a number of different things: attracting, holding or occupying the attention or efforts, obtaining, contracting, arranging use, winning over, drawing into and interlocking. When one engages, he or she may make a promise, assume an obligation or even enter into a conflict. Engagement is what the Christian life is all about. Scripture has revealed from Adam and the patriarchs, to Moses and Joshua, through Ezra and Nehemiah, God’s intimate engagement with His people and His creation. Christ engaged the ignorant and the wise, the weak and the downtrodden, the religious and the sinners. He commanded us to engage, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," (Mark 16:15 KJV) and "... and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8 NIV).

Taylor is not a bubble, but an academic institute of Engagement, committed to advancing lifelong learning and ministering the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need. Our mission requires Taylor to engage (involve oneself) four communities: the evangelical community (EC), Taylor community (TC), local community (LC) and the global community (GC).

Taylor engages (attract and hold the attention, draw into, pledge or promise) the evangelical community to enter higher education holistically: mind, soul and heart. Often we hear that Christians are told that you can’t integrate the intellect with the soul; not just from the secular community but also from the evangelical community as well. Can you study psychology, theatre or business and integrate your faith? Can you be a serious scientist (biologist) and a serious Christian? Taylor says “Yes, come! Come and seek the Lord in all these areas. Learn how to be intellectually honest and have your faith deepened. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind” (Luke 10:27 NIV).

Let me suggest that Beyond the Mind, Taylor’s current tag line, could be, Engaging the Mind (occupy the attention or efforts, attract and hold fast, participate, assume an obligation, enter into conflict). Education is a challenge of deep-rooted ideas; it is an interaction with ideas not about ideas. Engaging education requires taking ownership of what one has learned; to fully connect learning with one’s mind, heart and soul. Education goes beyond the classroom; not only to seek truth and knowledge, but also to apply and live that learning, to be engaged in the learning. Engaging the mind requires that Taylor students join their learning, living, emotions and their faith together.

Christians are asked to engage the world (involve oneself, participate, assume an obligation, win over, enter into conflict); to engage communities, whether they are local or global, secular or Christian. Taylor University strives, by example and in its teaching, not just to be engaged in the world but to engage it. Taylor’s mission, as with all Christians, is to interact with these communities to have impact for Christ; to provide a witness to others, to assist the Lord in His will to “win over and draw into,” to redeem the lost and His creation. Learning requires engagement, true missions requires engagement. “For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him” (John 3:17 NIV).

Why does Taylor recruit young Christian men and women? Why does Taylor encourage these students to go into psychology, business and the sciences? Why does Taylor need a new science building and desire to develop Global Engagement Centres around the globe? Why did seven Taylor biology pre-medical students spend a semester in Cuenca, Ecuador? Why? Because Taylor engages the evangelical community to develop excellent scientists and challenge them to impact their local and global communities for Christ. Yes, Taylor is all about engagement. Engage!

Dr. John Moore ’72 is a professor of biology at Taylor University.
Leave your legacy through your will or living trust

Lee and Ruth (Dixon '52) Truman '52 made a commitment at the start of their marriage to be faithful with the funds that God entrusted to them. And after more than 50 years of enjoying His faithfulness, the Trumans are pledging their final tithe—to Taylor University.

“When we survived on $1,800 a year in a student-pastored church, we tithe; and from tithing came great joy. We watched our tithe help missionaries, build churches at home and abroad, and give comfort to victims of disaster,” the couple said.

“Through our bequest to Taylor University, we will tithe our investment earnings—our final tithe. We are not wealthy, but we are responsible for all that God has given us. If even one student has a better education, or finds life direction because of our final tithe, we will rejoice with the angels in heaven.”

For information on estate planning or planned giving, contact Al Rupp '68, executive director of the William Taylor Foundation, or Nelson Rediger '66, regional director for planned giving at 765-998-5144 or 800-882-3456, ext. 5144.

$1 million gift caps lifelong appreciation

A Taylor University alumna and her husband have pledged $1 million to create two endowed scholarships at Taylor University. The couple, who wishes to remain anonymous, will endow scholarships in Christian education and for children of missionaries for $600,000 and $400,000 respectively through a living trust.

According to Dr. Ben Sells, vice president for university advancement, the pledge is one of the largest of its kind in Taylor history. “We are grateful for the sacrificial giving that characterizes our alumni and friends at Taylor University,” he said. “This kind of commitment is crucial as we work to ensure that the Taylor University educational experience is possible for every student.”

Nelson Rediger '66, southeast regional director for planned giving expressed his excitement.

“I just see this as helping generations of students to come,” he said. “This is like free money for students who want to get a Taylor University education.”
Another servant leader. Another brilliant mind prepared for a life of service. Another alumna with great memories and lifelong relationships. Another student who came to Upland, Ind., but received a global education. Another faithful follower of Christ ready to enter the workforce, the church, the local community and the world. In other words: another Taylor University graduate.

Thank you for being a part of her education. Thank you for helping make her Taylor experience better and fuller. Thank you for becoming part of her extended family. Thank you for your generosity—you have touched another life.

Last year you helped the Taylor Fund hit a record $1.727 million. Your gifts to the Taylor Fund strengthen academics, student programs and financial aid, and are the best way for members of the Taylor family to show support for the Taylor experience. Thank you!

Call 1-800-882-3456, ext. 5397, or visit www.taylor.edu/giving.
hen God's people pray they take the things of the earth to the doors of heaven.

And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weaknesses; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.
"You cannot make sense out of something as senseless as this, so don't even try. These are the questions from the beginning of time and they can't be answered, so we have to trust a sovereign God."
t was so bad, Lynn (Matthews '67) Davis literally had to be reminded to breathe.

Davis is the public affairs director at the college of natural resources at Virginia Tech. As one of the lead communicators for the institution, she and her colleagues found themselves coping with their horror, grief and loss on an international stage after graduate student Seung-Hui Cho went on an April 16 shooting rampage, killing 32 of his fellow students and wounding 25 more before turning a gun on himself.

Advised by one of hundreds of counselors who descended upon the campus following the rampage to practice deep breathing techniques and drink plenty of water, Davis freely admits that emotions—and memories—are still raw. "All of us are experiencing post traumatic stress disorder," she said. "The body shuts down because of the trauma. I had stopped breathing."

Everywhere she looks, there are reminders of That Day. The residence hall where Cho's rage claimed its first two victims, as well as the one in which he lived, are both within sight of her building. There is strong evidence that as she arrived in her parking spot that morning, the gunman was in his dorm room just a few feet away posing for photos and recording the rambling, angry diatribe he later sent to NBC.

By day's end, the quiet Appalachian campus nestled in Blacksburg, Va., had endured a second onslaught with the arrival of hundreds of journalists and 140 satellite trucks. In the coming days, Davis and her communications staff and colleagues juggled thousands of interview requests and worked with family members, one in particular who asked, "Can you tell me where I need to go to claim the body of my brother?"

"First (there was) shock, then numbness, then it was as if somebody had put a big blanket over our lives," she related. "All of our children had been shot. There has been a lot of crying."

The media seemed sometimes as overwhelmed as Davis and her Virginia Tech colleagues. Davis said that one-third of the group was international while the rest came from across the country. "There are so many stories. The whole world has poured out their grief because the world realizes these are their children too," she said.

Davis conveyed a heartbreaking story in word pictures, all taken April 16. They include doors chained shut, a stricken professor helping students escape, one student shielding another with his body, family after family gathering on campus, waiting for some kind of word about their missing child only to learn the unthinkable had become reality.

Davis' student worker, who knew four of the victims, has struggled mightily.

"We are in the middle of nowhere ... you wouldn't expect something like that to happen here," she said. "We had an encounter with evil. There is no other word you can use. People talk about a 'deranged gunman' and all the issues; we had an encounter with evil."

She shared that her spirits have been lifted by a number of Christian groups who have since come to campus to host prayer vigils, hand out candy and, in one case, just hug people they met on the sidewalk. In fact, it was the body of Christ and prayer, she said, that have sustained her during these dark days.

"You cannot make sense out of something as senseless as this, so don't even try. These are the questions from the beginning of time and they can't be answered, so we have to trust a sovereign God," she said, noting a correlation with Taylor's tragedy of 2006.

"I wanted to tell you that (since) last year, I have been praying for you all," she stated. "I prayed that the world would see the Lord Jesus Christ, because that accident was so untimely. Sometimes it is those events that give us open ears where people don't normally have open ears. I prayed that people would see what the Christian faith was."

"The outpouring of love and care has been so moving and so energizing and has gotten us through the past couple of weeks," she added. "When you are grieving for someone else you are compelled to show it. That is what makes America great. That is why I pray for our nation. You see the people come through in moments of tragedy. Our nation is great because we have believers in our country."

"The effectual fervent prayers of the saints have power," Davis continued. "That is what we are here for—to reflect His image and to be channels for Him to bless others through us. That is my life's goal."

Lynn (Matthews '67) Davis is a public affairs director at Virginia Tech.
Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

ALS

A retired computer science prof reprograms to face a new challenge.
"People at church say they are praying for me. There are so many people who have it worse."

A person could learn a lot from Wally Roth ‘59.

During the 40 years since he played an instrumental role in the introduction of computer technology to Taylor University, Roth has mentored hundreds of students, encouraging them to use their gifts to impact the world for the kingdom of God. Today it is he who is making an impact as he lives with one of the most feared diseases known to mankind.

Roth has amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, ALS progressively attacks its sufferers’ muscular and nerve systems, leading to paralysis and eventually death.

It has been 50 years since he and his Trojan football teammates compiled what was at that time a best-ever 7-1-1 record. During that magical season, Roth earned conference honors for his play on the field. Today, he struggles to button his shirt or put on his pants.

He first noticed increasing difficulty in lifting his arms to shave or write on a chalkboard two years ago. During the following months, a battery of tests concluded with an ALS diagnosis.

Roth said his is a slower-advancing form of the disease that may allow him to live up to 20 years. So far its effects have led to diminished muscle mass in his upper body, shoulders, arms and neck (he has started to wear a neck brace to support his head); his breathing has weakened, but not noticeably.

“I almost feel like the Lord has promised me that won’t happen,” he said. “(My doctors) ask if I’m having trouble swallowing and I tell them, ‘Look at my stomach; does it look like I’m having trouble swallowing?’"

Roth’s sense of humor has served him well during these past months—that along with the love of his wife Marlene (Wilcox ‘60) and an abiding faith.

“It would not be fun doing any of this without her. God blessed me with a good caregiver and a good listener,” he stated. “I have a list of plusses. If you are going to get something, this is not the worst.

There is no pain or bladder control problem; the mind is sharp. This is inconvenient."

“People at church say they are praying for me. There are so many people who have it worse,” Roth added.

Some might disagree. Marlene, who has struggled with her own health problems, said her husband has lost 70 pounds since the onset of his illness. The simplest of chores now prove daunting and he tires easily.

“It’s been difficult for me,” she said. “I think it’s difficult to see anyone you love struggling.”

But Roth said the physical struggles have not impacted his prayer life, which grew out of a chapel speaker’s encouragement to dedicate just 10 minutes a day to prayer.

“I developed a heart for prayer for missionaries,” he said. “You begin to get empathetic with others who have pain. I’ve learned to take the time to pray... my mother was a great prayer warrior.”

Roth prays for his family, he prays for his friends. He prays for the aforementioned missionaries, and he prays for just about everyone and everything on what he calls his “A to Z list,” but he seldom prays for himself. By his own admission, he wrestled with God last winter during Marlene’s three-month bout with shingles. But when the couple’s spirits dipped, they were buoyed, among other things, by a call from one of his former students who prayed with them over the telephone for nearly an hour.

The Roths said they have found comfort and hope in 2 Corinthians 12: 9-10. “In our weakness we find the strength that God gives us,” he said. “We’ve learned patience, and to live one day at a time, and to enjoy each other.

“I don’t remember being angry with God over this,” he reflected. “I do remember asking Him ‘Why?’ on a couple of occasions.

“These things can get a little bothersome, but it’s a good life, isn’t it Kid?” he added with a smile and a glance at Marlene.

“Yes,” she said. “Praise the Lord.”
Brothers in arms

Mark Andrews learns it is possible to love Jesus and take up arms.
“It was at Taylor that the Lord launched a life of prayer and intercession in me and a burden to pray for and reach the nations.”

Twenty years ago, he had just finished his Taylor University education and was headed for graduate studies; today, he battles sandstorms and insurgents in the Iraqi desert. Mark Andrews '87 took an unlikely road to Iraq. It started with his childhood desire to be a soldier and wound its way through doubts about being a Christian on the battlefield. ➞
“Several months ago, I wanted to encourage one of our convoy commanders, who was out on the road and in harm’s way a lot. As we were walking by each other, I called out, ‘Sergeant E., I’m praying for you!’ He shot right back at me, ‘Sir, we don’t roll without prayer.’

Today, Andrews is the assistant brigade engineer (ABE) for the 1/34th Brigade Combat Team of the Minnesota Army National Guard stationed at Camp Adder in south central Iraq. While much of his work, including the date of his return to the United States (believed to be sometime this summer) is classified, he can say that he works to counter the deadly threat posed by improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Along with the helmet, boots and flack jacket of a combat infantryman, Andrews dons spiritual armor as he leads Bible studies and prayer groups among an active community of Christian believers, plays in a praise band and sends frequent updates and photos to relatives and friends back home.

“I didn’t become involved with the Army, despite being called to do so at an early age, because I did not think that one could be a Christian and a warrior,” said Andrews in a recent series of e-mail messages. “The Lord has ‘deprogrammed’ me of this thinking, and it has been a pleasure to serve in this way. I look at it as being a missionary being cleverly disguised as a soldier/brigade staff officer.”

“My prayer partners here (we meet once a week to pray for each other, Iraq, and the U.S.) all feel the same way,” he said.

Andrews said his introduction to prayer, personal Bible study and accountability came during his four years at Taylor when he, along with friends including Troy Funte ’87, Doug Peterson ’88, Phil Herman ’88 and many others, fell in love with Jesus in a way that was so new and exciting that it changed his life forever.

“It was at Taylor that the Lord launched a life of prayer and intercession in me and a burden to pray for and reach the nations. This has only grown stronger with time. My roommate, David Bauer ’87, was my closest friend and prayer partner and we often prayed for others on our wing. Our room was often times a little ministry center,” he recalled.

“There were a lot of very cool things to do at Taylor ... I feel like we missed out on a lot of that because of our prayer, worship and ministry efforts,” Andrews wrote. “But if I had to go back, I’d do it all over again because we really grew close to the Lord during those times.”

Andrews’ love for the military was rekindled during his graduate school work in psychology resulting in his decision to enlist and go through the training that culminated with his deployment to Iraq.

“Everywhere I go the Lord gives me amazing Christians to fellowship and pray with; I have been so very blessed with this. We confess our sins to and pray for each other and hold each other accountable,” he said.

“Several months ago, I wanted to encourage one of our convoy commanders, who was out on the road and in harm’s way a lot. As we were walking by each other, I called out, ‘Sergeant E., I’m praying for you!’ He shot right back at me, ‘Sir, we don’t roll without prayer.’ And it’s true, even with the most hardened troops; they have learned the basic pragmatism: ‘prayer works!’ Also, before the missions I have led personally, I did not care whether the troops were Christians or not. I would simply say after the briefing, over the hood of the vehicle, ‘Let’s pray. And we did.’

Andrews said that he sees many good things happening among the Iraqi people and added that even when he leaves Iraq, a return is not out of the question. “I have considered planting churches here some day,” he said. “I call on people to pray for Iraq, and to consider if God would have them come here as a missionary: either cleverly disguised as a soldier, businessperson or openly as a pastor?”

“The gifts and calling of God are without repentance,” Andrews said, citing Romans 11:29, “meaning, once God calls you to do something, He doesn’t change His mind about it. I was called to be a soldier from my childhood. It never went away, but got stronger over time.”
Grace like rain

Some pray for riches, some for health. Kyle Martin prayed for revival—and got it.

“Kyle came out of Taylor—it was birthed at Taylor—with a deep passion for revival.”
If revival can truly start with one person, that person may be Kyle Martin '01. Martin, who lives in Dallas, Tex., with his wife Laura (Burkett '01) and daughters Maya (2) and Nadia (8 months), was the point man for the Dallas Revival, a recent 40-day series of tent meetings that drew thousands from the Dallas metro area and beyond to ask God the same thing asked by the Old Testament prophet Hosea: that He would “come to us like the rain.”

God did come like rain: spiritually and literally—as believers crossed the lines of denomination, nationality and race to worship, repent and seek Him anew together; and as heavy rains hit the Dallas area, officially ending a draught that had plagued the region.

“You look in the Old Testament: every time a prophet would call people back to the Lord, there was a drought. We’ve gotten more rainfall than we have in the past 40 years,” exclaimed Martin.

It was during his Taylor years that Martin’s quest for revival began as he used to close himself in a closet to pray for revival and when he had what he now calls a “Damascus Road experience” calling him to even deeper prayer commitment to ask God to visit His people. But it has not been just a garden-variety “bless-us-Lord” table prayer; it became an all-encompassing, heart-rending, life-changing prayer journey that has characterized his life.

While the seeds for the Dallas Revival were sewn during his Taylor days, they began to bloom in earnest when Martin was attending Dallas Theological Seminary and the couple began attending Dallas Bible Church, where Hal Habecker '71 serves as pastor. During the coming months, Martin and Habecker talked, prayed and dreamed together as the church backed Martin to the fullest.

“It’s been a delightful process; and a challenging one,” said Habecker. “People from all over the city were there. They were people who would never be together in any sort of way. That is the most striking thing.”

For six days in January, Martin committed himself to fasting and prayer as he drove his car around the city, looking for a place to pitch his tent. How he got the place was miraculous in its own way, but the story of the Dallas Revival is one filled with miracles.

The 40 days were filled with dynamic preaching, believers repenting, people putting their trust in Christ, wealthy businesspeople opening their hearts and businesses to feed the homeless, lives being changed and, in one case, people from the tent working together to help the Dallas community of Sandbranch get a new and badly-needed water purification system.

But with the miracles came a severe trial when the Martins’ daughter Maya suddenly became ill and was diagnosed with Langerhans cell histiocytosis (LCH), a rare blood disorder about which little is known. “You talk about dealing with spiritual warfare—we did it with our own family,” he recalled. “We were celebrating all the things God had blessed us with and three hours later we were in the emergency room.”

Although Maya is now recovering, the experience exacted a toll. “You get tired physically,” Martin admitted. “Do that for forty days and work full time (when) you have a family. You get tired quickly ... I struggled; I really did.”

“He could have said I’m out of here. I need to focus on my family and get her well, but it burns in his heart.” Habecker said. “God has anointed this guy in a very special way.”

“We brought together Charismatics, Pentecostals (and) conservatives because the focus was on Jesus Christ,” Martin related. “There are 2,900 churches in a 30-mile radius around Dallas. That is a lot of churches. We are all like little anthills; we are all doing our own thing. Over the past forty days ... instead of being these entities, we wanted to focus on the glory of God.”

“For me personally, I don’t think I’ve ever focused on revival in my own life for 40 days,” Habecker said. “Dozens and dozens, hundreds (of people), you would ask them, ‘What drew you back?’ There was this hunger to renew your relationship with God.”

“Kyle came out of Taylor—it was birthed at Taylor—with a deep passion for revival,” Habecker added. “God nourished that in his life. He came to Dallas with that passion.”

“I’m not a labeled pastor, teacher or missionary. I wasn’t affiliated with anybody,” Martin said. “I just was someone who loved the Lord and wanted to make a difference.”

For more information, visit www.dallasrevival.org.
Prayer and remembrance

P&R

Taylor's new prayer chapel will honor five special people and call the community to prayer.

“All of the families have reviewed the plans. We are excited. The building itself exceeds any of our dreams or expectations.”
On the night that time stood still, Taylor University’s students, faculty, staff and extended community turned to God in prayer to find the healing and comfort that only He could give. Today, university officials say a $1.7 million prayer chapel will honor the lives and memories of five Taylor University community members and call the university community to a deeper commitment to prayer in the future.

The university is currently working to raise the necessary funds so construction can start immediately with an eye toward the facility’s dedication on April 26, 2008, the two-year anniversary of the deaths of Taylor students Laurel Erb, Brad Larson, Betsy Smith and Laura VanRyn and Creative Dining Services employee Monica Felver. The five died last year when the university van in which they were riding was struck by a semitrailer rig on I-69, ten miles from campus.

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68, Taylor president, expressed excitement over the final plans, which include a 75-seat memorial prayer chapel, meditation rooms and an expansive prayer garden with prayer alcoves and a memorial to the lives of the five.

“I believe this new prayer chapel will become one of the really special places on our campus,” said Habecker. “We are very pleased with the input of so many who have worked so diligently to capture the vision of what we hope this new building can mean to our community.”

Dr. Ben Sells, vice president for university advancement, said along with the tribute to the five, the new prayer chapel will be dedicated to the lives and memories of those from the Taylor community who preceded them.

“We want to create a building that will honor the lives and legacies of these five special people. At the same time it is our desire to acknowledge the impact so many others have had upon our lives here at Taylor,” said Sells. “Hebrews 12 tells us that we are ‘surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses’ and that we need to be fully committed to God’s purposes in every part of our beings. It is our hope that this new prayer chapel will be used by God to call our community to a closer and more prayerful walk with Him.”

Sells said the location for the building, between the Hodson Dining Commons, Zondervan Library, Wengatz Hall and Olson Hall, was chosen because of the high volume of foot traffic through the area.

“This area of the campus was the most logical selection because many of our students, faculty and staff members pass that way each day,” he said. “We believe this will be a perfect place for residence hall wings to hold worship services and special events, or for students, faculty or staff to stop by for a few moments of prayer.”

By late June, members of Taylor’s development team had secured over $500,000 in commitments to the project. Sells said he and others within the Taylor administration are working hard to raise the rest of the funds in time for a hoped-for construction start later this summer.

Dr. Dan Smith, father of Betsy Smith, said that he and his wife, Jeanie, were pleased about the prayer chapel on many levels.

“All of the families have reviewed the plans. We are excited. The building itself exceeds any of our dreams or expectations,” he said.

“We were really humbled. We never expected anything like this,” he related. “It’s something the university has decided to do, and it is a very special thing that will be there for many, many years. We have all learned so many lessons about life … about God’s love for us and His strength as we go through the journey we are on.”

“Prayer is the thing that has sustained us in the past 14 months … I think this chapel will be a wonderful reminder that we always need to pray for each other,” he added.

For further information visit: www.taylor.edu/edify.
1938
Virginia Cline died on Jan. 13, 2007, at 90 years of age in Inverness, Fla. Since retiring from Taylor after working nearly 30 years as head accountant, Virginia spent winters in Florida and summers in Upland. She had a great appreciation for Taylor as a student, staff member and donor.

1943
Conrad “Connie” Rehling passed away on April 3 of congestive heart failure. He had successful golf coaching careers at the Universities of Florida and Alabama and was a PGA Master Professional. However, he will best be remembered for his work with the physically challenged. Rehling helped found the Special Olympics golf program and co-wrote the Special Olympics Golf Coaching Guide that is distributed to all Special Olympics programs. In 2006, Special Olympics created the Conrad Rehling Award to celebrate his contributions to Special Olympics golf. Rehling became a member of the Taylor University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1979 and received the Taylor University Legion of Honor Award, the highest honor awarded by the Taylor University Alumni Association, in 1994. Wife Maxine (Dopp ’42) survives.

1945
Dr. P. Kenneth Morse died Jan. 21, 2007, after a brief illness. He was a Presbyterian minister, university professor and active community service volunteer. He is survived by wife Jean, Ocala, Fla.

1951

1952
DoraDene “Dee” (Culver) Phillippe went to be with her Lord on May 7, 2007. Dee was teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School System where she excelled in teaching emotionally disturbed children. After retirement she tutored 20-30 students a week. Surviving is her husband of 57 years, David.

1953
Larry Darling passed away on July 19, 2006, in Houston, Tex., due to a brain hemorrhage. Larry served in the US Navy from 1944-46 and as a missionary in Cuba and Mexico. His wife Maria survives.

1960
David Scudder x is involved in music ministry in Lutheran and Methodist Churches in Stamford, N.Y. He is also part of an area southern gospel singing group and is the stationmaster for the 1872 Roxbury railroad depot.

1964
Stanley Handschu died on March 12, 2007, after a lengthy illness. He spent his entire professional career with Marion Community Schools. Wife Elaine (Werner x) lives in Marion, Ind. • Dr. James Yoder x, chemistry professor at Hesston College, has received a Fulbright Scholarship to lecture and research in the chemistry department at the Univ. of Swaziland for the 2007-08 academic year. He has been at Hesston for 35 years.

1968
In April 2007, six graduates of the class of 1968 reunited in Florida in gratitude for 60 years of life and 40-plus years of friendship that began at Taylor. They began as dorm/roommates in MCW and then moved to East (Olson) Hall 3rd Floor from 1965-68. While their post-TU journeys have taken very different routes, their original connection continues to abound. Thanks be to God!

1969
Roger & Heather (Klassen) Ewald have felt led into short-term missions and will be serving aboard the new Operation Mobilization ship Logos Hope by the end of the year.

1972
Norma (Fuller) Hull lost her oldest daughter Robin (28) in a tragic accident on Nov. 29, 2006. Norma’s address is 1282 Timber View Dr., Mechanicsburg, Pa., 17050. E-mail is normahull@comcast.net.

1973
Ken Knipp is VP of training for Young Life. His wife Vickie (Stockman) is a spiritual director. They live in Colorado Springs, Colo. E-mail is khknipp@msn.com. • Donald Williams’ fifth book, Credo: Meditations on the Nicene Creed (St. Louis: Chalice Press) was released in May. Released in 2006 was More Humanity: G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, and J. R. R. Tolkien on the Human Condition. Donald is the director of the school of arts and sciences and professor of English at Toccoa Falls College in Ga.

1976
Chuck & Carole Fennig continue to serve with Wycliffe Bible Translators providing French tools and technical support to translators around the world. They live in Duncanville, Tex.

1978
Rev. Dennis Patton received the Wilbert Cunningham Award for Excellence in Police Chaplaincy at the Regional Training Event of the Intl. Conference of Police Chaplains, Ind. Region, in Jan. 2007. Patton serves as a volunteer chaplain for the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office and the City of Franklin Police and Fire Depts. in Franklin, Ind. He is also pastor at Woodland Baptist Church.
Schmeichel received an MAE from Univ. of North Dakota in Dec. 2006. Her degree is in special education with a focus on autism spectrum disorders. She is a special education teacher at MeLaughlin Public Schools. She and husband Daniel live in MeLaughlin, S.D. Children are Jeremy (23), Emily (21), James (18) and Laura (15). Emily is a senior at TU majoring in piano performance.

1979

Advanced Mobile, LLC, a Seattle-based mobile auto detailing service of which Doug Nafziger is the CEO, received the 2006 U.S. EPA Water Efficiency Leader award. This new award celebrates leadership and innovation in water efficient products and practices. Advanced Mobile was the only small business recipient.

1981

Ruth (Gualtieri) Geary returned to school to obtain a BSN/RN degree, a completely different career path. She lives with her family in Holland, Mich. • Bryan Krick is global account manager for Verizon Business in Southfield, Mich. • Michael & April McGinnis announce the birth of Joel Allen on Jan. 20, 2007. Michael is a website consultant, a freelance writer and the owner of Webimize.com, a marketing and communications company based in Bryan, Tex.

1983

Beth (Granger) Farwell has been appointed the family court support magistrate in Allegany and Wyoming Counties, part of the Eighth Judicial District of New York State. The support magistrate hears matters of child support, paternity and spousal support. Beth had been the Allegany County public defender prior to her appointment. Beth and husband Roger have two daughters, ages 15 and 10. The family lives in Wellsville, N.Y. E-mail is bfarwell@courts.state.ny.us.

1984

Rev. Clark Cowden is an evangelist presbyter for the Presbytery of San Joaquin in Visalia, Calif. Sons Ryan (20) and Justin (18) live with Clark at 3622 N Carson St., Visalia, CA 93291. E-mail is cowdencrest@sbcglobal.net. • Glenn & Melanie Harsch proudly announce the addition of Malee (2) to their family; they brought her home from Nanjing, China, on Thanksgiving Day 2006. Glenn, wife Melanie, Nena (3) and Malee live in Wake Forest, N.C. Glenn is the program director for Triumph, LLC, a community mental health program and Melanie works full time with the girls. E-mail is gharsch@triumphcares.com. • James Stamper is chairperson of the annual Kiwanis Girls’ Basketball Banquet in the Kokomo, Ind., area. This year three of the coaches in attendance were from Taylor.

1985

Phil Walton was named Father of the Year in Charlotte, N.C., by the American Diabetes Association. Phil is the IBM managing director, Bank of
Hoop dreams

When Ohio State played for last year's NCAA men's national championship, the Indiana University Hoosiers enjoyed a resurgence to the upper echelon of the Big 10, and the Indiana Wesleyan Wildcat women's basketball team rolled to an undefeated season and won their first NAIA national championship, each had a Taylor University connection.

John Groce ’94 is an assistant coach for the Buckeyes, Jeff Meyer ’76 is an assistant coach for the Hoosiers and Steve Brooks ’80 is the head coach for the Wildcats. Each played college basketball for the Trojans (Meyer for Coach Don Odle, Brooks and Groce for Coach Paul Patterson).

After their playing careers came to an end, they moved the proverbial one seat over to join the coaching ranks. Groce and Brooks each got their start at Taylor; Meyer began his coaching career as an assistant at Purdue. Each has tasted success on a national scale.

“For me, my Taylor years were foundational years for my adult life,” Meyer said. “I went to Taylor somewhat naïve, but with the purpose to get a college degree and to extend my basketball career: Looking back, what I received was certainly more than a college degree. I got a quality education and it was a life-changing experience.

“During those four years, God certainly developed a root system for growth in my personal life,” he added.

Since leaving the Taylor men’s team to transform the Wildcat women’s team into a national power; Brooks said the lessons of life and basketball he learned in Upland have proved foundational to his coaching philosophy.

“The experience of being a student at Taylor was an incredible life-changing experience for me,” he related. “There is no coach who has had more of an impact on my life than Coach Patterson. Philosophically, the things we are trying to do at IWU are what I was taught by Coach Patterson.

“This is where God wants me to be; there is a calling to this,” continued Brooks. “For the kids in our program, it is all about ‘Team.’ One of the things I learned from Coach Patterson is that basketball is a team game. It is not won by individuals.”

Groce now must fill spots vacated by prized recruits Greg Oden and Michael Conley, but said it was all part of the process imbibed upon him at Taylor—to think and dream big.

“Coach Patterson used to tell me be the ‘Big time’ wherever you are,” said Groce. “I’m not a guy who chases jobs. I feel fortunate to be at Ohio State. I love being here. We want to be the best we can be every day.”

America. • Jay Williams is the billing applications manager, American Health Network in Indianapolis, Ind.

1986
Melissa (Beatty x) McGrath is the workforce relations division chief assistant for the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. After 17 years of living in Florida, she and daughters Veronica (11) and Robin (9) have moved to the greater Washington, D.C. area while daughter Melody (18) completes her senior year of HS and prepares to attend Messiah College. E-mail is robicalyn@aol.com.

1987
Krista Nicholson married Jack Hughes on Oct. 21, 2006. The couple for Brotherhood Mutual Ins. Co. Dan, wife Vicki (Vite), and children Gabrielle (12), Morgan (10), Madeline (7) and Audri (5) live in Grabill, Ind. • Teresa (Swanson) Meredith was elected VP of the Indiana State Teachers Association. She is a kindergarten teacher at Hendricks Elementary in Shelbyville, Ind. • Dr. Shawn Pala has a private practice at Pala Chiropractic in Noblesville, Ind. He received a doctor of chiropractic and BS in human biology from Logan Univ. in St. Louis in April 2006. His practice focuses on family care including infants and the elderly. E-mail is palachiro@sbcglobal.net.

1990
Jeff Kaper is branch manager for Architextures Design Center. Jeff, wife Sarah (Nussbaum ’91) and children Alex (11), Ethan (7), Anna (4) and Ellen (3) live in Champaign, Ill. E-mail is kapes@sbcglobal.net.

1991
Elyce Elder had her work displayed at the Harrison Center for the Arts in Indianapolis, Ind., in April 2007. Her show, CANOPY, featured fiber artistry inspired by 19th century couture. Elder creates fantasy tents that embody ideas of protection, covering and adornment. Also in April her band ebenzezer and the hynasters released its first CD. Bethany Hodge ’01 is also a band member.

1992
Mark & Sharon (Baker) Holland are the proud parents of Violet Catherine born April 18, 2007. Sisters are Georgia (3) and Morgan (2).
• Tim & Jacqueline (King) Huber

The Huber Family

joyfully announce the birth of Katelyn Rose on Sept. 6, 2006. Sister Madelyn is 7. Jacqueline is VP and corporate compliance officer of Biomet, Inc., a manufacturer of medical devices in Wabash, Ind.

1993
Mark & Marci (Sloat) Reschke,

The Reschke Family

along with sons Carter (6) and Grant (3) are thankful for the arrival of Gisellie Marie on Jan. 6, 2007. Mark works at TMI as a sales engineer; Marci continues to stay home with the children and would love to hear from Taylor friends. E-mail is marci@mac.com.

1994
Marc & Melanie Curless are in

The Curless Family

their fourth year in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where Marc works as the school counselor at an int'l. school and Melanie is nurse supervisor at a clinic. Marc recently earned an MA in educational administration from Michigan State and a certificate in int'l. counseling from Lehigh Univ. E-mail is mmcurli@yahoo.com.

• Joel & Julianna (Gurley ’95)

The Fletcher Family

Fletcher, along with children Sam (9), Brooke (7) and Benjamin (2), live in Charleston, S.C. Joel is chief financial officer of Coastal Glass Dist. and Julianna leads worship at church as well as teaching music. E-mail is jfletcher@comcast.net. • Craig & Lisa (Smucker) Stadtmueller

proudly announce the birth of Jessica Elisabeth on Aug. 19, 2006. They live in Mammoth Lakes, Calif.

1995
Eric & Carrie Anderson announce

The Anderson Family

the arrival of Nathan Walter on Dec. 20, 2006. E-mail is eanderso@nwciowa.edu. • David & Julie (Osborn ’96) Deibel

joyfully announce the birth of Jacob Michael on Jan. 4, 2006. Brother Collin is 4. • Heather (Gladhill) Kehr is a

The Deibel Family

counselor for Christian Counseling and Education Services in Hanover, Pa. E-mail is hak971@yahoo.com.

1996
Jennifer Captain married David Herredsberg on Sept. 3, 2005. They live in Lebanon, Kan. • Jonathan & Anne Marie (Ellison ’94) Dahl

The Dahl Family

happily announce the birth of Delaney Megan on Sept. 24, 2006. Jonathan continues as associate pastor at Bible Evangelical Free Church in Tomah, Wis. E-mail is dalhhouse@centurytel.net. • Christian & Marcie (Hasenmyer) Dedrick

work among

The Dedrick Family

the Muslims in Central Asia. They have three sons: CJ (3), Ben (2) and Caleb (10 months). E-mail is cnmedrick@myletterbox.net. • Eric ’98 & Martha (Bailey) Smith

Pictured are Gretchen (Fisher) Plate, Martha (Bailey) Smith, Christina (Saylor) Smith and Tanya Cordial.

alumni notes

serve in Uganda with Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. E-mails are gretchenplate@yahoo.com, martib73@yahoo.com, stinersmith@hotmail.com and tcordova@hotmail.com. • Jason Stephenson was elected partner

Jason Stephenson

at Barnes & Thornburg LLP. He concentrates his practice in energy, water and wastewater utilities.

1997
Todd & Amber Evans are the proud

The Evans Family

parents of Jade (3) and Jazzmin (2). Todd will complete the master in ministerial leadership program at Indiana Wesleyan Univ. this summer. The family resides in Waterford, Mich. E-mail is todde97@comcast.net. • Shane & Heather (Mason)

The Guy Family

Guy reside in Marion, Ind., with son Payton (8) and triplets Carter,
Chinese Idol

Imagine a crowd of people on a famous television show chanting your name as you finish singing a popular song. For Neville Kiser, 1999, it became a reality.

Kiser appeared on the popular program Zong Yi Mon Tian Xing (Zerg) this spring. Not familiar with it? Think American Idol, only in the Shandong province of China. Kiser advanced to the final 16 and fellow Taylor alumna threw Kundus Wu appeared in one of his videos, now posted on YouTube.

Since arriving in China nearly two years ago, Kiser has taught English, film appreciation, and international studies classes at a local university. Later this summer he plans to return to the United States where he will resume his education at Fuller Theological Seminary.

“My background for Chinese is nothing except for what I learned once I came here,” he said. “It’s amazing that even though I’m far, far away from being fluent, I’ve still managed to teach my way through almost two years here.”


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Grant and Jackson (1). Heather is the plant HR manager for Silberline Manufacturing. E-mail is Guyh@silberline.com.

• Andy & Molly (Piersma) King

joyfully announce the birth of Allison Richelle on Nov. 10, 2006. Brother Kyle is 3. The family resides in Hudsonville, Mich., where Andy is a sprinkler service technician for Winchel Irrigation and Molly is a Partylite candles consultant.

• Tom & Andrea (Rediger) Klein

joyfully welcome Evan Mitchell born Nov. 5, 2006. They live in Glenarm, Ill. • Dr. Chris & Tiana (Coles) Lee are the proud parents of Clara

The Buchanan Family

1998

Knicki (Maranda) Buchanan became a single mother in Oct. 2005. She and children Elijah (3), Emerald (3) and Oliver (almost 2) covet your prayers. They reside in Mich. E-mail is maranda98@talkamerica.net. • Joel & Megan (McCourt ’99) Campbell

The Campbell Family

of Fishers, Ind. joyfully announce the birth of Catherine Margaret (Catey) on March 9, 2007. Joel works for Accenture and Megan enjoys being a stay-at-home mom. • Tiffany Mastin is head women’s volleyball coach at Missouri Western State Univ in Saint Joseph, Mo. E-mail is trmastin@mssouriwestern.edu. • Lindsay Naramore earned an MA in Spanish literature from the Univ. of Arkansas at Fayetteville in May 2007. E-mail is lrn@post.com. • Ben & Kris (Wahnefried) Stichter are the proud parents of Treyden Benjamin born Jan. 4, 2007. Sisters are Talia (5), Lia (3) and Kami (1). E-mail is bkstichter@comcast.net. • Jennifer Wood has been named a program associate for the Missouri Foundation for Health. Previously she was a research assistant and graduate intern for MOKANSave in St. Louis.

1999

Eric Childs received a DDS degree from the Univ. of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry in May 2007. Eric was ranked first in his class and delivered the dental class address at commencement. He & wife Kelli (Romine ’97) live in Farmington, Mich. • Ryan & Laura (Dunkerton) Mitchell joyfully announce the birth of Grant Daniel on Jan. 14, 2007. Siblings are Madeline (5) and Cade (2). They live in Naples, Fla. • Erik & Andrea (Martin) Reite moved from New Orleans to Shalimar, Fla., where Erik is a resident at the Eglin Air Force Base Regional Hospital. Son Jonathan is 1. E-mail is eareite@hotmail.com. • Chris & Kimberly (Snow) Robey

The Robey Family


2000

Heather Coaster married Wesley Goertzen on September 23, 2006.

Wesley & Heather

(‘00) Goertzen in Port Huron, Mich. Heather received her M.A. in Counseling from Mars Hill Graduate School (Seattle, WASH.) in 2002. Wes has an engineering degree from John Brown University. Together they serve with World Made Flesh in El Alto, Bolivia, among women in prostitution and their families. Their
Doing good

When we as Christian educators teach our students about discipleship, we tell them that the ultimate goal of Christian discipleship is, in the end, to become like Jesus (Ephesians 4:13). Luke said this about our Lord: “He went about doing good.” I think Ruth Ann Breuninger was like Jesus in that she, too, went about “doing good.”

She did a lot of good during the years she served at Taylor University. When she arrived, there were just a few Christian education majors. But by the time she left, that number had grown to over 100. As one of Dr. B’s former students, I am now teaching in classrooms where she once taught. I think she loved that!

It was Dr. B who first dreamed of a program like Lighthouse in 1972, where our majors could put those things they learned in the classroom into practice. After all these years, Lighthouse is an amazing distinctive of Taylor University. No longer a program limited to Christian education majors, Lighthouse has sent over 1,700 students to 29 different countries so that our students could go about “doing good.”

Dr. B did much good in my life. As a young professor trying to find my way in the classroom, she once taught me the most important lesson I could ever learn about teaching. I was confiding in Dr. B, telling her about the struggle I was having with a particular group of students in one of my classes. When she had listened, she asked, “Faye, do those students know you love them?” It was a transforming moment.

All of us are going to miss her “doing good.” I am so grateful for all the good she did for Taylor University, and for all the ways her life inspired and shaped mine.

—Dr. Faye Chechowich ’74

Former Taylor University faculty member Dr. Ruth Ann Breuninger, 75, died March 17, 2007. From 1964 to 1975 she was an assistant professor of religion and physical education at Taylor, where she mentored hundreds of students and was instrumental in the creation of Lighthouse.

University officials plan to announce an endowed memorial scholarship in the coming weeks.
Dear Laura,
April 26, 2007

It's hard to believe it's been a little over a year since I've written you. Remember when you were at Taylor and I tried to write or send you something every week?! In fact, I recall that exactly a year ago today you left me a voicemail telling me about the progress you had made on your senior paper and you said you wanted me to know that my mailings to you had always been a great encouragement.

Well, since it's been so long, let me fill you in on some of the past year. First of all, last spring our family had this challenging but great opportunity to just drop everything and take care of someone who was hurt in an accident. We cared for her like she was part of our family and it's amazing, maybe even a miracle, how well she's recovered! And at the end of our time with her, it was like one day God just decided to tell the whole world what we'd been doing. In a surprising way, He allowed us and another family to be a witness for Him. It was all really incredible but I'll spare you the details for now. Just know that we wished you could have been there with us and that your life was a great inspiration to us during that time.

Also last spring I had the honor of accepting your diploma for you. Well done on graduating from college! But while I was so happy for you, something about it wasn't quite right. It reminded me of grace. It didn't feel right accepting something that someone else had done all the work for. Like how God just asks us if we'll accept His gift.

Another thing I wanted to tell you about is that I've decided to go back to school and work in physical therapy. I know, I know...hospitals and things I can't usually stomach. But something's changed. When our family spent time in the hospital last year I really loved helping out in the therapy sessions. And one thing you've always modeled for me is compassion. Working with people that have been injured or were born with a disease that limits them physically, I'd have a chance to show compassion. So as I put together walking across that graduation stage for you, and learning that I may have a gift in working with people that way, and that I want to pick up with your gift of compassion and carry it for you, this seemed like a good way to go. I hope you don't mind, but I use your backpack at school everyday. And I might have taken over some of your clothes as well. Oh, and before I forget, say "Hi" to Brad for me, and tell him I'm looking forward to that ping-pong rematch.

I've thought more about dying and about heaven this past year than I ever have... wondering what it's like to experience moving from this world into eternity. Sometimes when I miss you a lot I try to picture what you might be doing - maybe dancing or singing, or just smiling. And sometimes it just seems to hurt so much that I don't know what to do or what emotion to even have. But a good friend of ours reminded me of something just the other day. She said that death is a result of sin. So this separation that we have from our fellow believers is not how God originally intended it to be. And in that I find two things. First, it tells me that it's ok to be sad or even angry about you not being here any more. And second, I find a tremendous hope because God will make things right. He will restore heaven and earth to its original state of wholeness and He Himself will be at the center and we who believe in Him will all be brought back together.

I can only imagine what you're experiencing right now—what it's like to be with Jesus. I wish I could just sit with you, maybe over an Applebee's Blondie, and ask you all kinds of questions. But for now, this letter will have to do and I'll just have to wait until I get there. Laura, I miss you terribly and want to be with you but there is still work to be done here. And thinking back to your days on junior staff at UP Bible Camp, it's just like you to squirrel out of here before the work is finished.

Thank you for being a wonderful sister and a friend. I hope to see you soon.

I Love You, Lisa
joyfully announce the birth of Parker Tyler on July 21, 2006. They live in Bloomington, Ill. Justin works for State Farm Insurance as a business analyst and Chris works part-time as a school social worker.

2002

Third Berg gals recently had a fun weekend in Indianapolis! Pictured from L to R: Debbie Bedor ’00, Julie Sterner ’01, Jeanelle (Beam ’00) Verwayne, Lindsay (Keyes ’01) Valpatich, Elizabeth Davies, Karissa (Romine ’01) Morelock, Jen (Fosnaugh ’01) Converset and Chris (Skorburg ’01) Michels.

• Alexandrea Gatis married Daniel Davis on Nov. 25, 2006, in Nassau, Bahamas. • Sarah Hayhurst & Jonathan Hamilton ’06 wed on March 3, 2007. The couple now lives in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. E-mail is jandshamilton@gmail.com.

• Jeff & Christina (MacFadyen) Murphy are the proud parents of Makenna Elizabeth born Sept. 21, 2006. Both Jeff and Christina work at Lockheed Martin. Jeff in procurement and Christina in program operations. They reside in Lantana, Tex. E-mail is Christina8592@yahoo.com. • Ryan & Christine (McClanathan) Schmitz welcomed Kari Elizabeth to their family on Jan. 10, 2006. The family lives in Lena, Ill., where Ryan is a youth pastor and Christine teaches piano and cares for Kari. E-mail is cemcc79@hotmail.com. • Brian & Courtney (Taylor) Smeltzer joyfully announce the birth of Makenna Kate on Sept. 28, 2006. They live in Ft. Wayne, Ind.

2003

Leslie Bradford is proud to welcome son Elijah William born Feb. 17, 2007. She lives in Marion, Ind., but continues to work for Chicago based ITW Industrial Finishing in the marketing dept. E-mail is leslierae@gmail.com.

• Molly House married Martin Spence on July 15, 2006, in Oxford, England, where they are both working on doctoral degrees in New Testament theology and modern history, respectively. E-mail is bolhh3@yahoo.com. • Alicia Lehman & Jared Thompson were married on Nov. 26, 2005, in Freeport, Bahamas. They live in Lafayette, Ind. Jared is employed with Enterprise Rent-A-Car as an area manager. Alicia works at a law firm and also has started her own business called Artisique Designs creating custom made invitations. • Heather May married Peter Von Tobel ’01 on March 10, 2007, in Grabill, Ind. Peter works for Accenture as a manager out of their Indianapolis office and Heather teaches 2nd grade in the Pendergast School District, Phoenix, Ariz.
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• Lauren McLaughlin has a small speaking role in the movie Georgia Rule starring Lindsay Lohan, Felicity Huffman and Jane Fonda. The movie was released on May 11. E-mail is laxlauren1@hotmail.com. • Lane Read and Troy Grimes were married on Sept. 23, 2006, in Plymouth, Ind. They live in Lafayette, Ind, where Lane is a branch office administrator for Edward Jones.

2004
Mandi Campbell & Luke Simpson ’00 were married on June 16, 2006.

Both Mandi and Luke work at Crowe Chizek; Mandi is senior consultant and Luke is senior staff financial institutions auditor. They live in Fishers, Ind. • Levi Hazen married Lauren McLaughlin ’03

2005
• Christina Conrad & David

Levi ’04 & Stephanie Hazen
Stephanie Jones on Sept. 9, 2006, in Mishawaka, Ind. Levi works at Pinnacle Athletic Club and Stephanie is employed at Sodexo Catering Services. E-mail is bre85haze@hotmail.com.

• Kate Kibler married Michael Vasey on July 22, 2006, in Cleveland, Ohio. The couples lives in Indianapolis. Kate teaches art at Noblesville HS and is pursuing a master’s at Herron School of Art. Michael is a sales executive for software provider DyKnow, LLC. E-mail is kiblerart@yahoo.com. • Nate Pietrini was named Coach of the Year in the All-Space Coast Region by Florida Today. He led the Rockledge Raider varsity girls soccer team to a 3rd place tie in the state. Wife Dana (DiSanto ’06) was his assistant coach. The couple is moving back to Chicago in the fall to teach.

• Tobin Siefert has been named VP of Capstone Custom Homes, Inc. He joins his father Ernest Siefert, Jr. who is founder and president of the corporation.

• Holly May married Nathan Pelz on Nov. 25, 2006, in Ft. Wayne, Ind. They are both teaching in Phoenix, Ariz.

• Amanda Heimann married Brooks Odle ’03 on April 22, 2006, in Indianapolis, Ind. Brooks is a sales consultant for James Steel. The couple resides in Auburn Hills, Mich. • Melissa Munn & Brad

2006
• Liz Linch & Nathan Brooks ’05 were married June 24, 2006, in Columbus, Ohio. Nathan and Liz reside in Wilmore, Ky., where he attends and she works at Asbury Theological Seminary. The couple’s email address is nathanandliz_brooks@yahoo.com. • Rachel Clemens married
Alumni notes guidelines

Taylor welcomes all submissions to the alumni notes. Due to space limitations, however, not all news items or photographs may be able to published. We apologize for any disappointment this may cause, and we will make every effort to print as many timely news items and photographs as we can. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space and content.

Have info for the Alumni Notes?

Send your update information to the alumni office at 236 W. Reade Avenue, Upland, Ind. 46989. Please include clearly labeled pictures (which will only be published if alumni are in the photo). We will return prints if requested.

You may also submit information to Marty Songer at (800) 882-3456, ext. 5212, or msonger@tayloredu. Thanks for keeping in touch with your alma mater! We love hearing from our alumni.

Taking Taylor to the people

University advancement staff members have been taking Taylor University to alumni, parents and friends at a series of Taylor Family Gatherings in Indianapolis, Chicago, and Grand Rapids.

The events’ agendas include dinners, entertainment, testimonials from Taylor students and an update from President Eugene B. Habecker ’68.

“We wanted to interact with our alumni and friends in settings that are close to where they live and convenient for them to attend,” said Terri (Kesler ’85) Collins, associate vice president for alumni relations. “We will continue to have events like homecoming that bring our alumni back to campus, but we also wanted to go to where our alumni and friends live to share with them the exciting things that are happening at Taylor University.”

For more information, contact Kyle Gould ’02, 765-998-4635, or kygould@tayloredu.
Life in the fast lane

Some people only say they work at 200 miles per hour; Kenn Hardley '75 really does.

Hardley is owner of the Kenn Hardley Racing Team, which competes in the Indy Pro Series—a 17-race schedule at tracks around the United States that serves as a developmental series for the Indy Racing League (IRL).

It has been a change for Hardley, who enjoyed a successful career as a trucking industry executive for 30 years. His love of racing was piqued at the Indianapolis 500 and led to his sponsorship of driver John Paul, Jr. Hardley moved into team ownership in 2004 and today tours the country with his wife Sue Ellen and sons Cody, a Purdue senior and Travis, who will transfer to Taylor this fall, along with his parents Doris (a Taylor retiree) and Bob, both longtime Upland residents.

Although the Indy Pro Series is not as well known as the IRL, it is still a big time commitment requiring the investment of time, hard work and money. "We take this pretty seriously; we want to compete and do well," Hardley said.

Shopping for a racecar is not like buying a family vehicle. The chassis, made by Italian racing manufacturer Dallara, comes in kit form that includes a carbon fiber tub (the most expensive component), side pods, nose and wings. Instead of the Honda engines used in the IRL, Indy Pro racers use a retooled Infiniti engine and the cars' speeds run at about 80 percent of their IRL counterparts.

Although the cars have become increasingly safe, the Hardley team experienced the tragedy that lurks in the shadows of high speed when IRL driver Paul Dana died in a crash in Miami last year. "Paul Dana was my first driver...that day was tough," he reflected. "I knew Paul pretty well. I participated in some of his dreams."

Hardley's Dallara is adorned in the colors of the South African flag in honor of his current driver, South African Steven Simpson, as well as a Taylor University logo and nameplate.

"From a spiritual perspective, my days at Taylor laid the foundation for the warmth that started a long relationship with Christ," he said. "I still have friends I maintain relationships with from my Taylor days. Of all the places I could have gone, I would not have picked any place different from Taylor."
A tribute to my father
Jabin Burnworth '94

I was a freshman at Taylor University in 1990 when on the first day of Dr. Joe Burnworth's Education in America class I decided to sit in the first row. After the class started he began to explain what it meant to teach with character. I listened attentively, but soon noticed he never once looked at me. I asked him about it later and he replied, "I was so nervous having you in class. I couldn't even look at you." Over the years we laughed many times about that day.

Growing up in Hartford City I had numerous students of my father's tell me how lucky I was to have Joe Burnworth as my Dad. In fact, I never considered going to another university because I wanted to have him as a professor. I had listened to his students tell me how Joe influenced them to become influential teachers. I had to see this for myself. As a professor he taught me the essentials of education. As a father he modeled what a true teacher should be. His love for his students and his profession is something I will cherish forever.

It was while going through my father's filing cabinet at home that I found his commencement message to the Blackford High School graduating class of 1990. As I read the speech I found an illustration Joe liked to use. He stated, "In the play, 'Goodbye Mr. Chips' a song emerges as a theme song for the school. It's a song with a question, and it's a question we all should ask. Did I fill the world with love? Part of the song states these words."

And the blessing I shall ask
Is that God will grant me
To be brave, and strong, and true
And to fill the world with Love my whole life through
Did I fill the world with Love
Did I fill the world with Love
Did I fill the world with Love my whole life through

Joe Burnworth did fill the world with love. His love was evident in his desire to share the message of Christ. His love was evident in his teaching. His love was evident in his passion for his wife, Jane, and his two sons Jabin and Jeremy. His love was evident in his daily life.

His love was contagious and the memory of his love continues to influence others. For we know death is not the end. It is only the beginning.

Officials are creating an endowed scholarship at Taylor University that will honor the memory of Dr. Joe Burnworth, a retired education faculty member, who died last October.

"Joe Burnworth became my mentor when I entered Taylor as a new professor eleven years ago," said Dr. Cindy (Pearson '76) Tyner, Taylor education department chair and professor. "His office was next to mine and I could visit with him any time I had a question or concern.

"Most importantly I cherish the fact that Joe prayed with me and for me," she added. "He always thought of others and sought the Lord's guidance in how he could help them grow as a Christian and a teacher. Joe lived out the integration of faith and learning both in and outside of his classroom."

For more information about endowed scholarships, contact Brad Yordy '05, director of stewardship and scholarships, at 800-882-3456.
Located between the Zondervan Library, Wengatz Hall and Olson Hall, a display of five crosses marks the site of the proposed Memorial Prayer Chapel.
Parents & Family Weekend
September 21-23

For more information, contact Jerry Orme
765.681.5112 or parents@taylor.edu

take the next step...

Campus Visitation Days
September 23 & 24 | October 28 & 29
www.taylor.edu/admissions/cvd
800.882.3456
Praying in the Spirit

Milo Rediger ’39 used to say that the main objective of prayer is to align oneself with the primary will of God. For some, this is a disappointing answer, because they share a view of prayer with so many within our evangelical culture of the 21st Century—they want to know how to push God’s buttons.

In recent weeks, I have been preaching on the power of prayer. Along with the Bible, one of my primary resources has been an excellent book by Phil Yancey, Prayer: Does it Make Any Difference? It is in some ways not a book about prayer, but rather it is a book about what prayer is not. Yancey explodes the myths that people have embraced that whisper to us, “God will give me what I want.” God will give us what we want—if our requests are in accordance with His will.

God is a good and loving God. Look around yourself and take note of what you see. God has made Himself known through the beauty and order of His creation. He has made Himself known through the tenderness of human love. And He has made Himself known within the pages of His book, the Bible.

Throughout the Bible you see account after account of prayers prayed by holy men and women of God. Moses prayed that Miriam’s leprosy would be healed. Eliezer prayed for success in his journey to find a wife for Isaac. Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days as He prepared to embark on His public ministry; and later He prayed for forgiveness for those who crucified Him. Paul prayed that God would strengthen His people for every good work in Christ Jesus. John wept and asked who was worthy to open the scroll of righteousness and eternal life. Those prayers are a far cry from the ones that we tend to send Heavenward on a daily basis.

It is only human nature that we would pray for material blessings, long life and all the other things that we desire in our world. In that same way, it is only human nature that we would become discouraged because God did not answer our prayers the way we wanted. Most often, we believe that it is because we did not ask the right way or use the right words.

That is a damnable theology. To think that God would not answer a prayer because we did not use the right words undermines who God has revealed Himself to be. Imagine the chaos unleashed upon a world where God is reduced to genie status and where “in the name of Jesus” is used, not as a cry from our heart, but an incantation.

John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, said that if we pray in accordance with God’s will, He hears us. The Apostle Paul said that it is God who works within us to will and to act according to His good purposes. When we align ourselves with God and His desires for us, a power is unleashed that is greater and more far-reaching than anything devised by mankind.

God is Who He says He is: He is a God of love and compassion who rewards all who diligently seek Him. May each of us who name the Name of Jesus, seek Him earnestly and diligently with all of our hearts.

—Dr. Jay Kesler ’58 president emeritus
Lord willing, the Memorial Prayer Chapel will be dedicated on April 26, 2008, the two-year anniversary of the accident. As a result, gifts must be secured as soon as possible so that initial construction can begin in late summer 2007. Costs include:

- $1,000,000 for construction and furnishings
- $200,000 for development of the prayer garden
- $500,000 for endowment of the facility

Ways you can get involved:

- Pray for Taylor University to be an intentional community of prayer, which is vital to the University achieving its mission of preparing young men and women to minister the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a world in need.
- Give in memory of one or more of those lost to honor and celebrate their lives and legacies.
- Give toward construction costs.
- Provide building materials or labor.
- Give toward endowment costs that will sustain the facility in the years to come.
- Give to the mission of Taylor University.

For more information, visit www.taylor.edu/edify.

To discuss giving options, contact Ben Sells, Vice President for University Advancement, at 765-998-5389, or bsells@taylor.edu; or Tom Essenburg, Regional Director of Development, at 765-998-5119, or tmessenbu@taylor.edu.
How a deep passion for revival was birthed at Taylor.