Fireproofing Your Dreams  Grapes From a Barren Vine  Precious to God
Words can never adequately convey the incredible impact of our attitudes toward life. The longer I live the more convinced I become that life is 10 percent what happens to us and 90 percent how we respond to it.

**Charles R. Swindoll**

A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.

**Jackie Robinson**

The biggest impact I can have for what I want to do, the results I want to have with what God’s given me, is to help as many people as possible get to heaven.

**Thomas Monaghan**

I am a little pencil in the hand of a writing God who is sending a love letter to the world.

**Mother Teresa**

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

**Acts 4:31**
20 Unforgettable name. 
Unforgettable impact.
Harold John Ockenga '27 was a leading figure in the evangelical awakening of the 20th century.

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There have been challenges along the way, but God has used them to draw us closer to Him. During two bouts with cancer and after receiving serious injuries in an automobile accident, I experienced the Lord’s grace, salvation and healing.
Wanda (Smith ’76) Kawadza
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To a world that believes an inconvenient life is not worth living, I hope our love for our kids is a testament to the fact that all are made in God’s image and precious to Him.
Matt McNeil ’98
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The impact of “that little college”

Jay Kesler ’58 tells a story of fellow Taylor alumnus Harold John Ockenga ’27 that whenever the two would meet, Ockenga would reflect, “You know, I owe more to that little college in Indiana than any other place in my life.”

Who was Harold John Ockenga? For 33 years, he served as senior pastor at Boston’s Park Street Church – a career in and of itself. But Ockenga went on to become a central figure in the founding of the National Association of Evangelicals, Fuller Theological Seminary, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and the periodical Christianity Today.

So profound was Ockenga’s spirit and influence that the Reverend Billy Graham said of him, “Nobody outside of my family influenced me more than he did. I never made a major decision without first calling and asking his advice and counsel.”

One could liken Ockenga to the Apostles Peter and John in the New Testament Book of Acts, of whom the rulers of the people “were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.”

That is impact. God uses people, places, events, circumstances and, most of all, His Spirit to shape those who are His for purposes that are beyond our comprehension.

You’ll read Ockenga’s story in the pages of this issue of Taylor, along with the stories of Matt and Shannon (Moyer ’98) McNeil ’98, John and Wanda (Smith ’76) Kawadza ’77, David Nixon ‘79 and many others. They are people God has shaped in a mighty way for purposes that we may never fully understand.

Each of them had an encounter with the same Lord right here at Taylor University. And the work of God is not limited to them. It grows each year as nearly 500 men and women graduate from Taylor, equipped to minister the redemptive love of Jesus Christ to a hurting world.
Science Learning Center gains momentum
$22 million identified toward $36 million project

Taylor University officials have reached the 60% mark in the fundraising effort to build a Science Learning Center on the Taylor campus. Taylor President Eugene B. Habecker '68 announced on March 13 that $22 million - 60% of the $36 million needed to break ground - has been committed.

The Science Learning Center project is the largest in Taylor's history. When completed, the facility will be a 190,646 square-foot complex.

Based upon several "green" features incorporated into its design that include a geothermal heating and cooling system and motion-based lighting, planners believe the Science Learning Center will earn Silver certification by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System.

Nearly one in five Taylor undergraduate students is majoring in the School of Natural and Applied Sciences. Additionally, every Taylor undergraduate student is required to take at least two science courses within the liberal arts curriculum. Thirty-one of the 33 science faculty members hold doctoral degrees in their respective disciplines.

"We believe that our science program is a leader among Christian colleges throughout the world," said Habecker. "The graduates of our School of Natural and Applied Sciences serve God and humankind in various professional fields including medicine, industry and education. In addition, our science alumni go on to study and teach in some of our nation's most prestigious graduate and professional programs. This new facility will provide our outstanding students, world-class faculty and excellent programs with a mission-critical tool that will allow them to thrive."

"In these uncertain economic times, we are especially encouraged to report on this progress," said Dr. Ben R. Sells, vice president for University Advancement, who added the total funds available for the project had jumped from $5 million to $22 million in the past several months. "It reflects the Lord's blessing, generous people who believe in Taylor, and our outstanding faculty and students."

In these uncertain economic times, we are especially encouraged to report on this progress.
Odle’s impact still felt

During his life, legendary Taylor basketball coach and sports evangelist Don Odle ’42 was known for his fiercely-competitive nature, passion for the gospel and relentless work ethic. Those same attributes that made him a successful coach and touched the lives of Odle’s family, friends and athletes have led to his induction into the inaugural class of the Grant County Sports Hall of Fame.

Odle, who died in 2002, is already a member of the NAIA Hall of Fame, Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame and the Taylor University Athletic Hall of Fame.

A longtime member of Taylor’s athletic department, he coached baseball, golf and football. But Odle’s greatest impact was in basketball, a sport in which he excelled as an athlete and coach. Odle’s Trojans won 468 games from 1948 until his retirement in 1979. He was also a central figure in the launch of a then-fledgling summer basketball camp in 1957 that was among the first such ventures of its kind. Odle coached the Chinese National Team in the 1960 Rome Olympiad, and led 12 Venture for Victory sports evangelism teams to countries including Japan, Korea and Vietnam.

“The first year he took the Venture for Victory team, I remember they had a going away time in the middle of Reade Ave.,” said Odle’s wife, Bonnie (Weaver ’44). “Everybody was there to see them off and I remember leaving and wondering if I would ever see Don again. It was a real step of faith. God was faithful; He supplied our needs according to His riches in glory.”

“I was happy he was inducted into the Grant County Hall of Fame because that was our home base,” she added.

“He was a ferocious competitor,” remembered George Glass ’58, one of Odle’s former athletes who later became an assistant coach and colleague at Taylor. “He wanted to win. He wanted to do it right. He wanted to do it the best. He enjoyed making people laugh.

“‘Passion’ may be the key word. He had a passion for living, for golf, for the Scripture,” added Glass. “That may be a better definition than anything. I miss him, I tell you. I really do.”

“It is a sort of enlightening thing - you can live so close to a person and not be aware of all of the things he did, but I’m constantly reminded of him,” Odle reflected. “It is absolutely amazing how God used him. That is the story of being in God’s family; He picks us up wherever we are and uses us for His purposes.”

To view a commemorative video celebrating the mission and vision of Venture for Victory, visit www.taylor.edu/victory.
Ready for take-off
Highly recognized writing program coming to Taylor

A professional writing program that is recognized as the most successful course offerings of its type will begin classes at Taylor in the 2009 fall semester.

Since its modest beginnings in 2000 on the Taylor University Fort Wayne campus, the program has grown in terms of enrollment numbers and reputation. Following last October’s announcement that the undergraduate program at TUFW will end on May 31, campus officials invited program director Dr. Dennis Hensley to bring the operation to Upland.

Over the past nine years, the professional writing program experienced rapid growth – beginning with only two part-time students and expanding to its current enrollment of 86 full-time and 40 more part-time students. Forty-five of those full-time writing students and two professional writing faculty members will also transfer to Upland.

According to program director Dr. Dennis Hensley, the discipline has already attracted 25 new students.

“The main thing is that a person walks away with a Taylor University degree – and with a profession,” said Hensley, the author of more than 50 books and 3,000 newspaper articles and a popular conference speaker. “It is the best of both worlds; high academic training and a trade in hand.”

The professional writing sequence has drawn guest lecturers including Jerry Jenkins (co-author of the Left Behind series), Bill Myers (McGee and Me) and novelist Ann Tatlock. Hensley’s students have authored hundreds of articles for publications from Brio, Brio & Beyond and Breakaway, to classic devotional magazines including The Upper Room, The Secret Place and Evangel. Many professional writing graduates now work as magazine editors, book publishers, public relations executives, university professors, authors and scriptwriters.

“We fulfill dreams. They want to see their names in print and learn from successful authors, and we make it happen. Immediately. They make money too – one student made $10,000 the four years she was here. She walked out with two portfolios full of work,” Hensley stated.

Also transferring will be Dr. Pamela Jordan ’78-Long, who will serve as a faculty member teaching professional writing and general education courses, overseeing student advising and performing other administrative duties within the department.

“I’m excited about coming to the Upland campus because we will have resources here we did not have in Fort Wayne,” she said. “Students will have access to other classes, majors and programs that will enrich what they are doing in the professional writing program. I think Upland is a place where the program can come into its own and realize its potential.”
CSE donates computers to African university

Visits, information sharing and the donation of 32 computers provide evidence of a growing relationship between Taylor University and a small African university.

The Pentium 4 computers, including monitors, keyboards and Linux operating systems, were sent from Taylor's computer science and engineering (CSE) department to Bingham University in New Karu, Nasarawa State, Nigeria. The university is sponsored by the Evangelical Church of West Africa (ECWA) and named after the missionary Rowland Bingham. Although their enrollment is only 130 students, the administration believes they will grow.

"We ended up sending a much smaller shipment, computers only, and we thoroughly tested every computer," said Dr. Carl Dautt, computer resource manager. "We made sure that everything we sent worked ... the students were the ones who insisted that we needed to load each computer with Ubuntu Linux (free software used as an operating system like Windows) and actually test each one out. They carried through a lot of the effort."

"We also wiped the hard drives clean so they would be able to work with a fresh operating system and not have to worry about viruses or anything like that," said Austin Brown '10. "I feel like Jesus would appreciate this behind-the-scenes work ... because it is impossible for us to be doing it for our own glory as we will probably never even meet the people that received the gifts."

Taylor's relationship with the African school began when Bingham officials, seeking advice about starting a computer science curriculum, approached Taylor in 2005.

"I think that what really got me was a chance to see how convinced they were that this is what God wanted them to do," said Dr. Stefan Brandle, a CSE associate professor who first visited Bingham two years ago. "They were not going to be blocked by problems like not having enough money, faculty, staff, students and some challenges with government permits ... It is really a Biblical-type project, sort of like the rebuilding of the Temple and Jerusalem described in Ezra and Nehemiah."

Brandle and Dautt said a CSE department goal is to eventually send a group of students to Bingham for onsite training. "It's not immediately on our radar screen," Dautt said, "but we trust that the Lord will open it in the right time."

I think that what really got me was a chance to see how convinced they were that this is what God wanted them to do.
Taylor celebrates 100 years of theatre

The Importance of Being Earnest. The Taming of the Shrew. The Crucible. Peter Pan.

The Taylor theatre program turned 100 this year. During the past century, hundreds of productions have both entertained and challenged theatre goers while playing a significant role in shaping the lives of the thousands of Taylor students who acted in and worked to support them.

During his student days Joe Maniglia '88 was drawn to theatre participation by longtime directors Oliver Hubbard and Jessica Rousselow-Winquist. “Their love of theatre and the way they cared for the students there was so evident,” he said.

By the time he graduated, Maniglia had acted in eight productions and worked technical support for three more. “Taylor at the time did not have a premiere theatre facility,” he reflected, “but what we lacked in lights and stage space was certainly made up for in heart and spirit...My faith was challenged and stretched through the theatre.”

Donald McLaughlin ’75, regional director for advancement, played Petrucchio in his favorite Taylor performance, The Taming of the Shrew, in 1973. Although McLaughlin never pursued theatre professionally, he says he treasured his friendships with fellow cast members.

“TU theatre also increased my self-confidence, which has helped me greatly through the years since Taylor,” he stated. “I gained a lifelong love of the arts as well, which has greatly enriched my life.”

“(Theatre) asked something of me and demanded things from me that challenged me. I still function well in that kind of arena where there are things put before me that are bigger than me,” said Tracy (Tobey ’92) Manning, Taylor’s theatre director.

“We’re still pursuing all of those same things. Students are struggling with those same things, walking on those same roads, and we’re still sending out people who can make a difference for the cause of Christ in whatever discipline they’re pursuing.”

Two devastating fires in Helena Memorial Hall, which housed the theatre facility during most of the program’s first 80 years, threatened its existence, said Rousselow-Winquist. “Those were the toughest times,” she said. “It is a memory that shaped the program.”

Rousselow-Winquist, who directed more than 30 plays prior to her retirement from that role in 2005, now serves as professor and communications department chair. She said the criteria for play selection included a fit with Taylor’s liberal arts tradition and a script that spoke authentically to the human condition.

“The last one I directed like that was Copenhagen. I like to have the audience walking out of the theatre talking about, and arguing about the concepts of the play,” she said. “The theatre program has had a significant impact on a lot of people over time and I believe that will continue.”
Faculty accolades

Chris Bade, associate professor of music, presented *Messiaen: Abyss of the Birds* at the Lilly North Conference on College Teaching in Traverse City, Mich.


Jeremy Case ’87, professor of mathematics, serves as board chair of the Robert H. Faulkner Academy (Marion charter school), which opened this fall.

Jenny Collins ’89, assistant professor of missions, led two workshops – *Long Term Partnerships for Short Term Missions* and *Maximizing Your Short Term Missions* – at the Advancing Churches in Missions Commitment (ACMC) conference in Dayton, Ohio.


Scott Gaier, coordinator of Academic Enrichment Center and assistant professor, presented *Using the Motivated Strategies for Learning Questionnaire to Improve Student Motivation* at the Lilly Conference on College Teaching in Traverse City, Mich.

Lorne Mook ’87, associate professor of English, wrote translations of the 4th and 5th Sonnets to Orpheus by the German-language poet Rainer Maria Rilke that have been published in the latest issue of the journal AGNI.

Phil Mummert, assistant professor of mathematics, presented at the 42nd Annual Spring Topology and Dynamics Conference, Milwaukee, Wis. His topic was *Holomorphic Shadowing for Henon Maps*.

Paul Rothrock, professor of earth and environmental science and biology, assumed the presidency of the Indiana Academy of Science.

Rachel Smith, professor of art, was appointed to the executive committee of the Board of Directors of Christians in the Visual Arts. She was also a panelist addressing the history, mission and purposes of art programs in Christian colleges at the conference *Educating Artists of Faith for the 21st Century* in New York City.


Satterlee wins NEA Grant

Assistant Professor of English Thom Satterlee is one of 42 poets nationwide to be awarded a $25,000 fellowship in poetry by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Overall, the organization is distributing $23,215,500 to support 1,051 projects by nonprofit national, regional, state, and local organizations.

Satterlee, whose 2006 book *Burning Wyclif*, an original collection of poetry he created to honor the life of English reformer John Wycliffe gained wide acclaim, said the grant will assist his efforts to create a new collection of poetry about the Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard.
Family business

It could be said that Mary Jo (Jody) Hirschy’s reason for joining the Taylor University faculty in 2005 was the result of her husband’s desire to join the family business ... and hers.

Hirschy admits that she did not know much about Taylor before she began dating her husband Quinn ’99. And she did not start out in the education field; her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from DePauw (Greencastle, Ind.) and DePaul (Chicago, Ill.) were in communications. Hirschy served in corporate communications roles for international construction and engineering giant Bechtel, advertising icon Leo Burnett Worldwide and Time Warner.

But it was when her family moved to Fort Wayne so Quinn could join his family’s business in 2005 that Hirschy, who comes from a family with a number of elementary, secondary and collegiate-level educators, felt a tug at her heart to leave communications for a classroom teaching role.

“I had this sense that I should be making a change anyway,” she said. “I wasn’t just teaching to teach. It needed to be in a mission environment with an opportunity to serve ... Given my experience and where we were at that life stage, Taylor was a great fit.”

In her role as assistant professor in Taylor University’s School of Business, Hirschy teaches courses in various levels of marketing, consumer behavior, professional selling and one class known as business “boot camp.” Her adaptation to the classroom and ability to make learning exciting has gained notice from students and faculty colleagues alike and led to her being named the inaugural winner of the Dr. Joe Burnworth Teaching Award – an honor that recognizes innovation and engagement in the classroom.

“One of the things that I desired early on, and I continue to desire, is not only to integrate faith and learning, but also combine real world experiences with learning opportunities,” she said. “The idea is, if you are going to do it, do it right. If all Christians approached their callings with the same attitude, I just have to believe this world would be a different place.”

In the coming months, Hirschy and her husband are expecting their first child and she will complete a doctoral program at Regent University in global leadership. She said her relationship with her students is a source of energy and confirmation of God’s leading.

“When the ‘light bulb’ goes on for students, that is confirmation,” she said. “You realize it is so much more than the classroom. It is what their life journey continues to be and they invite you in.”
A winner to the end

Those who knew her best say that Carrie (Chivington '03) Roeth deeply loved Taylor University women's basketball, summer camps, her family, and most of all, Jesus.

Roeth, a four-year letter winner and team captain during her Taylor playing career, died last summer following a three-year battle with cancer. Coach Tena Krause said Roeth's faith and her desire to win - especially during her illness - had a profound impact on her family, friends, the Taylor basketball team and many others.

"Carrie was known as the 'team mom,'" Krause reflected. "She loved unconditionally, but she also hated to lose. Carrie strived for excellence every time she stepped on the floor and she would not let her teammates not give their best. But she was the first one to comfort them when we lost."

In tribute, Krause's Trojans dedicated the 2008-'09 season to Roeth's memory, holding special ceremonies at their first home game, retiring her #42, wearing a black patch on their uniforms with her C.R. initials, and through the creation of a memorial scholarship.

It was during summer basketball camp that Taylor senior co-captain Paige Rudolph '09 first met Roeth and was moved by her testimony. "She talked about her story, her struggles, her constantly having to hear about the return of her cancer," Rudolph said. "She was frustrated, and did not claim to understand why God was allowing her cancer to come back except to bring Him glory ... She truly rested in His grace, not taking anything for granted, and knowing that one way or the other, God would be faithful."

"She scheduled her treatments so she would not miss the camp," said Roeth's husband Justin '03. "She made it a priority because Coach Krause and the basketball team made it a priority to hold Carrie up in prayer. Coach Krause has gone completely out of her way to honor Carrie when she was alive, and to honor her now that she is not with us."

"She was contagious," he added. "Through her cancer, it didn't change. It made you sit back and say, 'Wow, this is an amazing person and she has this devastating illness and it doesn't change our relationship at all."

"We are doing very well," Roeth said of himself and their three-year-old son Jacob. "It's easy to do well when the people at Taylor like Coach Krause and Coach Denise (Johnson) ... get to share together the impact Carrie had."

"I related it to the Facing the Giants movie," he said. "Do you back down from it? Do you let it define you? She didn't let it define her. She faced her giant and she won."

For more information about the Carrie Chivington-Roeth Memorial Endowed Scholarship, contact Brad Yorly '75, Director of Stewardship and Scholarship. byorly@taylor.edu or call 800-882-3456.

Carrie Roeth during a Feb. 12, 2003 MCC game with the University of St. Francis.
Lady Trojans go to nationals; men rebuild

Benefitting from a strong regular season and deep run into the MCC tournament, Coach Tena Krause’s Lady Trojans received an at-large bid to the NAIA Division II national tournament in Sioux City, Iowa. Following an opening round loss to Concordia (Nebraska) 68-51, the team finished the season with 21-12 and 10-6 overall and MCC marks.

During much of the 2008-09 season, the Lady Trojans were ranked in the national polls. They were stellar on their home court, where the team went 14-2 and handed two previously undefeated teams their first losses.

Conference first-team selection Paige Rudolph ’09 led the team in scoring with 14.9 ppg. Her 1,558 career points moved her ahead of Rhonda (Andrew ‘92) Williams into sixth place on the all-time scoring list. Bethany Ballard ‘10 was named to the MCC’s second team; she was second in scoring with 13.1 ppg and led the team with rebounding with 6.6 rpg.

Confident and yet so far would sum up the season for the Hall of Fame Coach Paul Patterson’s Trojan basketball team, which finished with disappointing 11-20 overall and 3-12 MCC records. Nine of those losses came by four points or less – seven losses were decided on the final possession. The Trojans were defeated in the opening round of the MCC tournament.

Season highlights included a 79-68 win over previously undefeated and eighth-ranked Indiana Tech. The Trojans were ranked second nationally for defensive efforts, yielding an average of 58 points a game. They were led in scoring by Alex Daniel ’09 (12.8 ppg) and Jacob Bream ’09 (11.6 ppg). Bream and Daniel also lead the team in rebounding with 5.7 rpg and 4.4 rpg respectively. Daniel Cox ’09 broke the 1,000-point barrier.

Nine returning letter winners and four promising recruits buoy hopes for the 2009-10 campaign.
Fleeting but not fading: a faith perspective on today’s economy

It was the late John Maynard Keynes who famously observed that our lives are fleeting when he stated, “we are all dead in the long run.” It was a wry commentary that I believe is the other side of Jesus’ command in Matthew 6:19 to not store up for ourselves treasure on earth where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. As believers, our faith informs us that this world is not all there is.

To say that our treasures on earth have been depleted is an understatement. In 2008, the stock market endured its worst performance since the 1930s – as the diminished value of retirement plans, foundations and endowments bear witness. The value of housing fell dramatically, creating a situation in which a quarter of all homes have negative equity and foreclosures are at record highs. In addition to the general financial malaise, the largest Ponzi scheme in history is believed to have taken place. This led to untold losses of earthly wealth, forcing the closure of charities and foundations whose money was fully invested with the perpetrators.

Governments around the world were turned to in an attempt to stop this with bailouts and stimulus packages, but to no avail. Today, much of the U.S. banking system is now government owned. The call for increased regulation has gone out. However, moths, rust and thieves still abound.

Keynes’ observation that we are all dead in the long run may seem fatalistic to some. But from the view of the Creator, we are all dead in the short run. Psalm 39:5 says, “You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you.” For those whose faith is in Christ, the problems of this world are short.

Given the fleeting nature of this world and our lives, our priority must be centered on those things God has called upon each of us to do. Historically at Taylor University, we have challenged our students to not only excel in the classroom, but also in their lives, relationships and in service of God. We are given but a short time on earth to do the will of the Father. God’s command in Ecclesiastes 9:10, “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might,” is for each of us to be embraced anew.

Rather than spending our time engaged in pursuits that ultimately can be eaten by moths or gather rust, we are called to embrace and immerse ourselves in those things that have eternal value and ultimately bring glory to God. All the skills that a person has acquired can, and must, be used to the fullest because they are gifts from God. The goal Scripture has set before us is not to simply acquire the world’s wealth, but to use those God-given gifts to impact the world for Jesus Christ.

Compare two well-known historic figures – the millionaire William Vanderbilt and the preacher John Wesley. Vanderbilt, who had expanded his family’s vast financial holdings and was successful in nearly everything he attempted, is reported to have said before his death, “I have had no real gratification or enjoyment of any sort more than my neighbor on the next block who is worth only half a million (dollars)” Ultimately, he had come to the realization that his vast fortune would now be left for others. It was not eternal, but corruptible.

During Wesley’s lifetime, significant earthly treasure passed through his hands in the form of English pounds. He used those pounds to build orphanages and give to the poor in a variety of ways, as well as to print Bibles and many other books. At the time of his death, he was left with very little monetary wealth. He possessed four silver spoons; two in London and two in Bristol. He had six, one-pound notes that he instructed be given, one each, to his six pall-bearers. Finally, he had a small handful of books, including sermons and commentaries. But as his life was fleeting, he spoke the following words twice, “the best of all is, God is with us.”

Yes, we are faced with perhaps the most dire economic situation our nation has faced in our lifetime. Yet, the God who called upon his people to do whatever they found at their hand has proved Himself faithful over and over. And, He is not hindered by Ponzi schemes, devalued real estate holdings ... or moths.

Scott Adams is the dean of the School of Business at Taylor University
Given the fleeting nature of this world and our lives, our priority must be centered on those things God has called upon each of us to do.
CASE honors Taylor University advancement

Taylor magazine and several facets of Taylor’s fund-raising program received CASE V Silver and Bronze Awards for Excellence in CASE’s 2008 Circle of Excellence competition. The awards were presented during CASE V winter meetings in Chicago.

The Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) is an international association of education advancement officers serving in alumni relations, fund raising and public and government relations. Its purpose is to help its members advance the cause of education through information resources and training opportunities.

CASE is divided into eight regions throughout the United States. Taylor University is part of Region V, which includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and other Midwest states.

“The success of our Advancement professionals is the result of their hard work and concentrated pursuit of excellence,” said Dr. Ben R. Sells, Taylor’s vice president for university advancement. “These awards are a wonderful recognition and external validation of the efforts of our team members and provide evidence of momentum that is building here at Taylor University. Every one of us in the Taylor community congratulates and celebrates with our award winners.”

Honored for excellence in their respective areas were:

**Best Alumni/Institution Magazine, 2,999 FTE (full time equivalency) or fewer**

Silver Award
Jim Garringer, Adam Perry, Ben Sells, Joyce Wood ’81

**Best Program in Annual Giving**

Silver Award
Jerry Cramer, Delilah Earls, Mike Falder ’94, Tanya Ford, Tom Green ’81, Laura Key, Nelson Rediger ’66, Amy Richards, David Ritchie ’96, Ben Sells, Ken Wolgemuth ’67

**Best Practices in Fundraising and Development, 2,999 FTE or fewer**

Bronze Award
Jerry Cramer, Delilah Earls, Mike Falder ’94, Tanya Ford, Matt Gin ’05, Tom Green ’81, Laura Key, Nelson Rediger ’66, Amy Richards, David Ritchie ’96, Ben Sells, Ken Wolgemuth ’67

*Best Major Gift Program*

Bronze Award
Mike Falder ’94, Tanya Ford, Tom Green ’81, Nelson Rediger ’66, David Ritchie ’96, Ben Sells, Ken Wolgemuth ’67

* No Gold or Silver Awards were given.
Inspire others. Remember.
Honoring and memorializing friends and family in the Memorial Prayer Chapel

In response to requests from people to recognize family members, friends, and mentors who have had a significant spiritual impact on their lives, there is a wall in the Memorial Prayer Chapel entitled *A Great Cloud of Witnesses*. Your gift of $1,000 over the course of one, two or three years will allow you to honor or memorialize an individual or couple on this wall. The contributions sustain both the Memorial Prayer Chapel as well as the ongoing commitment to prayer at Taylor University.

For more information about this opportunity and to see an example of how the names are presented on the wall, contact Brad Yordy, Director of Stewardship and Scholarships, at 800-882-3456, ext. 5114, or bryordy@taylor.edu.

Guaranteed income for life. And a gift that helps touch lives at Taylor.

Dr. and Mrs. Lee Kinzer, members of the class of ’58, wanted to make a gift to Taylor...and create a fixed, secure stream of retirement income...for life.

If you have wondered how you can make a gift to Taylor, maintain your current standard of living, and perhaps even increase your after-tax cash flow, you may be interested in learning about charitable gift annuities. For example, your gift at age 65 would earn you 5.3% annual return for life. For a gift at age 75 the rate is 6.3% and at 85 it is 8.1%.

To learn more call Delilah Earls in the Advancement Office at 800-882-3456, ext. 5144 or email her at dlearls@taylor.edu to ask for more information.

"We were looking for a way to invest in Taylor...and in our family."

impact

Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:13-14
Unforgettable name. Unforgettable impact.

By Philip Byers '08

OK·in-gä.

Access the online materials of the Ockenga Institute at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and one of the first things you'll see is a pronunciation guide. Never mind that Harold John Ockenga '27 was one of evangelicalism's leading figures in the twentieth century. Not twenty-five years after his death, most Christians can't even pronounce his name.

Don't think I'm scolding you. Until Dr. Habecker '68 referenced Ockenga in a chapel address, I had never heard of him either. That day I sat fascinated as the President listed Dr. Ockenga's contributions:

• Pastor at Boston's influential Park Street Church for thirty-three years
• Founding president of the National Association of Evangelicals
• Co-founder and first president of Fuller Theological Seminary
• Acting president at Gordon College and first president of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
• and a key player in the creation of the periodical Christianity Today.

Still, bullet points can be deceiving—just how influential was Harold Ockenga? Perhaps nothing illustrates his impact as well as the eulogy delivered on his behalf by the Rev. Billy Graham. There, Graham testified that "nobody outside of my family influenced me more than he did. I never made a major decision without first calling and asking his advice and counsel."

What a testimony! And as I learned more about Dr. Ockenga with the help of Garth Rosell's authoritative biography, The Surprising Work of God, I could easily understand Graham's statement. What I could not understand was his relative anonymity. How could such an accomplished man have faded into seeming obscurity?

The question is rooted in the things he did, but I believe the answer is rooted in the man he was and the God he served.

Looking at his impressive resume, one might assume that Ockenga was driven by an ambitious desire for personal acclaim, but it couldn't be further from the truth. In fact, Ockenga railed against personal ambitions, refusing to believe "that any of us who profess to love the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and to stand within the shadow of the cross" could allow "personal ambition" or "pet doctrine" to stand in the way of gospel progress. Stressing the point, he asserted that "this millstone of rugged independence...in which individual leaders must be the whole hog or none, must be utterly repudiated by every one of us."

Better than most, Harold Ockenga understood that the severity of the gospel message can rest upon the reputation of no mere human. Only the God-man, Jesus Christ, will suffice. To Ockenga, Jesus Christ was more than central—He was singular, the sole overarching reality. The celebration of "his Deity, his miracles, his messiahship, and his imminent death as Saviour" were the foundational components that motivated Ockenga's manifold expressions of brotherly love. So forget personal ambition. Harold Ockenga's only ambition was that the name of Jesus would rest on the lips of the masses.

OK·in-gä. Twenty-five years later, and we can't even pronounce it. If I let myself think about it too much, it could really bother me. But it probably shouldn't. I think he would have preferred it that way.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Philip Byers '08 is a graduate student in Taylor's Master of Arts in Higher Education program. His sources/acknowledgements for this article include: Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Christianity Today, and United Action Press.

Ockenga at Taylor

On several occasions, Harold John Ockenga told Jay Kesler '58, "You know, I owe more to that little college in Indiana than any other place in my life!" During his Taylor years, Ockenga, according to Rosell's The Surprising Work of God, traveled with the Taylor Evangelistic Team and developed a passionate prayer and devotional life. Shortly before he graduated, he wrote, "Never was prayer so satisfying as now, or so powerful. It seems that this is my very life and I revel in it. Glory to God. I have had greater times of ecstasy but this is the best of all."
Kirk Cameron and cast members from the motion picture Fireproof.
Sometimes, all that God is waiting for is for us to just let go. In the case of David Nixon '79, it was not until he finally gave up on his dream that he realized his heart’s desire.

Nixon is head of DNP Studios of Orlando, Fla. His studio has produced a number of commercials for companies like Subway Restaurants, Nickelodeon, the New York City Convention and Visitors Bureau, Campus Crusade and Walt Disney World – he calls those commercials his bread and butter.

Although he had enjoyed the satisfaction of working in a field he loved, Nixon's ultimate career goal was not in commercials. "I always had a dream of using motion pictures to get the gospel out," he said. "But the distribution of feature films is controlled by a few studios in Los Angeles ... You could have the nicest film in the world, but if there is no way to distribute it, it means nothing. Five years ago, I gave up on my dream."

It was a dream that had been born in Nixon's childhood. The son of missionaries in Australia, Nixon's earliest exposure to media came when his mother worked in television. That dream continued through his college years at Taylor, where he built the school's first television studio, and later as his career led him through Marion and Indianapolis, Ind., before he finally settled in Florida.

He now says giving up on that dream – or at least his iteration of it – opened the door for the Lord to give him the desire of his heart. A few months later, two men showed up at his office with an intriguing proposition. "We really feel God wants you to help us make a Christian movie."

They were brothers Stephen and Alex Kendrick from the Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga. If you have not heard of them or their church, you may be familiar with two films they have made: Facing the Giants and Fireproof.
Someone who would never go to a church, but would sit in a darkened theater for two hours and hear our message; it is a phenomenal evangelistic tool.
They had a film; it was called *Flywheel*. They asked if I would watch it and pray,” Nixon said. “I thought, ‘They took $30,000 and made a movie. How good can it be?’ It was so compelling. Everybody was bawling at the end, including me. The production was poor, but the story was great. I called them back and said, ‘I can help take you to the next level.’”

To do that, Nixon enlisted industry professionals to aid the shooting, lighting, sound needs and production of *Facing the Giants*. By industry standards, it was a low-budget film. But its David-and-Goliath plotline helped it rake in more than $30 million. That, along with the phenomenal success of *The Passion of the Christ*, whetted the appetite of distributors for more.

The formula for Nixon and Sherwood’s latest collaboration, *Fireproof*, was the same: low budget plus a compelling story. *Fireproof* used a handful of professional actors – with former *Growing Pains* star and born-again Christian Kirk Cameron in the lead role – to compliment a large group of volunteers.

Although it was not extensively marketed, the film about a firefighter struggling to revive his dying marriage drew significant word-of-mouth buzz. Nixon said the film has already earned more than $33 million, and he believes the total earnings could climb to $100 million with DVD sales.

Nixon is working on three films for Sony this year. The first is *Letters to God*, the true story of a child with brain cancer, and is due for release early next year.

“Movies are like modern parables. Jesus told parables to bring complex concepts to men. When you get down to it, that is what touches people’s hearts,” he said. “Someone who would never go to a church, but would sit in a darkened theater for two hours and hear our message; it is a phenomenal evangelistic tool. Everyone goes to the movies.”

For more information visit:
www.fireproofthemovie.com
www.davidnixonproductions.com
Editor’s Note: From urban Philadelphia to Upland and Taylor University to Zimbabwe, Wanda (Smith ’76) Kawadza has seen God transform the greatest challenges into His greatest victories. She and her husband John ’77 are Christian humanitarian workers dealing with the political, socioeconomic and health crisis in Zimbabwe.

I was born and reared in Philadelphia, Pa., and was one of my mother’s eight children and the third of my father’s five children. My family was Christian and deeply religious ever since I can remember. There was the regular attendance of church, the Sunday lunches with Christian friends, and regular training to be good because God is good. I was surrounded by relatives and neighbours whose lives reflected hard work, love, shattered dreams, unwanted pregnancies, addictions and hopelessness. I thank God that he caused me to know Him very early in life. “*
God gave me a lovely church home in Philadelphia called Calvary Gospel Chapel and a dear father figure who positively impacted my life, Joseph Ginyard. As a young teen attending church one of the elders said to me, "Sister Wanda, I believe you are going to be a missionary in Africa!" Although I did not think very much of it, I was still quite taken aback by his conviction.

As time passed, God opened the door that led me away from my family into a totally new territory of discovery that was the fulfillment of the elder's words. Having asked the Lord what I should do with my life, he answered in His characteristically amazing way. I got a letter offering me a summer school scholarship to attend Taylor University. So in 1972 I was uprooted and planted in Upland, Ind. Like others in a new environment, I had inner turbulence: human fears, disquieting feelings, good and bad expectations, conflicting desires and the capacity for relationships and hurts. But one thing I will always be thankful for is that God provides the constancy we need in our lives and there is no one like Him in faithfulness and consistency. I am the first of my immediate family to have attended and graduated from university.

For John, Zimbabwe is home. We met at Taylor University. Unlike many other guys, John was not a deceiver; he was genuine. From the outset, he told me that he would be going back to Zimbabwe after his education. He was surprised that I had no objection, so our relationship grew into a lifelong marriage commitment. He says that I am America's best gift to him.

Although the country of Zimbabwe is multicultural, the majority of its citizens and residents are black. When I arrived here in 1982, the predominant thinking was that everyone black is either a Shona or Ndebele speaker. Shona is the language of northern Zimbabwe, and Ndebele the language of southern Zimbabwe. Everyone in Harare who met me in public automatically assumed I was a Shona speaker and were dumbfounded when I could not communicate with them. Many thought that I was an uppity Zimbabwean who wanted to show off my use of English. Initially I felt so alone and under scrutiny. I realized that acceptance would take time and that I had to be willing to humbly absorb the culture and the people as well as to impact them positively so that they would know that I was genuine, worth knowing and willing to be part of them.

Zimbabwe's economic crisis, lack of water treatment, cholera, etc., have led to the collapse of all infrastructures. The educational system is in shambles with many schools closed or totally dysfunctional. Because teachers are severely underpaid, many don't give lessons. Students are hopeless, bored and in danger of engaging in seriously detrimental activities because of lack of an appropriate alternative.

Kuumba Foundation Trust is a non-profit organization in Harare that is devoted to positively impacting Zimbabweans with a unique...
and practical ministry influenced by Christian gospel principles. Our work there focuses on vulnerable youth, adults and families affected by the various life challenging crises they face in Zimbabwe. Our dream is to set up a family ministry centre and youth camp. We have land for this project. But given our political and economic environment, such a project is very challenging. John is doing counseling with young people, couples and families; I am running our home office (handling communications, arranging activities and events, and keeping records). We are working with two U.S.-based organizations and one in Zimbabwe: Thecla International Missionary Society in Lexington, Ky., Barrels of Love in Alabama, and Zimbabwe’s International Bible Society.

There have been challenges along the way, but God has used them to draw us closer to Him. During two bouts with cancer and after receiving serious injuries in an automobile accident, I experienced the Lord’s grace, salvation and healing. One night I shared with my husband that I felt my life had been turned upside down and wondered what good could possibly come out of what had happened to me. The following morning the Lord, who was present during our conversation but unseen, gave me a dream that I will always appreciate, benefit from and love Him for.

In the dream there was a scorched, dry and brittle grapevine on a trellis in the yard. No one would expect to find any grapes on such a vine, as it was not the season for grapes. But my attention was captivated by an amazing sight. Incredibly, this vine had several big beautiful purple grapes! As I walked closer, I saw even more such grapes. As soon as I tried to call out and say, “Come and see this,” I woke up. But when God speaks He gives understanding. So I knew that God was saying to me something like this, “I heard everything you said last evening. But it’s not about you! It’s about me. If I want, I can put grapes on a barren vine. I am the Lord; nothing is too hard for me!”

Truly God hears, sees, and speaks. He is extremely compassionate and comforts us in all our sorrows so that we may comfort others with the comfort that we receive from Him.

Wanda and John Kawadza live in Harare, Zimbabwe. They are the parents of three children and two adoptive daughters, Charlotte Nheta ’12, a freshman at Taylor, and Chipo Chikara, BA Communications, Pacific Lutheran University in Washington State.
These are the days that, for Matt and Shannon (Moyer '98) McNeil '98, should be the happiest, most joyful time in their lives. They sing to their two preschoolers, play with them and observe evening rituals of bath time and prayers. But those precious moments are clouded by the fact that the McNeils are watching both of their children slowly die.

Their children, Waverly (age 5) and Oliver (age 2) have Mucopolysaccharidosis Type III (MPS III), also known as Sanfilippo Syndrome. It is a fatal genetic disorder that renders its sufferers' bodies unable to produce enzymes necessary to properly break down sugars. Its early symptoms include hyperactivity and hearing loss; as it progresses, MPS III leads to cognitive and ambulatory losses. Most MPS III children do not live into their teen years. None survive to adulthood.

The McNeils met the summer before their senior year at Taylor. She was a summer orientation assistant; he was taking Greek. They were married after graduation and both worked in the Washington, D.C. area before his Foreign Service officer's assignment took them to England. Waverly was born in November 2003. Oliver was born in December of 2006.

Each of the children faced health issues early in their lives. Waverly, or Wavey to Matt and Shannon, seemed uncoordinated and had hearing problems, but was blessed with exceeding amounts of energy. Workers at their church nursery said she was unable to sit quietly in a circle with the other children and that she struggled with crafts. The McNeils believed at least part of the problem was solved when she was diagnosed with hearing loss and began speech and hearing therapy. Oliver too was diagnosed with hearing issues but otherwise seemed to be a healthy, thriving baby.
A hundred for a home

Shannon McNeil's college friends Michele (Von Tobel '98) Montenegro and Kamarah (Ziel '98) Sietsema have created a Web site (www.a-hundred-for-a-home.com) and are leading an effort to help the McNeils purchase a home that will fit the children's ambulatory needs during the progression of their respective illnesses.
But it was during Waverly’s therapy sessions that something more ominous began to emerge. Doctors said she showed signs of what they called a “basic global developmental delay,” leading to a battery of genetic tests. An MRI revealed there had been a decrease in white matter – one part of Waverly’s brain was shrinking, and the other part was not growing. The doctors tested her for MPS III, but it would be a month before they would learn anything concrete.

The day the family got the test results, their doctor entered the room flanked by several specialists. As one of the doctors led Waverly to another part of the room, the McNeils were told their daughter had MPS III, and that she was going to die. When apprised of the genetic nature of the illness, they also had Oliver tested. After another seemingly endless month, their worst fears were confirmed – he too would die from the disease.

"It was just surreal," Matt reflected. "It was one of those experiences where you feel like you’re watching your life happen. We had dreaded that news for a long time. We had a test result – it brought an odd sense of relief to know what it is you are up against.”

“My first heart reaction was utter devastation,” Shannon said. “Every time I looked at Waverly, I was overcome with sadness about all the things she wasn’t going to be able to experience. I still am. You really can’t get past that point. I wanted to see her go to school and see her have best friends and sleepovers and get married and have babies. It was sad that she was not going to have all of those experiences.”

The family has since returned to the Washington area where they can be closer to specialists and family. Shannon said there are day-by-day reminders of the illness. Waverly’s descent, which began shortly after her third birthday, has begun to accelerate. “We don’t know what the impact of the disease is going to be on Waverly in the next year,” she said. “We look at Oliver and feel so sad because this is our final year before he starts to decline. In my mind I feel like a clock is ticking down to his third birthday.”

When asked where God was in all of this, her answer was candid. "Sometimes I don’t know. Honestly. I have struggled with being very angry and asking ‘Why? Why on earth is this happening to my beautiful kids?’ Nothing is ever going to make the fact that the kids are dying worth it. But going through the process and having people fall in love with Waverly and Oliver makes me very proud,” Shannon said. "People have said ‘I used to have a really strong faith but have struggled with my faith recently, yet I was compelled to pray for your family’. That makes me excited that my kids might be pushing people back to a relationship with God.


“I know God loves my kids and wants wonderful things for them. There is something praiseworthy in all of this. He has seen fit to be involved with us. He is interested in us, and is refining us in all of this,” Matt said. “To a world that believes an inconvenient life is not worth living, I hope our love for our kids is a testament to the fact that all are made in God’s image and precious to Him.”

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Isaiah 55:10-11
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
1935
Dr. Robert Dennis passed away on Nov. 27, 2008, at the age of 96. He ministered in churches in California most of his life. In 1954 he received an honorary doctorate from Linda Vista Baptist Bible College. In his retirement he continued to serve as a pastor of visitation and a prayer warrior for many ministries.

1938
Dr. Wally See died Oct. 6, 2008, in Muncie, Ind. During his 40-year career in general practice, he delivered 2,501 babies and was the former president of staff at Mercy Hospital (now St. Vincent Mercy Hospital) in Elwood. He was a WWII veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps.

1937
Crystal (Hawkins) Dunn passed away on May 30, 2008, in her home. She taught high school English and math for 30 years. Her survivors include her husband William and grandchildren Amie (Rose ’99) Hollmann, Dawn Rose TUFW ’97 and David Rose TUFW ’02.

1940
William & Edith (Wildermuth) Driscoll celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20, 2008. William is retired from Carrier Corp. and Edith is a retired home economics teacher.

1945
Esther Warne Lewis Martin died on Dec. 23, 2008. She was an elementary school teacher and was active in the United Methodist Church. Survivors include her son Brad ’77.

1949
Vernon Petersen passed away on Oct. 10, 2008 in Fort Wayne, Ind. He was a minister with the Missionary Church for 63 years, pastoring throughout the Midwest. Survivors include wife Wilma (Steiner ’47), son John TUFW ’74, daughter Barbara (Petersen TUFW x’80) Spencer and sister June (Petersen x’53) Newcomer. • Shirley (Gaerte) Svaan went to be with the Lord on Sept. 4, 2008. She was an elementary school teacher for many years and later worked as a psychometrist after she and husband John ’50 formed Indiana Evaluation Services. Shirley loved sewing, nature and taking care of her family. John lives in Bloomington, Ind.

1950
Robert Arthur Merian died Nov. 24, 2008. Bob served as a missionary in India for the Assembly of God Church and the Far East Broadcasting Co. He was fluent in Hindi and Urdu. He later joined the U.S. State Department’s information agency. As a diplomatic Foreign Service Officer, he served tours of duty in Pakistan, the Philippines, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, India and Sierra Leone. He finished his career in 1975 at Pearl Harbor as a military liaison.

1951
William Payne passed away on Oct. 31, 2008, after a long battle with

Get Involved!
Just a few of the ways you can connect with alumni who live in your area or share similar interests are:

Chapters
• Grand Rapids
• Chicago
• Indianapolis
• Columbus, Ohio
• Seattle

Affinity Groups
• TU Health Professionals
• Veterans Group
• Legacy 64
• Parent Prayer Groups
• TU Cycling

For additional information about these programs and other alumni activities contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at 800-882-3456 ext. 5115 or alumni@taylor.edu.
Alzheimer’s disease. He was a teacher and educational administrator who retired in 1989. While at Taylor he played basketball and football and enjoyed participating in sports throughout his lifetime.

1953

Jane (Ericson) Everson died peacefully on Jan. 13, 2009, in Green Valley, Ariz., after a struggle with pancreatic cancer. Ev, her husband of 39 years, survives. The couple lived in Norway, Sweden and Egypt for several years while maintaining their primary residence in Michigan. Jane was an accomplished musician in piano and organ, and sang in a gospel trio while at Taylor. She is well remembered for her love of music and enthusiasm for life. • Warren Johnson died Oct. 15, 2008. He retired from Peoria & Pekin Union Railway in 1993 after nearly 41 years of service. Wife Esther (Hund) survives and lives in Pekin, Ill. • Joseph Spake passed away quietly on Dec. 2, 2008. He and wife Elinor served in Christian ministry in Hawaii for 13 years before relocating to Devon, Pa., where he had a 25-year career in Christian day school development. Condolences may be sent to ejspake@ mindspring.com.  

1956

Dick & Kay (Brenneman) Erb recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. (Correction from a previous TAYLOR issue.) They live in Mead, Wash.

1958

Verle ‘58 & Demona (Dtemore ’55) Barrett both died in an automobile accident on Nov. 21, 2008. They were members of the Dayton United Methodist Church and were active in harness racing. Verle was the founder of B&B Oil and Gas Production Co. and Demona was known for her superior business sense and bookkeeping skills. They were married for almost 50 years. • Jane Vanzant Hodson and George Haines (HA ’78) were united in marriage on Aug. 16, 2008, at the Upland United Methodist Church. Taylor-related participants were Elaine (Millhisler ’50) Luthy, Marian Kendall, Rick Jones ’78 and Georgana (Haines ’78) Mullenix. The couple lives six months in Upland and six months in Ft. Myers, Fla.

1963

Kay (Baer) Green, Pat (Yonkers) Thiery, Dorothy (Baker x) Mettee and Taleese (Richison x) Booth spent five days together in New York City renewing old friendships and exploring the city. Kay lives in Roswell, Ga.; Pat resides in Hastings, Mich.; Dorothy is from Denver, Colo.; and Taleese resides in Austin, Texas.

1965


1969

Dan & Vicki (Duke) Alley are enjoying retirement. Dan retired from the Martin County School District in 2006 after 35 years of service. He taught health, physical education and driver’s education, then finished his last 13 years as dean of students. He coached volleyball, football, golf, and 26 years of girls’ varsity basketball winning 400 games. Vicki retired from the Martin County School District in 2008 after 25 years of service. She taught second grade then 23 years of 10th grade world history. They live at 511 S.E. Hibiscus Ave., Stuart, FL 34996. Their e-mail addresses are allydan@gmail.com or alleyv@gmail.com.

1974

Natalie (Hogarth x) Eddy is a family nurse practitioner for Porter Health Services. She and husband Michael live in Valparaiso, Ind.

1975

Rebecca (Reece x) Williams began her first full-time pastorate at Providence Friends Meeting in Pleasant Garden, N.C. last June. She recently completed an MA in Christian ministries at Carolina Evangelical Divinity School. She also has an MS Ed in school counseling with licenses in both Indiana and North Carolina.

1977

Gene Cowherd is the coordinator of counseling services at Town and Country Hospital’s Addiction Recovery Unit in Tampa, Fla. He and wife Blair (White) live in Odessa, Fla. Sons are Gene, Jr. (31) and Ben (27).

1978

Sid Hall was honored posthumously by Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels on January 13, 2008, by being named a Distinguished Hoosier. On July 17, 2008, at the Indiana Fallen Firefighter Annual Remembrance Service, he was one of four firefighters remembered. On Oct. 5, 2008, at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service, Sid was...
Grandparents Day  
**Friday, May 1**  
Grandparents, you are invited to visit your grandchild, attend a class with them, eat in the Dining Commons, take a campus tour and experience the community of Taylor.

Volleyball Reunion  
**Friday, May 1, 6:30pm**  
Taylor University volleyball players, past and present, are invited to celebrate the program’s success throughout the years, most notably the 1,000th victory this past season.

Residence Hall Reunions  
**Saturday, May 2, 11:30am**  
Alumni will gather outside near the Sammy Morris statues for a picnic lunch. Designated areas for respective residence halls will be marked; hall open houses are 1:30-3pm.

Heritage Program  
**Saturday, May 2, 3:30pm**  
The Heritage Program features a celebration of Taylor’s historic emphasis on intentional community and the dedication of Campbell Hall.
one of 110 fallen firefighters honored for dying in the line of duty in 2007. Wife [01] Bonnie (Johnson) received an American flag, red rose and his fallen firefighter's badge.

1979
Paula Davis continues to live in Hartford City, Ind. with husband Mark and their daughters Reagan and Riley. Her e-mail is pldavis5@hotmail.com. • Kathleen (Turner) Jimenez's newly-published book 30 Days to an Abundant Life looks at ten character traits of Jesus Christ and how to make those traits a part of everyday life.

1980
Laurel Meissner has been named senior vice president and global controller for Aon Corp., the leading global provider of risk management and human capital consulting services.

1983
Karen Vitko was inducted into the Dover (HS) Sports Hall of Fame in 2008. She was the first Dover High female 1,000-point scorer in basketball. She also excelled in field hockey, basketball and track and field. • Matt & Bobbie (Bailey '94) Young are the proud parents of Daniel Matthew born Aug. 2, 2007. Siblings are Joe (8), Ellie (6) and Erin (4). They live in Bellefontaine, Ohio. E-mail is foreveryoungs@embarqmail.com.

1984
An op-ed piece by Dr. Ron Johnson '84 titled Pulpit Politics is Free Speech was published in a recent edition of U.S. News & World Report. Pastor Johnson was one of several dozen pastors who participated in "Pulpit Freedom Sunday" on Sept. 28, 2008, in partnership with the Alliance Defense Fund. The goal of this initiative was to reclaim the right of pastors to teach scriptural truth from the pulpit about moral, social, governmental and other issues without the fear of losing the church's tax exempt status.

1985
Sue (Fennig) Skiendziel, Donna Ault, Julie (Getz) Harris, Elisa (Jessup) Case, Beth (Plowman) Barclay, Lori (Gerber '86) Burkholder and [03] Rhoda Gergi formed a round-robin letter group after graduation 24 years ago. They got together in Hocking Hills, Ohio, last July to renew their friendships and confirm their faith in God no matter what the circumstances. • Jill (Deardorff) Rohrer earned an associate's degree in nursing from Bethel College in 2005. She now is an RN at Elkhart General Hospital. Husband [04] Roland '86 is a grain farmer and owns Ro-J Farms, a business providing transportation for agricultural products. Sons are Joseph (17), Daniel (15) and Benjamin (12). E-mail is rojrohrer@gmail.com.

1986
George Jackson III is the new diversity affairs coordinator at Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kan.

1987
Michelle & Jerald Yeager proudly announce the birth of Timothy Stephen on Dec. 18, 2008. Brothers are Andrew (7) and Luke (3). They live in Warsaw, Ind.

1989
Jeff & Heidi (Newhouse) Love joyfully welcome Luke Andrew Wayne born Oct. 1, 2008. E-mail is butterflywithwings@hotmail.com. • Mark & Margo (Tiede) White joyfully announce the birth of Mattingly Claire on April 14, 2008. Margo is home with Matti and sister Megan (6) and will resume teaching kindergarten in April 2009. They live in Indianapolis and can be reached at mtiede-white@att.net.

1990
William Cleaver recently joined Rehmann Financial as a financial advisor. He was previously a financial advisor with Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc. in Gaylord, Mich. • Shawn

Longtime Taylor social work professor John Wallace dies
Retired social work professor John Wallace died January 24 at the age of 77.

Wallace was a member of the Taylor social work faculty from 1977 until his retirement in 1996. During that time, he sponsored Taylor's Elderhostel program and cheerleading teams. He was active in several state, local and national professional social work organizations that focused on gerontology, child abuse prevention and social administration. Wallace also served as director of Elderhostel for the State of Indiana. In 1994 he was honored as "Indiana Social Worker of the Year" for Region 6.

After he retired, Wallace served ten years as a part-time chaplain at the United Methodist Memorial Home (now Heritage Pointe) in Warren, Ind. Next to his Lord and Savior, his family was the love of his life.

Wallace is survived by his wife of 56 years, Doris, and four children, Debra Jo Rice '80, Upland, Jan (Rob) Reber '89, Upland, Jonna (Tom) Jordan x'85, Noblesville, Ind., and Jeff (Lisa) Wallace '89, Upland. Debra Jo, Jan and Jeff are current Taylor faculty or staff members; Doris is a TU retiree. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren.

Memorial donations can be made to the Wallace Family Social Work Scholarship at Taylor University.
(Mulder) Newhouse is a professor at Cornerstone University where she teaches international business and marketing. • 07 Steven Wolfe and Julie Uhrhammer were married on June 1, 2008, at the Rose Garden in Fort Wayne, Ind. Participants included Steve's parents Bob '58 & Rosanne (Shippy '59) Wolfe, sister Cathy (Wolfe '87) Horne and friends Darren Hotmire '89 and Kurt Hotmire. Steve teaches in Fort Wayne and Julie is a speech therapist. E-mail is awolfeathecross@yahoo.com.

02 Don Hoessel has written his first novel titled Elisha's Bones, which will be published in March, 2009. Look for it on Amazon.com or at any major bookstore. He and wife Dawn (Gillette x'93) have two children: Alyssa (8) and Aiden (6). E-mail is ddhoessel@hotmail.com. • 03 Pat & KT (Strong) Ley rejoice at the arrival of Hannah Mae on Nov. 8, 2008. The family lives at 655 Lewis, Sheridan, WY 82801. • Andrew McNeil was a featured presenter at the Model Employee Policies Workshop in Indianapolis, Ind., in October, 2008. This workshop focused on the employee handbook and how it can be one of the first lines of defense against an employee lawsuit. He is a partner in the Labor and Employment, Litigation and Appellate Groups in the law firm of Bose McKinney & Evans.

04 Steve & Carmen (Waldrop '98) Stringfellow live in Nenana, Ala., with children Ariel, Andrew, Elisabeth and Anna.

07 Andy & Colleen (Kendrick '98) Kraft joyfully announce the birth of Caleb David on Aug. 5, 2008. Brother Aiden is 2. They live in Atlanta. E-mail is ajkraft25@hotmail.com. • 08 Nicole Collett married Chris Wilkerson on Sept. 6, 2008, in St. Louis, Mo. TU participants were Aimee (Diorio) Kennedy and Mary (Kauffman) Anderson. Nicole ended a 12-year teaching career to join Chris in Florida where he works for Sherwin-Williams. • Rebecca (Kraft) Touzel earned an MAE in reading and language arts from Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., in April 2008. E-mail is braincramtouzel@hotmail.com.

02 Joel & Tami (Spaan '97) Hartzler proudly announce the birth of Daniel Joel on May 4, 2008. Sister Abigail is five. Joel is a foreman for Aycock, LLC and Tami is home with the children. They live in Mechanicsburg, Pa. • 10 Dr. Carl & Rev. Lisa (Huber) Toney joyfully welcome Zoe Alexis born Sept. 2, 2008. Lisa is the pastor of spiritual formation at the Pomona First Baptist Church. They live in Claremont, Calif.

04 Tim DeLaughter has joined college roommate and lead pastor Paul Zazzo '94 on staff at Grace Alliance Chapel in Burlington, N.J.

Several Taylor alumni from Northstar Vineyard in Loveland, Ohio, spent an evening at the home of Mark & Sandi (Wagner '85) Horine in November 2008. They treated themselves to a makeshift Ivanhoe's experience, bringing their favorite ingredients and ice cream. In addition to Mark and Sandi, attendees were 05 Kim (Gygi '91) Massey, Hal & Charity (Smith) Paddock, Darren '05 & Hannah (Foster '05) Fay and Jordan '06 & Elizabeth (Gagliardi x'09) Stone.

11 Brandon & Carrie (Hartley x) Cloud are pleased to announce the birth of Lillian May on Feb. 11, 2008. She joins sister Grace (4); Carrie enjoys being a stay-at-home mom. Brandon is a high school guidance counselor. • 12 Jeffrey & Heather (Roberts) Diller were blessed with twin girls born March 6, 2008. Meredith Grace and Madeline are miracle babies who were prayed for by many people, including brother Preston (5). The Diller family resides in Atlanta, Ga. E-mail is dillerh@bellsouth.net. • 13 Recently TU friends who met during their freshman year met for dinner in the Chicagoland area. From l. to r: Krista (Broek...
The untouchables

From Jewell Reinhart '55 Coburn's perspective, a good sense of humor adds brightness to both good times and bad. It has served her well for the past four months.

Coburn was among an estimated 9,000 people who were evacuated from a large fire zone in the Santa Barbara, Calif, area in November. She was given just minutes to gather her belongings and get out of her home as the fire approached, and was not allowed back for five days.

"We couldn't get back at all — we didn't know anything about the status of our properties," she said.

According to the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection, the Tea Fire (named because it started in an area known as the Tea Gardens) consumed 1,940 acres from Montecito to Santa Barbara, destroying eight buildings on the campus of Taylor's sister school, Westmont College, and another 210 area residences.

Coburn said damage to her home was minimal. "Nothing that a good vacuum cleaner wouldn't clean up," she stated. "The rain falls on the just and the unjust. We all get it. It is in how we perceive it and how tightly we are attached to this world.

"The less we are attached, the easier it is to roll with the punches," Coburn added. "You have to know that this isn't really our home."

Parents Weekend 2009
October 2-4
x) Bohl, Rachel (McNair x) Kerr, Marceline (Romig) Glavich, Kirstan (Amstutz) Wilkinson and Sarah (Nederveld) Giere. Brian & Sarah (Nederveld) Giere joyfully announce the birth of Samuel Brian on May 12, 2008. He joins sisters Hannah and Ellie. • 01 Fred & Andrea (Hoffner) Hook proudly announce the birth of Ashley Louise on Jan. 3, 2009. Sisters are Brianna (4) and Kaitlyn (almost 2). The family lives in Oregon, Wis., and can be reached at andrealook@hotmail.com. • 02 Tyler & Elizabeth (Diffenderfer) Mendenhall gratefully welcomed twins Nathaniel Robert and Grace Elizabeth on March 17, 2008. Brother Colin is 3. Family adventures can be found at mendenhallway.blogspot.com. • Robert Olson is a chaplain in the U.S. Army. Robert, wife Katherine (Peterson '00) and sons Nathaniel (3) and Benjamin (1) live in Georgia. • Jeremy Tucker was unanimously named school leader of the Dr. Robert H. Faulkner Academy in Marion, Ind.

1999

• 03 Jared & Sarah (Holt '99) Lehman welcomed Eli Benjamin born Aug. 6, 2008. Brother Jacob is 3. Sarah enjoys staying home with the boys and Jared is the executive director of Otterbein Retirement Living Community, Cridersville, Ohio. • 04 Chris & Kim (Snow '94) Robey, along with Luke (3) and Hannah (2), welcomed Andrew David born June 18, 2008, into their family. They moved to Wichita, Kan., where Chris continues to fly a KC-135 at McConnell Air Force Base; he was recently promoted to captain. • 05 Ben & Libby (Crawford) Spotts are the proud parents of Lukas Todd born Aug. 31, 2008, in Hyderabad, India. Brother Shane is 2.

2001

David Allison, experience design manager at Conner Prairie Living History Museum, Fishers, Ind., has been named one of the 2008 Indiana Humanities Council’s Governor’s Award for Leaders of Tomorrow recipients. This award is a prestigious, statewide program of the Indiana Humanities Council and the Office of the Governor designed to recognize and honor a diverse group of outstanding young leaders from across Indiana. • 06 Jonathan & Sandy (Hubley '00) Duncan are happy to announce the birth of Hannah on Oct. 27, 2008. They live in Wenham, Mass., where Jonathan teaches history and Sandy is a personal trainer at a physical therapy clinic. • 07 Jeremy & Jennie (Poppen) Dys are the proud parents of Joshua Timothy born Jan. 8, 2008. Brother Johnathan is 3. Jennie is a stay-at-home mom and Jeremy is the president and general counsel of the Family Policy Council of West Virginia. The family now lives in Charleston, W.Va. E-mail is jeremydys@gmail.com. • John & Brittany (Lewis) Fellowes are the proud parents of Anne Grace born April 28, 2008. They are thankful for this wonderful blessing! • 08 Jason & Heather (Chase) Hart joyfully welcome Broderick James born Oct. 2, 2008. E-mail is hart_heather@comcast.net. • 09 Andrew & Mindy Jacques are the grateful parents of adopted daughter Emmy born Sept. 14, 2008. Andrew practices at Akron General Medical Center’s EM Group and Mindy is pursuing her pediatric emergency medicine fellowship. E-mail is Jacques.3@wright.edu. • 10 Amy Schultz married Craig Robertson on Aug. 9, 2008, in Indianapolis. Brooke (Schupra) Cole was in the wedding. Amy works at CME Enterprise, a subsidiary of Deborah Wood Associates. Craig is in sales at Spear Corp. • 11 Amy Beth (Crot) Spraul is a staff counselor to women at Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. She holds an MA in Christian counseling from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Husband Greg continues his work at the EPA on homeland security issues and congressional affairs. Daughter Kate is 2. E-mail is bspraul@comcast.net.

2002

• 12 Stacey Fuller and Matt Schafer were married in Lincoln, Neb., on May 3, 2008. TU participants were Hillary (Boss) Newton, Kristin (Westerfield) O’ Berski and Angela Gordon. The couple resides in Lincoln where Stacey works as a trainer for Ameritas and Matt is a
supervisor at Nelnet. Contact Stacey at sschafer@gmail.com. • Trent & Sarah Miller proudly announce the birth of Zoë Elizabeth on Dec. 13, 2008. The family lives in Centerton, Ark. • Allison Pizzi married Alex Tan on Aug. 9, 2008, in Chicago. Bridesmaids included Suzanne Johnson, Megan Ritter ’03, Rebekah Doerksen and Janelle (Gomes) Bierdeman. Allison is pursuing her PhD in social work and is a graduate research fellow for the Center for Urban Research and Learning at Loyola University-Chicago. Alex is an optometrist with Lenscrafters. The couple lives in Oak Park, Ill. E-mail is ampizzi79@yahoo.com. • Michelle Toy married Jared Warner on April 26, 2008, in Fripp Island, S.C. They live in Chicago where Jared practices law and Michelle works with the University of Illinois at Chicago helping teachers in the Chicago Public Schools teach writing effectively.

2003
Richard & Sarah (Merzig) Fountain live in Plainfield, Texas, where Richard is assistant professor of collaborative piano at Wayland Baptist University. He also is a pianist for the Lincoln and Lubbock Symphony Orchestras.

2004
Emily Caine married Justin Carabello on July 5, 2008. Christina Wever and Kelsey Holloway were bridesmaids. The couple works at Miami Valley Christian Academy.

2005
TU friends who gathered in Detroit for “MuskieFest 08” were Jordan ’06 & Elizabeth (Gagliardi ’08) Stone, Matt Mancinelli ’06, Jessica Heller, Andy & Abby Huette and Daniel & Vanessa (Wright ’06) Jergensen. Everyone had a great day, despite the fact that the ladies caught more fish than the guys!

2006
Callie Bradley and David Bertsche were married on Sept. 27, 2007. David is a programmer for Boeing. They live in Seattle, Wash. • Derek & Jenelle (Walker ’04) Schmidt have

2007
Cottage housemates held their annual reunion at Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, Ind. in July 2008. Pictured are (Back L-R): 01 Jenny Courter, Sarah Toldt, Natalie Ganz, Addie Cunningham ’06, and Mindy Zurcher. Front L-R: Jen Walsh, Joy Resetar and Laura Rodeheaver. 02 Matt Read married Mary Koon on August 9, 2008, in Columbus, Ohio. Taylor participants were Laci Liggett, Barb (Bailey) Casey, Heidi Prillwitz, Kinsey Fennig, Ben Taylor, Josh Canada, Brandon Wong, Andrew Jones, Andrew Smiley, Austin Bennett, Brodie Sears, Brandon House and Matt Voss. They live in Denver, Colo., and are both attending Denver Seminary. E-mail is mattmmaryread@gmail.com. 03 Anne (Savage) McClane is small groups director for North Point Community Church. She and husband Matt live in Zion, Ill. E-mail is aemclane@yahoo.com. 04 Monica Rusu and Kristopher Salsbery were married on Nov. 17, 2007. They live in Kentucky where Kristopher works for Fidelity Investments and Monica works for Burke, Inc.

2008
05 Kim Duncan married Tim Taylor on Dec. 28, 2007. They live in Lansing, Mich. 06 Brad Wood is head of the media department for The Oaks Camp and Conference Center in Lake Hughes, Calif. E-mail is randombrad.com@gmail.com.
Many people dream about seeing their name in print...

“someday.”

For Taylor University Professional Writing Majors, “someday” comes their freshman year.
Matching Gift – Double Your Gift’s Impact on Students Through The Taylor Fund

In this uncertain economic climate, many students and their families are working through their financial issues. Taylor University is being proactive about the situation, ensuring students will have the opportunity to complete their Taylor experience.

Several of our alumni and friends have generously committed to match dollar-for-dollar (up to $120,000) any new or increased gifts from last year to the Taylor Fund, allowing your increased gift to have double the impact!

As we’ve shared this initiative, here are several common questions:

**What counts toward the matching gift?**
Any gift to the Taylor Fund before May 31 that goes above your giving last year.

**What is the benefit of giving to the Taylor Fund?**
The Taylor Fund helps ensure that students have a solid academic, spiritual, and social experience by providing financial aid and student programs.

**What if I didn’t give to the Taylor Fund last year?**
Anything you give by May 31 will be matched!

**How can I make a gift?**
Through the mail, by phone, or visiting Taylor’s website: http://www.taylor.edu/giving/.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this exciting opportunity.

Questions? Contact Michael Falder, Director of the Taylor Fund, at 765-998-5538 or mcfalder@taylor.edu.
Taylor alumnae honored at Sundance

A gritty film that provided unblinking insight into the plight of abused and abandoned youth in a residential facility gave two Taylor alumnae a prestigious win at one of the world’s most recognizable film festivals.

The script for the 22-minute film, Short Term 12, was inspired in part by director Destin Daniel Cretton’s experiences as a counselor in a Los Angeles short-term residential facility. It emerged from a field of more than 5,000 entries in its category to win Best Short Film honors at the Sundance Film Festival in Park, Utah. Taylor alumnae Michelle Steffes ’00 and Katie Taylor ’02 were the film’s producer and casting director.

“I started screaming and honestly started crying a little bit,” admitted Taylor. “I was so proud of Daniel. He is a great Christian guy who is very talented. It is not easy to break out. It doesn’t always happen — I know a lot of talented people who are still pushing along. I was so excited for him that he would get this award and get this recognition.”

“I just got a lot of people coming up to me and being extremely positive about the film,” said Steffes. “I wasn’t expecting everyone to love it as much as they did.”

For Steffes and Taylor the honor is the most recent accomplishment in their respective journeys since graduating from Taylor. Included on Steffes’ résumé is work with producer Gary Ross (The Tale of Despereaux, Pleasantville and Seabiscuit) and a short film, Driftwood, which earned her best director honors at the Savannah Film Festival.

“(Short films) are the most important gateway for any director to become a director of a feature film,” Steffes said. “You have to show you can direct. It is a great stepping stone to directing features.”

Taylor briefly worked as a television writer and now works for casting agents Juel Bestrop and Seth Yanklewitz, who primarily cast for comedy films. She is currently casting for Alvin and the Chipmunks II and an upcoming comedy directed by actor/comedian Ben Stiller.

She paid tribute to two of her college mentors, Professor Jan Pletcher, now retired, and Professor Ollie Hubbard, who died in 2004. “Especially during moments like this, I really miss Ollie Hubbard. I wish I could give him a call and say, ‘Thank you. Thank you for all you have given to me and all you have taught me.’”

“I was glad the film got recognized,” Taylor stated. “To win at Sundance is like winning the Super Bowl. It is a great honor and a really prestigious part of the competition.”
through the years, one of the things Marylou and I have enjoyed is whitewater rafting on the Colorado River. It can be an exciting and harrowing journey as this great river, engorged by melting snows and spring rains, carries us over rocks, through rapids and numerous obstacles until we reach the end of our journey.

It is like that in life, isn’t it? The journey for each of us can be harrowing. The rapids of life call upon us to navigate obstacles such as the threat of terror, economic downturns and changing geopolitical climates – here at home, as well as abroad.

As Chuck Colson, the former Watergate figure who is now a born-again Christ follower and holder of an honorary doctorate in humane letters (1986) from Taylor has said, as a society, we may be at one of the most teachable moments of our lifetime.

There is something to be gained, I believe, in the Parable of the Ten Minas. In that parable, a man of noble birth entrusts his servants, each with a single mina. You know the story. One servant, having made wise investments, returns with ten minas for his master. Another, also a wise steward, returns with five minas. But the last servant, whom the master later called “wicked,” returned with the single mina. In fear – and defiance – he had hidden what had been entrusted to him only to return it to the master, exactly the way it came to him. And as a result, his mina was taken from him and given to the one who had ten.

That is one of the more stark parables shared by our Lord during His earthly ministry. And yet, we are reminded of Jesus’ command, “Let him who has ears, hear.” What Jesus was saying was this: Hearing should lead to understanding, and understanding to responsible action.

Most often, the word “stewardship” evokes images in our minds of money and its various uses. While we here at Taylor are attempting to live out that call to stewardship in many ways, be it a decision to use recycled building materials, initiatives designed to cut back on the waste of food, energy and water, or our efforts to be fiscally responsible with our resources, we also believe that stewardship of the “minas” with which we have been entrusted expands to our students.

From the day our students arrive on campus, they are engaged in an intentional program of education and discipleship. It is our goal that no student leaves Taylor without being engaged by our community and having experienced the impact of the love of God. That, I believe, is one way that a single mina becomes ten.

Beyond that, time is one of the most precious commodities that God has entrusted to us. The way we spend our time speaks volumes about where our affections lie. If we work toward things that will perish with the passage of time, our works will have been in vain. Thus, it is critical that we continue to develop a biblical understanding of our lives, hopes, fears, and the things that we own. An understanding of God’s mandate can lead to proper stewardship of our time, talents and treasures in these whitewater times, instead of shrinking back into a functional atheism.

Colson, whom I referenced earlier, has also said that our hope comes, not from the great things we do or the people we elect to govern us. Our hope comes from the power of God working in the lives of his children. In the coming days, weeks and months, let’s commit ourselves anew, and see how God will show up on our behalf.

Dr. Eugene B. Habecker ’68 serves as president of Taylor University.
Community at Taylor has been invaluable and has truly shaped my life. Not only have I been ministered to by guys on my floor who share in hardships, encourage me and create great memories, but I am able to be honest and have accountability with them. Many of us would not have this chance if it weren’t for the financial aid we receive. As students, we are so grateful for those who give and make this incredibly unique and life-changing experience possible. - **Brandon Myers ’09, Wing PA** (standing on left)

Fifty-three percent of Taylor students receive need-based financial aid supplemented by the Taylor Fund. This aid allows them to benefit from intentional community which is the hallmark of the Taylor experience. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of students. Thank you!

Call 800-882-3456, ext. 5538, or visit [www.taylor.edu/giving](http://www.taylor.edu/giving).
Even in these uncertain economic times, the Science Learning Center project gains momentum with $22 million identified toward the $36 million goal. page 5

Ju’Cee Chang, a biology major, is just one of 85 freshman science majors at Taylor University.