“... the world of ideas.”
That is the final phrase of our mission statement, “Belhaven University prepares students academically and spiritually to serve Christ Jesus in their careers, in human relationships, and in the world of ideas.”

Learning is not about fact, figures and skills - it is about ideas. The ideas that capture our imagination shape what we believe, how we behave and what we value.

Ideas matter.
At the University we teach for ideas, not for the test, so that students are prepared for an ever changing world. We are preparing their lives on a Christian Worldview foundation that will stand up to the tests of life.

Among our learning priorities, there are three unique opportunities for our students to grapple with the big questions of life.

1) Our required curriculum includes a course entitled “Ideas.”
Our two-year general core Worldview Curriculum offers an integrated study of the great movements and ideas in history, literature, the fine arts, Bible, philosophy, and theology.
The “Ideas” course is linked with the history course, so students understand the context of change throughout civilization, and are purposefully pulling out the big ideas to examine them in detail.

I don’t know of another university in America that requires a course like this for every student.

2) The Wynn Kenyon Think Center provides a platform for wrestling with ideas using cutting edge learning techniques and technology.
This issue of the Tartan describes this remarkable center in detail. I’m especially thankful for the generosity of board member, Leisha Pickering, whose significant gift allowed us to equip and expand the center in honor of Dr. Kenyon.

Wynn’s life and teaching was all about ideas, and I can’t imagine a more fitting tribute to him.

3) Broad survey courses in literature, history and the humanities are the most important context for learning.
A major national study, “What Will They Learn... A Guide to What College Rankings Don’t Tell You,” evaluates the quality of the core curriculum and importance of general education and reports that Belhaven University is among the top third of all schools when measured by what is going on inside the classroom.

They argue (and we agree) broad survey courses “give students a shared learning experience while ensuring the acquired fundamental skills and knowledge.”

The report tabulated that 81% of universities don’t require a course in American history or government, at 14% of universities, students can graduate without taking college level math, and at 17% of universities, students can complete a degree without a course in English composition.

The report goes specific examples:

- Berkeley—“Arts and Literature” requirement can be met with a course called, “Hollywood: the Place, the Industry, the Fantasy.”
- Penn—“Cross Cultural Analysis” requirement can be met by a course titled, “Monsters of Japan.”
- Furman—first year seminars include “Clothing as Self-Expression” and “Running and Being.”

The study’s analysis of Belhaven and over 1,200 other universities can be found at: WhatWillTheyLearn.com

Jonathan Edwards, preacher and theologian, said, “The ideas and images in men’s minds are the invisible powers that constantly govern them.” That is why, at Belhaven University, grappling with ideas is built into the core of our teaching.

Flip 365...

Big Time Blazer in the Big Game...

Campus News...

Sports News...

Alumni News...

Mississippi’s National Champion...

Think Center, Bright Idea...

Pip 365...

Big Time Blazer in the Big Game...

Campus News...

Sports News...

Alumni News...

WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP! While we are moving ahead to complete Fitzhugh Hall by August, fundraising is on-going with one time gifts and three year pledges. PLEASE GO TO WWW.BELHAVEN.EDU/GIVING OR CALL 601-968-5980

Jonathan Edwards, preacher and theologian, said, “The ideas and images in men’s minds are the invisible powers that constantly govern them.” That is why, at Belhaven University, grappling with ideas is built into the core of our teaching.
In 2012, the only university in Mississippi that could claim the distinction of being Mississippi’s only national champion was Belhaven University, when the men’s soccer team took home the 2012 NAIA Men’s Soccer National Championship.

It was the second national title in the program’s history and the third national title of any sport in Belhaven’s history. This significant milestone also took place during the 20th anniversary season of the last national championship team, won in 1992 by the men’s soccer team. Before the season began, Belhaven head coach Brian McMahon had warm up jerseys made for his team that simply said “92” to remind his players of the opportunity in their midst.

Scott Little, Vice President for Athletics & Student Affairs, said, “For this to take place on the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Men’s Soccer title is a script you would write for a movie, and the ’92 guys followed this
The Blazers faced some of the toughest competition with five straight victories in the national tournament and ended the season with an overall 19-4-1 record. McMahon said, “We played 16 teams in the top 25 throughout the season, so our guys were definitely battle tested and we saw and were exposed to a lot of very good teams. I think that showed when we got to the national tournament.”

McMahon also believed that team chemistry was a key factor in the success for the season and made the year special. He was very intentional about building relationships among team members. “Our guys spend intentional time together called ‘Forced Family Fun.’ It’s modeled after Messiah University and the theory is that the better they know each other off the field, the better results on it.”

On “Forced Family Fun” outings the team does everything together from bowling and nature hikes to going out to eat and visiting museums. These team-building times have set rules like no cell phones unless taking a picture, only speaking in English and no subgroups. “We always say, even if we are going to the most boring place ever, we are going to have a good time and make the most of it because we are with each other.”

Little added, “Coach McMahon demands a lot of play and backs it up by giving lots of guys playing time throughout the year, so we were ready for the national championship. He instills that philosophy, and the end result was a 2-0 win.”

Eight Belhaven men’s soccer players earned Southern States Athletic Conference honors when the awards were announced by the league office. The Blazers had two representatives on the SSAC All-Conference Team in Will Monsarrat and Tom Cosgrove. Carl Blundell was named Second Team All-Conference. Monsarrat was a Third Team NAIA All-American while Cosgrove was an NAIA Honorable Mention All-American. Belhaven’s SSAC All-American was Rodrigo Suarez, junior midfielder, Giovanni Correa, junior forward, Eduardo Cruz, junior midfielder, Salvador Monsarrat, senior midfielder, Guillermo Sousa, and freshman defender Rodrigo Suarez.

Coach McMahon, who just completed his first season at Belhaven, was named the 2012 Field Turf National Soccer Coaches Association of America/NAIA National Coach of the Year. Following the memorable 2012 season, McMahon came to Belhaven after spending the past 11 seasons as the head coach at Greenville College in Illinois. While at Greenville, McMahon helped build successful programs for both men’s and women’s soccer. The most challenging part for McMahon was laying the foundational blocks of his program at Belhaven.

“Coming into the first year the hope was just to develop a culture of success on and off the field, with how we carried ourselves. Our goal on the field was to play to a standard regardless of who we played and I felt the guys did a great job at that,” said McMahon.

Fan support for the men’s soccer team spread throughout the campus and followed the Blazers into the tournament. Students filled Barber Auditorium to watch the Blazers beat Lindsey Wilson College 1-0 in the semifinal game. The last second of the game students flooded the stage in celebration.

That same enthusiasm and fan support carried into the championship game where fans for both teams beat drums, painted their faces and cheered loudly throughout the entire match. Both Belhaven and Mobile were rallied by significant fan attendance for that moment. When the team returned from the championship game at 1:30 a.m. they stepped out of the bus to the cheers of the student body. McMahon said, “As a coach that was a special moment for me. I have been fortunate to win a lot of conference and tournament games before but after winning the National Championship and getting off the bus and the student body was there singing and dancing, waiting to greet us in the parking lot was a special moment for me and the guys.”

Little added, “Soccer is a big deal at Belhaven. The support of our students and the campus community has been tremendous, from viewing parties to the championship celebrations and Chapel team recognition. National Championship T-shirts sold out quickly in the bookstore and they had to order another set to meet the demand. We even created a digital billboard media in the metro Jackson area honoring ‘Mississippi’s National Champion.’”

The attention the team received from the championship reached the Mayor and Jackson City Council. The City Council presented a Resolution of the City of Jackson that honored the team’s title and is now displayed in McMahon’s office and in the president’s office.

“We do really appreciate this,” said Belhaven University President Roger Pearson. “This is a big thing and it is pretty significant to win a national championship at any level–especially at the level they play. I am an old goalkeeper myself and the game we played is very different from the game these guys played.”

Mayor Harvey Johnson was not shy in expressing his goal for Belhaven next year, joking he said, “How about a repeat? Is that too much pressure?”

Belhaven will now spend the offseason recharging and preparing for a title defense in 2013. The Blazers goals for this year in soccer are set high and McMahon believes the team has a long way to go to reach those goals. “We want Belhaven to be the best place in the country to play soccer in the NAIA and we need to continue building the foundational blocks to make that happen.”

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The Think Center is a flexible and adaptable learning space that encourages collaborative thinking, where all students can get inspired and achieve a higher learning experience. The Center features technology, movable furniture and interior design come together in a smorgasbord of bright colors and visual aesthetics, making it an inviting place for students.

Dr. Erin Price, Assistant Vice President for Student Success, said, “Everything in the space is flexible and moveable. This means that users can – and are encouraged to – ‘design’ the workspaces around their needs. For example, areas in the center can easily be used for one or two students working quietly, or a group of students collaborating on a group project. Everything from the fabric to the furniture and equipment was researched and is meant to contribute to the learning environment. The Center features technology and plug-ins that make it convenient for students to utilize laptops and other devices.

Dr. Price adds, “The smart board, called the Eno, makes demonstrating media, the internet, and written content more convenient. Digital notes written on the Eno can even be saved to a flash drive and/or printed, which is one of the favorite features for instructors who have used the Think Center.”

The work areas and collaborative technologies support students interacting with each other. The Center has additional high-tech equipment like several MacBooks and a media hub, but Dr. Price also believes the low-tech equipment like paper tables and whiteboards are a valuable resource. Students are able to see and map out their thoughts, whether on a piece of paper or a smart board.

There are groups of students who come in to collaborate and study together. The media hub called Media Scape is a popular place for this kind of work because it allows up to four laptops to screen share with the simple click of a button. The Think Center is used in several different ways. Students come in to use the space in an unstructured way, working in their own timeframe and on their individual work. Faculty are utilizing the space for special projects and study sessions. Dr. Brenda Redfern, Assistant Professor of Business, has used the Think Center for her classes and has already seen improvements in her students’ participation. She said, “The Think Center is fabulous. During the class time, I had them working problems and utilizing the technology as we reviewed. They get up on the smart board to work problems and split up into groups to solve problems. In the classroom it is intimidating, but in here they are less afraid to make a mistake.”

Students are also coming in to the Center to meet with tutors. Several of the academic tutoring labs utilize space for some or all of their tutoring sessions. Some of the Student Success staffers have offices located in the Center and are a source of information and help on study habits, time management or any other issue of academic success.

Since the conception of the Think Center the response has been a good one and in just one semester over 500 students and faculty have utilized it. Price said, “Students seem to be embracing the space as theirs, which is exactly what was intended. The center has become a prominent feature on tours with prospective students and their families. In fact, an ambassador recently told the family she was hosting that students are ‘so proud of our Think Center,’ which is the ultimate compliment. It seems that most students know about the center and where it is and more and more are seeing it as a resource for academic support, whether that be through tutoring services, meeting with staff, or just as a place to come work individually.”

Dr. Price is seeing student success on an individual level. Students are gaining confidence in the learning process as they explore how they learn, get feedback on papers and class assignments, and work with other students. She also sees the greatest “success” in the number of Think Center visits. The visits confirm the growing need for this type of space in the academic journey of Belhaven’s students.

Just like the walls, the future looks bright for the Think Center. “We plan to continue working with faculty, staff, and students to implement initiatives focused on helping students becoming better and better learners, and thereby more successful individuals. Anytime a student adds to their knowledge base, whether it’s understanding a new concept or knowing where to go for assistance, it makes them more successful,” adds Dr. Price.
Belhaven University was awarded the prestigious title of Military Friendly School again and is among the 15% that made the list for this year. The 2013 Military Friendly Schools list honors institutions of higher learning that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

Both of Belhaven’s Adult Studies and Online programs help and support military personnel in their goals for higher education. The Adult studies programs make attending Belhaven more affordable for military by providing scholarships, tuition discounts, the Yellow Ribbon Program, grants and other incentives.

Belhaven’s military benefits not only help with the financial side of education, but also extend into other areas. With adult studies, books are included with tuition, transcripts are requested and paid for by Belhaven, classes are flexible and meet once a week. Belhaven’s military friendly online program is another reason why Belhaven made the list this year. The online program fits into the busy and mobile lifestyles of military and also provides a flexible schedule for military to earn a degree.

Belhaven University announced the opening of its newest branch campus. The Belhaven DeSoto Campus, located in Southaven, Miss., began offering classes in January. As an extension of the main Jackson campus, the DeSoto campus will continue in Belhaven’s commitment of offering a quality education for working adults and offer associate, bachelor, and master degrees. The 400 square foot facility has classrooms with state-of-the-art technology and an academic space that is welcoming, user-friendly and gives additional space for growth. The campus is located at 7111 Southeast Parkway, one block from I-55.

Belhaven University’s full enrollment shattered all previous records with a total of 3,725 students across all seven campuses. This is an increase of 437 students over last year, and a one-year jump over 13%. The University enrolled 1,150 traditional age students (18-22) on the main Jackson campus. When combined with the University’s 930 adult and graduate students at the Leftwich’s Bluff building on I-55 North, Belhaven is serving nearly 2,100 students in Jackson.

Enrollment for Belhaven’s branch campuses in Memphis, Houston, Orlando, Chattanooga, and Atlanta broke the 1,000-student mark for the first time. The 25% increase occurred at a time when many institutions offering adult degree programs are facing declining enrollment.

Belhaven also saw rapid growth in its online degree program for undergraduate, graduate and high school (high school) students, with an increase of 235 students. After six years, Belhaven’s online program boasts a total of 540 students, a dramatic increase from its very first online class of 5 students in 2006.

The University’s enrollment in Jackson includes 84 international students, up from 51 a year ago. Students from 28 countries are studying on the Jackson campus with the largest groups from Brazil, South Korea, Columbia, United Kingdom and France.

“We are thankful for each student God has brought to us, and we look forward to helping them grow academically and spiritually, to become prepared for a life of significance and service,” added Dr. Parrott.

Belhaven University was awarded Best Christian Workplace for 2013. This award recognizes only 22 Christian business and nonprofit organizations in the country that excel in job satisfaction, Christian mission, personal development, teamwork and management.

The Best Christian Workplaces Institute discovers which companies are continuing to nurture their employees by asking them to respond to more than 50 questions addressing relevant topics within the organization.

The survey provides an avenue of communication for employees, giving Belhaven a clearer picture of the workplace environment. It also gives useful information that can ultimately contribute to Belhaven’s mission.

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BELHAVEN TO HOST SOUTHERN REGIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL

The Belhaven University Dance Department partnered with the American College Dance Festival Association (ACDA/FAA) in celebrating its 40th anniversary and will host the Southern Regional Festival in Jackson, Miss., on March 15-16. Some of the top performers from colleges like Ole Miss, Belhaven, Auburn, Tulane, Arkansas and Southern Mississippi are attending the festival and will be showcasing their talents.

The festival is the biggest of its kind in the south and will feature three special performances that will be open to the public. Audiences will get a sneak peek into the world of dance at the collegiate level through these performances. Festival participants, that include Belhaven dance students, will enjoy adjudicated concerts where students will receive constructive feedback from noted national dance professionals. Over fifty dance classes are being offered, ranging in styles from ballet, modern, jazz and hip-hop.

Other events for the dancers will include choreography classes, repertory, lectures and panel discussions. Panelists will discuss such topics as current trends in the field of dance, health and wellness, teacher's education, becoming a dance professional and screen dance.

GRAPHIC DESIGN WINS FOUR ADDYs

The Graphic Design Department at Belhaven University is celebrating a four ADDY sweep, including Best of Show, at the Jackson AAF's Student ADDYs Awards. The Big Top ADDY Awards, sponsored by the AAF of Jackson, awarded the following items to the following Belhaven students:

Kristen McCann, Gold, for her Apple Spider package design. Kristen also won Best of Show in Ana Jevison, Silver, for her illustration. Tree Self, Silver, for her poster design. Mallory Shields, Silver, for her identity package design. All Gold winners are automatically forwarded to the district competition.

BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION SHARE INSIGHT WITH COMMUNICATION STUDENTS

Members of the Mississippi Association of Broadcasters (MAB) traveled to Jackson October 11, 2012, from all across the state to work with students as they prepare to enter the world of work in communications.

Dr. Elayne Anthony, Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication, said, “We were truly grateful to have MAB on campus. They gave the students a candid evaluation of their work and helpful advice about the industry. This was a great conference and opportunity for our communication students at Belhaven. In fact, one student received a job offer as a morning news anchor.”

DISABILITY AND THE GOSPEL

Dr. Michael S. Beates is an adjunct instructor of Bible and worldview at the Belhaven Orlando Campus and has authored his first book called Disability and the Gospel. His inspiration for the book came when his first child, Jessica (now 30), was born with a chromosomal anomaly that left her severely disabled. “Of course, this rocked our world back in 1982 and made us examine our faith in a new and unexpected ways. As a seminary student I began to search for more answers regarding God’s place in disabilities and how the church is or should be responding.”

“I determined that while there are many ‘how to’ books available to equip people for ministry in the disability community, there was not any ‘why to’ books. I saw this as a critical need in the church. So this book looks at what the Scriptures say about disability, what leaders in the church through history have said, and what challenges face the churches today in this area,” added Dr. Beates.

MUSIC PUBLISHED IN MEMORY OF WIFE

Paxton Cottman, Associate Professor of Music at Belhaven, recently had four pieces of music published by Duma Music and WEHR Music House. All publications are dedicated to the memory of Cottman’s wife, Rea, who passed away in 2012.

Adagio for Glass harmonica K.396- Mozart for Woodwind Quartet, copyright 2013, Duma Music, Inc.
Symphony 7, Allegretto, Moto 2-Beethoven for Woodwind Quartet, copyright 2013, Duma Music, Inc.
Fugue In G Minor KV 401- Mozart for Woodwind Quartet, copyright 2013, Duma Music, Inc.

INTERATIONAL PASTOR DR. BILLY KIM VISITS WITH WORLD RENOWNED CHILDREN’S CHOIR

The Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) Korea Children’s Choir delivered two big performances at Belhaven’s Center for the Arts on October 2.

The FEBC Korea Children’s Choir delighted Belhaven students, faculty, staff and friends with their beautiful voices, colorful costumes, skilled choreography and traditional Korean dances. The choir has performed at Disneyland, Walt Disney World, The Pentagon, Walter Reed Medical Center and numerous churches, colleges, universities and music festivals.

Both concerts featured the children’s choir and Dr. Billy Kim, international Christian statesman, pastor, broadcaster and influential speaker. He has inspired thousands with his story and spoke words of inspiration at both performances. He was the first Asian to serve as the president of the 40 million-member Baptist World Alliance, and built an international media network at Far East Broadcasting/Korea where he serves as Chairman of the Board. Today, his ministry continues to touch thousands of lives through preaching and broadcasting.

Special guests and renowned pianists Sylvia Hong and Michael Rector collaborated with the choir for the second concert.
UNIVERSAL STEWARDSHIP
CLEANING UP CRYSTAL LAKE

Lake Bert, a senior with a double major in Biblical studies and philosophy, is an avid outdoorsman and shares that love with faculty member Dr. Joe Martin. They decided to enjoy a day of canoeing at Crystal Lake in Flowood and discovered that the park had become a dumpsite; people carelessly dumping their unwanted items in the lake and around the park. They found bags of trash, gas cans, tires and even a kitchen sink. The next day, they both returned with trash bags to clean up, but Bert left with the desire to fulfill the cultural mandate of Genesis 1:28.

Bert made Crystal Lake his personal project and organized a clean up day on October 20 that rallied Calvary Chapel Church, MS Parks and Recreation, Keep MS Beautiful, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the Flowood Mayor’s office, local boy scouts and Belhaven students. The MS Department of Wildlife and Fisheries brought out a 30 foot barge to put trash on it and then float it back in the lake so volunteers in canoes could pick it up. The MS Department of Wildlife and Fisheries made them handicap accessible. The mayor of Flowood, Gary Rhoads, was inspired by the efforts and made plans to improve the park by fixing the docks and making them handicap accessible.

Dr. Reid Bishop, Associate Professor of Chemistry said, “Lake was the organizing force behind the Crystal Lake clean up. In my opinion he embodies the ethic of environmental stewardship, which is what this area needs so badly. Lake proves that enthusiasm is contagious.”

Kayaks and canoes of Belhaven students and faculty covered the lake and helped them reach parts of the lake only accessible by boat. Landlocked volunteers walked the shores and picked up trash. Bert adds, “We even had a fisherman come out and help, and he was excited to see his fishing hole get cleaned up.”

Members of Belhaven’s newly formed Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and the biology and chemistry clubs made the clean up part of their annual service project. They performed a chemical analysis of the lake as part of the cleanup efforts. The mayor of Flowood, Gary Rhoads, was inspired by the efforts and made plans to improve the park by fixing the docks and making them handicap accessible.

ETHAN POLSON

A senior from Ankeny, Iowa, Ethan Polson was lying in his hospital bed the first day after his six hour cancer surgery on his hand and realized that there was no way he could do a backflip that day. “I talked to my mom and wondered what we could do. Friends of the family found a red wind-up back-flipping kangaroo toy, so it took my place for a few weeks.”

Radiation treatment every day for five weeks did not stop Polson from seeing his backflip project completed. With a little help from his family, Polson endured to get a backflip in everyday, even though he was dealing with radiation burns and a healing hand.

One of the most relevant verses that Polson held close to his heart during this time was James 1:2, which says, “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance and let endurance have its perfect result so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

“It was a good thing to go through and have my relationship with Christ to be something that was a comfort. I would definitely say that because of what I went through during that time my relationship with Christ was deepened. It’s a landmark in the idea that even if something gets in your way you can still finish what you start. I was able to start something, hit a roadblock, stumble my way through it and still be able to keep going after it.”

It is a new year and Polson is now cancer free. He hopes to continue to document other projects or resolutions in the future. He also wants to be an actor and work in the theatre after he graduates. His last backflip on December 31 of 2012 was bittersweet. Polson said, “The last backflip felt really good, but it had almost become a habit. The day after I thought, ‘wow I am not going out and recording these anymore.’ He uploaded the video on Youtube the next day and so far the video has had more than 10,000 views."
Tramaine Brock is the first and so far the only football player in the history of the Belhaven football program to play in the National Football League.

This year brought about another notable first. The former Belhaven defensive back took the field for the San Francisco 49ers to take on the Baltimore Ravens in Super Bowl XLVII, making him the first former Blazer to make it to the super stage of the Super Bowl. Even though the 49ers did not win their sixth Super Bowl title, every football player would give anything for the chance to play in the game among games.

For Brock, the road to the Super Bowl was earned through hard work, sweat, blood and tears. His love for football took him farther than anyone in the history of Belhaven football.

Football has always been an important part of Brock’s life. Growing up in Gulfport, Miss., he had a love for the game illustrated. "When I was young, my dad got me started playing football and I spent most of my time running around and playing pick up games with my friends.”

Brock was a standout at Long Beach Senior High School, in Long Beach, Miss. It was here that Brock’s “God-given” talent began to develop and his desire to play professionally became more evident. His mother, a strong believer, was and still is one of his biggest supporters. Before each game in high school, she had him pray and read a Bible verse with Brock. His high school career captured attention from some of the top junior college football programs in the country. Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College picked up Brock, and he collected 59 tackles and seven interceptions in the first 11 games of the 2007 season. His accomplishments led the team to a perfect 12-0 record that year and a national championship. After two years of solid football at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, he spent a year playing for the University of Minnesota, before playing his senior season at Belhaven.

Brock went on to finish his football career at Belhaven in 2009, where he led the team with six interceptions and returned two for touchdowns. Brock tied the Belhaven single season record for most interceptions and compiled 51 total tackles with 2.5 sacks and 1.5 tackles for a loss. Brock also returned kicks for the Blazers, averaging 17.4 yards per return with a long of 55 yards. Brock was also named to the Mid-South Conference Western Division All-Conference Team.

In February of 2011, Belhaven University and the Department of Athletics recognized Brock by retiring his jersey for his accomplishments on both the collegiate and professional levels. Brock has collected a career-high 16 tackles in 16 games this season for San Francisco as a defensive back and member of the special teams. Brock’s total career numbers include 25 tackles, two interceptions, five passes defended, and one forced fumble.

Today, Brock stands to be an important piece for a championship contending 49ers team. He made a decisive tackle in the NFC Championship game against the Atlanta Falcons that took the 49ers to the Super Bowl. “It was a close game throughout, but after I made the last tackle on the punt, that is when we felt we had captured our game. Everybody in the NFL wants to play in a Super Bowl game, almost every player makes that a goal. At that moment (we won) I was thinking about how great it would be playing in the Super Bowl.”

Brock was drafted in the third round of the 2011 NFL Draft by the San Francisco 49ers. Born in Long Beach, Miss., Brock was a standout at Long Beach Senior High School before playing his senior season at Belhaven.

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Brock was drafted in the third round of the 2011 NFL Draft by the San Francisco 49ers. Born in Long Beach, Miss., Brock was a standout at Long Beach Senior High School before playing his senior season at Belhaven.
Volleyball Memorial Season

A month has passed since the end of the Bellhaven volleyball team’s successful 2012 campaign, but the images of how they got there are still fresh in mind.

Nothing was easy about the Blazers’ “dream” season. The sheer length and amount of time that an entire season consists of could tire out even the most strong-willed people.

However, the team battled through adversity several times during the four-month season to post a 27-9 record, good enough for the best in school history. The win record was one of four records that fell in a year that also saw five players and Head Coach Jordan Lay honored for excellence on and off the court.

The season started early for the Blazers, just a week into August when was two weeks away from renewing another academic year with most of the Jackson campus deserted. A new coaching staff and a handful of talented new recruits combined with an already assembled cast generated excitement for the 2012 season.

Taylor Williams and Erin Bradley were both arising personal career records in their respective positions, which added an extra level to the excitement, but it was the potential team success that had the players and coaches geared up in anticipation.

Over the course of the season, there were quite a few records broken at both the individual and team levels. The Blazers broke records in both wins in a season by a team and the most wins ever by a first-year head coach.

Senior captain Erin Bradley broke the All-Time Career Assists record in her final collegiate match against Loya University. She now holds the record of 4,080 career assists.

Fellow senior Taylor Williams quickly climbed up the career kills list with an impressive 84.5 kill average.

In the SSAC awards, Bradley was the lone player named to the First Team All Conference. Williams and Davis were both named to the Second Team. Davis was also named the Musco Lighting Champion of Character for the Blazers, a role model of character both on and off the court.

Fellow senior Morgan Hofacker was named to the All-Freshman team in what should be the start of a blossoming career as a Blazer. Jordan Lay was named Coach of the Year in the Southern States Athletic Conference for the way he commanded the sidelines in his first year as coach.

The Blazers will look to continue their success in 2013 despite the loss of four key seniors, due to an impactful incoming class of freshmen and transfers.

They ended their season with a record of 27-9.

Football

Fights to the Finish

The Blazers showed a tremendous amount of resiliency after a rough 0-3 start to the season, finishing the campaign with a 6-5 record.

Truth be told, if a few plays here or there had gone differently the team could be looking at more victories. Bellhaven also rewrote the school record books on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball thanks to some outstanding team and individual performances this season.

Bellhaven traveled to Williamsburg, KY to open the 2012 campaign on Labor Day weekend. The Patriots were ranked 19th coming into the contest and eventually became one of three Mid-South Conference teams to make the NAIA playoffs.

In a game dominated by the defenses with a few big plays mixed in, Bellhaven came up short 23-10.

In Bellhaven’s home opener the following week, the Blazers struggled to get on track, losing to Louisiana College 24-13 at H.T. Newell Field. Bellhaven missed some opportunities with good field position early in the game and then in the fourth quarter a 58-yard touchdown drive by Louisiana College, that took 8:45 off the clock, sealed the outcome.

The Blazers headed back out on the road the next week to Cumberland (TN) for their first Mid-South Conference West Division opener. The Blazers piled up 52 points in a 52-14 win.

The win over Bluefield was the first in school history in overtime 36-30. The Blazers battled back numerous times throughout the course of the game and forced overtime with 21 seconds to spare on a two yard touchdown run by Raymond Cotton. Cumberland scored on the first possession of overtime and then shut down the Blazers offense to lock down the win.

Bellhaven began to right the ship in week four of the season at home against Campbellsville (KY), exploding for a record breaking 58-28 victory. The Blazers posted three school records including most points scored in a game, most touchdowns in a game (18), and most extra points in a game (18). Bellhaven broke the contest open in the second and third quarters with eight consecutive TDs en route to a key Mid-South Conference West Division win.

The offense continued to fire on all cylinders the next week as the team headed north to Virginia to battle USA-Wise where the Blazers piled up 52 points in a 54-24 win.

Bellhaven ran into a roadblock against Kentucky Christian University in an attempt to get to 5-0 on the season. The Blazers entered the game 2-3, but the offense that combined to score 122 points during the previous two games, was limited to only 10 in a 13-10 setback.

Reading a bit from the loss, Bellhaven entered the annual Homecoming game against Bluefield College in a must-win situation and the Blazers emerged with a resounding 66-10 win.

The win over Bluefield was the first in a string of four straight that continued the following week at Lindsey Wilson College. Bellhaven’s defensive prowess was on display in a 357 Mid-South Conference West Division win. The defense forced a season high six turnovers.

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Fighting to the Finish... Bellhaven returned to H.T. Newell Field the next week for a showdown with the University of Pikeville and the outcome was a 24-14 win.

Bellhaven entered week 11 of the season with a record of 6-4 and 4-1 in the MSC. The Wildcats found themselves with a shot at the West Division title if they could beat Bethel University (TN). Unfortunately, the Wildcats gratted their way to a win despite being dominated by Bellhaven in almost every statistical category except the final points in a 21-17 game.

“We did a lot of good things statistically, but our record isn’t where we wanted it to be,” said Head Coach Joe Thrasher. “At the end of the day playing in a conference championship is one thing, but winning a conference championship is our goal. To taste some success this year was good. It was phenomenal for us to completely revamp an offense, from what Bellhaven has been known for, and to change the demeanor of the defense. To start 0-3 and then win 8 of 9 to close the season was also big for us. I’m excited about the direction of Bellhaven football.”
SPORTS CAMPS

SPRING-SOCCER
March 12-14 (3 Days)

MINI MAY-SOCCER
May 28-30 (3 Days)

SUMMER-SOCCER
June 17-20 Team Camp
June 24-27 Team, Day and Extended Camp
June 30-3 Team Camp
July 8-11 Team, Day and Extended Camp

TENNIS
March 11-13
June 10-14
June 17-21

BASKETBALL
June 17-20
June 24-27
July 22-25

FOOTBALL
June 10-13
July 8-11
July 15-18

MULTI SPORT CAMP
July 9-13

VISIT
BLAZERS.BELHAVEN.EDU
FOR ALL THE DETAILS

CROSS COUNTRY
The Belhaven Cross Country teams finished off another successful campaign in 2012 despite the season bringing a lot of unexpected turns. The runners fought through injuries and team adversity over the course of the four-month season but continued to get better with every passing race.

Sophomore Chloe Brown finished as the top female runner for Belhaven in every race run this season, in what was an outstanding campaign for her. Brown got stronger as the season went on and finished with her two best races in the final two invitations of the year.

In the Sand Shark CC Invitational on October 20, she ran a season-best 21:25 which was good enough for 72nd place in an extremely quick field of runners. The next weekend she posted a 21:47 race at the steeper Chestnut Trails course in the SSAC Championships.

Belhaven had a trio of seniors that also posted great times during the year. Sarah McAlister was usually the runner to finish right behind Brown during races and Sarah Riveria and Seraphin Lin weren’t very far behind. A handful of times all three finished within a few spots of each other to post a solid overall team time.

The Blazers finished 11th in the SSAC this season.

Like the women’s team, the men had a runner that consistently led the team on race days and also like Brown, Thorburn McGee is a sophomore that the team will build around moving forward.

McGee posted very good times all season long and saved his best 8k time for the most important race of the year, the SSAC Championships. On a sunny fall day the sophomore ran a 26:59 mark, which averaged out to just under six minutes per mile.

Two freshman Matt Fox and Ben Storment had great rookie seasons for Belhaven. They were two highly touted runners coming out of high school and neither disappointed, often finishing in the top three for Belhaven.

Andrew Sinclair and mid-season recruit John Lane rounded out the top five for the Blazers in 2012. Lane came onto the team after sophomore Drew Gardner was lost for the season due to a foot injury.

The men’s team finished 8th in the conference in the SSAC Championships.

Brown and McCallister on the women’s side and Gardner, Lane, McGee and Sinclair were all named to the SSAC All-Academic Team. Allison Nims, who missed the season due to injury, was named the Musco Lighting Champion of Character for Belhaven.

Five runners were also named Daktronics NCAA scholar athletes: Sinclair, Lane, McCallister, Lin and Rivers. Each of these athletes needed to post at least a 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and have reached junior status to be eligible for the award.

Overall each team will have plenty of runners returning for the 2013 season when Coach Barber looks to take the team to the next level.
60's  
MARY FRANCIS ALLEN ('66), after teaching technology for a number of years, has completed her second book entitled, The Secret Life of Louis Henson (Sundi Dame of Southern Society).

TISH KNAPP ('66) has a new novel published in December 2012: 13 Jonas. This is Tish’s second novel and is set in New Orleans.

JUDY YANDER PLOEG ('79) and her husband, Don, have been with JAARS for the past 25 years, their recent field of service in Kenya. However, Don and Judy returned to Papua New Guinea October 2012 to serve as regional center managers for about 20 translation teams on the islands of New Ireland, New Britain, and Bougainville.

KATHY GRIFFIN STEWART ('79) and husband, Jim, are enjoying their first granddaughter, Avery, learning to walk! Avery joins brothers Grant (4) and Caleb (3), children of their tinymars, Becca. Their son, Griffin, and his wife, Valerie, have just returned from living overseas for 3.5 years and visiting 48 countries. The Stewart’s youngest, Carolyn, was married (D滞后) last March and they live in downtown Atlanta. While Jim works as the chairman of Architecture at ITT Tech, Kathy still enjoys her three-part time jobs as Bloomsburg BNA, Moe’s Sports and life coaching.

JOEY STROBLE ('70) retired as CEO of Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance on November 30, 2012.

CELLA MERRILL ('73) moved last August to Marble Falls, TX after 25 years in Albuquerque, NM. She is the Executive Director for Arbor House Assisted Living and Memory Care that is being built in Marble Falls, scheduled to open in May. She is also currently a junior in high school.

DISNEY MILLER ('85) finished his first year of teaching Special Education at a middle school in Lakeland, Texas. His daughter, Victoria Camerons Miller, graduated this past May from Covenant Christian Academy, in Comox, TX, Magna Cum Laude and will be attending Mary Hardin Baylor University.

RACHEL T. HUMER ('90), and TWiW Insurance Services, worked to collect canned foods for a local food bank in Ventura, CA. They were able to donate three food trees equaling over 1800 cans of food.

90's  
SARAH ALBRIGHTON ('96) has published her first novel, The Other Side of the Flood. Half fiction and half family history, this book will have you guessing it has been written about you!

REV. CHAD BAILEY ('99) and REBECCA WELLS BAILEY ('99) welcomed baby Alice Ruth Bailey to their family in December of 2012. Alice was received home by siblings Hannah, Samuel, Andrew, and Michael.


DADKIN CASTLEMAN ('97) and KAREN HAM CASTLEMAN ('00) welcomed daughter, Avery, learning to walk!

LAURA CHRISTEL LAVALLEE HORLING ('97) is continuing her efforts with the Suicide Bible Translation Committee as an exegete. Christel and husband Cal have one son, Kinsley.

ELIZABETH HOLMAN BUSH ('98) wed Mr. Berkeley Bush on March 9 in Jackson, MS. The couple will reside in Alabama.

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JESSICA STEWART MORGAN ('99), and husband, Ben stepped received Elisabeth Nathan Morgan into the family in September 2012. "We are thrilled to welcome Katherine, Sam, Noah, and Sophia.

MAJOR ALEX WEIS ('99) and HAYVEN KNIGHT WEIS ('99) greeted their fifth child, Damaris, in September 2012. Damaris joins brothers, Joseph, Isaac and Thomas, and sister Hallow.

Wade Wicht ('97), and wife Ramona welcomed William Wade Jordan Wicht into the family on July 23, 2012. William joins siblings Liliana, Leila, and Amelia.

MICHAEL DUKES ('98) Director of Development and Alumni, was appointed as Governor for the CASE District III Annual Conference in Atlanta on February 17-20, 2013. Dukes was one of four responsible for planning the entire conference that advances and supports educational and professional institutions. CASE District III is the second-largest district with more than 3,500 members from institutions around the southeastern United States.

SCOTT SPIVEY ('98) and HOLLY DANIEL SPIVEY ('99) welcomed son William Edward Spivey on May 20, 2012. William joins 8 year old sister Riley in the Spivey home.

DAVID OWYGHON ('99), and wife Leah welcomed their first child, Holden Christopher O'Gwyn, in August of 2012. They reside in Massachusetts where David is employed at the MIT Lincoln Laboratory.

bunks use to process payments. Dan and his wife Katie live in Memphis with their son Sam.

SARAH NABORS MARTIN ('96) and her husband, W.R., celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2012.

JUDY YANDER PLOEG ('79) and her husband, Don, have been with JAARS for over 25 years, with their recent field of service in Kenya. However, Don and Judy returned to Papua New Guinea October 2012 to serve as regional center managers for about 20 translation teams on the islands of New Ireland, New Britain, and Bougainville.

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The goal of the 100 Legacies Campaign is to identify at least 100 friends who will establish gifts that will create a lasting legacy for future generations of Belhaven students. Larry Mills (’03), Assistant to the President, noted, “At this time, we have 60 members and hope to break 100 by the Fall of 2013.” Our prayer is that you will make Belhaven a part of your long-term estate plans. We also hope that the process of considering a planned gift will lead you to seriously review your future financial plans. Careful planning will assure excellent stewardship for your family and benefit the charities you care about the most.

Mills explained, “People often think that making a planned gift is complicated … that’s simply not true! No matter your age or stage in life, it is easy to make a legacy gift to Belhaven through any number of options, including simple bequests, insurance policies and annuities, and trusts. We are happy to work with you and your financial advisor as you consider how you might include Belhaven in your estate plan.”

Will you help us ensure Belhaven’s success in the years ahead? The impact of 100 or more planned gifts will create a legacy for years to come! Larry Mills can be reached at 601-968-8889 or lmills@belhaven.edu.
IN MEMORIAM

ALLIE COLEMAN DAVIS HOLMES (’36) passed away January 1, 2013 in Lennox, MA.

MARY ELIZABETH FRITH LUNDY (’36) of Harrisonburg died October 30, 2012.

CATHERINE K. TEIXEIRA (’38) passed away in her native California on October 23, 2012.

ANNE LAURIE LIDDELL MURCHISON (’40) passed away September 23, 2012 in Alexandria.

LOUISE N. GODWIN (’30) died peacefully July 15, 2012 at her home in Tupelo, MS.

MARY BELLE STEPHENSON SUBER (’40) passed away November 22, 2012 in Bagdad, MS.

FLORA BRICE WARREN (’42) passed away November 18, 2012 in Ridgeland, MS.

BARBARA CLARICE BALDWIN MIEARS (’50) died August 16, 2012 in Denham Springs, LA.

JANE DUTTON REYNOLDS (’50) passed away June 8, 2012 in Greenville, SC.

CHERIE LANDESS (’50) passed away August 16, 2012 in Denham Springs, LA.

BARBARA CLARICE BALDWIN MIEARS (’50) died at her home January 18, 2013 in Greenville, SC.

MARY ANNE MARTIN COMFORT (’50) went to be with the Lord January 19, 2013 in Jackson, MS.


MARY ELIZABETH FITZHUGH LUNDY (’54) of Miami passed away January 7, 2012.

MARY JOE WOODROW (’52) passed away January 17, 2013 in Elkh City, OK.

EDWINA MAY PEASTER (’50) passed away January 1, 2013 in Jackson, MS.

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KATHY BOX WILLARD (’60) lost her battle with breast cancer on October 31, 2012 in Jackson, MS.

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MARY KATHRYN MCNEIL BLACKWOOD (’54), a Natchez native, passed away on January 7, 2012.

EVELYN TACKETT (’56) passed away October 17, 2012 at her home in Jackson, MS.

RACHEL FERRELL LEWIS SHEPHERD (’56) passed away in Richmond, VA, on October 3, 2012.

WILLIAM EVEYETT (BILL) MILLS, JR (’56), a resident of Chattanooga, died December 11, 2012.

ALMA BENNETT (’52) passed away October 18, 2012 in South Carolina.

THOMAS R. PATEE (’54) longtime Executive Director of Great Commission Publications, went to be with the Lord on December 14, 2012.

SUSAN LEE O’BRYAN (’65) of Albuquerque passed from this life to the next on September 21, 2012.

SUSAN PEARSON GRAY (’70) passed away October 23, 2012 after a courageous battle with cancer.

RONALD BAKER (’81) passed away September 23, 2012 in Lubbock, TX.

DANIEL BARKER (’81) passed away September 23, 2012 in Lubbock, TX.

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SUSAN PASSEY MAXWELL (’96) passed away August 16, 2012 in Denham Springs, LA.

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LARRY KEITH JOHNSON (’60) passed away June 8, 2012 in Jackson, MS.

CARL STOKES (ADJUNCT PROFESSOR), passed away January 24, 2013.

WILLIAM "BILL" BRYAN (ADJUNCT PROFESSOR), 65, died November 12, 2012 in Richmond, VA, on October 31, 2012.

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HOMEcoming 2012

(Left to Right) Thomas R. Patete ('64)—Church Service Award
Bonnie McDonald Grubbs ('08)—Young Alumnus of the Year
F. Stewart Edwards ('92)—Alumnus of the Year
Jane Everly ('85)—Bettye Quinn Education Award
J. Thomas Grantham, Jr. ('71)—Jim Park Business Award