

BELHAVEN

TARTAN

Volume 122 • No.1 • Summer 2009

Equipping Students with a Christ-centered Worldview

Celebrating 10 years
of Worldview Curriculum

IN THIS ISSUE

Breaking Ground and Breaking Records • Dr. Ligon Duncan: Only at Belhaven

Thinking About Christian Higher Education



Dr. Roger Parrott
President of the College

I spend too much time reading, which seems appropriate for a College President, but most of it is not what I'd categorize as "genuine reading" because it does not enrich me. Reading should lead us into ideas that are deep and complex, it should transport us to places where we've never been, and it should allow us to look into the lives of those who inspire or challenge us. Reading should make us think and reflect.

It seems that life today has become filled with reading that comes like a continual cascading waterfall, but it all misses the point of genuine reading. We have endless emails to read, snippets of news reports, and headlines from dozens of watched websites. Many have delved deeply into reading

Facebook, Twitter, or Instant Messages—all which keep words in front of us but have little intellectual, emotional, or spiritual nutritional value.

Genuine reading should be memorable, but informational reading is fleeting. Genuine reading should be transforming, but informational reading is numbing. Genuine reading should be valuable, but informational reading tends to be void of meaning.

I was recently in an airport and saw a fellow traveler with a Kindle, the new electronic book device created by the president of Amazon.com. The businessman in line beside me couldn't take his eyes off the screen, as he was deeply engrossed in the book. When he did look up, I asked him about it, and he told me how much more reading he's done since he started purchasing the electronic version of books.

I told him that when I invest the time to read a book, I want to own it so that I can have it on my shelf, and every time I look at the spine of the book, it will bring back the memories that were triggered by reading the volume. The electronic book owner said he couldn't agree more, so now when he reads an electronic book, he also buys the hardback volume so that he too can have those memories on his shelf.

I don't know anyone who wants to keep e-mails, Twitter messages, or Facebook pages on their shelf for decades, but books that enrich our lives are the type of reading we should cherish—and not be pushed out of daily life by all the information we are tempted to read.

While our students Tweet, I also know they read, discuss, and critique the great ideas of the ages as they work through our Worldview Curriculum—a two-year general core curriculum that connects big picture concepts of history, literature, philosophy, arts appreciation, and the development of the Christian Church.

The feature article of the *Tartan* will share with you the significance of this course of study we developed a decade ago. I can assure you that our students are reading books that matter—and when I talk with them about how their worldview has changed during their time at Belhaven—I see the strong preparation they are receiving to stand tall as followers of Christ in the global marketplace of ideas.

So after you finish reading this issue of the *Tartan*, I'd also encourage you to pick up a good book and get lost in it—maybe one of the texts included in our Worldview curriculum, which can be found at www.belhaven.edu/academics/Programs/worldview.htm.

BELHAVEN
TARTAN

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2009 Fall Schedule Highlights

Service of Dedication & Dessert Reception

Dance Studio Theatre, Bitsy Irby Visual Arts and Dance Center
7:30 p.m.
11:00 matinee only on November 19

Day and Evening Classes Begin

Men's Soccer vs. Tennessee Temple University
HT Newell Field
1:00 p.m.

Best of Belhaven
Concert Hall, Center for the Arts
7:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer vs. Texas College
HT Newell Field
3:00 p.m.

4th Annual One Act Play Festival
Flex Theatre, Center for the Arts
7:30 p.m.

Belhaven Football vs. Bethel College
HT Newell Field
6:30 p.m.

Singing Christmas Tree Soccer Bowl
7:30 p.m.

Community Dance Concert
Concert Hall, Center for the Arts
7:30 p.m.

September 18
November 6
November 20

A Doll's House, by Henrik Ibsen
Flex Theatre, Center for the Arts
7:30 p.m., Doors open at 7:00

Contact the Admission office for more info: 800-960-5940

Homecoming

Belhaven Football vs. Campbellsville University
HT Newell Field
1:30 p.m.



Orchestra Concert
Concert Hall, Center for the Arts
7:30 p.m.

Fall Faculty Dance Concert

Alumni News

WHAT IS NEW WITH YOU? Inform your classmates about your ever changing life: marriage, promotion, children, special honors or achievements. . .

Please complete this form and submit the information with a picture to this address: Belhaven Tartan, 1500 Peachtree Street, Box 158 Jackson, MS 39202, or e-mail your update to belhaven@belhaven.edu.

Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
E-mail: _____ Phone: _____
News for Publication: _____

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SAVE THE DATE!

November 6-7th

HOMECOMING '09

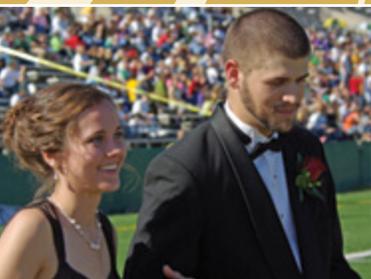


EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Belhaven Football
vs.
Campbellsville

Alumni Awards
Luncheon
Class Reunions
Sports Hall of Fame
50 Year Club Meeting
5k Run/Walk

A SPECIAL EVENT THIS YEAR will be the "30 Years of Excellence" celebration for Drs. Al Chestnut and Phil Kelly. For more details about this and other events, please contact the Alumni Office at 601-968-5980 or alumni@belhaven.edu.



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CRAIG WESTCOTT
Cellular South Ferriss
Trophy Winner

HISTORICAL MONTAGE ON THE COVER: (left to right by vertical row) Adam and Eve, John D. Rockefeller, Ludwig van Beethoven, Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, First Flight – Wright Brothers, Queen Elizabeth I, Holy Bible, Martin Luther, Gutenberg Press, Rembrandt's painting of Moses and the Ten Commandments, Abraham Lincoln, William Faulkner, Albert Einstein, William Shakespeare, Napoleon Bonaparte, Martin Luther King, Jr., Atomic Bomb, Louis Armstrong, and Ronald Reagan.



Equipping Students with a Christ-centered

Worldview

Everyone likes a good story. For centuries, children have sat curled up in bed with wide eyes, listening to fairy tales and nursery rhymes. Today, if “Humpty Dumpty” is mentioned, most adults can recite it verbatim, conjuring up images from their own childhood:

“Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king’s horses,
And all the king’s men,
Couldn’t put Humpty together again.”

But what if parents and school teachers began telling this classic rhyme in new ways? What if they kept the same elements, but “Humpty Dumpty” was retold in whatever order the reader chose? It might sound something like this:

“All the king’s horses,
Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
And all the king’s men
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
Couldn’t put Humpty together again.”

Ridiculous? Yes, but this incoherent rhyme is a good metaphor for the fragmented landscape of education today, which stresses the parts over the whole. Take the modern liberal arts core curriculum, for example. Students take their foundational classes in any order, studying ancient Greek civilization side by side with Renaissance literature and 20th century Modern Art. To add to the incoherency, they are often taught from varying worldview perspectives in each of these classes. Like poor Humpty Dumpty, the pieces are scattered with little

hope of ever creating a coherent whole.

A decade ago, concern for students to grasp a biblical, holistic view of the world prompted Belhaven to create its own core curriculum. This August, Belhaven celebrates the 10th birthday of the innovative Worldview Curriculum (WVC), a core curriculum that focuses on the grand narrative of history, with the humanities woven together and taught chronologically from a Christian perspective.

Provost Dr. Dan Fredericks knew that the former approach to education would not prepare Belhaven students as well as a cohesive, interdisciplinary approach could. However, he didn’t see any schools setting an example for Belhaven to follow. He says that, “At best, there is a silo approach among many Christian institutions—each individual department does its best to represent their own discipline from a biblical perspective. This is admirable, but it is not enough.” So, he rolled up his sleeves and went to work designing a core curriculum that harmonized the humanities into a chronological study that hinged on a biblical worldview.

As Belhaven prepared to leave the traditionally accepted path of general education, tough questions awaited: Could a core curriculum have meaning beyond disparate survey courses? Could faculty members work together from across disciplinary lines to form a cohesive, contextual, and chronological curriculum that is centered on the Christian Worldview? In other words... could Humpty Dumpty be put back together again?

After searching the educational landscape and much deliberation with the faculty, Dr. Fredericks knew that Belhaven would need to start from scratch. With a single sheet of paper

and pen in hand, he drew 4 columns and placed history, art, literature, and philosophy side by side, so that the story of the world was told from beginning to end. This simple sheet of paper marks the humble beginning of Belhaven’s unique Worldview Curriculum.

The Birth of the WVC

Move-in day of August 1999 didn’t look any different from the past—scores of freshmen unpacked in the last hot breath of summer heat, parents learned how to take bunk beds apart only to put them back together again, and almost everyone took at least one trip to Wal-Mart for snacks and storage bins. Many of the freshmen of ’99 were clueless about the countercultural curriculum that would challenge and inspire their freshmen class.

Annie (Roberts) Gundy ’03, Nathan McNeill ’03, and Matt Quarterman ’03 were all freshmen in 1999. They dutifully registered for the cryptic “WVC” classes that had names like Form and Meaning (art and music), Christian Perspective (philosophy), and of course, the familiar subjects of literature and history.

As Matt Quarterman, an English major, puts it, “It was a really exciting time in the life of the college [...] We knew we were the first batch of students to go through [the Worldview Curriculum], so I think it made us all more critical in examining what we were taught and how, but also more open-minded because it was such a big experiment.” Everyone was intrigued to see how this cutting-edge curriculum would affect their college experience, and as the guinea pig class, everyone

expected some bumps and surprises along the way.

One such surprise was the way the WVC brought the freshman class together across the typical dividing lines of major, athletics team, or hometown.

Since every incoming freshman is required to take the WVC until the close of their sophomore year, students get to know a more diverse group of people. Reminiscing about one of his favorite memories of the WVC, Matt Quarterman remarks: “I love remembering the conversation I had in the dorm at 1 a.m. with a fullback, arguing whether Oedipus’ fate was his own fault or the gods’. That’s the kind of thing you just don’t get outside of WVC, exposing the whole spectrum of the student body to the same high-octane stuff”

The WVC also contrasted with the general education requirements of peers at other institutions. Annie Gundy, also an English major, describes her surprise when, “at the same time I was experiencing the WVC at Belhaven, my sister was experiencing a very different education at a large public university. When we would have conversations, she was in awe of the knowledge that I had obtained in such a small period of time. Over the course of the two years of WVC, I learned more than she did in all four years of her education—more than just book knowledge.”



Annie Gundy



Nathan McNeill



Matt Quarterman

One of the strong points of the WVC is the way it puts everything into close proximity. Nathan McNeill, a philosophy major, reflects, “The WVC doesn’t contextualize your education for you—you still have to be paying attention to get value—but what it does do is put the ideas, events, and artifacts of history in close enough proximity to each other to make the relationships plain. Unless you see two things side by side, you may never recognize that they are the same.”

When Annie, Matt, and Nathan look at how taking part in the inaugural class of the WVC has influenced the way they think today, each of them offers a unique perspective. McNeill, who works in Product Strategy at BOMGAR Corporation, says, “Most of the facts, dates, and names are gone, but the thought processes that the WVC encouraged have been very instrumental in my work and in my family. For instance, at the company I work for, we see our work as service to the Lord and service to

“...as Christian educators, we are working to develop courses and curricula that encourage students to see their world not as a disparate pile of disconnected factoids, but as a marvelous, integrated part of a beautiful tapestry woven by Christ himself.”

our employees. We recognize that even though we work in the marketplace, the marketplace has a context. The earth is the Lord’s, and ALL (including our business) it contains. This is the same principle that the WVC

taught, just using history and art rather than spreadsheets and websites.”

For Gundy, a full-time mother of two, it’s about everyday living: “It’s fun to see that knowledge [from the WVC] come out when I experience even small things like listening to music on the radio with my kids, or in my small group at church when we talk about the theology of different time periods.”

All would agree that the WVC gave them a foundation to view life with the lens of the Christian worldview.

As Quarterman, an Apple Store trainer who also completed a 2nd degree in songwriting, says, “It strengthened my sense that looking at things through this unified lens—making these connections—is a legitimate and necessary way to view our own culture and history.”

With its synchronized schedule across the humanities, The WVC is not an easy curriculum to implement, but professors are passionate about it. All of the professors within the humanities are involved, and many have been involved since its inception. Regular WVC faculty meetings mean that professors dialogue about what they are covering in class. As Dr. Edwin McAllister, Associate Professor of English, says, “I get to find out what Dr. Hause is teaching, how Dr. Kenyon is testing, and when Dr. Hubele is covering the romantics. The process improves the overall quality of the WVC by ensuring not only that our schedules are synchronized, but also that we are emphasizing many of the same themes and historical processes.”

Dr. Melissa Hause, Associate Professor of Art History and Dean of the Honors College, is passionate about teaching students to look for connections. She sees the WVC as “an opportunity to help students grasp what I believe is the most important thing about history: that people in previous historical periods who wrote books, set up political and religious systems, built cities, created artifacts, fought wars, settled new territories, etc. were just that: people, human beings made in the image of God who were faced with the same inescapable questions about the meaning of life that every one of us has to face.”

Dr. Hause emphasizes that the purpose of the WVC is to “enable students to really grasp that things don’t happen in isolation—humans don’t do things in isolation. Political systems, artistic styles, works of

literature, family structures, and organizations of society are all interconnected. All of these things are bound up together and fundamentally shaped by basic beliefs about the nature of the world.”

The WVC is about more than just the core curriculum, though. It affects the entire campus. Dr. McAllister describes the WVC as an important foundation to the much larger picture at Belhaven: “As Christians, we believe that every area of life should be under the lordship of Christ; as Christian educators, we are working to develop courses and curricula that encourage students to see their world not as a disparate pile of disconnected factoids, but as a marvelous, integrated part of a beautiful tapestry woven by Christ himself. So if the WVC affects students’ lives, and I think it does, it does so as part of a larger design at work at Belhaven.”

Growth

As with any new program, there are always knots to untie and bumps to smooth out. The WVC has been in a perpetual state of evaluation and reform since its inception. The faculty members meet several times a semester to review all of the works to see how they are fitting together. Each year has seen changes in the structure or syllabi in order to improve the way WVC is taught and structured.

Some aspects of the WVC have presented challenges from the very beginning. In order to synchronize the classes chronologically, most of the WVC classes have been 1 or 2 hour credits. So, for 6 hours of credit a student might have to take 4 classes. This often led to harried students who felt like their workload was too heavy for a 1 or 2 hour credit class. Because of the credit structure, students also have had difficulty transferring their credits to other institutions.

The course structure has also been a challenge for scheduling students, particularly students in athletics or the arts who have limited availability.

With these challenges in mind, faculty and administration have

been working to consolidate the components of the WVC, and changes are in place for this fall. Dr. Randall Smith, Associate Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing program, redesigned the WVC, and he said the goal was “to move the pieces of the WVC around to make the curriculum more user-friendly for students.” Dr. McAllister agrees, and he says the revisions should “make life much easier from the students’ perspective: fewer tests and a simpler weekly schedule.”

Literature and art will be combined into one 3-hour course, and the history and philosophy components will do the same. The revisions to the WVC does mean a heavier workload for the professors as they work closely to combine syllabi and tests, but they seem eager to do what it takes to make Belhaven a great place to learn. All of these changes will take effect for the 2009 incoming freshmen, and Dr. Fredericks hopes that “this will solve the logistical challenge of the students, while staying true to the content and the vision for the Worldview Curriculum.”

10th Birthday

On the eve of the WVC’s 10th birthday, everyone who has been involved in creating, teaching, and taking the Worldview Curriculum feels a bit like they are watching their child enter the threshold of adulthood. Members of the faculty and administration have poured nearly a decade into forming a cohesive core curriculum and over two thousand students have experienced the rigors, challenges and joys of the curriculum.



Phillip Holmes

Like their predecessors, current students have been impacted by the WVC. Phillip Holmes, a senior Biblical Studies major from Pickens, Miss., says, “I had no idea what a worldview was when I entered

Belhaven. The summer before I came to Belhaven I had a conversation with a very intelligent but misguided unbeliever. He mentioned Deism and other beliefs to describe what he believed, and I had no idea what he was talking about. Because of the Worldview Curriculum I’ve been equipped to participate in discussions like this.” Though the WVC had its challenges for Holmes, who juggled basketball along with the rigorous WVC classes, he says that, “From now on, everything I approach—movies, books, etcetera—I will approach it with Christ in mind and I will look at it from a Christian perspective.”

Sarah Vanbiber is a junior Creative Writing major from Texas. As an Honors College fellow, she says she is trained “to look for connections.” She recalls the first time she really “got” the WVC:

“In the first month of my first semester, we were studying the Greek Empire in Civilization, learning

about the Knossos frescoes in Art, and reading *Medea* in Literature. Suddenly I was able to see the worldview, the cultural practices, and the thought-processes influencing the



Sarah Vanbiber

art, literature, and society of the time. Through the connection I saw between these differing fields within one time period and cultural context, I came to a deeper understanding of the complexity of history and humanity.”

As the updated Worldview curriculum goes forward, future generations of Belhaven students will have the opportunity to see history, art, literature, and philosophy in context with one another and in light of the Christian worldview. With this biblical, holistic view of the world, Belhaven will continue to see graduates who are putting the pieces together and changing the world for Christ—in every sphere of life. —MP *B*



THE ULTIMATE SURVIVOR: Matt and Erin Quarterman created t-shirts for the first graduating class of the Worldview Curriculum.



Dr. Ligon Duncan's

Ten Radically Counter-Cultural Things that You Can Learn at Belhaven that You Won't Learn at Other Colleges

Dr. J. Ligon Duncan, III, Senior Minister of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson and member of Belhaven's Board of Reference, spoke at the Fall Academic Convocation. He contrasted Belhaven's emphasis on the biblical worldview with 10 "isms" that are at odds with Christianity.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Life does not revolve around self. | Individualism: The self is the prime reality. |
| 2. Truth exists and matters. | Relativism: there is no such thing as absolutes or morals. |
| 3. What you believe informs everything you do, and what you do shows what you really believe. | Secularism: Religion must be kept out of all public spheres. |
| 4. Real tolerance is not (and cannot be) based on relativism. All roads do not lead up the mountain! | Pluralism: All views, values, and lifestyles must be accorded equal standing. |
| 5. Not everything that works is right. | Pragmatism: Whatever works is right. |
| 6. Not all change is good. | Progressivism: Change is always good and progress is inevitable. |
| 7. Our technology does not give us the ability to solve every human problem. | Rationalism (or Technophilia): Technology can solve all our problems. |
| 8. This material world is not all that there is. | Natalism: Reality is material. |
| 9. Freedom does not mean doing what I want to do. | Autonomism: Freedom is right and it means I can do whatever I want to do. |
| 10. You are worse than you think you are. You are what you are alone, when no one sees you. | Privatism: Private life and public life have no necessary connection. |

So backwards you will need a mirror to read 10 opposing philosophies commonly heard at colleges today:

Barber Auditorium renovation



For 35 years, Barber Auditorium has been a gathering place for lectures, performances, concerts, meetings, and campus ministries. It was built in honor of Mr. Harold Barber, Board of Trustees member, and his wife Annie Ford Barber, class of 1925 and one of five sisters who attended Belhaven. In 2007, Barber underwent a complete renovation, and a dedication was held in the fall of 2008 with Barber family members, close friends, and Belhaven representatives in attendance. Along with new foyer furniture, hardwood and carpeted flooring, elegant curtains, and 148 newly re-covered theatre-style seats,

the auditorium boasts of an updated audio and visual system with wireless internet, digital projection, two VGA computer inputs in the stage, two wireless microphones, two wired microphones, and a CD/DVD player.

BARBER FAMILY AND FRIENDS: (L to R) Back row: Ada Brandon, Kathy Hays, H. Barber Boone, Robert Barber, Jr., Walter T. Boone. Middle row: Julie Barber Weaver, Helen Barber Boone, Donna Barber, Allison Boone Ruhl. Front row: Annie Weaver, Helen Weaver, Ella Ruhl, Reese Ruhl, Ainsley Ruhl.

Dr. Chip Mason Elected to Board of Commissioners



Dr. Chip Mason

Dr. Chip Mason, Dean of the School of Business, has been elected to a three-year term as a Commissioner for the International Assembly for Collegiate Business

Education (IACBE). The IACBE accredits business degree programs in over 225 colleges and universities in over 20 countries, including the business degree programs here at Belhaven College.

The eight-member Board of Commissioners is the accreditation decision-making body of the IACBE. Dr. Mason has been an active participant in the IACBE, including serving as a peer reviewer on accreditation site visit teams. According to Dr. Robert H. (Bob) Roller, IACBE President, "Dr. Mason brings a wealth of experience to the board. He has demonstrated excellent leadership at Belhaven, and is committed to encouraging excellence in business education. He will make substantial contributions to the IACBE as a commissioner."

Belhaven College: One of Nine Schools Worldwide selected for Exchange Program

Belhaven was selected as one of nine schools across the globe (U.S., China, Russia, U.K., Thailand) to form a student exchange program with Dong-Ah Institute of Media and Arts (DIMA), Korea. Belhaven College joins Illinois State University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago as one of three American schools chosen for this honor.

A delegation from the Korean institute recently visited the campus, and Dr. Parrott met with Mr. Sejin Lee, President, Dr. Miran Yang, Director



KOREA: Mr. Sejin Lee, President of DIMA, signs the student exchange agreement, while Dr. Miran Yang, DIMA Director of International and External Affairs; Dr. Dan Fredericks, Belhaven Senior Vice President and Provost; and Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven, look on.

of International and External Affairs, and Mr. Jongmin Jung, staff member, to formally sign the student exchange program into effect. Potentially, twenty students could experience the exchange program each year. Students from each campus will have classroom experiences as well as internship opportunities as part of the exchange program.

This event comes on the heels of Dr. Parrott's visit to DIMA's campus in Korea, on which he remarks, "I was overwhelmed by DIMA's commitment to excellence: from cutting-edge equipment to state-of-the-art media studios, Belhaven College's own devotion to the arts will only be emphasized by our newfound relationship with this outstanding international institute."

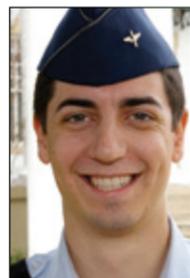
Both institutions feel that their strengths complement one another. As one of only 30 schools in the U.S. to be accredited in all arts programs, Belhaven College affords DIMA students the opportunity to study under experienced performing arts faculty, while DIMA provides Belhaven students instruction in cutting-edge technology in the media arts.

Whether a student is majoring in the arts or in business, Belhaven College's relationship with DIMA

expands the horizon for students who hope to enter the workforce with a global understanding of the media arts.

Cadet Ethan Rodgers Awarded Pilot Slot by USAF

Ethan Rodgers, Belhaven College senior, has been awarded a coveted Air Force Pilot slot through Air Force ROTC Detachment 6 at Jackson State University. He is the first-ever cadet



Ethan Rodgers

from the JSU AFROTC program to achieve this great honor.

Ethan was boarded by an Air Force Officer panel of senior officers within the AFROTC

program, and more notably, he was chosen in the first round of selections.

In order to attain this competitive honor (only 61.5% of applicants were chosen this year), Ethan underwent an intensive 4-weeks of Field Training at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama during the summer. This rigorous program involved physical

conditioning, weapons training and survival training. He also had to pass a written AF Officer Qualifying test and the AF hand eye coordination test.

A Communication major with an emphasis in Electronic Communication, Ethan was a member of the Belhaven Baseball team from 2006-2008, and he has also been named to the Dean's List for the past five semesters. He has also been awarded a 4-year AFROTC scholarship. Following his May 2010 graduation from Belhaven, he will immediately become a commissioned officer in the USAF and proceed to flight training.

Belhaven College has a cross-town agreement with JSU, which enables Belhaven students to participate in the AFROTC program offered there. Other Belhaven students involved in this unique opportunity include Cadets Daniel Bond, Stephan Fernandez, Thomas Kazery, and Constance Greer.



Newland Wins 2009 Arts Award



Cynthia Newland

By Becky Russell Special to *Northeast Ledger*

Belhaven professor Cynthia Newland has been honored with the 2009 Higher Education Award from the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education.

Mrs. Newland is an associate professor of dance and Chair of the Dance Department at the school. She has traveled extensively both nationally and internationally as a teacher, choreographer, and performer.

President of the Mississippi

Alliance for Arts Education, Dr. Penny K. Wallin, said the award was given in recognition of Newland's service to improve the role of arts in the community.

"It is clear that her passion for art and for teaching has provided the energy to develop exceptional programs. Such commitment and dedication to the greater good of arts in our state deserves to be recognized and celebrated," said Wallin.

Colleagues and students alike use two words to describe Newland: passion and devotion. They say she is devoted to her faith, her family, and friends and she is passionate about letting all persons in every walk of life experience the art of dance.

"She has such passion to see the arts flourish throughout the community. Her faith is certainly what leads her in the direction she goes, because her relationship with the Lord is so dear to her. Her calling is to share her faith through dance," said Laura Morton, Associate Professor of Dance at Belhaven.

President of Belhaven College, Dr. Roger Parrott, said, "Cynthia is a model for excellence in every way. Her efforts have helped advance Belhaven into the elite group of 30 institutions in America which are accredited in all four of the arts. We are blessed to have her at Belhaven, and Mississippi is a better place because of her."

To read the entire *Northeast Ledger* article visit: blogs.belhaven.edu/alumni-magazine.



Job Search Boot Camp Highlighted in MBJ

By Stephen McDill *Mississippi Business Journal* Staff Writer

...The college's Business Department held its first "Job Search Boot Camp" March 27, and business professor

Dr. Kristena Gaylor says it was well attended. "One of our breakout sessions was a roundtable interview where students could meet with HR people from real companies and get their resumes scanned," she says. Representatives from Nissan, Southern Farm Bureau, Cellular South, Bomgar and Trustmark attended. Gaylor says that networking is one of the most important steps whether it is done in person or through MySpace or Facebook. "Many students think they have their degree and that a job is just going to happen," she says, "I tell them that getting a job... is a job."

Monster.com, the world's leading online job search engine, reported a decline in online recruitment activity in March with its most favorable projections being in the agriculture, food services and retail industries. On a positive note, Monster's employment index reports that the East-South Central region is the only U.S. area remaining flat in recruitment activity while Monster's eight other regions have slackened considerably.

Mississippi's Occupational Employment Projections for 2004-2014 report increasing prospects for the next five years in the fields of marketing, computer information, education, engineering and healthcare. Negative projections are expected to continue in the farming and construction industries. To read the entire *Mississippi Business Journal* article visit: blogs.belhaven.edu/alumni-magazine.



Dr. Rob Waltzer Ties the Knot

Biology Professor Dr. Rob Waltzer married Nina Page on May 16, 2009. Dr. Waltzer has been teaching at Belhaven for

16 years, and he is well known for his research and passion for intelligent design.



FIDDLIN' AROUND: Dead Fiddlers Collective entertains the neighborhood (pictured: Melissa Hause, Kate Morgan, Edwin McAllister)

Biology Students recognized by the Mississippi Academy of Sciences



Hannah Albritton

Albritton, a Biology/Pre-Med major from Zachary, Louisiana, received the 1st Place Award for her undergraduate poster presentation. Zifodya, Biology major from Harare, Zimbabwe, received the 2nd Place



Jerry Zifodya

Award for his Clinical Health Sciences undergraduate oral presentation.

Zifodya has been accepted into the Tulane University School of Medicine, and Albritton has been accepted into the M.S. in Microbiology program at Southeastern Louisiana University.

Shellie Brown places First at MSO Young Artist Competition

Shellie Brown, a sophomore Violin Performance major, won First Place in the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra Young Artist Concerto Competition, Collegiate Division. She played the "Poeme" Op.25 by Ernest Chausson at



Shellie Brown

the February competition, and was awarded a \$600 cash prize along with the honor of first place among all competing collegiate violinists.

Even in her freshman year, Brown showed leadership in her role as Concert Mistress for the Belhaven College and Jackson Community Symphony Orchestra, member of the Belhaven College Chamber Orchestra, and member of the Belhaven Quartet.

Belhaven launches Neighborhood Concerts at the Pavilion

This spring, Belhaven announced Neighborhood Concerts at the Pavilion, a free, open air performing arts series held on select Saturdays in the spring and fall. The purpose of these concerts is to bring the college and community together in a relaxed, family-friendly environment featuring music, dance, and theatre performances. The spring season met with full neighborhood enthusiasm, so the fall season should be even better!

The spring season kicked off on April 4, 2009 with Dead Fiddlers Collective and the Belhaven Guitarists. On April 18th, Ballet Magnificat! Trainee Company presented a dynamic dance performance with a wide variety of music and choreography. On May 2nd, three musical groups shared the Pavilion: Silver, Magnolia Chorus, and Jackson Academy's Encore. All concerts are held on Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. at the Pavilion in the center of the Belhaven College campus.

Students Awarded Hobson Cosby McGehee Scholarship

Seven education majors were chosen to receive the 2008-2009 Hobson Cosby McGehee scholarship: Kelli Anderson, Megan Benson, Ashleigh Dolan, Emma Nordan, Christina Poe, Kreissa Reed, and Emily Walters. The McGehee Scholarship, given by the Field Cooperative Association, Inc. of Jackson, is given to select education majors who have excelled in the classroom and have shown outstanding qualities in their community. Students are chosen as a recipient based upon the recommendation of faculty and high academic achievement.



Emily Walters, Ashleigh Dolan, Hobson C. McGehee, Jr., and Megan Benson



GRADUATION: (top) Dr. Doris Brougham receives honorary degree from Dr. Parrott (left to right) Janette Siirila, Jerry Zifodya, and Jessica Gunning.

Commencement Exercises emphasize God's Plan

In the 125 plus years of Belhaven College's existence, students and faculty have donned caps and gowns and experienced the traditions that make a Belhaven College commencement a special time for students and their families. Saturday, May 9th was no different: the somber but thrilling "Piping of the Colors" by bagpiper and student James Wakeland, the flowing processional of students and faculty, and the singing of the Belhaven College Hymn and Alma Mater combined to create an atmosphere of great expectation in what God will do, even in the difficult times these graduates face.

Dr. Doris Brougham, missionary, educator and multimedia producer, delivered the commencement address "Making a Difference" to the class of 2009. She also received the honorary degree Doctor of Christian Ministries, conferred by Dr. Roger Parrott.

Dr. Brougham clearly communicated that God has a plan for each graduate's life, and as her own testimony shows, the plan is often different than first imagined. She shared her experiences in civil war China and with the tribal peoples of Taiwan, both of which God used to strengthen her trust in His faithful plan. She told of the humble radio program that she started to spread the gospel to unreached territories. She spoke of God blessing that radio program into an international Christian broadcasting company that has reached hundreds of thousands of Chinese speaking people. Above all, Dr. Brougham spoke of a life of no regrets—a life that has been surrendered to God and a life lived for God. She challenged the graduating class of 2009 to "start on the right path today" and keep on the road that God has planned for them.

Dr. Dolphus Weary, Director of Development for Mission Mississippi, gave the benediction, and hundreds of Belhaven graduates were released into the world with high hopes—hopes that are not set on the stock market or the end of a recession—but hopes set on the good plan of their Creator and Redeemer.

Faculty Recognized at Honors Convocation

Congratulations to the following faculty who received promotions and tenure recognition at the Honors Convocation.



Dr. Scott White
Granted Tenure



Ms. Rose Mary Fonree
to Associate Professor of English



Mr. Joseph Frost
to Associate Professor of Theatre and Chair of Theatre Department
Granted Tenure



Dr. Kristena Gaylor
to Associate Professor of Business
Granted Tenure



Dr. Sara Kimmel
to Associate Professor of Business Administration



Ms. Laura Morton
to Associate Professor of Dance
Granted Tenure



Dr. Dorothy Stokes
to Professor of Teacher Education and Chair of Undergraduate Teacher Education
Granted Tenure



Dr. Rob Waltzer
to Professor of Biology



Neely Johnson
Senior, Tupelo, Mississippi

Tennis Makes Strong Strides in 2009

The Belhaven men's and women's tennis teams each saw marked improvements in 2009 under first year head coach Levi Patton, who was recently honored with the Southern Rookie Tennis Pro of the Year Award, given by the United States Professional Tennis Association (USPTA). The men's team finished the year with a 6-12 record which was two wins better than the previous year. The Lady Blazers improved on a 2-7 2008 record with an 8-11 overall record. Both teams made it to the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference Tournament semifinals.

Women's Tennis

The Belhaven women's tennis team got off to a hot start by winning three of their first four matches, including wins over NCAA Division I Arkansas-Pine Bluff, conference rival Tougaloo College, and Co-Lin Community College.

Belhaven then suffered three straight losses, including losses to NAIA perennial power Xavier University of New Orleans and to Mississippi College. Belhaven won their next four matches in the season's longest winning streak. The Lady Blazers pounded Louisiana College, had a match sweep of cross town rival Millsaps, and wins against Rust College and Tougaloo. At that point, Belhaven owned an overall record of 7-4.

The Lady Blazers then hit a rough spot and lost their next six matches to close out the regular season. The Lady Blazers rebounded with a win against Tougaloo in the GCAC tournament quarterfinals, but they fell short in the semifinals against top seeded Xavier University.

Belhaven was led by seniors Neely Johnson, Mayra Prado, and Lindsey Berg. Freshman players Kristen Kelly, Rebecca Riley, and Mary Kris Young all gained valuable experience in their first year, and along with junior Julia Watkins will return for a promising 2010 season.

Men's Tennis

The Belhaven men's tennis season began with a pair of tough losses to Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Huntingdon College and two victories over Tougaloo College and Holmes Community College. Belhaven then lost twice to Xavier University and once to Mississippi College.

The Blazers regrouped with three wins in their next four matches which included victories over Louisiana College, Rust College, and Tougaloo College. Belhaven faltered and dropped their next five contests, but rallied for a win over Spring Hill in the regular season finale. The 2009 campaign came to a close in the semifinals of the GCAC Tournament, with a loss to the University of Mobile.

Many players will return to build upon the 2009 season. Keith Sikes was the only senior on this squad, and everyone else is scheduled to return next year. Henry Mandell and Gabriel Prado will be looked upon to anchor the top of the rotation, while Josh Sturgis, Harris Brabston, Damien Bone, and Jim Strickland will play key roles in 2010.

"The 2009 season was truly a rebuilding year for the program," says Coach Patton. "The teams had a combined 14 wins for the year which doubled the amount of wins for the past two years combined, and there was a definite movement in the right direction. Interest around the campus and in the community is beginning to rise and all in all, the Belhaven men's and women's tennis programs are on the rise," adds Patton.



TWO: Forward Iman Walcott powers through the center for the easy two.

Men's Basketball

The Men's basketball team had a strong season, finishing with an overall record of 18-13 and 9-9 in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference tournament.

Belhaven started off strong by winning eight of their first nine games of the year, including victories over Blue Mountain College, Wesley College and cross town rival Millsaps College. Belhaven then proceeded to take three of their next four games, including a big road win over Lambuth University who was ranked 14th in the country at the time. This strong season opening garnered them a ranking of 19th in the December 8th edition of the NAIA Top 25 Poll.

The Blazers then dropped six of their next seven games and started the conference schedule with a 1-4 record. Belhaven balanced those losses with wins in four out of seven games to go to 13-10 overall and 5-7 in the GCAC.

The Blazers then exploded for three straight victories over William Carey, Mobile, and Southern University of New Orleans, raising their record to 16-10 and 8-7 in conference play.

Following a couple of tough home losses, the Blazers capped off the regular season by beating Tougaloo College on the road who was ranked 20th in the nation at the time. The

GCAC semifinals brought the Blazers' season to a close with a loss to LSU-Shreveport.

Several players led the Blazers in the 2008-09 campaign: Corey Whiting averaged 14.2 points per game and grabbed a GCAC lead with an average of 7.84 rebounds per game; Nathaniel Rochè averaged 14.1 points and 8.6 rebounds per game; and Iman Walcott had a season average of 12.5 points and 5.4 rebounds per game.

Belhaven will lose seniors Julien Marion, Iman Walcott, Dax Miller, and Thomas Tunberg, but with a number of solid players returning, 2009-2010 should be an exciting season for Belhaven basketball.

Women's Basketball

The Lady Blazers finished their 2008-09 campaign with an overall record of 17-14 and 8-10 in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference.

Belhaven had a hot 3-0 start with two wins over Blue Mountain College and a win against Wesley College. Then the Lady Blazers suffered a loss to Freed-Hardeman University, who was ranked 3rd in the NAIA Preseason Top 25 poll. Four straight victories against Wesley College, East Texas Baptist University, LeTourneau, and Wiley College improved their record to 7-1 on the season.

In their tour of the great Northwest, the Lady Blazers lost to tough 24th ranked Carroll College and Montana State-Northern University.

To balance these losses, Belhaven reeled off wins against East Texas Baptist, Wesley, and Spring Hill College. Over the next six games, Belhaven went 3-3 with key conference victories against the University of Mobile, Dillard, and Southern University of New Orleans, raising their record to 13-6 and 4-3 in the GCAC.

Belhaven suffered a pair of defeats to Tougaloo College and William Carey, but they rebounded by winning four of their next five games to improve to 17-9 overall and 8-6 in

the conference. Unfortunately, some injuries started taking their toll on Belhaven's players, and the season came to a close in the quarterfinals of the GCAC tournament at William Carey.

Several players led the team: Jaelyn Stringer and Jira Williams turned in outstanding seasons for the Lady Blazers, averaging 14.4 and 13.8 points per game, respectively. Both players also averaged just under six rebounds per night and were selected to the GCAC All-Conference team. Holly Dial had a solid senior season by averaging 8.5 points per game and made 35.7 percent of her three point attempts, and she set a new school record for most three pointers in a game, with seven against Dillard. As a team, the Lady Blazers were third in the nation in turnover margin (5.55) and 15th in the country in steals per game (just over 11 per contest).

Belhaven is losing seniors Holly Dial, Jaelyn Stringer, Molly Yildirm, Jamesha Rule, Jamie Dominio, and Lauren McDaniel but will return Jira Williams and Courtney Ward, who led the team in assists. They will lead the Lady Blazers during 2009-2010 which promises to be another eventful season.



COUNT IT: Women's Basketball Guard Jaelyn Stringer delivers for the Blazers.

Breaking Ground and Breaking Records

A year of Service and Success for Blazer Baseball and Softball



The Blazer baseball and softball teams have experienced their most successful seasons to date, breaking school and national records, receiving NAIA recognition, and watching senior Craig Westcott win Mississippi's most sought after college baseball award—the Ferriss Trophy.

Before their season even began, the teams were building a strong foundation of teamwork through community service projects across the city. With an eye towards the college motto “to serve, not to be served,” teammates and coaches first found success in breaking ground with shovels—and later breaking records with bats.

Baseball Team: blood, sweat...and books

Since the day after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the Belhaven Baseball team has carried on an annual tradition of giving blood. Head Coach Hill Denson says, “We look forward to our blood drive every year. We talk to our guys a lot about how important blood donation is, and I am really proud of our guys this year.” This year the team broke a record with 32 pints of donated blood.

At the Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Day, the baseball team worked together to help New Life Ministries with a number of outdoor projects. Chris Bennett, junior baseball player, says the service day “gives us a chance to come out and serve the community. It’s not about us looking good or helping each other—it’s about helping everyone else around us.”

The Blazers also worked with Read Across America to read aloud to elementary school children. It was a busy year for the Blazers—even before they made it to the baseball diamond.

Baseball Team “Blazes” New Trail

The baseball team’s season was unprecedented. The Blazers won the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (GCAC) Tournament for the first time since 2004 and made it to the championship game of the NAIA Baseball National Championship Opening Round for the first time in the program’s history. To top it off, senior Craig Westcott won the 2009 Cellular South Ferriss Trophy, which recognized him as the top college baseball player in Mississippi!

Belhaven started strong with six wins in their first seven contests, including a victory over Delta State University who was ranked 1st in the NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll at the time. The Blazers’ final record was 43-20 overall, and the regular season closed at 36-18 which included a hard-fought win over Millsaps College who was ranked 1st in NCAA Division III.

The GCAC Tournament was a hard fought battle, as the Blazers had to come up from a third-ranked conference position to pull off a victory. After one win against the University of Mobile, a shutout by pitcher Craig Westcott against LSU-Shreveport, and a second win against LSU-S—Belhaven was vaulted into the championship game. The final showdown was between Mobile and Belhaven, and the Blazers pulled off a last minute GCAC tournament victory.



Records: Craig Westcott, Ferriss Trophy winner and Heather Pace, NAIA record breaker for RBIs in a single game.

With the GCAC tournament won, the Blazers moved on to the 2009 NAIA Baseball Championship Opening Round. Amidst fiery competition, the Blazers withstood all but the hottest flames—the Lee University Flames. After three wins and one loss, the Blazers fell to Lee University in the championship game. In their ride to the National Championship, the baseball team “blazed” a trail where no other baseball team in college history has traveled.

Another first for the team (and for all small schools) was Westcott’s triumph as the 2009 Cellular South Ferriss Trophy award winner. Westcott also received NAIA recognition as National Pitcher of the Week on March 24, as well as six GCAC Pitcher of the Week Awards.

Six players earned GCAC All-Conference honors for their efforts during the season. Craig Westcott, Timmy Foster, Lake Eiland, Bryan McCormick, and Kyle Medley were all awarded All-Conference Team recognition for their performance, and Charlie Edwards was the GCAC Gold Glove winner.

“I’m very proud of our team and the effort the players put forward throughout the course of the season,” says Head Coach Hill Denson. “They battled all season long and fortunately for us, the pieces fell into place enabling us to make a strong postseason run. We hope that the momentum and confidence gained during this season will carry on into 2010 as we move forward next year,” adds Denson.

Lady Blazers’ season marked by Service and Success

The Lady Blazers softball team has worked together to serve the community and to achieve a record breaking season. The Lady Blazers volunteered their time to serve as a team, building bonds between teammates and the community. In September, they spent time with mentally disabled adults at The Mustard Seed in Brandon, Miss. They played board games, danced and sang, played softball games, and made it a day to remember for both the team and the residents.

They also volunteered for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Day by removing debris and raking leaves at the Perkins Foundation. These service projects set the stage for the necessary teamwork that would culminate in the Lady Blazers’ most victorious season in the softball program’s history!

Smashing Records, Recording Success

The softball team broke 26 various national and school records en route to a 36-19 record. The 36 wins by the Lady Blazers sets a new school record for most victories in a season, and it was the second time in four years that the previous record has been eclipsed.

They started the season with key victories, including one over NCAA Division I Grambling State University. After two losses, they bounced back to win 13 of their next 17 games. With a win over Jackson State they tied the previous school record for most wins in a season—33. The next day Belhaven surpassed the record with a win over Spring Hill College.

They advanced to the GCAC tournament championship contest for the third time in four years, where they fought hard but bowed out to William Carey in the championship game.

Seniors Britney Webb, Mallory Meadows, and Keresa Steichen had solid seasons to complete their Belhaven careers. Webb set a new school record for most runs scored in a season (73), led the nation in triples (9) and stolen bases (55), and broke Belhaven’s single season record with 181 trips to the plate.

Meadows turned in one of the best seasons in school history, as she led the team with a .485 batting average, NAIA best 78 RBI’s, 18 home runs (2nd nationally), 150 bases (4th nationally), and a total of 80 hits on the year. Meadows holds the Belhaven single season record in each of the aforementioned categories.

Freshman Heather Pace led the NAIA with 24 doubles, which put her at the top of the Belhaven record books for the most in a single season. Pace also broke the NAIA record for 11 RBI’s in a single game!

Players who received conference and national recognition for their efforts in 2009 include: Mallory Meadows, Britney Webb, Heather Pace, Tiffany Ansley, Salina Cervantes, Ashley Mottola, Jessica Eggold, and Keresa Steichen.

“I am very proud of this group for breaking the school record for wins and getting back to the GCAC Championship game after a year lapse,” says Head Coach Rick Fremin. “I also feel that this team has raised the level of play for the program and that the future is bright”.

With such a strong foundation, 2010 looks like a bright year for both teams to “blaze” an even brighter trail, full of service and success. —KM and MP *B*

News



A Fresh Connection

The BConnected Online Alumni Directory has received a fresh look and feel! Now, Belhaven grads have the opportunity to register and personally manage their alumni profile online. The new automated format will make keeping up with former classmates and submitting updates on life events much easier!

To register, simply log on to: www.belhaven.edu/alumni/directory.htm. You will manage your information and control what information is visible to other registered alumni. Registration can be completed in a matter of minutes. To protect your information, registration is required in order to obtain a User Name (valid email address) and Password. You will receive an email notification once your registration request is processed and approved.

Should you need assistance with the registration process, or have other questions concerning the BConnected Online Alumni Directory,

feel free to contact alumni@belhaven.edu.

Sign up today and begin enjoying the BC Alumni online community!

40's] **Maybeth Mitchell Ormond '40** celebrated her 90th birthday with a party planned by her daughters, held on March 28, 2009. This 1939 May Queen was honored through shared memories and stories collected through the years. Maybeth resides in Forest, where she has written a column for the *Scott County Times* for the past 45 years. Maybeth is the mother of three daughters (two of whom graduated from Belhaven), grandmother of six, and great-grandmother of three.

Ruth Stogner Sharp '42 was named the 2009 Outstanding Citizen by the Corinth Junior Auxiliary. She is a retired teacher and has been a resident of Corinth for over 50 years. She taught for 38 years, is very involved at First Presbyterian Church, and has made many civic contributions as an active leader in the community.

50's] **Mary George Watkins McMullan '53** is the proud grandmother of 6 month old quadruplets! Born on October 7, 2008, these 3 girls and 1 boy join 2 other granddaughters, ages 4 and 2. Mary's son is an interventional cardiologist at Ochsner in New Orleans.

60's] **Dr. Joseph Warner '61 and Elizabeth "Betsy" Warner '67** celebrated their 38th Anniversary by taking their children and grandchildren on a Disney Cruise. They continue serving the Lord and are in their 44th year of ministry. Dr. Warner has been the Stated Clerk of the American Pres. Church in Florida for 18 years. He is



founding pastor of the Royal Palm Presbyterian Church (www.RPPC.org) in Lake Worth, Florida. The Warners have three grown children: Rev. Drue, his wife Laura and daughter Grace (3) live in Sugar Hill, Ga. Philip, his wife Dena and their three girls Ruby (6), Lily (6), and Violet (3) live in Florida. Daughter Elise is sales coordinator for a national real estate marketing company and lives in Sugar Hill, Ga.

Nancy Blackmore Burnett '64 made a recent move from Michigan to Dunedin, Florida. She is now a retired administrative assistant.

Pamela Dodds Selbert '64 has been a freelance writer for the past 23 years and in that time has had three thousand articles published in more than 75 nationwide newspapers and magazines. Pam and her husband, Guy, are thrilled about their first grandchild, a beautiful little girl named Alexandra Marie Elizabeth, born to their daughter Danae Bednar and her husband, Tim, on August 14.

John W. Sumrall, Jr. '64 has written a new book, *Classic Magnolia Rock - A History of Original Mississippi Rock and Roll 1953-1970*. John wrote the book out of a desire to preserve an important part of the state's musical heritage.

Charlotte Rose Causey honored with Scholarship Endowment



Billy Causey with his mother Charlotte

Though Mrs. Charlotte Rose Causey graduated with a Music degree from Belhaven College over fifty years ago (1953), her legacy will be passed down to future generations of Belhaven vocal musicians. Because of her deep love for Belhaven College and inspired by her current fight against cancer, her son Mr. Billy Causey has chosen to honor his mother, Mrs. Charlotte Rose Causey, with the gift he feels

will show his love and appreciation the most: an endowed scholarship in her name.

The *Charlotte Rose Causey Music Scholarship* will be awarded annually to a student majoring in Vocal Music who, in the judgment of an awarding committee designated by Belhaven College, represents the character and moral grounding of the Causey family.

When Mr. Causey began thinking of a significant way to honor his mother, forming a Belhaven scholarship in her name was almost an immediate conclusion. Mrs. Charlotte Rose Causey, who hails from Winona, Miss., is a true "Belhaven girl" in every sense of the word.

As a member of the class of 1953, she was in the last class before the school became co-educational. She reminisces about the college and says, "The spirit of the campus, from faculty to classmates, was always supportive and helpful. My time [at Belhaven] meant so much." As the wife of Dr. Bill Causey, longtime pastor of Parkway Baptist Church in Clinton and former Executive Director of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Mrs. Causey credits Belhaven with preparing her to be a pastor's wife, with its unique role and responsibilities.

As a Belhaven student, Mrs. Causey was involved in numerous activities and received many honors, including class treasurer, secretary, vice-president, and president. She was also named a Belhaven Beauty and received the "Love of the Beautiful" award.

Belhaven College is honored to continue passing down Mrs. Charlotte Causey's passion for music, faithful Christian example, and love for her alma mater to the next generation of Belhaven students. Her son's action is a testimony to her life, as Proverbs 31:10, 28 states, "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies...Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her."

Charley L. Chase '68 led the Lady Vikings of First Presbyterian Day School in Macon, Georgia to the Georgia Independent School Association (GISA) AAA State Basketball Championship in his first season as head coach. The team finished 28-4 and Charley was named AAA Coach of the Year.

70's] **M. Mims Wright '70** joined Bentley Associates L.P. as a Senior Advisor. He is a veteran of the travel and

leisure industry and was most recently a Principal at Chimney Rock Capital Partners, a boutique investment bank.

Anthony "Tony" J. Casoria '72 and Nancy Lyman Casoria '72 announce the upcoming marriage of their youngest daughter, Beth, who will wed Nate Myers on July 3 in Edwardsville, Illinois. Tony continues to serve as Senior Minister at Center Grove Presbyterian Church in Edwardsville.

Valerie Glidden Corder '76 married her husband, Bill, and received her graduate degree from the University of South Carolina in 2008.

Marcia Kendall Gross '76 has two daughters, Allyson and Elisabeth. Allyson graduated from the University of Georgia School of Pharmacy, and is attending the University of Kentucky for her clinical license and specializing in critical care. Elisabeth is attending the College of Charleston, pursuing a graduate degree in accounting and finance, as well as her CPA.

Tony Brooks '78 was named a principal within the accounting firm of HORNE LLP. Tony serves as Director of Information Technology Assurance and Risk Services in HORNE'S Jackson office. He has been with the company since 2003.



80's] **Vernon G. Miles '80** was recently named Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Cheryl Plunket Ricks '84 teaches kindergarten and lives with her husband and two daughters in Clinton. She was selected as the Teacher of the Year for the Vicksburg Warren School District for 2007. She has taught there for over 7 years, serves as a mentor to a first year teacher, and is a member of the Teacher Support Team.

Patricia Mounce '84 received the University of Central Arkansas College of Business Administration Excellence in Service Award for 2008. Patricia serves as Department Chair and Associate Professor of Accounting.

Margaret McKee Swarts '84 recently graduated from Piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia with an Education Specialist degree. She currently teaches General Music at Sixes Elementary in Canton, Georgia.

Chris Caughman '89 has been promoted to Senior Vice President at Peoples Bank in Mendenhall.

90's] **Charlene Swain Bouzek '91** and her husband welcomed their second child, Christina Marie, on April 10, 2008. She joins older brother Clay, who is now two years old.

Elizabeth Ragland Davis '95 is a stay-at-home mom and homeschooler to four children: Johnny (12), Aly (9), Bradley (6), and Conley (2). Her

Two Belhaven Alumni awarded Teacher of the Year

Two Belhaven College alumni were honored with the 2008-09 Teacher of the Year Award from the Mississippi Private School Education Association (MPSEA). **Cliff Powers '87** and **Elizabeth "Betty" Sugg '69** received the Elementary and Secondary Teacher of the Year award, respectively. Both are Belhaven graduates.

Cliff Powers, Kindergarten teacher, has taught at University Christian School in Flowood, Mississippi for three years. Betty Sugg, English instructor, has taught at Presbyterian Christian School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi for 22 years.

The recipients were selected from nominees throughout the 122 member schools in the association. Selections are made based upon recommendations, classroom success, community and professional involvement, as well as their answers to five professional and educational related questions.

Congratulations to these dedicated alumni who are living out the vision of Belhaven College: to prepare students academically and spiritually to serve Christ Jesus in their careers, in human relationships, and in the world of ideas.



husband, John, recently became an engineer for King Kutter, moving the family from Chattanooga, Tennessee to Carbon Hill, Alabama.

Alexandre Weis '95 and **Haven Knight Weis '97** welcomed their third child, Isaac Stephen, in April. Isaac joins older brother and sister, Joseph and Haddie.



Monica Parkman Roland '96 won the position of Alderwoman for the City of Brandon, Ward One.

Luke Smith '97 moved to Savannah, Georgia in 2008 via a job transfer with Interstate Nationalease. In September 2008 he started a photography company, Lone Pine Photography, which he has enjoyed putting part-time hours into.

Joel E. Bezaire '98 recently graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with an M.S.T. in Mathematics. He currently serves as 7th grade Team Leader at University School in Nashville, Tennessee. His father, Bruce, a former art professor at Belhaven now teaches at O'More College of Art and Design in Franklin, Tennessee.

Michael Dukes '98 and **Christina Graybeal Dukes '98** welcomed their fourth child, Mason Anthony, on August 27, 2008. Mason joins older sisters Mackenzie (10), Maggie (8), and Mary Claire (2).

James V. "Jim" Kyker '98 and **Judy Kay Babbington Kyker '99** welcomed their fifth child, John Shepard (Jack), on April 25. Jack joins older brothers and sister, Travis (8), Sam (6), Caroline (4), and Benjamin (2). The family currently resides in Greenville, South Carolina.

Wendy Warren '98 has been promoted to Assistant Vice President for Trustmark National Bank in Jackson.

Leann Stevens Barnes '99 and her husband, Ross, welcomed their third child, Nathanael Jon Rainer, on March 27. He joins older brother and sister, Gabriel (3) and Rebekah (18 mos.). The family currently resides in Beaverton, Oregon.

Justin Brock '99 and his wife, Christina, have three children: Nathan Asher (5), Allie-Makhenna Lynn (4), and Isabella Joy (2). Justin serves as Manager of Product Marketing at BOMGAR Corporation in Jackson.



Katina Seymour Williamson '99 was named the Mississippi College School of Law's 2009 Young Lawyer of the Year. Tina serves as Director

of Corporate Compliance with Mississippi Children's Home Services in Jackson.

00's] **Norman "Randy" Keyes '00** is under board consideration for promotion to Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Randy was part of deployments to the Middle East in 2003, 2005, and 2006. He currently serves as Manager in the Land Department for Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Houston, Texas.

Nathan Bruce '01 had art work featured at the Renaissance Art Exhibition, held at Alexander's Italian Restaurant in February 2009.

Louise Beckham Anderson '02 and her husband, Roger, have recently formed a new business. Anderson Water and Air Purification, LLC specializes in reverse osmosis drinking water systems for homes and offices.



Lauren Morris Goodman '02 and husband Drew celebrated the birth of their daughter, Geneva Lee in March.

BELHAVEN Connections

Matthew '95 and Sheila Nasekos weren't looking to adopt an orphan from the Ukraine in 2008. They were raising support to go to Peru to do children's ministry and orphan ministry. They were busy with four children. But God had a plan.

"We have always thought about adopting, but our thought was maybe one day," says Matthew. "And then, one day, God brought Karina into our home and we heard her story. She had been in an orphanage since she was 5 years old. All she wanted was someone to bring her into their family. I remember looking at Karina, realizing how God had blessed us as a family, and wanting to answer this need. I thought, 'That's our daughter. Let's bring her home.'"

The Nasekos family had seen the adoption process up close when two other Belhaven alum, **Tucker '94** and **Suzy '93 Gallagher** adopted two children. Matthew says, "It was encouraging to have close friends walk through adoption before we did. They let us know that it can be done."

So they began the adoption process.

But how did Karina get from an orphanage on the other side of the world to a living room in Florence, Miss.? A few years prior, a Belhaven dance student* went to Odessa, Ukraine with the Joshua Squad, Belhaven's theatre ministries group. While in the Ukraine, she felt God's call to work with these orphans. She then moved to the Ukraine. She met Karina through her work in the different orphanages and told Karina's story to others. People began praying for a family for Karina.

Around the time Karina was meeting the Nasekos family, Dr. Joe Martin, Professor of Christian Ministries, went to French Camp Academy (FCA) and visited **Stephen '92** and **Erin '93 Ulerich**. A comment he made prompted Erin to look for a way to teach her three children about God's work in the world. Erin read the Nasekos' blog and found out about Karina.

After a few days of praying for Karina's adoption, Anderson, the Ulerich's four year old, was ready to help. At breakfast he said, "We need to give them a lot of money!" Erin told him they didn't have a lot of money,

but they could pray that God would show them a way to help.

"Karina Cookies" were the answer to that call. They went to the FCA dorms to sell cookies and tell students about Karina. Anderson would hold her picture and say, "Karina is a 13 year old girl. Karina lives in the Ukraine. She does not have a mommy or daddy. Mr. Matt and Mrs. Sheila want to be her mommy and daddy. We are selling Karina cookies to help earn money so they can adopt her." Anderson was motivated by the simple truth that every child should have a family.

Many of the students in the dorms could identify with Karina's situation and wanted to help her, too. Many students paid above the cost of a cookie to help Karina come home. Word spread around the French Camp community and soon an adoption fund was set up through French Camp Presbyterian Church. More and more people were praying for Karina. Karina's adoption became final on Christmas Eve, 2008. Karina's longing for a family who loved her was answered.

But this isn't the end of the story.

From a four year old's excitement to help an orphan and a family's willingness to welcome a new child into their family, God has used unusual means to accomplish His will.

To find out how the story continues to have ripple effects and Belhaven connections, visit the Tartan blog at blogs.belhaven.edu/alumni-magazine.

* Name omitted for security reasons.



CONNECTED: (Top to bottom, clockwise) Nasekos family, the Ulerich family, Anderson Ulerich with "Karina Cookie Dough," and Anderson with Karina.

The Heritage Society: Creating a Legacy for the Future

We all want to make a difference in the world and in the Kingdom of God. It has been said: "Don't just leave an inheritance—create a heritage." Let us tell you about an exciting opportunity to make a significant impact for the cause of Christ by investing in the ministry of Belhaven College... through the Belhaven College Heritage Society.

People call them "The Golden Years"—the time when you have finished raising your family, rounded out your career and are ready to live life at a more leisurely pace. As you plan for the future, we invite you to consider how you can leave a legacy for generations to come by becoming a member of Belhaven College's Heritage Society.

The Heritage Society is made up of donors who choose to provide resources for the College by giving in forms other than cash. These instruments are typically called "planned gifts." Planned gifts allow flexibility and tax advantages to the donor while also providing for the current and future needs of Belhaven College.

So how can you make a planned gift that would recognize you as a member of the Heritage Society? Here are a few simple ways:

- Annuities: You can increase your spendable income, receive a charitable deduction, and provide for future scholarships. This is a very attractive investment in today's economy.
- Wills: Simply insert into your will the statement, "I give, devise, and bequest to Belhaven College (percent, amount or nature of gift)."

- Life Insurance: A life insurance policy that names Belhaven as a beneficiary can offer a convenient way to fund a meaningful gift to the College.
- Property: Giving of your home or other real estate has become increasingly attractive.
- Retirement Plans: You may find that after providing for your loved ones you can make a gift from "what is left" in your retirement accounts.
- Remainder Trust: Generating income through a Remainder Trust can be accomplished, and then upon your death, the remaining assets come to the College.
- Lead Trust: You give an amount of money to Belhaven to manage, from which the College will receive the earnings for a designated time. When the terms are complete, the trust goes back to you or other heirs that you name.

Any of the above actions are simple to put into place. The Belhaven College Development Team is ready to receive your call or inquiry. We can assist you with a Planned Gift that perfectly meets your needs and also fulfills your charitable intent for Belhaven. Call us today at 601-968-8738 or email us at heritagesociety@belhaven.edu.

A growing number of alumni and friends are already members of the Heritage Society. We invite you to add to your legacy by becoming a member, too. Please call us.

Memorial Gifts

You often see it in the Obituary Notices: "In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to..." It is one way we honor the memory of a family member, a loved one, or friend. Belhaven College welcomes this way of honoring family members, loved ones, or friends who have died. If you choose to have memorials sent to Belhaven, an acknowledgment will be sent to the family.

Elizabeth Mayer Rose '02 and her husband, David, welcomed their second child, Christopher Nathaniel, on November 30, 2008. Christopher joins big sister Hannah. The family has recently moved to England, where David is on a three-year assignment at RAF Molesworth.

Jessica Highfill Anderson '03 has spent the past year training as a doula and volunteering with Operation Special Delivery. Jessica is currently completing her certification as a childbirth educator. She and her husband, Michael, welcomed their third child, Peter, on December 11, 2008. Peter joins older sister and brother, Lilly Grace and Micah.

Bill Broadhead '03 received the 2008-09 National Master's Cohort Leadership Award for Education Leadership and Research at the University of Southern Mississippi's College of Education and Psychology Awards banquet.



Merilee Olps Paxton '03 was married to Faris Paxton on December 20, 2008. The couple resides in Jackson, where Merilee works as the Assistant

Director of College Communications for Belhaven and Faris is completing a Master of Divinity at RTS.

Thomas Dent '03 and Christina Bomgaars Dent '05 welcomed their first child, Cole Joseph, on October 28, 2008. Thomas continues to work with Dent Air Conditioning, while Christina works part-time at BOMGAR Corporation.

Michelle Gravlee Roll '03 was married to Jacob Roll on January 10, 2009. The couple resides in Colorado.



Shequila McCriggs '03 has recently moved to West Chester, Pennsylvania, where she is conducting cancer research for a major pharmaceutical company.

Matthew A. Weaver '03 and Jill Kille Weaver '03 welcomed their first child, Dawson Aaron, on July 21, 2008. The family has recently purchased a new home in Dublin, California.

Stephen Crowder '04 and Natalie Piazza Crowder '09 were married on September 27, 2008. Natalie recently graduated with a degree in Business Administration. Stephen is employed as a Senior Health Program Specialist at Hudspeth Regional Center and is a 2nd year Ph.D. student at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, pursuing a doctorate in Clinical Health Science.

Abigail Shanks Olsen '05 and her husband, Jonathan David, were married February 28. The couple currently resides in Madison, Wisconsin.

Katherine Hall '05 was promoted to business manager at Psycamore. She has been with the company for two years.

Beth Alliston '06, Assistant Chief Nursing Officer at River Oaks Hospital, was named Department Director of the Year.



Danny Shaw '06 has been accepted into the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College and began work on his M.A. in English in June. Danny

has been an Admission Counselor at Belhaven College since January 2007 and will remain so while attending Bread Loaf during the summers.

Jessica Guidry Dendy '06 and her husband, Corey, were married April 17 in Destin, Florida. Jessica is a fitness professional, training clients in

weights, cardio, and pilates. The couple currently resides in Houston, Texas.

Brad '06 and Amy Lejarzar Fultz '06 celebrated two years of marriage on March 4. Brad serves as an Environmentalist with Gwinnett County Environmental Health, while Amy completed her first year of teaching 10th and 11th grade history and coaching 9th grade volleyball at Grayson High School.

Misty Hamilton Patton '06 has been promoted to Assistant Vice President for Trustmark National Bank in Jackson.

Justin R. Pierce '06 and his wife, Devin Marie, were married on March 28 in Pensacola, Florida. Justin was promoted to Recreation Supervisor at Vickrey Community Center in March 2008.

Adrian Briones '07 is currently serving as a Strength and Conditioning Graduate Assistant at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. Adrian is the lead trainer for the varsity tennis program and also assists with the UT football program.



Mick Bullock '07, Communications Director for Lt. Governor Phil Bryant, has been elected president of the Public Relations Association of Mississippi's central chapter.

Vinson Chatman '07 was promoted to Information Technology Specialist at the G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Medical Center.

Jessica Merrill '07 has been named a vice president at Regions Bank. She manages relationships with the bank's private banking customer base throughout the region. She joined the bank in 2007.

Twylah Hamilton Davis '08 completed her first year as an 8th grade teacher in the Copiah County school system. Twylah has enrolled in the MAT program at Belhaven.

Francisco Eguiguren '08 is pursuing a degree in Global Management and Peace at Bridgeport University in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Kathleen G. Fenn '08 began her professional dance career with TALK Dance Company in Jackson after graduation. In the fall of 2008, Kathleen moved to Mansfield, Ohio to join Neos Dance Theatre.



Stephen A. McDill '08 was recently hired by the *Mississippi Business Journal* as a researcher/reporter. Stephen is also a regular columnist for *Metro Christian Living* magazine.

Mike Knezevich '09 completed his MSM degree in May and has been accepted into Jackson State's Doctoral Program in Public Administration for this fall. While an MSM student, Mike helped Grace House, a local non-profit, win over \$1 Million in grant dollars.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Katharine McCravey '32 passed away on March 27, 2009 at S.E. Lackey Memorial Hospital in Forest. She was an iconic Mississippi artist, philanthropist, the recipient of the 2004 Mississippi Arts Commission's Governor's Excellence in the Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement, and the 1972 recipient of Belhaven's "Alumnus of the Year" award. The McCravey-Triplett Student Center is named in honor of her family.

Caroline Weir Bennett '33 passed away on January 23, 2009 at her home in Starkville. She was the recipient of the Alumna of the Year Award in 1998.

Lilliam S. Green '38 passed away on March 2, 2009.

Ida Taylor Ramsey '39, of Viola, Tenn., passed away on January 22, 2009. She authored seven cookbooks, full of good, simple, and old-fashioned meals.

Arkie Mary Thurman '39 passed away on October 29, 2008. She was a life-long resident of Clinton, and she was a wonderful, loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother.

Margaret (Nan) Backstrom '40 passed away February 19. She had been living at St. Catharine's Village in Madison, Mississippi.

Inez Ainsworth Huffman '42 passed away peacefully at St. Dominic Hospital on January 5, 2009. She was a devout Christian and a dedicated wife and mother.

Anne C. Gardner '43 passed away on May 20, 2009 after a brief illness. She was a resident of New Albany, Miss., and she had an active career at New York Life.

Nell Graves Taylor '47, of Jackson, passed away on April 12, 2009. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church and a member of the Junior League, the High Noon Luncheon Club, the Americana Antique Club, the Museum of Art and the Symphony League.

Gloria Jean "Sammie" Furr Smith '47 passed away on January 30, 2009. She was the consummate wife and mother, and she led an active life to the very end—including skydiving at 76 and sailing the Amazon River at 78.

Margaret Hood Coleman '51 passed away on April 21, 2009. She was "Miss Belhaven" of 1950. She resided in Clinton with her husband of nearly 56 years, Wayne Coleman.

Susie M. Crabb '51 passed away on December 4, 2008 after a battle with a long illness.

Marilyn A. Shirley '53 passed away on November 22, 2008 after a valiant struggle with cancer. She was known for her love of family and her happy laugh.

Charlotte Truitt McKinnon '55 passed away on April 23, 2009 after a long life that was enthusiastically lived. She and her husband, Stanley McKinnon, had successful careers but considered their family their crowning achievement.

Annie Kirkham '69 passed away on January 7, 2009.

Mignon Godbold '74 passed away on April 19, 2009.

Marilyn Akers Shirley '77 passed away on November 22, 2008. She was a lifelong resident of Jackson.

Sue Gaddy Hathorn '77, of Florence, passed away on May 16, 2009. She was a member of Cleary Baptist Church.

David C. Witt '82 passed away on February 21, 2009 in Nashville, Tenn. He was employed by Security Archives for the past nine years.

Patricia "Patty" Morriss '83 passed away on March 7, 2009. Her passion was community theatre and worked tirelessly for its advancement.

Robert Davis '84 passed away on November 16, 2008.

Susan Flowers Davis '86 passed away on November 16, 2008 from heart disease. She was preceded in death by her father, Dr. W. Mel Flowers, Jr. and sister, Shari Flowers Schmidt. She is survived by her mother, Marilyn Case Flowers.

Timothy W. Wilkinson '88, of LaGrange, Ga., passed away on January 13, 2009. He was the regional manager at PPG, and a former member of the Kiwanis Club in Greenville, Miss.

BELHAVEN REMEMBERS



DR. MARK BELCHER

Dr. Mark Belcher, Belhaven's exuberant, out-of-the-box, and much loved Sports Medicine and Exercise Science professor, passed away on May 26, 2009. This sudden loss has left the Belhaven campus shocked and grieving. Dr. "M" arrived at Belhaven in 2005 with a zeal for injury care and prevention, an infectious smile, and a dynamic personality that captured the attention of any audience—students, patients, or seminar attendees. He opened an Outpatient Teaching Clinic on campus, so students could watch and learn from this 25-year veteran in the field.

Belhaven faculty, staff, and students will feel his loss deeply, but are thankful for the indelible mark he leaves in the many lives he touched. In the words of Dr. Roger Parrott: "We will miss his captivating smile, contagious enthusiasm, and passion for students, but we have confidence in life eternal and we thank God for allowing Mark's earthly life to be shared with us for these years."



PETE HAMMOND

Pete Hammond, a member of the Board of Trustees and close friend of the college, passed away on December 29, 2008. He spent more than 40 years working with InterVarsity's student ministry, and he served on Belhaven's board for many years "with distinction," said Dr. Parrott, who was himself greatly influenced by Mr. Hammond: "Pete was a statesman leader to the Church whom God used to, nearly singlehandedly, reframe the vital role of marketplace Christians. And no matter what he did or where he went, he always retained his love for Mississippi. Pete is a dear friend to so many of us, and has been an insightful mentor at several stages of my life, so while I know he will be missed by many, I'll be near the front of that line."



CHARLICE GILLESPIE

Charlice Minter Gillespie '44, daughter-in-law to Belhaven's fifth president, Dr. Guy T. Gillespie, passed away on April 1, 2009. She and her husband, Dr. George Gillespie, were active supporters of Belhaven College throughout their lifetimes, and Dr. Gillespie was a member of the Board of Trustees for a number of years.

Mrs. Gillespie, known to many as "Chuck," was an English major at Belhaven who went on to obtain her master's degree in speech from the University of Denver. It was when she returned to Belhaven to teach that she met and married George Gillespie. As an undergraduate, she was an active member of the student body, receiving the titles of student body president, Education Club president, class vice-president, class president, and Baptist Student Group vice-president.



VIRGINIA HOOGENAKKER

Virginia R. Hoogenakker, beloved head of the Music Department at Belhaven for over forty years, passed away on March 1, 2009 at the age of 87. Ms. Hoogenakker was a member of the Belhaven Legacy of Learning for her four decades of dedication to Belhaven. Her students loved her, and she influenced many generations of students. Not only did she faithfully serve and contribute to Belhaven College, but she was the longest playing member of the Mississippi Symphony—First Chair, Violin. Belhaven is grateful for her lifetime of service and the legacy that continues through the lives of her students.



Brogue wins 3rd Place at Southern Literary Festival

The Brogue, Belhaven College's annual creative arts journal, won 3rd place in the literary journal category at the 2009 Southern Literary Festival. There are thirty member schools across the southeast, ranging from Vanderbilt University in Tennessee to Furman University in South Carolina.

View *The Brogue* at www.belhaven.edu/academics/English/brogue.pdf.

To request a copy of *The Brogue*, email admission@belhaven.edu.

PRINTED IN *THE BROGUE*

Edinburgh by Addie Leak

The night in town is thick and damp: no star,
No moon, no shadow seen. Just north, the Firth
Of Forth lies silent and dark, breathes the haar
As chilled waves kiss the steaming earth.

Without the lamps, I'd lose my self in grey,
Alone, perhaps, in all the city. As I walk,
The modern world begins to fade away;
The sun may rise on new-young gleaming lochs

Of yesteryear with Viking ships upon
Them, half-husked corncobs with carved curling prows,
Or clear the fog to find the Gardens gone
Again in lake. Mute Swans may float and bow,

Their beaks unpripped with symphonies to sing
As from each grasslet misty moisture drops,
And in the Royal Mile a fairy ring
Of mushrooms grows, trees replacing tartan shops.