LIGHTING UP THE CELEBRATION
Features

A course is a course, of course, of course…. They might all look the same to non-golfers, but avid golfers would beg to disagree, thanks in large part to the crafty designs of P.B. Dye.

They Had a Ball. And what a ball it was. The Chairman's Ball in October was an affair *par excellence*, and a two-page photo spread is presented for your enjoyment.

UT—The Modern Era. The last of three 16-page special sections relives the third quarter-century of University history, telling in words and pictures the UT story from 1982-present.

Local writer and history buff Melvin “Buddy” Baker conducted extensive research into UT's founding and history, and contributed to the special anniversary section in this edition of the *UT Journal*.
n the car’s spartan interior, a sound like the draining of a water cooler jug gurgles under the floorboard. P.B. reconnects the tube, climbs back behind the wheel, reaches over his passenger to a spot between his knees under the dash (“I’m not trying to get funny with you,” he assures) to turn the small fuel lever to “on,” then farther to the right side of the dash to pull the choke, and cranks the beautiful old machine to a gently rumbling start.

“I have to do that occasionally to clear the sediment from the line,” explains the affable P.B., a former UT golf team player who amassed 131 credits but never applied for graduation. “If you can’t fix it with bailing wire and a pair of pliers,” he offers of his treasured antique in a way that indicates a general philosophy, “get a new one.”

It’s a sound philosophy for a free spirit in love with the earth and old machines, a man who doesn’t wear a wristwatch and is proud to say he wouldn’t even turn a computer on if he knew how. Besides the obvious lack of a Web site for his business, you can add no permanent staff, and no office but a small desk in his home.

A Bigger Sandbox

Paul Burke Dye, better known as “P.B.,” lifts the right-side hood of his 1929 Model A Ford pickup, pops the brass fuel line off and up to his lips, and blows into the end until his cheeks puff out and his forehead tinges pink and begins to redden.

Life in the rough. P.B. relaxes off the 11th tee of the 18-hole golf course at Palm Beach Polo Club with his 1929 Model A Ford pickup and English golden retrievers Charrah (left) and Ti Chi, who are mother and son, respectively. Ti Chi has parenting experience, too, having sired more than 50 service dogs.

By David Brothers
Location Photos by Bill Ingram
in Wellington, FL. Calendars and business cards are lonesome commodities.

P.B., 51, swears he bought his first Model A for $50 when he was 9 years old (which he also swears is the same year his dad first put him on a bulldozer). This forest-green ’29 gem he’s had since he was 15. It serves him well as the classiest golf cart in the Palm Beach Polo Club.

The ride is a lot of fun, a quick zip through the narrow turns along a ridge-top road through the golf course. The turns—and the roadway—are narrow because the road is actually a cart path only a little wider than the average sidewalk. P.B.’s other guest is having less fun, a bit nervous about keeping up in his Volkswagen Jetta, which doesn’t fit the sidewalk quite as well. In the bed of the antique, P.B.’s mother-and-son English golden retrievers, Charrah and Ti Chi, pant their happy approval.

Duffers turn and stare, but P.B. sounds the distinctive *arrugah*! horn, smiles and waves, and expressions ranging from bewilderment to annoyance immediately shift into friendly gears. Smiles and waves start flowing back, along with a bit of good-natured headshaking.

As the two-car procession turns off the sidewalk onto the rough by a lake, a tall, dark-haired man walks over a hill, golf club in one hand, his white-gloved free hand a shaking fist.

“What do you think you’re doing?” he shouts in a mild accent. “I don’t care who you are or who you think you are!”

But then a broad grin breaks out across the face of Cali Garcia, P.B.’s friend of 37 years and the community’s polo director. The two met as teens during P.B.’s first trip to the Dominican Republic.

“Hey, old buddy. How are you?” he grins, walking down for a handshake. A wink in the direction of P.B.’s guests suggests he knew all along who had the audacity to drive on the course, and thought he’d have a moment of fun with the visitors.

But P.B. already had plenty of experience with being the other kind of driver on a golf course. While building a course in South Carolina, he says, he had clients visiting from Canada, so he rented a Cadillac to pick them up at the airport.

“I took ’em out to the golf course, and I wanted to show ’em this one hole, so, I literally drove the car up on the first tee. There were two foursomes waiting to tee off, and there were carts on the cart path. So, I just drove right around ’em up on the first tee, rolled down the window, and looked out and said, ‘Who ordered a Caddy?’

“These poor golfers about had a heart attack, and I just waved at ’em and drove right down the fairway.”

**Riley Came Home**

Model A Fords are but one of P.B.’s many passions. Golf is a bigger one, with the Dominican Republic and driving bulldozers high on the list. In his UT days, 1975-80, surfing topped his field of obsessions before the golf team came along.

P.B.’s answer to how a surfing golf nut becomes a psychology major: Take whatever looks interesting that can be taken on Tuesday and Thursday only. That way, if you cram homework, library time and running the language lab into Wednesday, you still can get in four days of surfing in Vero Beach.

Good times in Tampa came from Wednesday night Jai-Alai at the Fronton on S. Dale Mabry and amateur wrestling at the Fort Homer Hesterly Armory on N. Howard. He always brought the same companion to the Armory, an expert at cutting through the long line to secure choice fourth-row seats for them and their dates.

“You wanted to sit at least four rows back,” he recalls, “cause the sweat and the spit would make it three rows.”

A favorite post-match treat would be to head down Howard a couple of blocks to the Whiteway Lounge and wait for the wrestlers to wander in.

“And I’m talking about all of ’em—the Briscoe Brothers, Mike Graham, Dusty Rhodes, Wahoo McDaniel, Hacksaw. I got to know all those guys.”

Thursday evening after class, he’d drive back to Vero Beach.

P.B.’s college degree wasn’t the only thing that went unfinished after he’d devoted significant time and energy to it. He also lived in a tent in St. Petersburg’s Bayboro Harbor for
18 months, he says, trying to build the 45-foot sailboat he was sure he would sail around the world.

But life called before he could enjoy the life of Riley any longer.

"Riley came home," he says with a chuckle. "Dad called and said he needed me. He was building TPC [The Players Club at Sawgrass, in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL]. I had just played in the British Amateur and the Scottish Amateur, and came back—and been on a bulldozer ever since."

He hasn’t changed much since then, he says, but the bulldozers have.

"I ran equipment when I was 10 years old that was built back in the ’50s. Last year, I spent eight months in the Dominican Republic. I probably put 400 hours on one of these brand-new Komatsu 155s, which is like the difference between a Model A and a Lexus 430—double-pane insulated glass, double joysticks, totally environmentally controlled, no noise, AM-FM stereo, the whole nine yards."

"I love to run equipment, from the big stuff down to the small stuff—tractors and everything. At 8 years old, I was running a shovel, so I learned how to run one of those before I learned how to run a bulldozer."

He even has a bumper sticker that proudly declares, "My other car is a bulldozer."

"That one scares people," he says in the bemused chuckle that lightly punctuates much of his banter.

"Did you have a sandbox in your back yard when you were a kid? Well, mine just got bigger."

After the call from his dad—the one that called Riley home and capped P.B. Dye’s days as a UT student/golfer/surfer, P.B. threw himself fulltime and headlong into the family business, doubling its presence in a third generation, brother Perry also taking up the vocation.

Their father, Paul “Pete” Dye, was—and at 81, still is—a big name in the planning and building of golf courses, with renown for the challenges he creates for players. Google his name, in fact, and you’ll quickly see “legend” in the same sentence. Among his many gems are Whistling Straits in Wisconsin (site of the 2004 PGA Championship), Crooked Stick in Indiana, and Harbour Town in South Carolina.

A 2004 Golf World article called Pete Dye “the most imaginative golf course designer in the business, and also … the most diabolical, unfair and even sadistic architect of all time.” It also called him “the Kevin Bacon of golf course designers,” because “almost everybody in the design business today has a connection to Pete Dye.” The article supplies a lengthy list of designers it calls “Dye-ciples.”

Fruit Not Far from the Tree

Pete dropped out of high school in 1944 to join the Army. He wound up stationed at Fort Bragg, NC, where he spent the remainder of his military service as the greenskeeper for the Officer’s Club course, with Italian POWs for a labor force. He would later almost graduate from Rollins College, near Orlando, where he played on the golf team, and after that, attend Stetson University, from which he also would emerge sans degree.

He moved with his wife, Alice (an accomplished golfer in her own rite and a member of the Indiana Golf Hall of fame) to her hometown of Indianapolis, and started selling insurance. His love of golf undiminished, he was the Indiana amateur champion when he lost a tournament to 18-year-old Jack Nicklaus in 1958.

The following year, he quit selling insurance and started designing golf courses. Nicklaus became his design consultant in 1966. In 1995, Addison-Wesley published Pete’s autobiography, Bury Me in a Pot Bunker. The book, which includes a forward by Greg Norman, enjoyed positive press, and readers on Amazon.com have unanimously crowned it with five stars.

It was Pete’s father and P.B.’s paternal grandfather, Paul Francis “Pinky” Dye, who started it all by designing the nine-hole Urbana (OH) Country Club in 1923. For one of his first post-Riley projects, P.B. added nine more holes at Urbana in 1980, adding a healthy dose of generational symbolism in the process. But it wasn’t his first.

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“Did you have a sandbox in your back yard when you were a kid? Well, mine just got bigger.”

—P.B. Dye

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He was right about the future. P.B. says he still is rarely caught without his Ray-Ban shades. Predictably, he was the only one wearing them in a 1978 class photo for the Moroccan.
I started with a golf course called Long Cove, on Hilton Head,” he recalls. “I spent nine months on a D5 bulldozer, and really shaped the whole thing wall-to-wall.”

_Golf Digest_ ranks the course second in South Carolina (behind only his dad’s Ocean Course on Kiawah Island) and 71st in the nation.

P.B. might be considered a Florida native of sorts—halfway, anyhow. He was “conceived in Florida and born in Indiana,” he says, and has spent his whole life—except for his UT days, when he attended classes during the summers—half in south Florida and half in the upper Midwest. That has become more like three months each, he says, and six months away from home on projects.

His paternal grandparents first cruised down the peninsula to Delray Beach in 1930, picked out a sunny seaside spot, and built the city’s second house on the Atlantic Ocean. That began a north-south family tradition that has been in place ever since.

Knee-Deep in Fun

Although he belongs to something called the American Society of Golf Course Architects, P.B. thinks the term is inaccurate.

“We don’t really design golf courses, we just build ‘em as we go, because we’re there a lot. So, you’re really involved in a design-and-build type thing, and it’s not as much drawing it on a piece of paper and giving it to a contractor as much as it is working one-on-one with a golf course shaper.

“We like to take these kids right out of college with degrees in agronomy that have single-digit handicaps. You take these kids and put ‘em on a brand new D6, and they’re in seventh heaven.

“It’s more fun building golf courses with golfers. You can teach anybody to run a bulldozer, but it’s hard to teach a bulldozer operator to love golf.”

P.B. is wound. He’s talking about his craft, and his love of it is clear.

“It’s fun building these things. We can make your eyes lie to you. We can make the ball break uphill. It’s not breaking uphill, but it looks like it’s breaking uphill. That’s the real art of it.

“They say that we’ve never worked a day in our lives, and I agree, but I’ve walked onto a lot of Delta jets after being knee-deep in mud, wet and cold and grungy, and look at these poor guys with coats and ties, and it looks like they’ve had no fun all day long, and all I’ve done is play in the dirt and just have a ball. You can’t call it work—it’s too much fun.”

P.B. says he’s designed and built 70 golf courses since 1980, but says that isn’t really a lot.

“I do two or three a year. A lot of guys do 10 or 15 a year. Doing two a year, you can stay on top of what your work is. We don’t drop off a set of plans and show up five or six times. We’re personally involved and committed to getting these things built.

“Everybody knows Dad’s work. He has 14 courses ranked in the top 100 [nationally]. I’ve been lucky enough to build some pretty good golf courses and nice real estate projects. Got one down in the Dominican Republic on Punta Cana that’s been very well received internationally and has gotten a pretty good ranking.”

No surprise there: P.B. helped his dad build Teeth of the Dog in La Romana, Casa de Campo, Dominican Republic, widely considered one of the best seaside courses on the planet and ranked 17th worldwide by _Golf Digest_. He has a new site picked out in the Caribbean island nation for a third Dye course. He also has picked out a home site there for a third residence to share time with his Palm Beach Polo Club villa and the family cabin in Urbana.

In addition to his signature course, the P.B. Dye Golf Club in Ijamsville, MD, his other acclaimed designs include The Honors in Chattanooga (ranked best in Tennessee), Fisher Island in Miami, Loblolly Pines in Stuart, FL, Cross Creek Plantation in Seneca, SC, and the Legends Club Moorland Course in Myrtle Beach, SC.

The Best Vacation

is last two-and-a-half years at UT were the best, P.B. says. He was still meandering toward maybe a degree in something, but now there was golf.

“We had a pretty good run, because we went down to the Miami Invitational and came in second. We had some pretty good players.

“We had Brian Claar, John Swenson. I saw Brian Claar a year ago, and John Swenson—two years ago we talked on the phone. I saw Brian at a tournament up in St. Louis two years ago and followed him a couple holes.

“Unfortunately, two of my better friends
who went to The University of Tampa, one died of Hodgkin's, the other one died of cancer.”

P.B. is himself a two-time survivor of cancers that rate among the most life-threatening—colon and colorectal. He says little of either, other than to note that “they cut me up like a Christmas turkey,” but that seems fitting: P.B. Dye is all about life and having fun.

When the question of college pranks comes up, he lets out a hearty guffaw.

“I refuse to answer,” he says, still laughing, “on the grounds that it may incriminate the whole golf team. I had a lot of fun with those guys.”

He does admit to having chipping contests in the long-gone Days Inn on Kennedy Blvd., part of which served as a residence hall for UT overflow, and to once watching Brian Claar try to hit a ball across the Hillsborough River through an open window, only to hit it low and into the wall.

“He drove it right into the sheetrock, buried it, thank God. If it had ricocheted around that little room, 10, 12 guys in there, it would have killed us.”

They about died laughing, instead. (Claar could not be reached for comment.)

“College was the best vacation I ever had,” he grins.

But as fun-loving as he is, P.B. took his UT studies to heart, too, and was privileged to have a favorite teacher who left a profound effect.

“Stephen Speronis was, bar none, the biggest influence on me over there,” he says.

“Ther was a group of us who took every class he taught. We even called ourselves ‘Speronites.’”

Dr. Speronis was a professor of history and political science from 1956-81, named professor emeritus in 1982. He retired in 1983 and died in 1989. He hosted a weekly half-hour television show, History in the Making, on WFLA, channel 8, from 1958-73.

A former Army infantry captain who interrogated eastern European prisoners in Germany at the end of WWII, Speronis was a widely sought lecturer who spoke at the University of Athens, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the Command General Staff School in Kansas, Ft. Bragg and Ft. Benning. He is credited with helping to start ROTC and the Sword and Shield Club, and was a driving force in the University’s acquisition of the old state fairgrounds.

“He taught some really good courses,” P.B. says. “I remember the first one—it was called Economic Geography. It was about the basic supplies of all the natural materials on the planet, who had ‘em, where the tin is, where the metal is, where the grain is, this and that, and how that helps shape the planet, the politics, world history, and how trade has changed our planet, and how wars are fought over certain natural resources.”

Besides being a great teacher, P.B. says, Speronis had the human connection that fit P.B. to a tee—even though golf wasn’t involved.

“He had a marina down on the west coast of Florida—loved to fish and drink Jack Daniels. He was just a really neat, hard father figure or grandfather figure, old-man-of-the-sea type guy.

“He was a hard guy,” P.B. says, but you’d do well in his class “if you were there every day, participated and stood toe-to-toe with him.”

P.B. remembers that nearly all his UT classes offered him something.

“I ran into three or four really good professors there, people who taught because they wanted to teach, not because that was all they could do.”

Contrary to a few Internet golf site biographical sketches that list him as a graduate of UT, P.B. says (and records confirm) that that is not the case. He believes he was “about three credits short” of a degree in history, and had amassed a good body of psychology, English and Spanish credits, too.

His UT Spanish would serve him well, in fact, in a 20-minute opening-day dedication speech in Punta Cana delivered entirely in the

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native language, although he admits to being well short of fluent.

“I speak it pretty well, but I don’t hear it,” he cautions. “It’s difficult for me to understand. I don’t dream in Spanish. Watching somebody who’s perfectly bilingual blows my mind.”

It seems the Economic Geography course may have paid off, too.

“When we were building the Palm Beach Polo Club,” he says, “at the same time, we were building the paddocks for stadium jumping. There’s a material down here in Florida called marl, and it’s kind of like a—I call it spoiled clay. It’s gray, but it has some texture to it, and it’s a great sub base for these paddocks. You lay it down, two or three feet, and cover it with 18 inches of sand, and it gives it some firmness the horses want.

“We found a pocket of it out there 10 feet in the ground. We just dug her out, every inch we could find. We could generate it for about a dollar-fifty a cubic yard. It costs 15 to 20 dollars a yard to buy it. So, you use 30-40 thousand yards of it, it’s worth your while.

“The man who made this planet—when he left, he took the owner’s manual with him, so we’re kinda on our own.”

The King of Piñatas

B. has agreed to restore the American military’s golf course at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for airfare and a turkey sandwich.

Two years of Haitian refugees camping out on the golf course, he says, has left it in disrepair, and he is determined to get it back to good condition.

“We cut a lot of red tape, and had a couple of generals involved to get us down there to look at this thing, and I spent enough time talking on the telephone to all the different vendors, and I got virtually everything donated to rebuild nine holes.

“After I got done with all that, they asked me what it would take to redo 18. I said, ‘Just double it.’ And of course, the guy says, ‘Well, what are you gonna charge me?’ And I said, ‘Well, same thing—a turkey sandwich. Just get me the transportation.’”

Aside from that project and scoping out sites for another seaside course and new home in the Dominican Republic, P.B. and his wife, Jean, have become involved with helping the children at an orphanage in the poor island nation.

Jean, in particular, has been “amazing” and tireless as a fundraiser, P.B. says, raising money for a generator, 60 refurbished computers, teacher salaries, a five-year supply of rice and beans, even 50 pallets of powdered milk.

He and Jean, a native of Seneca, SC, met in Columbia, SC, when P.B. was building the Northwoods golf course there and Jean was designing the interior of the clubhouse. The daughter of an athletic director, she plays tennis, shoots hoops, and of course, is a golfer. “Jeanie-Beanie” P.B. calls her. After 15 years of marriage, he still refers to her as his bride. They have no children, or depending on how you look at it, they have quite a few.

“We had Christmas with 225 orphans,” P.B. says. “There’s a lot of ’em down there to be taken care of.”

But when P.B. Dye is on a mission, it’s going to be fun.

“We put up this great big piñata. Any kind of order or anything kids have learned goes right out the window when a piñata comes out—kids get to be kids. I love to entertain ’em.”

P.B. Dye, the almost-graduate of UT, the panama hat-wearing ex-surfer turned golf course designer extraordinaire, has found a new hat, and he likes it.

“When I go down there,” he says with a grin of keen satisfaction, “I’m the king of piñatas.”

Not just the sandbox. “Did you have a sandbox in your backyard when you were a kid?” P.B., here leaning on a putter in front of his drawing board, likes to ask.

“Well, mine just got bigger.” The view from the back of his home in Wellington, FL, suggests that the back yard did, too. It actually is one of his creations, the golf course at Palm Beach Polo Club. In the corner is P.B.’s favorite silent partner, Bugs Bunny.
A memorial concert was held Feb. 24 at the Falk Theatre for singer Sally Jenkins ’61, who was killed in a car crash in Georgia last spring (see fall 2006 UT Journal, page 34). A guest list of high-profile artists from around the country performed in her memory and donated proceeds toward funding the Sally Jenkins Memorial Scholarship. Patrons paid $25 or $40 each for tickets. Among the entertainers were The3Baritones, Mac Frampton, Bill Schustik, Jack Jenkins ’61 and daughter Letitia.

Creating a Yacht Club Network

Now under construction, Tampa Harbour Yacht Club on West Tyson Avenue is set to open this December and will offer luxury amenities for boaters, such as valet parking and wholesale costs on fuel and provisions. An owner will be able to call an hour before arriving, and the boat will be fueled and ready to go. After the boat has returned, the crew will clean it, flush the engine and return the vessel to an indoor dry store rack.

“If you are a boat owner, you own that boat for the pure joy of being out on the water, and by owning a slip at Tampa Harbour Yacht Club and other locations, all the work is done so our members can enjoy themselves,” Knight said.

A lifetime boater who grew up in South Florida, Knight wants to preserve recreational boating in the state through this concept. As CEO of Yacht Clubs of the Americas, his vision
Board Adds Members

The University’s Board of Trustees has added six members and four ex-officio members to the board for 2007-08, and has bestowed emeritus status upon a long-time Board leader.

WILLIAM N. CANTRELL ’79, president of Peoples Gas, received his Bachelor of Science degree from Georgia Institute of Technology and his Master of Business Administration from UT. He has served on the board of The Spring of Tampa Bay—a shelter for battered families—and ran an annual tennis tournament to benefit the shelter. Cantrell also serves on the boards of the American Gas Association, Florida Natural Gas Association and the Southern Gas Association. He is a former trustee.

JAMES L. FERMAN, president of Ferman Motor Car Co., served on the UT Board from 1979-86. He also is chair of the Bank of Tampa and a director of TECO Energy. He has been involved with numerous philanthropic activities, including chairing the United Way of Hillsborough County, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce and its Committee of 100, the Tampa Museum of Art and the Florida Aquarium. He is an Emory graduate and serves as an Emory trustee.

A member of The Chiseler, HELEN T. KERR is involved in many philanthropic activities, including the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Hospice, USF Psychiatric Center, the H.B. Plant Museum Society, the Junior League of Tampa, the Tampa Yacht and Country Club and St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church. Kerr is wife of the late David C.G. Kerr, a former trustee, and mother of Stewart Bertron Kerr, also a former trustee.

A.D. “SANDY” MACKINNON, CEO of Yale Lift Trucks of Florida and Georgia, previously served as a trustee and a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees. He is a past chair of the board of directors for the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, and served on the Governor’s Property and Casualty Insurance Reform Committee in 2006.

A distinguished physician and medical researcher, DR. R. VIJAY, MD, founded the Association of American Physicians from South Asia and the Indian American Republican Council. He holds a federal appointment to the National Institutes of Health Advisory Commit-tee, and has held numerous state appointments to the Florida Board of Medicine, state of Florida public schools and the State Organ Transplant Council.

Former trustee JOHN McRAE WOLFE ’68 is a realtor at Preston & Farley Inc. He put himself through UT, receiving Winn-Dixie and music scholarships. He has twice been president of the National Alumni Association, and won its highest award, Esse Quam Videri, in 2006. His civic associations include Berkeley Preparatory School, the Greater Tampa YMCA, the Gulf Ridge Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Robert Mc-Cord School for the Deaf.

RICK THOMAS ’72 has been made chairman emeritus. He is president and CEO of Thomas Financial Group, and has been involved with the University for more than three decades. A past president of the National Alumni Association, Thomas was elected to the Board at age 32. He sat on the board for more than 20 years, and served as chairman from 2001-03. He sits on the advisory board of the John H. Sykes College of Business. His wife and daughter also have degrees from UT.

Ex-officio members added to the board are KEVIN CRANE, chair of the UT Board of Counselors; PAULINE CRUMPTON, president of the Chiseler Inc.; R. REID HANEY, chair of the Board of Fellows; and JOE WESSEL, president of the National Alumni Association.
Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales spoke to a crowd of 250 people at The University of Tampa before flying to Switzerland to have dinner with Bill Gates, Tony Blair and Bono.

"Time magazine recognized him as one of its 100 most influential people," said John Robinson, chair of the UT Board of Fellows. "[Wired] called him the ‘geek rock star.’ I call him the electronic encyclopedia."

The Sum of All Human Knowledge

Wales discussed the philosophy and technology behind Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia that anyone can edit, during the Board of Fellows’ Business Network Symposium on Jan. 25. The event also featured Robert Moreyro of Atlantic American Realty Group and Eric Newman of J.C. Newman Cigar Co.

Wikipedia started with the radical idea that everyone on the planet should have access to the sum of all human knowledge, Wales said. He gave examples of how that dream has grown closer to reality, such as the man who copied the entire online encyclopedia to a CD-ROM and brought it to an impoverished South African school.

With more than 1.6 million articles in English and more than half a million in German, the Web site continues to grow as more language sections are added. It is among the 10 most visited sites on the Web worldwide, according to www.alexa.com.

Wales also discussed projects that fall under the umbrella of his St. Petersburg-based nonprofit, Wikimedia. New initiatives include an open-source search engine, as well as an online library, Wikibooks, and an Internet university, Wikiversity.

“For a free culture movement, it’s low-hanging fruit,” he said of the projects. “Textbooks are expensive, especially in a developing world. Wikibooks and Wikiversity will give people the opportunity to get a higher-quality education.”

Wales said he would like to see universities at the forefront, with more professors using the open-source textbooks in the classroom and adding to them as they go. On Wikiversity, an open learning community, professors will be able to upload their learning materials and activities for free download.

“I think it will change universities, but I see no end to universities,” Wales said. “There’s a difference between a textbook and what professors do, giving certification and feedback. Nothing can replace that certification and the process you go through getting approval from professors.”

Wales predicted that universities will incorporate more distance learning as technology improves.

Tim Daly of Sendtec Marketing Fusion in St. Petersburg said he came to hear Wales speak about the upcoming search engine. His firm specializes in search-engine marketing and has

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Chislers Book Success Mounts

A Jewel Reclaimed, the Chislers book about Plant Hall, has received a Meritorious Achievement Award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. The initial printing of 1,000 has sold out, and a subsequent printing of 2,000 copies has been released.

The Chislers report that, in addition to the H.B. Plant Museum and several Tampa area stores that already carry the book, they have received a UPC code that will make way for large bookstores to sell the book, which has rung up nearly $2,000 in sales since last June. It also may be ordered directly from the Chislers (see order form, inside back cover).
Tourney off the Hook for ‘07

The Tarpon Tournament has been suspended for one year to give the new marina owners time to finish the first phase of construction. "With all the new construction going on, it appeared that it would be difficult to get a large field of fishermen and to host the large crowds that we normally see," said Rob Bruns, a tournament director. "But we'll be back to a full tournament in 2008."  

Marine Science
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is to create the largest private yacht club network in the Americas. He believes customer service is lacking in the marine industry, and that the five-star concierge service available at his upscale marinas will fill the void.

Yacht Clubs of the Americas also will offer owners reciprocal privileges at other yacht clubs across the state, as well as the Grand Bahama Yacht Club on Grand Bahama Island.

Yacht clubs are under construction on Ft. George Island near Jacksonville, and in Stuart, Key West and Naples. Knight opened the first of his marinas at Sanibel Harbour in April 2006, and hopes to expand to Acapulco, Mexico; Myrtle Beach, SC; and Destin, FL.

The luxury marina concept has received much press attention across the state. In addition to the amenities, Knight plans to sell a majority of slips, rather than lease them. Slip ownership is becoming more commonplace as the competition for slip access becomes greater. As slip space makes way for condominiums, Knight offers a way to preserve valuable waterfront property for boating access.

Slips have appreciated in value by 35 percent over the past eight years, according to Florida State Certified Appraisers. Pre-sales of the slips already have begun in Tampa. The company recently announced that Tampa Bay Buccaneers fullback Mike Alstott has taken ownership of a YCOA slip for his boat.  

Networking Event
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

worked with clients such as Orkin Pest Control and the Oriental Trading Co. "It would really change what we do," he said. "It could be the demise of Google."

Cigars and Charity

Later in the program, Newman told the story behind the oldest family-owned cigar company in the country, started by his grandfather more than a century ago. He also spoke about the company's philanthropic work in the Dominican Republic, where some of its most popular cigars are made.

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation bought 23 acres surrounding five communities near the cigar factory and built an entire infrastructure of roads, bridges and electricity. It then built a school for children from pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade. When the children finished the eighth grade, they had nowhere to go, so the foundation built a high school in 2005.

"The best way to break the cycle of poverty is through education," Newman said. Moreyro outlined the various prongs of Communications Equity Associates, including the real estate arm for which he works, Atlantic American Realty Group. The company recently bought an interest in SimDag LLC, the developer for Trump Tower Tampa.

"The goal is to keep each business unit as diversified as possible," he said.

The Business Network Symposium is held three times a year to strengthen connections between the University and the local business community. Businesses that are well known, changing or new to Tampa Bay have the opportunity to come and share their accomplishments and plans with the business community.
Exhibit Featured Global Art

When Electronics Alive IV emerged from its cocoon on Jan. 22, it seemed more alive than ever.

“It’s bigger and better,” said Dorothy Cowden, director of the Scarfone/Hartley Gallery. “We try to add more every year.”

The biennial invitational art exhibit featured more interactive, multimedia and animated pieces, including “One Rat Short,” which won best in show at a 2006 computer animation festival in Boston. More than 25 monitors filled the Scarfone/Hartley Gallery with light and sound, while two-dimensional digital works hung from the walls.

Cowden and art faculty members Lew Harris, Doug Sutherland and Santiago Echeverry chose the pieces from work shown at the computer animation festival. The pieces came from as far away as Japan, South Korea and Iran.

“This is a digital world and a global world,” said Echeverry, who teaches advanced digital arts at UT. “Our main goal was to bring videos from all over the world. This only happens once every two years, so we had to bring something special to UT.”

Echeverry's own piece, “World,” was on display, and included 210 short videos recorded all over the world with his cell phone. The clips showed bits of his personal experience: scenes from a night club in Bogotá, his nephew dancing, friends enjoying a champagne toast, a mosque in Istanbul.

The images appeared as tiles in a mosaic. Viewers could enlarge them by moving the mouse over them, and change them by clicking on each one. As a new 10-second video loaded, a different audio clip played on the speaker.

“It’s all about interactivity,” Echeverry said. “You end up creating your own story.”

A mixed media installation by Sutherland showed a collage of images surrounding an altered self-portrait. The mouth of the self-portrait contained a small screen that showed video of his mouth talking about his inspirations for the piece.

The images in the background depicted scenes of evil from paintings by European artists. The piece was inspired by pictures of Satan painted by Gustav Dore to illustrate John Milton’s Paradise Lost and scenes of evil from Matthias Grunewald’s Temptation of St. Anthony.

One Rat Short

One exhibition piece from Japan featured a magnetic liquid that moved as it was affected by the fields around it.

Another piece showed text from spam e-mail messages, such as ads for watch replicas, Canadian drugs and Hoodia, a diet pill. “Sick of the social stigma of being overweight?” the spam asked. Printouts of the messages hung from the ceiling like long strands of confetti.

Short films ran continuously in a viewing room beside the gallery.

“One Rat Short” appeared on a plasma screen at the front of the gallery. It followed a New York City rat from the dark, dirty streets to a fluorescent-lit lab.

Dr. Terry Mohn, music professor, collaborated with Harris on a two-hour live music/visual arts performance.

The exhibition featured numerous speakers, including Teri Rueb of the Rhode Island School of Design, Kevin Scolaro from the Tampa-based Tri-Dimensional Animation Studios, Alan Price, director of the interactive real-time animation Tartatus, and Bruce Wands of the New York School of Visual Arts.

Wands discussed his new book, Art of the Digital Age, an illustrated survey of digital art featuring more than 100 artists from around the world. He also talked about his new motion painting series, the Buddha Light Dance, based on the ancient sacred geometry of Buddhist art. This was Wands’ second time speaking at Electronics Alive.

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Three Faculty Favorites Retire

This year marks a changing of the faculty guard at the University, as the influx of new faculty is met with the inevitable departure of longtime favorites. This spring, three particularly well-known and well-liked figures retire after long and distinguished careers.

**Gil De Meza ’65**
**PROFESSOR OF ART**

A graduate of UT (class of 1965), Tampa native and 1959 Jefferson High graduate Gilbert De Meza subsequently earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting, drawing and sculpture at the University of Georgia in 1967. After a three-year stint teaching art at Pembroke State University in Pembroke, NC, he joined the UT faculty in 1970.

“There is something metaphysical about art,” De Meza told The Muezzin in about 1973. “To be classified as art, a piece must transcend the bounds of the purely physical visual image and offer the viewer something more. It should make him feel more human, more aware of the man or woman who did the work, more aware of himself as a person.

“I try to make my classroom an extension of my studio, because I believe my own involvement in my work helps me to impart to the students a sense of human awareness which ultimately will enhance their perception of their surroundings and open for them a new world of ideas that build and grow upon each other.”

Accomplished in sculpture, painting and drawing, De Meza first exhibited his work at the 1964 Florida State Fair, and since has been included in exhibitions far too numerous to mention. He was instrumental in starting and maintaining UT’s visiting artists’ program.

**Dr. Thomas J. Hegarty**
**PROFESSOR OF HISTORY**

“There is a larger role the University can play in serving the Tampa community,” Dr. Thomas Hegarty told the Tampa Tribune in 1989, helping set a UT priority in motion upon his appointment as provost and vice president for academic affairs.

After the post was eliminated a few years later, Hegarty, a bona fide expert on the Soviet Union and Russian history who had taught at Brandeis University and co-chaired Boston University’s Soviet and East European Studies Program, returned to the classroom, a move that could only benefit thousands of students in the years that followed, especially while the Cold War lingered.

Hegarty is a 1957 *magnum cum laude* graduate of Harvard University with a degree in history. The following year, he completed a master’s degree in regional studies at Harvard. His 1963 doctorate, also from Harvard, is in Russian and East Asian history, and he topped it all off in 1973 with a certificate from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration’s Institute for Educational Management and a 1989 Endowment for the Humanities summer fellowship to Princeton University.

Known for infusing history lessons with personal experiences in the countries he taught about, Hegarty was a graduate student at the University of Leningrad, spent two summers with educational missions to the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Yemen and Jordan, served as consultant to the embassy of Moldova, and taught as a faculty exchangee at the University of Moscow and the Soviet Academy of Science.

Hegarty met Louisa Ivanova, now his wife, in Leningrad. The couple married there, but Louisa was not allowed to leave with her American husband. Hegarty tells a fascinating tale of getting his bride out of the Soviet Union by unusual means.

“Fortunately, I had many classmates who were working on the staff of then-Vice President Richard Nixon,” Hegarty recalls.

“Nixon went to open the American Exposition, and he and Nikita Khrushchev got into a great row over kitchen appliances and whether the American kitchen really had these things. Nixon behaved well; Khrushchev behaved badly.

“Khrushchev was embarrassed by this bad behavior, and realized he had gone too far. He asked Nixon whether there was anything that could...”
be done for him, and Nixon, who had been very well prepared, took out a list of things that he hoped the prime minister would be able to take care of. At the very top of the list was the release of my wife.”

Seizing an opportunity to upstage his rival, then-Sen. John F. Kennedy met Louisa at the airport upon her arrival in the U.S.

But despite all the romance and adventure of his early career, Hegarty says, the last 10 years of his career were the best, a “golden era” for the University that enabled him to use the best of his education and experience, teaching History of Russia, History of China, History of Japan and World History. Hegarty, who retired last semester after a serious illness from which he is recovering, already has found his retirement passion.

“I’m learning about areas of the world that I didn’t study. I’m looking at South American history and reading Southeast Asian history, and of course, like everyone else in the world, I’m reading more about the Middle East.”

**Dr. Helene Silverman**

**PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION**

Beginning with teaching junior high school English and social studies in the Bronx from 1965-70 including teaching reading to troubled Bronx youth in the summer of 1967, Dr. Helene Silverman has tackled some of education’s toughest challenges at numerous levels. Her Bronx teaching, she says, helped her bring “very real-world experience” to her education students at the University.

She graduated from the College of the City of New York, City University, with a bachelor’s degree in history in 1965 and a master’s degree in social sciences in 1968, and earned her doctorate in special education at the University of South Florida in 1977. She concentrated her graduate studies in specific learning disabilities and the emotionally disturbed.

In the decade leading up to the beginning of her UT career in 1981, she taught courses in exceptional child education at USF, supervised education interns there, taught social studies, supervised an on-campus clinic for emotionally disturbed children, for five years ran a private practice helping children and adults with learning problems, and taught as a UT adjunct for four years until becoming an assistant professor of education in 1981.

Much of Silverman’s career has involved administrative duties as director of the Academic Enrichment Center (now Academic Center for Excellence), associate provost for student matters, dean of academic services, director of development, and the first associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Her almost countless memberships in volunteer organizations have included the Governor’s Commission on the Status of Women, the Tampa Museum of Art, the Carrollwood Players Young People’s Theatre, the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation, the Hillsborough County Beginning Teacher Program Planning Committee and many others.

One of many parts of her career that brings her great joy, Silverman says, is her work as primary contact for the Florida Fund for Minority Teachers, which offers scholarships to minority education students.

“We’re close to $300,000 in scholarship money,” she says, “and I’m very proud of that.”

The significance of the longevity of her UT career does not escape her.

“I’ve been a participant and an observer of a lot of the metamorphosis of the University. I’ve been here for more than a third of its history. The University has a very different place in the community than it did in 1970, when I moved to Tampa—and all positive. It’s nice to be associated with that.”

“It’s bittersweet,” she says of her retirement. “I feel I’m going to leave a part of my heart here. I’ve loved this institution and the opportunities that I’ve had here.”

**Electronics Alive**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11**

“One of the appealing aspects of the exhibition is the international nature of the art,” he said. “Digital art is different in that it is developing on a global level, rather than the way traditional movements in art did, which were localized, such as the 19th-century Hudson River school of landscape painting or the French impressionists. The Internet has been an important component in the development of global culture and art created with computers and technology.”

The exhibition returns to campus in 2009.
On Jan. 24, 2007, at 9:43 a.m. at Tampa General Hospital, Martha Ann Vaughn died following complications from a medical condition. She seldom complained, and many did not even realize the medical challenges she faced with courage and grace. A visitation for family and friends was held at The University of Tampa on Jan. 26, and a memorial service was held on Jan. 28 at the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Plant City. Vaughn’s family also held a memorial reception for family and friends in her hometown of Paris, IL. Hundreds of friends and admirers paid tribute.

Martha was a strong and steady presence in the University community since 1984 when she, President Vaughn and Susan arrived in Tampa. While the headlines announcing her death read “UT President’s Wife Died,” Martha would have preferred something different, as she was a simple country girl, Susan’s mother, and Ron’s high school sweetheart and wife of 37 years. Susan and Ron were what she was most proud of and dearly loved.

The Early Years

On Aug. 23, 1947, Martha Ann Vaughn was born in Paris, IL, a small farming community of about 8,500 in central Illinois, close to the Indiana state line. She grew up mostly living in the country on a small farm with two sisters and a brother. With her mom and dad, she developed strong Midwestern values centered on family, hard work, honesty, straightforward friend relations and simplicity.

As a child, Martha enjoyed the beauty of the country, big gardens, walks in the woods, and ice skating on their frozen pond. She attended small-town schools and developed friendships that were authentic and lifelong. From her mom, she learned to be a great cook and honed those skills working in the cattle sale barn restaurant that her mom operated. Martha made hundreds of pies daily, and there were few leftovers when she baked at the sale barn or cooked at home.
She was popular in school, a cheerleader, a singer, always on the honor roll. She performed in Treble Clef, Glee Club, Madrigal and other mixed choral groups. She sang with a small group of friends that were well known throughout the area, and she competed in regional and state-level competitions, where she won about 25 medals and trophies (mostly first place).

It was in a Paris High School bookkeeping class where Ron met his high school sweetheart, Martha.

“I was immediately attracted to the pretty girl that sat in front of me. She was full of life and had a warm, engaging personality,” said Ron.

They dated through high school and college. Martha worked in the office at the Paris Cereal Mill and then the Terre Haute Social Security office while Ron attended Indiana State University. Martha and Ron got married in 1969 just before Ron completed his MBA. Martha was surprised when Ron then announced he wanted to pursue a doctorate at the University of Georgia instead of beginning his work career with one of the companies, Caterpillar or Proctor & Gamble, that he’d interviewed with.

Off they went to Athens, GA, where Ron worked on his Ph.D. in marketing and business, and Martha supported him and worked on the PHT—Putting Hubby Through. Martha had two jobs during the Georgia years. First, she worked in financial operations, and among other things, was in charge of collecting payment on bad checks that students wrote.

“It was a demanding job where people were not always very pleasant to Martha,” recalls Ron. After enduring this stressful job for a year or so, Martha transferred to something that more closely paralleled her upbringing. She worked at UGA’s Agricultural Research Station located outside of Athens amid peaceful farms. At the Research Station, Ron and Martha enjoyed great friends, wonderful cookouts from the produce grown, and the occasional steer that seemed to mysteriously “break a leg” at certain times of the year. These were good times that helped to balance doctoral program stresses.

Martha and Ron then moved to Peoria, IL, where Ron took his first university job as a marketing professor at Bradley University. Martha first worked in a regional government human resources office as a technical specialist and trainer. Ironically, it was in this job that, according to her husband, she encountered someone who was a real male chauvinist. This supervisor made work life unpleasant even though Martha enjoyed the nature of the work. Instead of being held down by a less than supportive supervisor, she decided she would pursue a job that offered more money.

Thanks to a neighbor, Martha took a job working in the Pabst Brewery, a hard and dirty

Continued on page 16
job. Martha worked at this job for a year-and-a-half, including during her pregnancy with Susan. During this time, Martha also helped Ron with payroll, interviewing and other tasks in the marketing research consulting company that they acquired and rapidly developed into a multi-office company doing several hundred projects a year.

Thereafter, she returned to work in Peoria’s regional Social Security office. Being not far from their hometown, Martha and Ron also were able to make frequent trips to Paris visiting family and friends, and went on fishing trips at their hometown lake and elsewhere.

During the 11 years in Peoria, Ron professionally advanced and Susan grew. They had many good times and great friendships during these years.

The family had just relocated into their house of a lifetime in a Peoria suburban community of about 35 families that owned a lake along with the surrounding farms and woods.

“We couldn’t see our neighbors on three sides due to the 30 trees on our five-acre lot. Except for the homes we viewed across the lake, we had a beautifully secluded enclave where the fishing was great and the entertaining was fun,” said Ron.

Martha had just sent out December 1983 Christmas cards about how happy they were in this home and how they hoped they would be there forever. Shortly thereafter, Ron saw UT’s ad for the Max H. Hollingsworth Endowed Chair. UT was looking for someone to start a new marketing academic program, build business community relations, and help to develop UT’s business program.

The Tampa Adventure

Despite comfortable jobs, a wonderful home, and a growing company that they solely owned, they decided to visit Tampa. They quickly became intrigued by the possibilities, and decided to embark on the UT adventure and move to Tampa with four-year old Susan. Martha once again moved in support of family and soon started over with another Social Security office job, first in Lakeland with a long commute from their north Tampa home, and then in Plant City, where they built a new home in Walden Lake.

Life in Tampa soon became very busy. Martha ably balanced work, household and husband responsibilities, as well as church and choir involvement, while always placing Susan first. That meant daily transportation to and from school and lots of other Susan activities, performances, science fairs and lots of athletics. Throughout grade school and high school, Susan was involved in swimming, basketball, softball, and soccer school teams and summer leagues.

Ron recalls one time when he was coach of Susan’s summer basketball team that Martha responded to a friend’s challenge that Martha couldn’t possibly still do a cartwheel. Not one to
Martha attended many community events with Ron. In the years during his service as president and previously as dean, there were many hundreds of those “rubber chicken” dinner events.

Martha continued to be a great partner for Ron and Susan, attending community events, going to Susan’s Plant High School, Black Watch and UT soccer games, in which Susan was goalie.

Friends Remember

The members of the women’s soccer team always knew when Martha was in the crowd, as she yelled encouragement for the team and sometimes guidance for the officials. Martha rarely missed one of Susan’s games from high school through college, even traveling to out-of-state games. Martha also was known for her great jokes, stories and love for family, including the extended family of pets, which at various times included cats, dogs, a rabbit, gerbils, a guinea pig, a quarter horse, birds and aquarium/pond fish. It is no wonder that Susan is pursuing her doctorate of veterinary medicine at the University of Florida.

Martha’s strong support helped to build a strong daughter with solid values, and that same strength supported President Vaughn, and through countless community interactions, helped to build UT’s base of community support. Martha was respected by many, partly because of her directness and “unvarnished honesty,” as described by UT vice president Linda Devine.

“She was warm and gracious, a natural person; no pretenses, but always very gracious,” said Beverly Austin, a long-time friend.

One father of a University employee tells a story about Martha’s sensitive and caring nature. When he’d lost his wife of 32 years, Martha sent
Remembering Martha
Continued from Page 17

The Collegiate Chorale and the UT Orchestra will dedicate a free performance of Beethoven’s “Choral Fantasy” to the memory of Martha Vaughn at Tampa’s Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, April 29, at 4 p.m. For more information, go to the UT Web site, or call (813) 253-6212.

Susie Sanders, past president of the Chis- elers, said she was “as genuine as they come.”

David A. Straz Jr., chairman of UT’s Board of Trustees, said, “She worked very hard for the University. She was a high school sweetheart of Ron’s and helped him very much in his role as president of the University.”

Her daughter, Susan, summarized Martha this way:

“Unlike so many people today, Martha always knew what was most important in life: God, family, and friends…all else placed very distantly. Though she was never one to demand the spotlight, she was the most amazing person I have known and will ever know, a soul mate that is loved and missed constantly and deeply. It is a heartfelt aspiration to be the kind of woman she was, and I am comforted in knowing that we will meet again in Heaven one day.”

Martha clearly was a great life partner, a wonderful mother, wife, and best friend for Sus- an and Ron. Since 1984, she was a strong and steady presence in the University community.

We at UT will miss her for her unwavering sup- port. Thank you, Martha, for who you were and for all that you did.”

GIFTS IN HONOR AND IN MEMORIAM


IN HONOR

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Borrell Family Foundation

ANTHONY J. BORRELL JR.
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WILLIAM J. BORRELL
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RONALD AND MARTHA VAUGHN
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Bruce A. and Adajaean Samson

Ms. Nancy A. Saucedo

Bruce A. and Adajaean Samson

Tea

University of Tampa Diplomats

University of Tampa Swim Team

Cathy L. Unruh

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Dianne H.B. Welsh, Ph.D.

Ruth White, CLU

Dr. Norma A. Winston

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Mrs. Mary Shackelford Wolfe

Gregory C. Yadley

Ruth and Jean Yadley

GWEN L. YOUNG
The Chiseler Inc.
By the mid-1980s, the center of gravitas for art and culture in the Tampa Bay area was located under minarets on the west bank of the Hillsborough River. A listing from December 1985, for example, left little doubt—the calendar was heavy with events radiating from the campus. Pianist Sean Alderking gave a recital in the UT Ballroom, where that same month violinist Esther Glazer and pianist Dorita Berger performed together. The UT band gave concerts, students gave recitals, and professors gave violin master classes. The Tampa Ballet was quartered on campus, as were the Florida Orchestra, the Tampa Oratorio Society and the Hoffman String Quartet.

There also was something for those who preferred sweats to suites. After a 12-year absence, UT men’s basketball returned in the winter of 1983, and the Tampa Bay Thrillers of the Continental Basketball Association also played home games at the Spartan Sports Center, and the campus hosted the NCAA Div. II national soccer championships.
Faculty and students continued to record national recognition, as well. In 1982, UT got its first two Fulbright scholars. Dr. William D. Lieth, associate professor of modern languages, would spend a year in Lyon, France, while Dr. Kathryn Van Spankeren, assistant professor of English, went to Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia.

The period from 1981-2006 also was marked by fast-changing fortunes as the University searched to redefine itself for the approaching third millennium. In the 10-year span of 1985-95, four men sat in Plant Hall’s presidential office suite.

A New Model

As the University put its 50th birthday in the rearview mirror, its success and longevity seemed unassailable. But since “nothing endures but change,” it had to.

“Higher education today needs a new model, more cohesive, visible than anything there is now, with more identity,” President Richard Cheshire said in October 1981. “We’re calling it the college university. We’re trying to take the best of both worlds and blend it into a cohesive whole with a few major characteristics.”

Cheshire defined his model as “an institution which calls itself by the name university but which eschews the prevailing influence of research, publication, doctoral studies, mass education, bureaucratic organization, and outside control by remote governing boards and unions.” It would be “college-like” in that it would concentrate on bachelor’s degrees in various liberal arts studies. Faculty would focus on teaching rather than on research and publishing. But declining student retention and recruitment cut short the new vision, and the resulting budget shortfalls forced changes at the top.
In August 1986, Cheshire submitted his resignation. In his announcement, he cited the many achievements during his administration, but cautioned, “Our financial foundation has not kept pace with the growth of operating requirements.

“Our growing excellence,” he added, “is making growing demands.”

Bruce Samson Appointed Interim President

Bruce Samson, a local investment banker with a tradition of public service, was appointed interim president in August 1986 with a mandate from the Board of Trustees to put the University’s finances in order. A month later, Samson announced tight budget measures, including the cancellation of a planned merit pay increase. He eliminated the positions of assistant vice president and vice president for student development, and extensively reorganized several other major administrative positions.

Within a year, he had reversed the flow of red ink and eliminated an accumulated budget deficit.

Samson was taking over as the University was completing a 235-student residence hall known as Res-Com I, the first new on-campus facility since the Delo era. He also acquired the University’s popular McNeel Root of the Problem

In the summer of 2000, the University spends $200,000 to relocate two 50-foot, 100-year-old oak trees to make room for the new Vaughn student center. The trees are still alive and thriving on the edge of the faculty-staff parking lot.
Boathouse, a gift from Tampa businessman Van McNeel that sits on the Hillsborough and serves as home to 17 residents, as well as headquarters for UT’s crew program. In November 1987, “interim” dropped from Samson’s title after the board named him president.

Much of his energy was devoted to attracting state, city and other funds for refurbishing both the exterior and interior of Plant Hall, including the minarets, cupolas and domes, which had remained untouched since the Tampa Bay Hotel’s opening in 1891. The lease with the city of Tampa was rewritten to more evenly distribute the cost of maintenance.

During the next several years, Samson was instrumental in securing millions of dollars in grants from a number of sources for a massive renovation of H.B. Plant Hall.

Creating New Colleges

As necessary as preservation of Plant Hall was, the achievement that partially shaped Samson’s legacy was the structural change to the University’s academic life. Under Samson’s guidance, the Board of Trustees created a college model within the framework of the University, moving away from Cheshire’s concentration on liberal arts studies.

The first created, in 1987, was the College of Business, which was fashioned from the Division of Economics and Business. In 1990, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was created from the divisions of Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Education, the Arts and Nursing. That same year, the School of Continuing Studies was formed. Because it did not have a separate faculty, Continuing Studies was not titled a “college.” But it was given oversight of the evening college, non-credit offerings and other programming.

To create more outreach and communication with the non-student public,
UT under Samson established several centers. The first, the Center for Ethics, was created in the College of Business in 1989.

Samson left the University in July 1991 having “achieved and exceeded goals” he had set for himself almost five years before.

Successor Dr. David Ruffer came from Albright College, PA, after a 13-year tenure as president. He put into a new frame his image of the University. Harking back to the “audacious dream” of founder Frederic Spaulding, Ruffer set out 11 “tasks” for the University to accomplish in the ensuing two years, the most important being No. 11: “Reinvention of the way the University manages itself.”

“What we seek,” Ruffer wrote, “is the first true reinvention of university management since the 16th century when the present form began to take shape in the universities of Europe.”

In November 1993, Ruffer reported that the University was making “significant progress” toward enrollment and financial stability. But after outlining nearly two dozen areas of “success,” he dropped the bad news: An enrollment shortfall of 122 students had resulted in a budget shortage of more than $2.2 million. He instituted a hiring freeze and changed some fringe benefits.

Trying to put the best face on it, he noted, “The shortfall must be seen in the context of a host of positive accomplishments. It is but one event in a series of events. I have never felt more enthusiastic about anything than I do about The University of Tampa.”

**Retention Rates**

Retention rate is a critical factor for a university that relies heavily on tuition and fees to pay the bills. UT’s retention rate over four years had dropped below the national average.

Steps were taken to improve that average. Ruffer increased the academic services for students, including tutoring, peer tutoring...
and mentoring. The work-study program was enhanced.

The president also introduced a new academic program. When begun in January 1994, the Master of Science in Nursing Administration was the only degree of its kind in the Tampa Bay region.

Unfortunately, none of this attention ended the rollercoaster ride. In August 1994, enrollment numbers remained in decline. The number of fulltime undergraduate students was down more than 200 from two years before. In October, there was another budget cut. For the first time, that meant layoffs. Twenty percent of the faculty in each college were to be laid off. Seventeen professors had to go, but most of the cuts were accomplished through attrition. David Ruffer resigned in December 1994.

Vaughn Named
Dean of the College of Business, Dr. Ronald Vaughn was quickly named president and took over officially in January 1995. Looking back from 2004, Vaughn recalled that tremulous time in an article in the fall 2004 UT Journal: “I knew that our fundamental educational quality was sound, and that we had a lot of very good people here. I remember a groundswell of people just
The 2004 edition of *The Unofficial, Biased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges* puts UT on the “hot and trendy” list, based on responses from high school guidance counselors across the nation. They say UT has that certain “it” factor among high school students.

### Pulling out of the Slump

Vaughn took immediate action to pull UT back from the brink. He put new people in critical positions. Barbara Strickler, who was named the vice president of enrollment, found boxes of inquiries for potential students sitting on shelves, waiting for responses. Out-of-date marketing materials were refreshed and reprinted. Robert Forschner returned to his job as vice president for administration and finance.

An audit by Forschner within his first two weeks back found the University faced a potential $1.6-million deficit, so the president renewed a line of credit that had expired. Vaughn developed a new comprehensive plan for the campus. To update the worn-out buildings and aging equipment, he sent Forschner to northeastern investors to sell $15 million in bonds. Financial aid was restructured to reform a system that was overly generous to some and miserly to others. While all that was going on, additional academic programs were being added and curricula redrawn.

Vaughn had told his Board of Trustees he would take the position only on the condition that a serious fundraising effort would be supported to put the University on sound financial footing.

By the late 1990s, Vaughn had begun the largest campus-rebuilding project in the University’s history, surpassing President David Delo’s expansion of the campus infrastructure 30 years before. Down came Delo and Howell halls, along with a patchwork of private homes and boarding houses that dotted the campus. Two massive oak trees were relocated to make room for the renovation.

### Sprouting Like Mushrooms

New structures sprouted like mushrooms during the next seven years. Up went Crescent Place (later named Austin Hall) and the Thomas Parking Garage (1998), Brevard Hall, the John H. Sykes College of Business renovation of McKay Auditorium (2000), the Vaughn Center and Pepin Stadium (2002). Then came Stadium Place (later named Straz Hall) and the first phase of the West Parking Garage (2003) and the R.K. Bailey

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**Unabashedly Biased**

The 2004 edition of *The Unofficial, Biased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges* puts UT on the “hot and trendy” list, based on responses from high school guidance counselors across the nation. They say UT has that certain “it” factor among high school students.

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![President Vaughn gives the thumbs-down sign as Howell Hall comes down in 1999 to make room for a new student center and residence hall.](image)

So far, more than $200 million has been spent on new campus projects since 1998. About 70 percent of campus housing was built that year or later, and 67 percent of fulltime undergraduates now live on campus.

Much of that new construction and renovation was made possible by the most successful capital campaign in the University’s history.

Benefactors John and Susan Sykes got the ball rolling with a $10-million gift in 1997, then gave another $28 million in January 2000. Trustees moved the campaign goal to $80 million from its earlier announced $40-million target. Other trustees gave generously and provided key campaign leadership. Al ’47 and Beverly Austin co-chaired the campaign. Vince Naimoli, a successful businessman and philanthropist, headed the “lead gifts” effort, and UT alumnus Rick Thomas ’72 assumed responsibility for the board solicitation committee. The campaign ended in August 2004 with a bottom line of almost $84 million.

In February 1998, the MacArthur Foundation and the U.S. Army named UT’s ROTC program as one of the best on the East Coast and in the nation. It was the third time in seven years that the program had won the award. In April 1998, a grueling six-year process culminated in the College of Business receiving accreditation from AACSB International, the Association Advance
Collegiate School of Business. The next month, the baseball team took the NCAA Division II title for the third time in six years.

Following nine years of record enrollments, the University opened its doors in fall 2006 to 5,367 students, up from 2,388 when Vaughn took over in late December 1994.

Paralleling UT’s growth, 150 new full-time faculty and academic support positions were added, fueling numerous improvements. Dozens of new academic programs were added, along with a new University Advising Office, an International Programs Office, expanded faculty development, Honors programs, and a new “Getaways” freshman year initiative. This academic expansion lay the groundwork for the recent creation of three new colleges which reflect UT’s new academic depth and breadth as a medium-sized comprehensive university.

The blessings didn’t end there. In 2006, the women’s volleyball team (see p. 20) and the men’s baseball team both clinched their seasons with team championships, capping UT’s 75-year history as a sports powerhouse that has reaped 10 national championships.

The new Pepin stadium and Stadium Place went up side-by-side in 2003.

John and Susan Sykes gave the University $38 million.

John and Susan Sykes’ $28-million gift to the University in 1999, coupled with an earlier $10-million gift, enables UT to raise its capital campaign goal from $40 million to $80 million.

The 2006 National Baseball Champs
An Extreme Centennial Makeover

By M.E. “Buddy” Baker
Freelance Writer

At the dawn of 1982, Tampa’s most famous skyline, the “turrets” of Plant Hall, could not be said to be caught in their most favorable light. The building’s iconic features had been painted gold the year before to commemorate the University’s 50th anniversary but already were beginning to run like a dowager’s makeup in the rain.

The campus itself was showing the effects of decades of grafts and hand-me-downs. The University’s 1981 master plan described the school’s appearance as “a loose collection of landmark, fairgrounds, hotel, apartment and college buildings—formed more by default than design.”

Over the tenures of seven presidents and the passing of several decades, the building first known as the Tampa Bay Hotel had gone through various cosmetic procedures and minor surgeries. Founding president Frederic Spaulding converted the hotel kitchen into college labs, and the remodeling had never really stopped. By the 1980s, Plant Hall was in need of an extreme makeover. Unlike the television program, however, the job would take a lot longer than a week.

In October 1981, the University unveiled the 20-year master plan to rebuild the campus. Many older buildings would be torn down; others would be renovated. Some would get new uses—the student center, for example, would become classrooms. New buildings would go up. The centerpiece of the campus, however, would continue to be Plant Hall.

Two years later, the state of Florida awarded a $50,000 grant to restore the minarets. A few months later, in December 1983, Mayor Bob Martinez ’57 announced that he had created a “special team” to spearhead the work. Some $200,000 of funds that the city had earmarked for improvements to Plant Park would be shifted to minaret restoration.

“Awake! for Morning in the Bowl of Night
Has flung the Stone that puts the Stars to Flight: And Lo! the Hunter of the East has caught The Sultan’s Turret in a Noose of Light”
— Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam
In response to an appeal by President Richard Cheshire in January 1984, UT alumnus Martinez added to the city’s offer. Plant Hall was “our most acknowledged landmark in the city,” the mayor acknowledged as he announced a plan to spend $1.2 million to renovate the minarets. Later, the city council upped the total to $1.6 million.

In addition, Martinez earmarked $100,000 each year for major maintenance work, a figure the University would match, for a total of $200,000. The Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation contributed almost $3 million between 1987 and 1991 under the guidance of State Senator Malcolm Beard.

Renovation would involve analyzing the soundness of the internal structure of the 13 minarets, cupolas and domes. The framework undoubtedly would need repair and possibly replacement. The original galvanized tin roof would be replaced with stainless steel, fitted piece by piece by a shipwright. No one was sure how much all that might cost. The minarets had been struck by lightning many times during thunderstorms, and there was even evidence of small fires in them that had burned out on their own.

Before work could begin, however, a certain legacy had to be taken care of first. Nearly a century’s accumulation of owl and pigeon droppings in and around the minarets contained yeast that could cause meningitis in humans, the Department of Environmental Regulation discovered. It took four months to remove the tons of guano. Another 10 days and three applications of sanitizing chemicals, and work could begin. The 1987 Moroccan noted: “Workers were required to wear protective ‘space suits’ to avoid breathing toxic fumes, and at one point, Plant Hall was closed for a day as a safety measure.”

The first minaret cost $140,000 to complete.

By June 1985, the work appeared to be on track again. The work involved:

- Installing new doors and door frames
- Resheathing six minarets and four cupolas with lead-coated stainless steel
- Restoring the minarets to their original silver color.

Not So Fast

By now, a family of rare white owls had set up housekeeping in one of the minarets. The contractor had to wait for the owl offspring to grow up and fly away.

In the interim, the restoration work gained financial support from diverse organizations. The Jack Daniels Foundation for Preserving American Landmarks and Tradition promised to donate a percentage of sales of every bottle of its trademark whiskey sold in the Tampa area during the month of July 1985. Because Plant Hall was a national historic landmark, the National Trust for Historic Preservation threw in some money, as well.
De-bugging

In 1987, the University tents Plant Hall for termite fumigation with a state grant of $775,000 in preparation of a major restoration. It is thought to be the second largest tenting project in the country at the time.

By early 1986, Hoover/Borders Construction Co. had completed rebuilding the structural supports inside six minarets. The shape of the minarets slowed the pace of work. No more than five men could be on the scaffolding at any one time. By the next summer, the galvanized tin finish on all the minarets and one dome that had been painted gold in 1981 had been removed and replaced with stainless steel.

That wasn’t everything the grand dame of Tampa architecture needed, however. Several key structural elements of Plant Hall needed work, architectural design firm Robbins, Bell and Kuehlem determined: the Moorish-style façade and foundation, replacement of the entire quarter-mile span of the roof, and extensive repairs on the east and west verandahs.

The Victorian-era building also would receive some accessories that finally would usher it into the 20th century. Central heat and air would be added in certain common areas and suites. Its 96-year-old electrical system would be fully replaced. A backup generator would go in, as well as a fire protection system, including sprinklers. The estimated cost: $10 million.

But the biggest bugs that had to be taken care of first were, well, bugs. Before work could proceed, termites gnawing at the wooden structure underneath the peeling paint had to be eliminated.

In December 1987, workers began tenting the minarets and quarter-mile-long landmark. It was to be no small job. Three hundred black and yellow tarps were required, each 60 by 40 feet. Twelve termite trucks, equipped with hydraulic lifts and cranes, were on-site, along with some 50 workers. Even a sewing machine was brought in to mend any last-minute tears in the voluminous drape. Over the Christmas break, teargas was released to drive out any critters. Finally, about 5 million cubic feet of Vikane gas was pumped into the building.

Called the second largest tenting job in the country, the tenting cost about $300,000 and came from a $775,000 grant approved by the Florida Legislature that June. The appropriation had survived a veto of $140 million for projects statewide by the governor—Bob Martinez.

In April 1988, President Bruce Samson asked the city of Tampa to contribute $3.5 million toward the $10-million makeover. He also asked for $300,000 a year to pay for improvements to the building and Plant Park. In addition, he said, another $242,000 was needed to fix up McKay Auditorium, the former Municipal Auditorium, to remove some of the asbestos around the stage.

It took workers weeks to dress Plant Hall for the termite termination.
Renovation still was underway on Aug. 3, 1990, when fire threatened to completely undo all those years of work. More than 100 firefighters battled the blaze on the roof of Plant Hall for more than 2 ½ hours over a section of the building connecting the science wing to the rest of the building. Two classrooms, two labs and two restrooms were destroyed. Other sections of the science wing and part of the ground floor suffered extensive smoke and water damage.

Blamed on hot tar being used to patch the roof, the fire resulted in about $1.5 million in damage. When classes began at the end of the month, the instructional classrooms had already been repaired.

What couldn’t be repaired as quickly was the work of Dr. Fred Punzo, who studied the relationship between tarantulas and spider wasps. A decade of his research and thousands of dollars worth of equipment were consumed by the blaze. (Punzo may have been partially consoled the next year when he was presented the Sears-Roebuck Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership).

Despite the damage, the building put on its best party dress in April 13, 1991 to blow out the 100 candles on a birthday cake. What a cake it was, too—16 feet long, 8 feet wide and 6 feet tall, it weighed nearly two tons and was large enough to feed 20,000 guests. Hearkening back to the early days of the Tampa Bay Hotel, Mayor Sandy Freedman sliced the cake with a saber borrowed from a member of the Rough Riders, a Tampa civic group.

The centennial party included tours of the building, performances by the Ballet Folklorico, a vintage fashion show, an antique car procession, lawn games popular during the Victorian era, a children’s stage with jugglers, clowns and magicians, and music by jazz, flamenco, polka and big bands. Tweed Roosevelt, the great-grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, was a guest of honor. The elder Roosevelt stayed at the hotel in 1898 as he prepared to invade Cuba. The celebration was a good match for another party a century before. For the grand opening of the hotel on Feb. 5, 1891, Henry Plant invited some 15,000 people. Guests danced the “Tampa Bay Gallop” and snacked on oysters, fish, cold meats, salads, ices, jellies and cakes.

But even the old railroad tycoon didn’t have royalty. A month after the 1991
centennial party, however, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip visited the hotel. Plant Hall, nee the Tampa Bay Hotel, was ready. Nearly $6 million had been spent on renovation by then.

There still was work to be done. In August, work began on the final four cupolas and the dome over Fletcher Lounge. Their metal skins were peeled off, the wooden supports were repaired, and new stainless steel roofs were installed.

The work continues today, thanks largely to the efforts of the Chislers, a group of volunteers founded in 1959 by Sunny Delo, wife of then-President David Delo, and dedicated to tackling the ongoing task of preserving the beauty and grandeur of Plant Hall.

Through their efforts, new historically accurate hand-woven carpeting was installed last December throughout the lobby and ground floor hallways.

Early this year, the organization reported the completion of brickwork and window restorations, as well as receipt of final payment from a $400,000 Save America’s Treasures grant from the National Park Service. New doors and lighting projects are slated to return the building’s interior close to its original appearance.

In September, the Florida Historical Commission recommended full funding of the Chislers’ request for more than $275,000 for additional restoration projects. The Florida Legislature approved the request in February, and the funds will be available July 1.

As every homeowner knows, there’s always something to fix. But there is no doubt that, every morning, the domes, cupolas and minarets of Plant Hall now catch a grand old building in a much better light.
## Actors, Admirals, Governors and More

The University of Tampa bestowed its first honorary degree upon its founder and first president, Frederic H. Spaulding, in 1936. During UT’s third quarter-century, a parade of politicians, actors, scientists, writers, educators, religious leaders, philanthropists and military commanders received the honor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Accomplishments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>LeRoy Collins</td>
<td>Governor of Florida, 1955-61; Chairman of the 1960 Democratic National Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Sir Harold Wilson</td>
<td>Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, 1964-70 and 1974-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Edward Seaga</td>
<td>Prime Minister of Jamaica, 1980-1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Reubin O. Askew</td>
<td>Governor of Florida, 1971-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>William A. Gillen</td>
<td>President of Insurance Workers of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Robert Quarles Marston</td>
<td>National Institute of Health Director 1968-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>John Naisbitt</td>
<td>Author of Megatrends, 1982 and Re-inventing the Corporation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Irwin Hoffman</td>
<td>Conductor of the Vancouver Symphony, 1952-64, Associate Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>George Bailey</td>
<td>Doctor of Humane Letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Premier John Swann</td>
<td>Former Premier of Bermuda, 1982-1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Otto Von Habsburg</td>
<td>Archduke Otto of Austria, Crown Prince Otto of Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>George M. Steinbrenner III</td>
<td>Owner of Major League Baseball’s New York Yankees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Bob Martinez ’57</td>
<td>Governor of Florida, 1987-91; Mayor of Tampa, 1979-86</td>
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In 1982, Fulbright grants are awarded to UT professors for the first time. Dr. William D. Lieth spends a year in Lyon, France, while Dr. Kathryn Van Spanckeren goes to Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia.

Continued on next page
As the 20th century draws to a close, a Tampa Chamber of Commerce poll in 1999 rates the founding of UT as one of the 10 most significant events of the century in Hillsborough County.

**Actors, Admirals, Governors and More**

**1988** — Malcolm Forbes  
Publisher of Forbes magazine  
Doctor of Humane Letters

**1988** — Dennis F. Pupello, M.D. ’61  
Clinical Appointment in the Department of Surgery at the University of South Florida College of Medicine  
Doctor of Science

**1989** — Connie Mack  
Doctor of Laws

**1989** — Hampton Dunn ’39  
Journalist, author and historian of Florida history  
Doctor of Humane Letters

**1990** — Roger B. Smith  
Chairman and CEO of General Motors, 1981-90  
Doctor of Humane Letters

**1990** — Malcolm E. Beard ’44  
Sheriff of Hillsborough County, 1965-78  
Doctor of Public Service

**1991** — Bob Graham  
Governor of Florida, 1979-87; U.S. senator from Florida, 1987-2005  
Doctor of Public Administration

**1992** — Dr. Paula P. Brownlee  
President of AAC&U 1990-98, Dean of Faculty at Union College  
Doctor of Humane Letters

**1998** — John H. Sykes  
Founder and Chairman of Sykes Enterprises Inc.  
Doctor of Business and Humane Letters

**1998** — Sam Gilliam  
Color field painter associated with the Washington Color School and Abstract Expressionism  
Doctor of Fine Arts

**May 1999** — Martha S. Ferman and James L. Ferman Sr.  
Creators of the Ferman Music Center, Owners of Ferman Motor Car Company  
Doctor of Humane Letters

**May 2001** — Robert Saunders Sr.  
Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity for the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners, 1976-88  
Doctor of Public Service

**May 2002** — C.W. “Bill” Young  
U.S. Representative from Florida, 1971-present  
Doctor of Public Service

**Dec. 2002** — Dick Greco ’56  
Mayor of Tampa, 1967-74 and 1995-2003  
Doctor of Public Service

**May 2003** — Maestro Anton Coppola  
Composer, librettist and conductor; conducted the scores for Godfather III and Dracula  
Doctor of Fine Arts

**May 2004** — David H. Levy  
Astronomer and science writer; discoverer of 21 comets; author or editor of 31 books; Parade magazine science editor  
Doctor of Science

**Dec. 2004** — Alfred S. Austin ’47 and Beverly A. Austin  
Real estate developer, President of The Austin Companies  
UT Board Chairman Emeriti
As the best runner in University of Tampa men’s cross country history, Elias Gonzalez remains a hero. After three years wearing the colors of an intercollegiate athletics program, 1st Lt. Gonzalez has yet to let a change of uniform or scenery deter him from his love of running.

Upon learning that his National Guard unit based in St. Petersburg would be sent to Ali Air Base in southern Iraq, his first thoughts would come as no surprise to those who know him best.

“Will I be able to run there?” he asked. “I trust my training well enough to stay safe, so I wasn’t worried about being injured.”

### Back in the Race

A two-time defending Gasparilla Distance Classic 15K champion, Gonzalez had the opportunity to rank his three choices for leave time. His top choice was Feb. 8-14. Next was a date in April to share a day with his son Manuel on his seventh birthday. Finally, Gonzalez had listed a summer race in his native Dominican Republic.

“They granted my first choice,” Gonzalez said. “It was perfect, because I got to run in the 15K with 4,000 other runners and also watch my son run in the Junior Classic. So it worked out that I was able to run and also be with my family, which means the most to me.”

For Gonzalez, 30, a love of running has been a constant no matter where he is. Whether it’s the subtropical beauty of west central Florida or endless lots of sand in the Iraqi desert, his passion for running is never-ending. He wakes up every morning and runs around the 20-mile perimeter of his base, he says, and even intense heat and sometimes mud from a heavy downpour don’t dampen his zest for his sport.

“I love running,” he said. “Above all else, it’s something that I can take with me wherever I go.”

### Beginning Something Special

Gonzalez also recently made news when he was named top male runner on the Sunshine State Conference Silver Anniversary team. From 25 years of conference action, the league coaches and administrators chose Gonzalez as the top runner of all time.

He remains Tampa’s only All-American in men’s cross country, and is one of just three male runners to win two SSC Runner of the Year awards, earning the honor in 2002 and 2003. He claimed medalist honors at the SSC championships both years before going on to earn All-America accolades in 2003. He holds school records in both the 8K and 10K events.

“Elias is a great man and a competitor,” said UT cross country head coach Jarrett Slaven. “It was a pleasure to coach him, and he is not just a great runner, but an even better person. He’ll run fast for as long as he wants to.”

Slaven attributes much of the program’s recent success to the accomplishments of his former star runner. Prior to Gonzalez, the program had just one first-team all-Sunshine State Conference selection. Since 2002, the Spartans have compiled seven selections to the first team. Additionally, there have been three all-South Region honorees in the post-Gonzalez era.

“Elias did so much for this program,” Slaven said. “It’s similar to the success Allison Macksas had with the women’s program. Potential student-athletes can now see that the ultimate success is possible on The University of Tampa cross country team. [Elias and Macksas] were the beginning of something special.”

The home-front effort was a hit and a miss in February for the returning Spartan cross country hero. Elias Gonzalez, defending two-time Gasparilla 15K champion, finished fourth in the 2007 race, in spite of running his fastest time ever. His 48:13 time was three minutes faster than his previous best, which he ran in 2003, his All-America year.
A magical year

The run to the title began with the NCAA South Regional, which was presented to Tampa as the host institution. In arguably the toughest regional in years, the Spartans were faced with the daunting task of going through two-time national champion Barry, eighth-ranked Florida Southern, and 10th-ranked Florida Gulf Coast.

After breezing past Wingate in the first round by a 3-0 score, UT next handed Sunshine State Conference rival Barry a 3-0 loss to advance to the regional final. Florida Gulf Coast, which knocked out Florida Southern, awaited the Spartans. The Eagles, a year away from entering Division I, boasted a 29-2 overall record and the South Region Player of the Year.

After more than a decade of domination, The University of Tampa volleyball team finally grabbed the elusive championship that was within arms’ reach on several occasions.

On Nov. 18, the Spartans defeated the University of North Alabama by a score of 3-1 to record the school’s first volleyball national title, as well as the first national crown for any UT female team. The victory capped an amazing 35-1 season that included victories over seven national top-25 teams.

The volleyball program, a fixture as one of the top UT teams, entered the NCAA tournament for the 11th consecutive season. After being the national runner-up on two occasions and advancing to the NCAA Elite Eight a total of nine times, Spartan teams have become accustomed to the national stage.

“Entering the tournament, I felt no pressure to win the national championship,” says head coach Chris Catanach. “Obviously, it is a goal and something I wanted, but I would have been comfortable going my whole career without the title.”

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The University of Tampa athletic department announced the launch of its new Web site, www.tampaspartans.com, in January. The new Web site offers several new features in addition to a modernized design that puts UT athletics in competition with top athletic websites.

Among the new features is a Sword & Shield page for current and potential contributors, a Spartan Fan Club and a Kids Club. There also is a downloadable calendar that includes all Spartan athletic events and is available in a convenient printable version. The recruiting questionnaire will assist coaches in identifying potential players, while the mailing list allows Spartan fans to sign up to receive the latest news from UT athletics.

The site also contains an upgrade in the ability to support pictures, student-athlete bios and department information. Features surviving the transition from the old Web site include live stats for all home events in men's and women's soccer, volleyball, men's and women's basketball, baseball and softball. Additionally, live stats are available for selected road contests. Viewers also may download and print the most recent media guides with viewable covers.

For the latest in Spartan athletics, visit www.tampaspartans.com. The site includes up-to-date information as well as breaking news. This also is the quickest way to view scores and game information.

One game into the match, Tampa found itself in a scary situation as it faced an uphill battle trailing 1-0. But the Spartans kicked into high gear and won the next three games by a combined 10 points.

Next up was an NCAA Elite Eight meeting with 25th-ranked Dowling at the Fall Sports Festival in Pensacola, FL. UT was not alone at the venue as the women's cross country and women's soccer teams also were present for their respective finals appearances. The support helped Tampa cruise past Dowling by a 3-0 score to meet second-ranked Minnesota-Duluth in perhaps the toughest match of the season.

Against Minnesota-Duluth, the Spartans followed the lead of attackers Katelen Dixon and Danielle MacDonald to win the match after a 30-24 game four victory. In the national championship game, UT was set to face North Alabama, which entered the tournament as the nation's hottest team.

The match-up featured the country's top-ranked and No. 6 teams and certainly lived up to its billing in a four-game thriller. UT struck first, winning the first game 30-25. A pesky North Alabama team would not back down as it won the second game to even the contest at a game apiece. The Spartans then displayed their championship caliber, winning the next two games by scores of 30-21 and 30-17 to capture the awaited prize and bring home the trophy that the program wanted so badly.

“This was a magical year, and we were able to reach a goal that I was beginning to think was unreachable,” says Catanach. “You can never take this away from the team, and we will relish it forever.”

Ready for Another Run

Catanach also brought home some hardware of his own, as he was named the National Coach of the Year. After winning his 700th match earlier in the season, Catanach earned the top coach's award for the second time in his career and first since 1991.

The awards continued flowing for the national champions as Katelen Dixon, Stephanie Rivera, Margeaux Sinibaldi and Alisha Green were named All-Americans. The four also joined Erin Clark, Danielle MacDonald and Gabriela Saade as all-South Region selections. Rivera also took home the SSC Player of the Year award.

“Because of our success, we are expecting the best game out of every opponent,” says Catanach. “Each match brings something to the journey, and it is important to experience the good and the bad throughout the season. Everyone needs some failure and team moments to grow stronger and become better equipped for the long haul.”

The Spartans look for another magical run as they turn their attention to the 2007 season. With 12 players returning from the championship team, including three of the four All-Americans, UT looks to have some star power necessary to counter the target opponents have placed on them as the defending national champions. Given Catanach and the program’s history, the Spartans should be fully equipped for another late run in the NCAA tournament.
On Nov. 18, the Board of Trustees put on a UT 75th anniversary red-tie ball in a specially erected tent in Plant Park that looked more like a canvas castle. A gourmet dinner and a toast from Board of Trustees Chairman David A. Straz Jr. were only parts of the grand affair, which was hosted by Chairman Straz and his wife, Catherine.

Outside in the park, guests enjoyed campus tours in horse-drawn carriages, a commemorative film with historic footage and photos of the University’s early years, and performances by the UT Jazz ensemble, UT music professors and a high school drum corps.

The evening’s finale featured a spectacular lighting of Plant Park and the Sticks of Fire.

"It was a terrific evening,” said Catherine Straz. “It showcased what the University of Tampa is all about in a wonderful setting.”

Patsy Woodruff, Helen T. Kerr, Beverly A. Austin, Shirley Savage Knight, Norma Jean Alcalde and daughter Cynthia A. Colenda (from left) were decked out for elegance and warmth in the brisk autumn evening.

Trustee Leo Berman ’69, John McRae Wolf ’68 and Board of Trustees Chairman David A. Straz Jr. (from left) enjoy an intimate discussion.

Pam Iorio, mayor of Tampa, and Al Austin ’47
Linda Devine, vice president for operations and planning, ties on a good time with Deborah Lester, former director of academic operations and support.

Bob Martinez ’57, former mayor of Tampa and former governor of Florida, and James “Jim” Clark

Homecoming royal couple Andrew Madock and Ashley Wolf ’06 with John McRae Wolfe ’68. Madock is Student Government president, a member of the Diplomats, and a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. Wolf, who graduated in December, was a Diplomat and member of Delta Zeta sorority.

Guests got snappy entertainment from the University of Tampa Saxophone Quartet, featuring music professor Dr. Terry Mohn (right) on tenor sax, and UT sophomore Victor Quinones (left) senior Stephanie Dahl and freshman Kent Allen on baritone, soprano and alto saxophone, respectively.

Dressed in traditional cigar-roller apparel, Lazaro Rodriguez, owner of Havana Dreams of Ybor City, supplied fresh cigars hand-rolled on site.

Dan Gura, vice president for development and university relations, passes the mic to President Vaughn.

Henry B. Plant Museum executive director Cynthia Gandee needed more than a warm toast to keep her warm.
Changing Faces and Changing Places

As we travel through life, we are constantly faced with new challenges and opportunities. These always bring with them the possibility for change. One such change recently occurred in our Office of Alumni and Parent Relations.

Todd Marrs, UT’s director of Alumni and Parent Relations, recently left the University for Stetson University College of Law after nearly five years of dedicated service, three as alumni director. Todd made tremendous progress in his time at UT, and I will be honored to try my best to fill the impressive footprint he has left on our campus. I have been able to get to know many of you during my time at UT so far, but for those of you who don’t know me, I’d like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

During the past two years, I have been a development associate in UT’s Development and University Relations office, responsible for managing the faculty/staff campaign with a $30,000 goal and the Parent Fund with a $35,000 goal. In addition, I worked extensively with our local alumni chapter, Tampa Alpha, as well as our regional alumni chapters across the country, helping them organize and host activities for our alumni. During my tenure as development associate, I have seen our alumni chapters begin to flourish, and I look forward to watching them continue to grow in the future.

Previous to working at UT, I was a campaign associate at United Way of Tampa Bay, working mostly in Pinellas County, and earlier, was a Promise Fellow with Americorps, where I spent two years volunteering my time at a middle school for underprivileged children in St. Petersburg, FL.

Tell Us About Your Changes

Just as we go through changes here at UT, you go through changes in both your personal and professional lives. The alumni office supports these positive changes, and we would love to share them with the Spartan community. One easy way to share the great things going on in your life is through the “Class Acts” section of the UT Journal. You can submit your story to us by using the “What’s Happening” form in the journal or use the online submission form located on the alumni Web site at http://alumni.ut.edu.

Speaking of the alumni Web site, we are excited to report that almost 1,000 of you have logged on and created profiles. There have been countless positive reactions to our new site, and we are glad that so many of you are utilizing it to stay connected to UT. The fastest way to see if there are any changes going on at UT or with any of your former classmates is to log on today.

Recently, all of you have been contacted by Harris Connect, our partner in the production of the 2007 alumni directory, in regard to changes that are going on in your lives. As a new feature to the directory this year, you will be able to submit life updates and share stories from your time at UT. Many of you have taken advantage of this opportunity, and we hope many more of you will join in on the fun. The directory is published only every five years, so there is no better time than now to share your story.

Share at Homecoming and Reunions

Of course, the best way to let everyone know about the changes occurring in your world is to share your story with other Spartans in person at Homecoming and Reunions in 2007. This year’s Homecoming is scheduled for Oct. 19-21, so mark your calendars now. We are planning special reunions for the classes ’97 and ’02 to help them celebrate their respective 10- and five-year reunions.

Our younger alumni seem to always have the most change going on in their lives, so it would be great for as many of you as possible to come back and share the wonderful things that you’ve accomplished since graduation. If you would like to help with the ‘97 or ‘02 reunion, or if you’re interested in helping organize another Homecoming gathering, contact the Alumni Office at alumni@ut.edu.

Jay HarDwick
Alumni Director
E-mail: alumni@ut.edu
'39
Richard Spoto was honored when a Riverview, FL, high school was named for him in August. He has spent almost seven decades dedicated to education and community service. He lives in Tampa.

'41
Robert Bowen was awarded the Order of St. Maurice at the 29th Infantry Banquet Reunion of the National Infantry Association. The award is for outstanding support and long-time dedication.

'51
Antonio Cardoso, artist-director of El Prado Gallery, received the “Prix de Paris” award for art. He also was nominated for Who’s Who in American Art. He and wife Martha have two daughters. They live in Tampa.

'57
Anthony Etaro is a retired air traffic controller. He lives in Brevard, NC, April-November. The rest of the time, he lives in Jacksonville, FL.

'61
Olga Myers founded the Joyful Visitation chapter of Magnificat, which has been offering quarterly Magnificat meals for women in the Archdiocese of Atlanta since 1992.

'63
Martin Berg retired in March 2001 after 27 years as a social worker. He continues to enjoy his hobby, photography.

'65
Peter Meoli is an athletic coordinator for the Mid-Hudson Athletic League. He and his wife, Patricia, have two sons, Anthony and Michael, and three grandchildren, Kyle, Katie and Ella. E-mail: pmeoli@hvc.rr.com

'66
Eugene Pizzetta retired in June after more than 30 years of working in the telecommunication industry. He started with Bell and later worked for New England Telephone, Nynex, Bell Atlantic, and finally, at Verizon. He lives in Reverence, MA.

'68
Gary Rapp retired from Sebring High School in December after working for 36 years at the institution. His last position was dean of student services. During his career, Gary was head coach of the varsity football team, athletic director and physical education instructor.

'70
Gary Myers was elected to a two-year term as president of the Association for Behavioral Sciences and Medical Education at its annual meeting in October in Ann Arbor, MI.

'72
Deborah Bell is owner and president of James River Candy Corp. She also is a freelance writer. She lives in Richmond, VA.

Robert Young married Petra Rodriguez on Nov. 11 at Hope Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg. Robert is retired from the St. Petersburg Police Department and Bowen Travel in Tampa. Petra is a retired seamstress. They live in St. Petersburg.

'73
Ralph Hicks was promoted to center manager of FlightSafety’s learning centers in Daleville and Dothan, AL.

Jay Scherline received a Human Relations Award from the Human Relations Commission in Allentown, PA. The award is for helping foster better understanding and human relations among citizens.

'Sherrie (Fritz) Sikes was awarded UT’s National Alumni Association Alumni Achievement Award for her work at Hillsborough County schools. She is married to Dan Sikes ’67 and has two daughters.

Thomas “Tom” Graham ’82
Carmen Aguero is principal of Webb Middle School in Tampa. She has 33 years of experience in the school system.

Richard “Dick” Woodward has a new job as vice president of enrollment management at the American University of Antigua, College of Medicine. E-mail: cav69woody@aol.com

'79
Nance Cox started her own freelance editing and proofreading business. She lives in Port St. Lucie, FL. E-mail: nancecox@hotmail.com

Patrick Simon joined the operational intelligence solutions business unit of Science Applications International Corp. as a program executive for information operations. He lives in Woodbridge, VA.

'80
Peter Cannella became engaged to Kathleen Eastman on New Year’s Eve. The wedding is going to be on May 21. He lives in Des Moines, IA.

'81
Martyn Quinn MBA received the Henry “Hank” Boynton Award from the Onondaga County Department of Aging and Youth for outstanding efforts in fire prevention education for youth. He lives in Baldwinsville, NY.

'82
David Ditto relocated to Orlando. He is the area vice president of Embassy Suites Hotels for Florida and Puerto Rico. E-mail: dittoc@aol.com

Thomas “Tom” Graham was recognized as 2006 Prince George’s Chamber of Commerce Business Leader of the Year. He lives in Bowie, MD. E-mail: thgraham@pepco.com

'84
Keith Erickson was promoted to a partner of the accounting firm Stowe & Degen in Worcester, MA on Jan. 1. E-mail: kerickson@stowedecon.com

'91
David Sulecki is the owner of Prohelm Decals, which provides football and baseball helmet decals. He lives in Ocala, FL. E-mail: suleckie@cox.net

Ileana (Couret) Endom MBA ’98 and her husband announced the birth of their second child, Ian Frederick, who was born on Nov. 27. Their first child is named Katarina. E-mail: ileana@endom.com

'92
Tricia (Mills) Brancatella and her husband, Vito, celebrated the birth of their fourth child, Ava Natalie, Aug. 7. Their other children are Vito III, Nicholas and Jenna. The family lives in Mountainside, NJ. E-mail: triciabrancaetella@verizon.net

Marvin Grand welcomed his son Matthew Isaiah on Dec. 11. Marvin was promoted to food service director at the University of Central Florida for Aramark Corp. He also received an MBA from St. Thomas University. He relocated from Miami to Orlando. E-mail: marvinandallyson@earthlink.net

Amy Reinowitz-Schlamkowitz received a master’s degree in education in 2001. She is a business and computer education teacher in Westchester County, NY. She published lesson plans for reading strategies on www.teachersnetwork.org. She has two children—Jack (4½) and Jessica (2½). E-mail: arhino@optonline.net

'93
Patrick McDonald is an attorney at the law offices of McDonald & McDonald with his brother and father. He also is a reserve lieutenant with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in Miami-Dade County, and works part-time as an adjunct professor at various law enforcement academies throughout the state. E-mail: pgm@mcdonaldsattorneys.com

Debbie (Rasmilso) O’Connor and her husband, Michael, had their baby girl, Lauren, on Oct. 7. They have another child, Ryan (3). The family lives in Frankfort, IL. E-mail: debbieoconnor2001@yahoo.com

Rita (Pavan) Peters was appointed chief of the Sex Offenders/Child Abuse Division at the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26
Lee Schmidt received a Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Miami in 2001. Since then, he has been working as an assistant professor at the University of Miami School of Nursing. Last fall, he moved to Chicago to join the faculty of Loyola University of Chicago. E-mail: leeschmidt@sbcglobal.net

Jennifer Giles married Christopher Stone on Oct. 14 at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church in Safety Harbor, FL. They live in Palm Harbor, FL. Stephanie (Toleda) Azan was appointed deputy chief financial officer at the Ministry of Communications, Works and Infrastructure of Cayman Islands on Dec. 15. She is a CPA.

Jason Calvo and his wife, Deborah, celebrated the birth of their fourth child on Nov. 11 at 12:15 p.m. The baby’s name is Olivia Briana. They live in Zephyrhills, FL. E-mail: jcalvo0910@verizon.net

Jeanna (Murphy) Lampart and her husband, Michael, had their baby, Amanda Jean, on Feb. 7, 2006. They moved to Spring Hill, FL. E-mail: jlampart@tampabay.rr.com

Andrew (Price) Baker and his wife, John, had their second child, Logan Chase, on Aug. 29. They also have an older child, Colin. Last summer, they moved to Fort Leavenworth, KS, for a year. E-mail: rachelbaker02@yahoo.com

Alva Cross ‘99

LLP. Her office is located at the firm’s downtown Tampa office. She will be responsible for all aspects of labor and employment law cases. She also will participate in the firm’s African-American Business Practice Group. She was admitted to the Florida Bar in 2004. She lives in Riverview, FL.

Lindsay Sullivan earned a Ph.D. in oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. She accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the Romberg Tiburon Center at San Francisco State University. She lives in Larkspur, CA. E-mail: jswr@hotmail.com

Christina Stone on Oct. 5. Anthony took computer science at Wesley Chapel High School in Hillsborough County, FL. He lives in Land ‘O’ Lakes, FL. E-mail: froggy54@bellsouth.net

Amanda Jean Lampart

Danielle (Faggion) Marante and Anthony Marante ’99 have a daughter named Isabella Marie, who turned 1 year old on Oct. 5. Anthony took command of a special warfare training group support battalion at Fort Bragg, NC. Danielle was inducted into the 2006 Sunshine State Conference Hall of Fame for volleyball. They live in Fayetteville, NC.

Isabella Marie Marante

Tristan Carter Giovanoni

Angela Roberts relocated to New York City. She continues to work as an educational consultant for kid space in the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art. She also is studying for a Master of Science in Museum Education and New York teaching certification at Bank Street College of Education.

Jennifer Sarsten married Ara Kantarjian on Nov. 17 in Basking Ridge, NJ. Their honeymoon was in South Africa. They live in Chester, NJ. E-mail: jsarsten@pkpm.com

Susan Sekusky married Luis Ortiz on Oct. 14 in a sunset ceremony at the Don Cesar Beach Resort, St. Pete Beach, FL.
couple took a cruise to the Caribbean for their honeymoon. They are both employed by Verizon. Susan is a sales consultant, and Luis is a fiber field technician. They live in Tampa.

Matthew Sireci is a real estate developer and an owner of Sireci Enterprises. He recently completed a 13-unit condominium in the Ybor City section of Tampa.

‘03

P. Michael Blue received a master’s degree in ocean engineering at Florida Atlantic University. He and his wife, Susan (Sprague) ‘04, moved to Houston.

E-mail: rainlover26@aol.com

Kristina Bergstrom married Chris Tebo in April and relocated to Wisconsin. She was hired as a physical therapist at the Bay Area Medical Center’s Mobility Center in Marinette, WI.

‘04

Celine Crestin married Frank Windwillow on Sept. 24, 2004. They are expecting their first child in September. They live in Cayucos, CA.

E-mail: ccrestin@aol.com

Kella Dawson announced that she is going to get married on Oct. 6.

E-mail: kelladawson@hotmail.com

Eliam Gonzalez is a property book officer with the National Guard. His unit in St. Petersburg was called to active duty at the Ali Air Base in Iraq in May. He returned to Tampa on leave on Feb. 9 to defend his title in the Gasparilla Classic 15K. He returned to Iraq on Feb. 24.

Mary Keyser relocated to Alexandria, VA. She became a communication director for the National Oilheat Research Alliance. E-mail: mkeyser@oilheat.org

Jennifer Lynch received an MA in criminology and justice at St. John’s University in December. She started her MS in education at the same university in January. She lives in Garden City, NY.

E-mail: jlynch2341@aol.com

Dylan Moore moved to Boston to join Wellington Management Company LLP as a research associate. He will be responsible for researching various technology companies and will assist the senior research analyst and portfolio managers.

E-mail: dcmoore@wellington.com

Avita Mosai MBA married Mahendra Samaroo on Jan. 13 in Orlando. Avita works for Westside Medical as a marketing manager.

E-mail: avitamosai@yahoo.com

‘06

Margaret P. “Maggie” Barthel is employed by the H. Lee Mofliit Cancer Center in Tampa. She lives in Lutz, FL.

Helen Harmon was promoted to human resources manager with Granite Services International, a subsidiary of General Electric headquartered in Tampa.

Benjamin Hewitt is an officer in the U.S. Air Force. He is in undergraduate air battle manager training at Tyndall Air Force Base, Panama City, FL. He is training to become an air weapons officer.

E-mail: captb3n@hotmail.com

Avita Mosai ’04 and Mahendra Samaroo

What’s Happenin’?

The University of Tampa is interested in the progress of its alumni. Use this form to let us know your news. Be sure to provide all information, so that your news can be included in the Class Acts section of the next issue of the UT Journal. Alumni also can update their contact information and share news via the Internet. Log on to alumni.ut.edu and type away.

Please mail this form to
Office of Alumni Relations • Box H
Attention: Class Acts
The University of Tampa • 401 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33606-1490

Name __________________________ Maiden Name __________________________

Class Year __________________________

Social Security Number (for records verification only) __________________________

Address __________________________

City __________________________ State ______ Zip __________________________

E-mail Address __________________________

Home Phone (include area code) __________________________

Work Phone (include area code) __________________________

Company Name __________________________ Job Title __________________________

Spouse or Partner’s Name __________________________ UT Class Year __________________________

Signature (required by federal law) __________________________

Photos: Color or black-and-white photographs of newborns, weddings, etc., may be submitted along with items for Class Acts. Photos will be published on a space-available basis only. Photographs should be sharp and properly exposed. Identify those pictured, and include a contact phone number. Photos will not be returned. Photos also may be provided electronically. JPEG and TIFF file formats are acceptable. Please make sure resolution is a minimum of 300 pixels per inch, and the shorter image dimension is at least 3”. Please compress files, and send as attachments to an e-mail that includes identification of all those pictured.

News for Class Acts

Please check all appropriate boxes, and provide details to the right of each item:

[] new job

[] job promotion

[] additional degree earned

[] marriage

[] addition to family

[] relocation to a new city

[] honor or award received

[] other

Photos: Color or black-and-white photographs of newborns, weddings, etc., may be submitted along with items for Class Acts. Photos will be published on a space-available basis only. Photographs should be sharp and properly exposed. Identify those pictured, and include a contact phone number. Photos will not be returned. Photos also may be provided electronically. JPEG and TIFF file formats are acceptable. Please make sure resolution is a minimum of 300 pixels per inch, and the shorter image dimension is at least 3”. Please compress files, and send as attachments to an e-mail that includes identification of all those pictured.
Many Happy Returns

Ernest Segundo ‘56 (second from left) joined fellow members of Rho Nu Delta (which later became Theta Chi) fraternity for a recent UT luncheon on the ninth floor of the Vaughn Center. It was some members’ first visit to campus in many years. Also attending were Brandon Chong (left), assistant director of the Vaughn Center and Student Event Services, and Dr. Robert Kerstein (background, second from right), chair and professor of Government and World Affairs.

Add Value to Your UT MBA Degree

Join UT’s MBA Association

- Backstage tours of Bay Area companies
- Monthly happy hours
- Networking events
- Leadership development

E-mail mbaa@ut.edu, or call the alumni office at (813) 253-6209 for more information.
**They Love a Parade:** Ernest Segundo Sr. '56, Ida Coe '58 and Curt Rogers '77 (from left) enjoy themselves at the Tampa Alpha Chapter’s Gasparilla Pre-Parade Brunch.

**They Do, Too:** Tampa Alpha and Royal Krewe of Sparta members (from left) Tom Meachum ’81, Brian Malison ’94 and Anthony Newman ’93 get ready for the parade at the Tampa Alpha Chapter’s Gasparilla Pre-Parade Brunch.

**Gasparilla Fest**

The Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter held its annual Gasparilla Pre-Parade Brunch on Jan. 27. A fantastic crowd in excess of 200 alumni and friends enjoyed a fabulous buffet and spirits on the East Verandah before heading down to watch the Gasparilla parade.

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**Memoriam**

**ALUMNI**

Willard Gates Sr. ’34
William Smytryk ’39
Stephen J. Krist ’40
E. Bruce Aman ’48
Arthur P. Trubiano ’49
William E. Swilley ’52
Robert F. Byrnes ’53
Vincent A. Di Lena ’63
Michael A. Broadhurst Sr. ’69
Charles W. Haak ’69
Daniel S. Gressang III ’72
Richard A. Barnhardt ’74
Stanley Pleckas ’74
UT Parents Take a Stroll

Tampa Bay area moms and dads stepped back in time on Dec. 6, at the UT Parents’ Association’s annual Parent Night at the Henry B. Plant Museum Victorian Christmas Stroll. More than 75 moms and dads turned out for the Holiday tour and cider on the East Verandah, and we are looking forward to doing it again next year!

University Bookstore is Online

Visit the University Bookstore at utampa.bkstore.com for all of your Spartan needs. Plus, since the Campus Store is a part of the Barnes & Noble family, you get tremendous deals on software, books and magazines. Contact Mike Comiskey, Campus Store manager, at (813) 253-6230 for more information.

Cruisin’ with the Spartans

More than 30 alumni and friends set sail for Cozumel, Mexico, on Feb. 8, on the inaugural Alumni Cruise. All those in attendance enjoyed their time in Mexico and at sea. It was great to have everyone join us on the cruise, and we hope to do it again soon.

New York City in the Springtime

Plans are in the works for a Spartan gathering in New York City this spring. Be on the lookout for your invitation to UT’s return to NYC in May. To get involved with NYC-area alumni, contact Carol Lislevatn ’94 at clislevatn@aol.com.

New England Saturday

The New England alumni chapter is putting together a Saturday afternoon activity for alumni, parents and friends for this spring. Contact David Tedford ’84 at d.tedford@comcast.net or Stephanie Sibley ’89 at stephanie.sibley@comcast.net to join in on the fun.

Return to the Windy City

After a brief hiatus, we finally will be returning to Chicago for an alumni reception this spring. To get more involved with Chicago-area alumni or to help plan the next activity, contact Taylor Albertson at talbertson@ut.edu.
Music City Spartans

Nashville area Spartans held their first alumni gathering at the Rumba Restaurant on Feb. 6. Although the crowd was small, the enthusiasm was high, and everyone had a great time reminiscing about their days at UT.

A complete listing of University events can be found at ut.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

Friday, May 4
Reception for spring graduates
Vaughn Center
Lobby and ninth floor
4-7 p.m.

Saturday, May 5
101st Commencement
St. Pete Times Forum, Tampa
10 a.m.

Friday, May 11
Chicago Alumni Event
White Sox vs. Kansas City Royals
$25 includes ticket and concession vouchers
6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16
MBAA Leadership Meeting
Sykes College of Business,
Room 150
5:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 17
Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter Meeting
Riverside Center
Alumni Conference Room
6 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting

Saturday, May 19
New York City Alumni Event
79th Street Boat Basin Cafe
$20 per person
6-8 p.m.

JUNE

Wednesday, June 20
MBAA Leadership Meeting
Sykes College of Business
Room 150
5:15 p.m.

JULY

Wednesday, July 19
MBAA Leadership Meeting
Sykes College of Business
Room 150
5:15 p.m.

Friday, July 13
NAA Board of Directors Planning Session
Vaughn Center Board Room
8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Thursday, July 19
Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter Meeting
Riverside Center
Alumni Conference Room
6 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting

A complete listing of University events can be found at ut.edu.
**Leaving a LEGACY**

### Did You Pay Too Much in Taxes This Year?

At this time of the year, many people find themselves asking two very important questions: **How did I end up with a tax bill from the federal government, and what can I do next year to help avoid paying additional taxes?**

One way that friends and alumni help reduce their tax burden is to make a charitable gift to The University of Tampa, and one very popular way to do that is to establish a charitable gift annuity with the University.

A gift annuity is a simple contractual agreement between a donor and UT in which you transfer assets to us in exchange for our promise to pay one or two beneficiaries an annuity for life. Many alumni like this gift arrangement because it enables them to support their alma mater while also receiving fixed payments for life. Others like the gift annuity because it provides them with significant tax advantages.

When a donation is made to establish a charitable gift annuity, a donor who itemizes deductions can receive an immediate income tax deduction. In addition, part of each quarterly annuity payment is tax-free.

**Curious to learn how this would work for you?**

Consider the following example: Joan Johnson, age 70, establishes a $10,000 charitable gift annuity with UT. In this case, the annuity rate is 6.5 percent, which results in an annual payment of $650. She notifies her tax adviser of the gift, and that year, Joan claims a charitable income tax deduction of up to $4,276. In addition, of her $650 annual payment, $360 is tax-free.

Note that Joan’s payment is not based on the ups and downs of Wall Street, nor is it dependent on how much The University of Tampa receives from other contributors. The annuity is a locked-in annual payment based on Joan’s age and backed by the full assets of The University of Tampa.

UT keeps Joan’s $10,000 donation in a special reserve fund until she dies. At that point, what remains of her donation is used to help UT carry out its mission to deliver a challenging and high-quality education to its students. If Joan were to have a strong affinity to a particular program or wish to create a scholarship for future students, her gift also could be earmarked for those purposes.

A UT donor must be at least 55 years of age to establish a gift annuity, and the minimum gift is $10,000. For younger supporters, the University offers a deferred annuity. A deferred annuity offers similar tax and income benefits as a standard gift annuity, but with delayed payments. Deferred gift annuities are popular with younger donors planning for future retirement.

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**SINGLE-LIFE CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES**

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*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*
Planned Giving at UT

One Who Gave Back

JEAN L. AMUSO ’64
Her Involvement Creates Better Communities for Others

Forty-two years after she graduated from The University of Tampa, Jean Amuso remembers feeling that she had become part of a community back then—a community of classmates, sorority sisters and professors who cared about learning and about each other.

or for offspring who wish to help support their parents. Consider the following example:

At 41, Mike Smith is too young to establish a gift annuity for himself. However, Mike has a 60-year-old mother who is considering retirement in the next five years. Mike worries that his mother will not be able to provide for herself on social security alone. To ease her financial burden, Mike establishes a $30,000 gift annuity to benefit his mother, with payments to be deferred for five years.

As a result of his gift, Mike receives an immediate tax deduction of $13,662. Then, beginning at age 65, Mike’s mother will receive quarterly payments of $577.50 for the rest of her life, reflecting an annuity rate of 7.7%. Upon his mother’s death, Mike has requested that the remainder of his gift be used to benefit the Nursing Program at The University of Tampa.

Jean never lost her desire for that sense of connection. And she knew intuitively what it would take to keep the connection alive.

“If you’re going to be part of a community,” she says, “you’ve got to be involved.”

So, as she launched an impressive career in social work, she started her lifelong efforts to strengthen the Tampa community. As a volunteer, she worked on boards and committees, and raised money on behalf of many agencies including, among others, the Child Abuse Council, the Homeless Coalition and the Chiselers.

All-in-all, it’s been a full plate and a labor of love for Amuso, who is former director of the School of Social Work at the University of South Florida. As her career ends, she has found another way of being involved. Jean and her husband, Phil, have planned to make an unrestricted bequest to UT.

Jean hopes that the bequest will be spent directly on faculty development or scholarships, or anything that will help students “to grow, to develop, to be problem solvers, so they can go through life with some focus and direction.” Perhaps they’ll also learn to give back to the community that has been so enriched by the life and work of Jean Amuso. 

Taxes
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

or for offspring who wish to help support their parents. Consider the following example:

At 41, Mike Smith is too young to establish a gift annuity for himself. However, Mike has a 60-year-old mother who is considering retirement in the next five years. Mike worries that his mother will not be able to provide for herself on social security alone. To ease her financial burden, Mike establishes a $30,000 gift annuity to benefit his mother, with payments to be deferred for five years.

As a result of his gift, Mike receives an immediate tax deduction of $13,662. Then, beginning at age 65, Mike’s mother will receive quarterly payments of $577.50 for the rest of her life, reflecting an annuity rate of 7.7%. Upon his mother’s death, Mike has requested that the remainder of his gift be used to benefit the Nursing Program at The University of Tampa.

If you paid too much in taxes this year, or if you are contemplating options for how to support a loved one, consider investing in the future of The University of Tampa with a charitable gift annuity. To learn more about what a charitable gift annuity can do for you, contact the Planned Giving Department at (813) 253-6220, or by e-mail at plannedgiving@ut.edu. We will provide you with a personalized illustration for your review, all without cost or obligation.

The information in this article is not intended as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax professional or investment professional.

Free Delivery!

Would you like our Planned Giving newsletter to be delivered monthly directly to your inbox?

Each month, the Planned Giving Office at The University of Tampa sends out an e-newsletter to more than 400 alumni and friends. In every issue of Enduring Ideas, you will find three articles pertinent to the giving and tax climate, as well as a profile of a new Legacy Society member.

Join the hundreds of other alumni who have signed up for this service. To request that your name be added to our distribution list, send your e-mail address to plannedgiving@ut.edu.

For Further Information

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Spotlight on Scholarships

When Kelsie Huth began looking for colleges to attend, she had some criteria in mind. She wanted to attend college in Florida, and she felt she would be most comfortable on a smaller campus. After one visit, she fell in love with The University of Tampa's campus and people, and swiftly made the decision that UT was the university for her.

It wasn’t until after the fact that Kelsie found out she was being considered for the University Scholar Award, a merit-based scholarship that covers full tuition for four years at UT for a deserving Florida high school senior. The award is offered to a Florida high school student who has a minimum GPA of 3.7 and a minimum 1270 SAT (or 29 ACT) score. The selected student also would have served as an extracurricular participant or a noteworthy school or community leader.

Kelsie’s accomplishments surpassed the criteria for the award. She was valedictorian of her senior class at Father Lopez High School in Ormond Beach, where she maintained a 4.0 GPA. She was a four-year multi-sport athlete and captain of both her volleyball and softball teams. She was involved in community service and mentoring children in the community via the Ambassador’s Club.

When she and her family got the news that they were a part of the UT community, her dad exclaimed as he realized his daughter had been accepted into UT, and swiftly made the decision that UT was the university for her. “I feel blessed!”

You can support student scholarships through a gift to the Annual Fund or by creating an endowed scholarship. Contact the development office at (813) 253-6220 to learn how you can make a difference in a UT student’s life.

E-mail Appeals Coming

Each year, The University of Tampa promotes the Annual Fund through a mail and telephone program, as well as in the UT Journal. The idea of adding e-mail appeals has become almost standard among colleges and universities, since it is a cost-effective way to promote philanthropy and communicate with alumni, parents and friends.

One added benefit is that it will drive people to the University’s Web site and offer them an easy, secure way to make gifts. Starting this spring, UT will begin to promote the Annual Fund through e-mail appeals to those who share their e-mail addresses and wish to hear from UT through this medium. Online contributions have remained steady this year, with gifts coming in through the UT Web site on a weekly basis.

If you would like to share your personal e-mail address with UT to start receiving e-mail communications from the Office of Development and University Relations, send a message to annualfund@ut.edu.
INSISTENT VISIONS

The University of Tampa Press is pleased to announce publication of the first two volumes of Insistent Visions, a series dedicated to republishing supernatural fiction, mysteries, science fiction, and adventure stories from the nineteenth century that deserve to be more widely known and appreciated. ($12 paperback; $25 hardback)

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813-253-6266 • Fax 813-258-7593
A Picture Of?

We almost passed on this photo for lack of information about it, but you’ve had so much fun helping us identify people in the last few issues of the Journal that we found it irresistible, instead.

We don’t know what, we don’t know where, except presumably somewhere on campus. We don’t know anything about this one, folks, other than the year and evidently a few of the people, although there is no indication of which ones they are in the photo.

The hand-scribbled info on the back, in its entirety:

Mrs. Collins
Hen June & Aaron Bryan
1951

It’s rubbing-our-hands-in-anticipation time for us, so let us hear from you! Call (813) 253-6232 or e-mail publicinfo@ut.edu.
A Jewel Reclaimed

The Chislers’ latest book is being offered for sale to the public!

Written by Phyllis Kimbel and brilliantly illustrated by photographer Alex McKnight with graphic design by Jen Larcom-Hunter, this winner of a Meritorious Achievement Award from the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation brings to life Tampa’s famous old hotel, its colorful role in the Spanish-American War, and its 47 years of historic restorations.

The first printing of 1,000 copies was offered only to the Chiselers and their families—and sold out in eight months! A second printing has just come off the press to be treasured by all who hold fond memories of The University of Tampa.

This is a limited edition!

ORDER FORM

The Chiselers’ board and Keepsake Committee 2004-06 are thrilled to announce that A Jewel Reclaimed is now a reality! This colorfully illustrated book documents the work the Chislers have done to restore and preserve the Tampa Bay Hotel. Each copy is $30 (tax included), plus $5 postage.

PLEASE PRINT

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Address changes also can be made online by clicking on ut.edu/alumni/address.cfm.
Got A Lot on Your Plate?

Maybe it’s time to simplify with a custom UT license plate. It doesn’t have as many numbers or letters to remember, and it looks better, too. It’s short, it’s sweet, it says a lot about who you are: You love UT, you like things that look cool on your car, you have trouble remembering your keys, let alone your plate number. (For an extra fee in addition to the $27 specialty plate fee, you can even make up your own.)

Remember: At just $27 in addition to the regular tag fee, a University of Tampa specialty plate is an affordable, handsome and lasting tribute to any UT success, and every sale brings in $25 for your University.

To learn how to get yours, call the alumni office at (813) 253-6209, or e-mail alumni@ut.edu. (Florida residents only)