Features

Two for the Ages. Twin alumni are rare enough. Add in that one was an extracurricular phenom on campus, the other became one decades later, and they're in their 80s, and you've got gems—make that Juwells.

Busy place. Always a hub of activity, the campus is spinning ever faster these days. Two more new residence halls, another garage expansion, more food outlets on the way, a big check and a big anniversary lead campus news.

More than a Teacher. There are teachers, and then there are great teachers with that special spark, the special gift that leads to being Teacher of the Year. Meet a UT grad firmly in place as the latter.

More than an Athlete. A Spartan basketball star exhorts younger teammates not to be like him, but rather, to be better.

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Emery Jewell is 15 minutes younger than his sister, Evelyn, a mere snippet of time in 80 years. The pair were born in Tampa at long-gone Cook’s Hospital, and grew up with their older sister Dolores in a frame house on a dirt road in Tampa’s Seminole Heights area. Another sister, Mary, died as a baby in a whooping cough epidemic before Evelyn and Emery were born.

Their father, Emery Sr., was a contractor who did a lot of building downtown.

“He did an awful lot of building on Franklin Street,” Emery Jr. recalls. “They rebuilt Haber’s and National Shirt Shop corner. They tore it all down—gutted it, and Daddy rebuilt it.”

Their mother, Anna Belle, was a housewife and homemaker, as most women were in those days.

Emery Jr. wanted to join the military when the U.S. became involved in WWII. The declaration of war, in fact, came just as he and his sister celebrated their 16th birthday.

“The War had started. I wanted to join, and my daddy wouldn’t let me. He wouldn’t sign for me. And I said, ‘Okay.’ So I started skipping school.” He pauses briefly to enjoy a private snicker at what came next.

A forged note to dean John G. Pollard that his grandmother had died, was, Emery admits, a “dumb mistake. Pollard called Daddy up and said, ‘I’m sorry to hear about your mother.’

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Answering the call. Evelyn in front of the Dean of Students Office in Plant Hall, where the campus switchboard was during her tenure as student/telephone operator.

“That did it. They transferred me to Plant High School. I stayed there one year. I was in 11th grade, and I’d give my dad a hard time, so he finally got upset with me one day and signed my papers. And that did it—I was long gone.”

He was 17.

Mousey Goes to War

Emery became a corpsman in the Navy, serving in France at the invasion of Normandy. Surviving the invasion may have been the easy part, compared with surviving his nature.

Lost and disoriented one night, he walked into the path of a jeep.

“One of the doctors told me, ‘Mousey, if you hadn’t been drunk, you’d be dead.’ They called me ‘Mousey’ back in those days,” the 5’5 1/2” veteran explained, “cause I was so small. In fact, they called me ‘Mousey’ at Tampa U.”

Both twins speak in an old Southern style that takes a train ride over gentle, rolling hills and valleys of diction and enunciation. Emery, in particular, doesn’t always let education get in the way of comfort when it comes to conjugating verbs.

“We made three landings, and I got sent to the Marine Corps. I got sent to Guam, and I was going to Iwo Jima, but luck-ee: They surrendered before I got there. We found out later they was gonna sacrifice two divisions to get on the beach. Mine was one of ‘em.”

His good luck in the larger sense continued, while his bad luck in the smaller sense did likewise, like being the only one on his ship to lose his bedroll overboard, left with nothing but the clothes he was wearing on Christmas Day in a northern China snowstorm.

“Seven corpsman and 14 doctors volunteered to go to China. My buddy volunteered me. So then I went to a place called Tsingtao, down to the Sixth Marine Division. Stayed there six months, then I got to go home.

“When I got back here, my twin sister was a big shot at Tampa U., a cheerleader. She worked at the switchboard part-time. So I thought, ‘That’s a pretty good deal.’ So, I went to Tampa U. I took five years there,” he says, displaying emphatic fingers.

Too Much Fun

“Big shot” understates the energy and accomplishments of Evelyn Jewell as a Spartan. She sang in the chorus, played in the orchestra, played on the basketball, softball and volleyball teams, cheered in uniform for the men’s teams, and found time for studies, Alpha Gamma and Sigma Alpha Iota, the international music organization.

With a bit of time left over, she worked the campus switchboard.

“Oh, I had lots of fun at the switchboard,” she smiles, ready to show that a bit of Southern-girl mischief still got out from time to time.

“Skipped one time and went fishin’, and brought back the fish and left ‘em in there ‘til I got off work. When they opened it the next morning, ugh! The fish!” She laughs like a schoolgirl, waving her hand as if still trying to fan away the smell.

Emery, whom his sister calls “Junior,” earned his diploma at Jefferson High, which offered high school completion to adults at night. That first stateside mission accomplished, he entered UT in 1947, got a degree in economics in 1952, and later went to “Ole Miss” for a master’s degree, then returned to UT for a year to get his teacher certification.

Typical of twins, Evelyn and Emery have been close their whole lives, so Evelyn wasn’t the kind of sister who didn’t want her brother hanging around going to the same school.

“Oh, I was thrilled when he came over there—golly!—because he didn’t care much for school.”

Evelyn attended UT on a music scholarship, 1944-49, then got her master’s degree in music at the Peabody Institute. She played viola in the Tampa Philharmonic, the Sarasota Symphony and the Ft. Lauderdale Symphony.

Like her brother, she took five years to get her degree, but for different reasons.
“I stayed an extra year just to be a cheerleader and play in the orchestra,” she says. “I had chorus—I had too much fun.”

Evelyn so impressed administration that her scholarship was extended through her fifth year.

“I loved my Tampa U.,” she says spontaneously. “Still do.”

She later taught in Hillsborough County public schools for 40 years, starting with first grade before getting to music.

“When I first started teaching,” she recalls, “they didn’t have enough teachers for children—music teachers—so I had to either go somewhere else or stay there and teach first grade. I didn’t know the first thing about first grade, but I taught it.”

She remembers a particularly sweet side of her brother, who worked at a well-known dairy for five years before joining his sister as an educator.

“Emery worked at Sealtest. The school was in a poor, poor area. He would bring my kids gallons of ice cream. And man, I’d have ice cream parties, and the other teachers hated me for it. My little old first-graders ate lots of ice cream, and I taught ’em, too.”

She taught for a decade before entering Peabody, where she completed her master’s degree over three summers. She continued her teaching the rest of the time.

She remembers performing symphonies at McKay Auditorium, which became the John H. Sykes College of Business in 2000. Emery chimes in with the recollection that President Ellwood C. Nance would address the campus there once every semester. Evelyn says it was once a month.

They agree that attendance was mandatory, but most never minded going, anyway, and the student body was small enough for everyone to fit inside comfortably.

Evelyn took her public school students by bus to McKay for concerts. Sometimes, she’d leave them in the audience while she took the stage to perform the difficult double duty of playing an accomplished piece of music while making sure her charges weren’t accomplishing any mischief.

“One year,” she recalls of one of teaching’s glowing moments, “I was so thrilled that one of my former students that I taught at B.C. Graham Elementary was in that symphony. They let her get up in front and tell that her teacher who had started her in violin was there, and that she was in music for a living as the result of her music teacher, Miss Jewell from B.C. Graham.”

Summers were spent sowing tobacco in Connecticut. “Shade-grown tobacco,” she says with a nod. “Expensive tobacco, like $10 a leaf.

“All those kids up there from Connecticut wouldn’t work, so they got the Florida girls to go, and then they’d take us to New York, and take us to Boston to see the symphony. We just had a wonderful time. I did that five different summers.”

Into the River

While Evelyn succeeded at everything, being named “most athletic” and making the “notables” section of a Moroccan that didn’t seem to have enough pages for her extracurricular accomplishments, Emery had ahead of him a tough row—literally—in his bid to get a taste of the admiration that flowed his sister’s way.

“Art Trubiano was the coach of the crew team. Well, I only weigh about a hunnerd ‘n’ thirty pounds,” he says. “I only weighed about a hunnerd ‘n’ ten then. They needed a coxswain, so they asked me to be a coxswain. Great—I got a chance to win a letter.

“They call the boats racing shells. And we’d go up and down the river every day. And Trubiano was the cussin’est man I ever heard in my life.

“Now, if you know anything about those shells, to turn those shells as you’re goin’ down the river—it’s no easy task.

“Well, the old Garcia Bridge had a big buoy in the middle. It was just before we’s goin’ to race Rollins College. And I heard this guy screamin’ and cussin’.

“It was Trubiano onshore, mouth well crammed into a megaphone for maximum

“I stayed an extra year just to be a cheerleader and play in the orchestra. I had chorus—I had too much fun.”

—Evelyn Jewell
Daily meals were consumed in the “chow hall,” the location of which escapes him. But he does remember that “the guy who ran the Seminole Restaurant, right next to the Seminole Theater,” ran it.

He remembers “watchin’ dirty movies” in one of the minarets, where fraternity brothers had set up their own secret hideaway. Back in those days of “innocent” hazing, he and other pledges were dropped off naked in Lutz, 15-20 miles from campus, and told to get back any way they could if they wanted to be Tau Omegans.

“And then they’d call the cops, and tell ‘em, ‘There’s people runnin’ around naked.’” He punctuates the recollection with a delighted, wicked laugh, tongue pointed down to his chin, eyes wide and bright.

“Took me three or four hours to get back.”

He and Evelyn recall that tuition was $3 an hour. Evelyn’s tuition was covered by her music scholarship. Emery’s was paid for him by the government under the GI Bill, which also provided him with $65 a month to live on, a generous stipend at the time. A family friend got him a job in the mailroom at Maas Brothers department store his senior year, since he had taken four years to get that far, exhausting his GI Bill eligibility.

“It was a close-knit group in those days. Football was great. I knew Marcelino Huerta—good friend,” Emery says of the late Spartan football coach.
He started with the MacDill Fall Classic, progressed through other local runs like the Gasparilla, ran every race he could find, from the Dunedin Hog Hustle to Run for the Pies, and then, at 73, decided he was serious enough to run with the big dogs. He was ready to try a marathon.

He's run a dozen since. He wants to run just one more, but people who know him have heard that one before.

"I'm going to run one more. I say that. They say, 'You say that every time.' Those are hard to train for. And so I'm gonna run Boston—I've been accepted. You have to qualify for that, you know," he declares proudly.

It will be his fourth Boston Marathon. To train, he started running 15 miles a day, then started adding two miles a day, until he reached 25. Part of his daily routine is to run early.

"If it's not too cold outside, at five-thirty, six o'clock. If it's too cold outside, I'll wait 'til about nine," he says, punctuating the conclusion with a devilish "hee-hee-hee" laugh at the forbidden delight of waiting until mid-morning to run.

But he's serious about reliving his favorite moment as a runner.

"When you go down that main street in Boston, they got a huge banner across there, and they got bleachers and people screamin', all kind of signs, languages—it's a thrill."

Another high point came in his second Disney run.

"Some guy was dying next to me. I said, 'Sir, if you think you're doin' bad, look—there's thousands in back of us.' He lifted right up. He started runnin' better. You have to inspire each other."

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Emery ran the Jacksonville Marathon in January in conditions that most people would consider miserable for any activity.

"It was 49 degrees, blowin’ and rainin’. It was the most miserable race I ever did in my life, but it got me into Boston. I did it in four hours and forty-two minutes, which is a terrible time, but that wind was horrible. I had to do it in five hours to qualify for Boston. I thought, ‘I could walk the damn thing in five hours,’ but I almost didn’t make it.”

His coach met him at the halfway mark.

“She told the TV people there, ‘This man’s 80 years old.’

“When I came around that track, I’ll never forget it: In the grandstand, you’d have thought a celebrity was coming in. They ran out and hug me. I said, ‘Got a beer?’

“They all laughed, of course. I’m a good ham. Not modest. Who cares? I enjoy the commotion I get over myself—I admit that.”

Memories and Marathons

Evelyn Jewell, the Spartan athlete who would have been a candidate for world’s most motivated extracurricular participant if such a record existed, takes it easier these days, content to enjoy walking for exercise and volunteering at the patient information desk at St. Joseph’s Hospital every Wednesday, a position she has held since her retirement from teaching in 1991.

She enjoys frequent visits with Emery, and a comfortable, elegantly furnished apartment a few miles from his house.

After more than three decades of teaching, Emery threw in the towel in 1989.

“When I started in ’56-’57,” he laments, “it was a different world—‘Yes, sir’ and ‘No, sir.’ It ended up, ‘Yeah.’ ‘Yeah, what?’ It got bad. The cussin’….” he says, shaking his head in permanent disbelief.

“I’d had enough,” Emery says. “They’d never bring anything but their smelly bodies to class—nothing to write with, nothing to write on. The second day of school, I said, ‘I’ve had it.’ The teachers hugged me. The principal said, ‘The smartest thing you ever did, Jewell.’”

He remains active in Phi Delta Kappa, the international education association, but is ready to wind that down, too, after 37 years as treasurer.

Barbara Jewell, the mystery girl Emery had spotted while riding home from campus with friends, died late in 2004 in a medical accident. A nurse who was supposed to give her an antibiotic for a staph infection gave her a fatal dose of a heart stimulant, instead.

“They gave me a lot of money,” he says of the hospital involved, blinking back tears and struggling to steady his voice, “but they can’t give me my wife back.”

Emery came back from her funeral to find his entire street lined with candles and his kitchen stocked with food, courtesy of his neighbors.

But Emery Jewell is a happy man. He speaks proudly of his late wife and their three children and four grandchildren. He has them, his twin sister, his memories and his marathons.

He lives in the former home of ex-Tampa Bay Lightning goalie Darren Puppa. One of Emery’s sons, he says, is a multimillionaire who bought him the house and also leases him a skybox at Raymond James Stadium to watch his Tampa Bay Buccaneers and USF Bulls football. He counts among his neighbors Bucs defensive standouts Simeon Rice and Anthony McFarland.

Suddenly, in a tone that sounds as if it’s all news to him, Emery offers his conclusion.

“I’ve had an interesting life!”

“I’m a good ham. Not modest. Who cares? I enjoy the commotion I get over myself—I admit that.”

—Emery Jewell
Big Plans for 75th

By Grant Donaldson
Director of Public Information

When The University of Tampa began in October 1931 as Tampa Junior College, there were 62 local students, tuition was $120 per semester, and there was no building to call home.

Almost two years later, on Aug. 2, 1933, UT found its permanent home in the old Tampa Bay Hotel and began its journey in earnest.

Next fall, when UT begins its academic year, there will be more than 5,300 students from the 50 states and 100 countries. We will have graduated more than 17,000 alumni; we will have just completed our 75th year, and tuition? ... Well, it will have kept pace with the changing times.

It has been a journey of alternating success and hardship, as the University has adapted and reinvented itself to meet new challenges. Today, its future is brighter than it has ever been, as it continues to expand in terms of academic excellence, prestige, resources and enrollment.

During the next year, we will highlight that incredible journey in three issues of the Journal. We will be writing about momentous events, special times, and the special people who have attended here. We’ll be writing about our alumni, our faculty and our presidents.

We’ll begin with Frederic Spaulding, who almost single-handedly forged his dream of a local University, and continue to the present day as UT enjoys the greatest economic and academic expansion in its history under its 10th president.

Some would say it has been a bumpy ride, but all would agree it has been interesting.

We’ll retrace many of those highlights such as that first year when, in the grips of the world-wide Depression, the University’s 700 surplus dollars were divided among the faculty as pay, and the University was accepting notes, insurance policies and deeds on homes in lieu of tuition.

There were the war years, when military pilots were being trained in Tampa and GIs began returning from the war to go to school, and married couples and some faculty members lived in Plant Hall on the upper floors.

There was a huge struggle for accreditation, which lasted for 20 years and was finally achieved in December 1951. There were the glory days of our powerhouse football team, which struck fear into our athletic rivals. Pajama parties, sock hops, parades and second jobs were daily rituals.

The creation of the University of South Florida created another challenge, as many believed it would swallow UT. President David Delo arrived to take the University in another direction, and began to expand the size of the campus, construct new buildings and build enrollment.

It’s Your Celebration

In 75 years, UT has educated and placed thousands of alumni in positions of leadership at all levels of society around the world. There will be many opportunities for you to speak out and share your memories of UT.

A Web page, ut.edu/75years, will be available to tell the UT story electronically, and the alumni office has created an e-mail address, 75years@ut.edu, to use for sharing your memories.

A special University Logo (this page) has been developed to mark the anniversary year. Numerous events are being organized, and traditional ones such as Homecoming, the Minaret Society Dinner, Sports Hall of Fame and others will have special meaning in this anniversary year.

The inaugural event will take place in Plant Hall at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 5 (see events, this page), since that was the first day of classes. Other events are in the planning stages, and details will be published as they become available.

We invite you to participate and celebrate UT’s success as a vibrant institution of higher learning.
The University of Tampa has appointed Dr. Janet McNew provost and vice president for academic affairs following an exhaustive national search and multiple interview process. She will assume her duties this summer.

McNew is provost and dean of the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University, where she also is a professor of English. She spent a decade as provost at IWU, where she also spent more than a year as acting president.

“Janet will bring great skill and expertise to the position at a time when the University is further shaping its academic organization,” President Vaughn said. “With a rich background in teaching, scholarship and academic administration, she will help to provide the leadership needed to advance the UT educational experience and help us further define the unique educational attributes of the University.

“Her service to Illinois Wesleyan was exemplary. She led IWU in improving its educational experience, invigorated the core curriculum, strengthened its community involvement, and attracted a Phi Beta Kappa chapter to campus. IWU’s Mellon Center for Faculty and Curriculum Development was created during her tenure, and she hired more than half of the school’s present faculty.”

“I was fortunate enough to be able to consider a range of opportunities and to choose the University of Tampa because it most clearly calls upon my background and talents,” McNew said.

“Janet McNew was the clear choice not only of the committee, but of the entire faculty,” said search committee co-chair Dr. David Ford, professor of chemistry. “The second choice wasn’t even close.

“I have to give credit to Ron Vaughn for selling her on our institution. At the same time we offered her the provost position, she was offered the presidency at a university in Alabama. She’s topnotch.”

McNew received her bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and her MA and Ph.D. in English Language and Literature from the University of Virginia. She taught in and chaired the Department of English at St. John’s University/College of Saint Benedict prior to her time at IWU.

The University of Tampa women’s basketball team upset heavily favored and top-seated Rollins 56-47 on Sunday, March 5, to win its first Sunshine State Conference tournament championship since 2000. The UT victory at the tournament in Saint Leo automatically sent the Spartans to the NCAA South Regional, where eighth-seeded UT lost to top-seeded Delta State, 66-50, on March 10.

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

President Ron Vaughn (left) and Tampa developer Andrew Arena celebrate the “topping out” of Kennedy Place on Jan. 12. The 11-story residence hall will be ready for occupancy by the opening of school in August. It will have 122 single apartments and 30 doubles, and is the only hall that will be open year-round. It is owned by the Collegiate Housing Foundation and leased to the University for 30 years. Ground was broken on the fast-track project on April 25, 2005.

Campus Construction Boom Continues

The University began site preparation in late January on a 448-bed residence and dining hall that, when completed in the fall of 2007, will provide additional capacity for the fast-growing residential campus.

On Jan. 26, the Board of Trustees approved a $45-million bond issue to support construction of the residence hall, along with a 700-space expansion of the West Parking Garage, bringing total capacity of the structure to 1,600 vehicles. The latter project is slated for completion this fall at a cost of $5.8 million.

“These new projects are a continuation of the development of the campus master plan, which today supports in excess of 5,100 students,” said President Ron Vaughn.

Cost of the seven-story residence hall is $38.7 million, but thanks to a $5-million gift from an anonymous donor, the amount to be financed from the bond issue is $33.7 million. The remainder of the bond issue will fund the necessary fees, permits, debt service reserves and other mandatory expenditures.

The new hall will sit northeast of the UT track and directly across from David A. Straz Jr. Hall, the most recently completed campus residence. It will reflect the latest in university campus amenities. The first floor will include a separate residence hall entrance, lobby, ATM and front desk. It also will feature a variety of dining options, including Pandini’s, Dairy Queen and Orange Julius, Sedona Grill, Salsa Rico, Jazzman’s, the Club and the Garden Gourmet, Green Grocer and a convenience store.

Floors two through seven will be residential, and each room will be suite-style with a common living room, two double bedrooms, a bathroom/shower and twin lavatories. All rooms will be cable and network ready. The second floor also will include a large community room, laundry, vending and study area, as well as a hall director’s apartment.

“Our on-going demand for on-campus housing, coupled with construction industry pressures posed by hurricane repairs and shortages of materials, necessitate that we proceed immediately with construction,” Vaughn said.

Unlike most state and many other private schools, residential students far outnumber commuters at UT. About 65 percent of UT students live in campus housing. More would move to campus if housing were available, surveys indicate.

Open spring 2007. Artist’s renderings depict the latest residence hall addition to campus, a 448-bed facility that will include its own dining hall and specialty food venues ranging from gourmet food to a convenience store.
Nursing Skills Lab Dedicated

A new nursing skills laboratory was dedicated on Feb. 22 in the Nursing/Communication building.

The on-campus laboratory features 10 beds with “complex simulated humans,” working instruments, a nursing station, a supply closet, and a simulated intensive care unit with a window through which professors can observe students.

Dr. Nancy Ross, chair and director of the UT nursing program, said that learning skills in a simulated environment is a vital aspect of nursing education. Professors will use the facility, the first of its kind on campus, to teach skills such as seizure precaution, sterile procedure, oxygen administration and tube feeding.

“We are committed to graduating students ready to contribute to enhancing the health and wellbeing of all who need their care and attention,” Ross said. “This lab provides the opportunity to teach all of the skills a nurse needs to have mastered prior to entering the profession.”

The new laboratory was made possible in part by a gift from the Walter Foundation. The University also will continue to make full use of its nursing skills lab at Tampa General Hospital, Ross said.

A Generous Krewe

The Krewe of Sant’Yago Education Foundation presents President Vaughn a check for $25,000 to endow a UT scholarship in honor of Richard A. Nimphie.

Presenting the check (from left) are Richard A. Nimphie; Dr. Ramon Ortiz, vice president of the Education Foundation; President Vaughn; and Dr. Rex Damron, president of the Education Foundation.

A complete listing of University events can be found at ut.edu
Tampan Tiffany L. Nemoy topped a graduating class of more than 450 at UT’s winter Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 17, on Plant Hall’s East Verandah. Nemoy (not pictured) graduated summa cum laude (perfect 4.0 GPA), 22 others magna cum laude (3.75 or higher, but less than 4.0), and 35 cum laude (3.5 or higher, but less than 3.75).

The combined bachelor’s and master’s degree numbers eclipsed last year’s total by more than 100, making this year’s affair easily the largest December Commencement at the University. The numbers also included more than 140 August graduates.

The featured Commencement speaker was Dr. Donald Morrill, the 2005 Louise Loy Hunter Award recipient. By tradition, the Hunter Award recipient is always the winter Commencement speaker.
MS-MKT Set for Fall Launch

A Master of Science in Marketing degree program begins at the John H. Sykes College of Business this fall with promises of innovation and flexibility.

The idea was spawned by MBA organizational meetings at Sykes about five years ago, said program director Dr. Erika Matulich, associate professor of marketing and a professional certified marketer. A major part of launching the program was timing, Matulich said.

“The marketplace is changing so rapidly,” she said. “We’ve had so many things happening in the business environment that make it necessary for firms to be more competitive, and they’re finding out that, to get a competitive advantage, marketing is key. Firms are through trying to cut costs, for example. Now they have to figure out how to market better.”

The faculty is what sets UT’s program apart from offerings at most other schools, Matulich said. In addition to every member having a Ph.D., each also has significant professional marketing experience.

“We have people with years of high-level experience in sales and sales-force management, international marketing, retailing, technology marketing, research and so on,” she said. “So, we’re able to bring in the real-world side, as well as the theoretical side, and blend them in our classes. You’re actually going to be learning a toolbox of skills to take back to your job.”

The other big advantage of UT’s MS in marketing, Matulich said, is its flexibility.

“We don’t want to cohort you, or lockstep you, or put you in a track,” she said. “There are only six required courses, and the rest of your 30-hour degree is the classes that interest you the most or fit best with your career. You get to pick and choose from a large menu of what it is that you want to take.

“You can tailor your program to whatever your career needs are, and you can also tailor your program so that you can pass the professional certified marketer exam that’s offered by the American Marketing Association.

“We’re one of the few programs that have put together curriculum specifically so that you can pass that particular program, and we’re one of the few in the nation that offer marketing law, which is one of the components of the PCM exam.”

Professor Wraps Up Nine-Year Hawaii Project

Dr. Lori Benson, assistant professor of biology, recently completed a research trip to the Big Island of Hawaii, where she has been working for the last nine years. Her research there has resulted in a doctoral dissertation and four scientific publications.

A large portion of Benson’s research has focused on various aspects of the biology of two species, one of which is newly described and found only in Hawaii.

Last year, she was an invited speaker at the Symposium on Hawaiian Streams and Estuaries, sponsored by the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources (which has funded much of her research), Louisiana State University (where she earned her Ph.D.), and the Bishop Museum (Hawaii’s museum of cultural and natural history).

Benson is working with the Bishop Museum on a study of Waipi’o Valley on the Big Island. This watershed is home to one of the highest waterfalls in the world, as well as numerous endemic Hawaiian fishes, crustaceans, insects and plants, some of which are listed as threatened or endangered.

Her multi-year study is investigating the effects of the return of water, which had been diverted for agricultural use, on stream flow, water quality, and abundances and distributions of native and introduced species.

The project is the first study in Hawaii of a stream restored to natural flow conditions, Benson says, and will set the stage for future stream conservation projects in Hawaii and other islands in the Pacific.
**New Master’s Program Aimed at Teaching Shortage**

A Master of Arts in Teaching program approved on Jan. 30 offers expert training along with incentives to keep teachers in Hillsborough County, alleviating critical shortages. The ambitious program will place the first team of apprentice teachers in county classrooms this fall.

From the start of their classroom experience, apprentices will earn first-year teacher salaries and benefits. They also will be eligible to apply for tuition reimbursement and student loan forgiveness, both Florida Department of Education incentive programs intended to increase the size and quality of the state’s public school teaching pool.

In January, Gov. Bush announced a $239-million statewide initiative to recruit 31,800 new teachers for Florida’s public schools.

UT’s program features an aggressive mix of theory and practical training in an unprecedented collaboration between UT faculty and school district professionals. The aim of the accelerated 13-month program is to train recent liberal arts graduates and “outstanding professionals” with science and mathematics backgrounds to become top-notch educators in middle and high schools. Math and science are critical teacher shortage areas locally and in much of the nation.

Dr. Martha Harrison, assistant professor of education and director of the MAT program, said the difference between UT’s MAT and more typical certification programs is profound.

“We don’t just prepare teachers for certification,” Harrison said. “We graduate candidates from a quality program in which they work with a triad of mentorship and supervision comprised of a combination of UT faculty and school district peer coaches.”

While the primary goal is to help public schools in Hillsborough County and Florida, the program is designed to give its graduates regional flexibility, Harrison said, noting that program graduates will be eligible for teaching licenses in 43 states.

The program’s practical component launches students into middle and high school classroom experience in their first full semester after an intensive—some would say grueling—15-credit-hour summer primer on human development, classroom management, school ethics, safety and law, instructional methods, and mastering the art of teaching. In the initial summer term, students will attend classes 9 1/2 hours a day, four days a week.

One of the facets of the program Harrison likes best is the partnership forged with the School District of Hillsborough County.

“It’s exciting working with the high school and middle school math and science teachers,” Harrison said. “We’re building a program and a curriculum based on what they need out there in the schools, so we’re closing that divide between the academics in the ivory tower and the practitioners and professionals in the schools.”

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**Pinter Scholar Speaks in Turin**

Dr. Frank Gillen was chosen to serve on a panel in February in Turin, Italy, for a symposium on Harold Pinter. He also delivered a short talk on the renowned British playwright, who was awarded the 2005 Nobel Prize for Literature (see winter Journal, page 9). The event was timed to coincide with the Winter Olympics.

Gillen, Dana Professor of English, is editor and cofounder of the Pinter Review, published by the UT Press. He was among a select few worldwide who were invited to submit letters of nomination for Pinter to the Nobel committee in Sweden. The Turin event stems from Pinter’s receiving the 10th European Theatre Prize.

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**Bringing Home the Arts**

Five members of The University of Tampa braved the cold Chicago weather in order to attend the sixth annual Self-Employment in the Arts Conference Feb. 24-25. Their objectives were to learn more about innovative ways to teach artists how to profitably pursue their craft and their passion, and to bring that knowledge back to Tampa Bay’s blossoming arts community.

In attendance were Susan Taylor Lennon, professor of dance and Tampa’s Artist of the Year; Dr. Dianne Welsh, Walter Distinguished Chair in Entrepreneurship; Dr. Susan Steiner, associate professor of management; Pat Fenda, adjunct instructor of dance and owner of Strictly Entertainment talent agency; and Careena Cornette, a liberal arts student and fledgling playwright.
Rhey to Head Graduate Studies

Longtime UT faculty member Dr. William L. Rhey has been named dean of UT’s rapidly growing School of Graduate Studies.

“As our graduate programs have expanded, it has become necessary to add a dean-level position to manage them,” said President Vaughn, adding that the new position is part of an overall academic reorganization.

In the last 12 months, the University has authorized five new graduate programs. They include a Master of Arts in Teaching (story, this page), a Saturday MBA, and master’s programs in accounting, finance and marketing. A technology and innovation management degree was added within the last three years.

“Advanced education enhances the quality of life in a metropolitan area like ours,” said Rhey. “We will continue to serve the Tampa Bay region with advancements in quality graduate education.”

He said that additional research will be conducted with Bay Area community members to see what other disciplines should be considered by UT for master’s programs.

Rhey’s appointment followed a national search concluded in February. He has been a member of the UT faculty since 1987, except for a stint as dean of the Davis College of Business at Jacksonville University (2002-04) and a two-year leave of absence to serve as director of cross-cultural research for the Masland Trust (1995-97). He created UT’s Center for Ethics in 1989, served as associate dean of the John H. Sykes College of Business, and most recently was associate dean and director of graduate programs.

Rhey received a BS from Bucknell University in 1972, an MBA from Baylor University in 1973, and a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi in 1986.

Professor Was University’s First Fulbright Scholar

Dr. William David “Bill” Leith, 73, died on Feb. 25. A Tampa native born on Aug. 8, 1932, he was a language professor at The University of Tampa from the fall of 1961 until his retirement in the summer of 1996.

Leith was a rarity in that he spent his career teaching at his alma mater. Having served in the U.S. Air Force from 1952-56, Leith subsequently attended college on the GI Bill.

He graduated from UT with a BS in foreign language education, with minors in English and history, in 1959. He completed an MA in Spanish, with a minor in French, in 1960 at Florida State University, where he also completed his Ph.D. in French literature in 1967 on a leave of absence from UT on an NDEA Fellowship.

Leith is believed to have been the University’s first Fulbright scholar. The coveted teaching exchange fellowship sent the professor to Lyons, France, for the 1982-83 academic year, in exchange for a Lyons professor who spent the year at UT.

A master of many languages, Leith taught five at Kissimmee High School (1960-61) and the University—French, German, Italian, Latin and Spanish. He devoted his retirement to the study of ancient Greek, as well as extensive reading and landscape gardening.

Leith was the son of the late David William Leith and Annie Rofila Lightfoot Leith of Tampa. He is survived by numerous cousins.
By David Brothers
Editor

“Too bad you missed me yesterday,” quips Susan Mikolajczyk, who in February was named 2006 Hillsborough County Teacher of the Year. “I was the queen.

“Good Queen Quincerella,” she elaborates, “because we were studying how the letters ‘Q’ and ‘U’ are always together in a word.”

One of the trademarks of “Mrs. Mik,” as she’s known to students, colleagues and parents, is her costumed role-playing. The amiable, energetic kindergarten teacher, UT class of 1974, is willing to be just about anybody to help her kids learn.

Mikolajczyk, in fact, is known as “the Queen of Kindergarten” at Westchase Elementary School in suburban Tampa, a result of her leadership in every facet of the program.

Walking Letters and Violins

As she speaks about her craft, her voice and eyes reveal the unmistakable spark of a great teacher, the one who loves teaching and loves the kids.

“I’ll take big book characters and dress up like them, just so they’ll get the experience, because if they learn through experience, they cement it into their heads, and they’re just better learners,” she says in full spark.

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"A lot of times, they'll perform. I'll put the queen thing on them, and they say all the 'QU' words—just a little act. It's nothing terribly elaborate. Or they're the Magic E Fairy, and they'll sprinkle the fairy dust over a word that ends in 'E,' and then the fairy doesn't say her name, and the 'A' gets to say her name, but the 'E' doesn't say anything.

"Just certain little reading strategies that cement it into them."

The school has an annual character book parade. One year, a parent recalls, Mikolajczyk dressed up as the Cat in the Hat. This year, she was a penguin. She'll even illustrate an old saying aimed at pronunciation, "When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking," with two children dressed as letters walking side-by-side, the one on the left doing the talking, the one on the right remaining silent.

Their discovery of exceptions clearly indicates that the kids have learned the rule.

When principal Joyce Wieland, a fellow Spartan alumna, arrived at Westchase Elementary last year, Mikolajczyk says, one of the first things the kids wanted to know was why her last name isn't pronounced wyland. Mikolajczyk brought to Westchase the Suzuki Method, developed from research that shows the value of even rudimentary formal music training on learning. Students—yes, kindergarten students—listen to classical music while they work during some class periods, and get lessons on playing the violin.

In particular, classical music seems to facilitate mathematics skills. Mikolajczyk says she plays classical music in the classroom while the children are writing, too, which tends to calm them and help them focus. "Scientists know that children, if they have that exposure early to music and to math-brain issues, are able to process things easier and solve things easier," she says, "and that became such a big issue for me when I started researching it."

She says the impetus grew with the experience she had with her brother's twin daughters, whom they put into a Suzuki method program in New York, and who were reading the Wall Street Journal when they were in the first grade. "And I mean they were reading it fluently," she emphasizes.

"So, I started bugging my principal about trying to get a pilot program here, right after the first year we were here. So, by the second year, we put it into practice. At first, it was an offering just for kindergarten—my kindergarten class—and then it got so popular that we were up to 75 students a year."

The Suzuki Method program at the school has spread to all grades. Mikolajczyk and another teacher also have begun a reading outreach program that includes mentoring teachers.

If math, reading, writing, literature, geography, violin lessons and keeping a journal sound like more than the typical notion of what kindergarten is, that's because Mikolajczyk is a dedicated believer in kindergarten as the beginning of formal education,
rather than simply a socializing foundation that barely reaches past playtime.

“We’re setting them up to be lifetime learners,” she says. “It isn’t just play and eat snacks. There’s a lot of serious learning going on. It’s important to me for people to know that about these little guys.”

Teacher of the Year selection starts at the individual school level with a silent faculty vote for the teacher most deserving among them. Once each school has made its choice, the 211 names are forwarded to the district. Each nominee writes a paper. The district narrows the field to 10 finalists, and each is interviewed by the superintendent.

“After that,” Mikolajczyk says, “they keep it completely tight-lipped until that night. I didn’t know anything until my picture went up on the screen.”

Once she was a finalist, the nerves kicked in.

“Yeah, I was a little nervous about it,” she confides, “because, you know, you represent the entire county, and this is a huge county.”

In fact, it is the third largest of Florida’s 67 public school districts, and one of the nation’s 10 largest, as well.

“So, I gave it some thought, but honestly, I was with such a talented pool that I didn’t think that I was going to be No. 1 in the pool, I really didn’t.”

It was no small affair. About 1,600 attended the Teacher of the Year banquet at the Tampa Convention Center. The district Teacher of the Year immediately becomes a candidate for state Teacher of the Year.

Media had been tipped off to the winner’s identity that morning, but no one else, even Principal Wieland, knew who it was, and even as cameras approached her table, Mikolajczyk says, “I had no idea what was going on.”

Imprinted on Their Hearts

Mikolajczyk is one of the first graduates of UT’s early childhood education program. Her husband is former UT Spartans and New York Giants football star Ron Mikolajczyk. Both are natives of northern New Jersey who met at UT. The oldest of five children, Susan is the only one didn’t follow her parents into the funeral business.

She asked her high school guidance counselor to find her a small college with an education degree program, because she “always knew” that she wanted to be a teacher. The counselor suggested UT. Mikolajczyk attended a recruiting function in New York, and fell in love with the University at first sight, just from the photos.

“I told my mom, ‘If I get in, I’m going.’ The rest is history.”

Mikolajczyk has taught kindergarten at Westchase since the school opened in 1998. She has been a kindergarten teacher for 17 years.

Praise for the Queen of Kindergarten has come from all quarters, from past and present students, the principal, parents, you name it. She is overwhelmed, she says, by letters from former students who are adults.

“I’ve had kids from college write me, ‘Mrs. Mik, it was good that you pushed me—I’m in pre-law’ or ‘You really were a good teacher, and you really did care about me.’”

Some sent congratulatory messages, even bouquets, when they heard their former teacher was being recognized.

“I was so overwhelmed that they did remember me. I must have made an imprint on their hearts, and that’s what you want to do when they walk into your room. You know, I’m like their mom from 7:30 to 2:00.”

Her daughter Jennifer, UT class of 2005 magna cum laude, is one of her biggest fans.

“I’m a kindergarten teacher because of her,” she says. “I had to do what she does.”
Writers find inspiration, support at Casa Libre

Two women, scribes themselves, established welcoming sanctuary

One advantage of catering to wordsmiths is that they’re pretty adept at spreading the word.

That’s good news for Ann Fine and Kristen Nelson, who have more pressing needs for money than advertising at the Casa Libre en la Solana, the writers’ refuge they’ve created at 228 N. Fourth Ave.

They bought the adobe complex two years ago and opened it in May 2004 as low-rental writing suites and space for meetings, work-
shops and seminars. The place has quickly gained a reputation in literary circles.

Fine and Nelson, both writers themselves, have spent considerable time, money and elbow grease renovating the complex, some of which is more than a century old.

They now hope to gain nonprofit status for Casa Libre, which would allow them to apply for grants to ensure its survival.

The two partners came up with the idea and the motivation for the complex—which also includes their home—when they studied in Florida at The University of Tampa, said Nelson, 27.

“We used to sit around studying Shakespeare and wondering: If we could do anything, what would it be?” she said.

The answer was to find a space they could turn into an environment that would foster and inspire the writing process, said Fine, 37.

Fine and Nelson used models of other writers’ residencies, but they chose not to require submissions of work, Fine said. They also opted to make their suites and grounds available not only to literary groups but also to nonprofit groups, Fine said.

“Our only purpose is to live the life, to surround ourselves with the people of our tribe and be able to make ends meet,” she said.

Taking on one suite at a time, the two writers laid tile, patched stucco and repaired wiring, not to mention other less-glamorous tasks, until they had created five suites.

Nightly rates range from $69 to from $99 for qualifying independent writers and $45 for nonprofit organizations and writing guests of nonprofits.

All suites are outfitted with high-speed Internet, writing desks, full kitchens, private bathrooms, cable television, stereos and DVD players. The complex also features four courtyards, a reference library, a picnic area, a pool and a spa.

“The environment is set up specifically to support your creative endeavor,” Fine said. “Wherever you go on the property, you know that you’re there to work.”

In addition to hosting independent writers and scholars seeking writing space away from home, Casa Libre has hosted several writers and guests brought to Tucson by groups such as the University of Arizona Poetry Center, the Center for Creative Photography and POG, a local poetry group.

Australian writer Lynda Hill said the refuge Fine and Nelson created was an ideal environment for her.

“I’d just had my book published by Penguin USA and I needed somewhere to sit, concentrate and write,” she said. “I found the supportive writers’ energy around the place to be just perfect, and the costs were very reasonable.”

Suites are booked through April, and the only writers unable to take advantage of the creative environment at Casa Libre are Fine and Nelson, as they’re too involved in the daily workings of the place to reap its benefits, Fine said.

“The crazy irony of it all is that we naively expected it would have the same benefit for us as writers,” she said. “You don’t get the same effect when you’re the one who cleaned the room. . . . Being surrounded by writers does inspire us to keep writing, but we actually write at other places.”

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**Editor’s Note:**

One advantage of reprinting an article is getting the subjects’ take on it. They liked it. About all they could add was, “We will give all UT alumni the writer’s rate for the suites, which is a discounted rate.”

The pair were in Austin, TX, in early March for the Association of Writers and Writing Programs annual convention, where they bumped into familiar faces from their alma mater.

“It was great to see Don Morrill and Lisa [Birnbaum] and Richard [Mathews] and Kathleen Ochshorn,” they said via e-mail.

Dr. Kathleen Ochshorn dined with the pair during the conference.

“They’re both wonderful people,” she said. “I knew they’d wind up doing something special. I just didn’t know it would be anything quite this special.”

Say hello to Ann and Kristen and get more information about Casa Libre en la Solana at (520) 325-9145, e-mail them at casakeepers@casalibre.org, or visit their Web site and see more pictures at www.casalibre.org.

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*Where writers hold court. The courtyard at Casa Libre.*

*Novelist in a novel setting. Fiction writer Katharine O’Flynn, of Quebec, Canada, recently spent a month at the retreat working on a novel.*
On Jan. 7, the University’s historic Plant Hall was brought to life with brightly colored light projections and mysterious music during Lights on Tampa, a public art project initiated by the city of Tampa.

The Plant Hall project was led by Argentine artist Jorgé Orta, who worked in close collaboration with UT professors Joanne Steinhardt and Santiago Echeverry, as well as others in the Tampa Bay community, to create the 30-minute display that was shown repeatedly throughout the evening.

Titled “Luminographic Concert,” the Plant Hall project was one of six light-based installations across downtown Tampa. According to Steinhardt, planning began more than 10 months prior to the event. Images were created during seven days of workshops with more than 30 groups from the local community. The results, she said, far exceeded her expectations.

“If Henry Plant could have been there to see how his building is still such an important part of the community, and see the images of that current community on his building, I’m sure he would have been proud,” said Steinhardt.

Orta has displayed large-scale works on landmarks throughout the world, including Machu Picchu in Peru and the Metropolitan Cathedral in Mexico City. This type of large-scale display has rarely been seen in the United States.

Photos by Bob Thompson, except as noted
Mark Borders has made a name for himself as one of the best basketball players to wear a Spartan uniform. One thing that has gone unnoticed by many has been his devotion to his family and friends, and most notably, his teammates.

As a senior, Borders has set The University of Tampa single-season assist record twice while also breaking the school career record for assists. As the only Spartan ever to record more than 500 career assists, Borders also surpassed 600 this season while breaking Kevin Starnes’ assist record that stood for 15 years.

With all his accomplishments, Borders still encourages others to surpass him. “I tell my teammates, friends and other players not to be like me, but to be better than me,” says Borders. “Someone once told me that, and I now use it to motivate others.”

A transfer from Murray State, Borders got a taste of basketball at the Division I level after playing one season. He also realized the importance and significance of a college degree, which proved to be an important factor when he decided to transfer.

“Things did not work out at Murray State,” says Borders. “My coach resigned, and at the time, I had a couple of Division I programs interested, including South Florida and Central Florida. I just wanted to be in school, and I felt that The University of Tampa had the full offering of what I was looking for academically and athletically.”

The Orlando native quickly realized that UT was the place for him, deciding that the school offered exactly what he was looking for in addition to the athletics program and the tutelage he would receive from head coach Richard Schmidt.

“I chose The University of Tampa because it is close to home and has a great atmosphere,” says Borders. “Most important, the education and the fact that I will walk away with an excellent degree is the major advantage.”

For Love of the Game

Scheduled to graduate in May with an exercise science degree, Borders has fulfilled his plan and will graduate on time. Looking back, he realizes that he made the right decision to attend Tampa, and has noted the advantages of the switch he made to Division II.

“Coming to Tampa was the best decision I made in my life,” he says. “I was able to take everything that Division I basketball gave me and bring them to Division II. I learned a lot at Murray State, and was able to bring a lot to Tampa.”

Three years after making the decision to become a Spartan, Borders has established himself as one of the greatest players in the 39-year history of UT basketball. The single-season and career assists leader also is a two-time all-Sunshine State Conference selection who ranks ninth on Tampa’s all-time scoring list.

Borders also was selected a finalist for the Bob Cousy Award, given annually to the nation’s top point guard. Among the finalists joining Borders were Dee Brown from Illinois, Gerry McNamara from Syracuse, Carl Krauser from Pittsburgh and Daniel Gibson from Texas.

“I never thought I would enjoy this much success,” he says. “I worked really hard to get to this point. In order to be successful, you have to be able to work independently. You have to lift weights, shoot and condition yourself.”
As the point guard and the team captain of this year’s Spartan squad, Borders has relished his duty to provide leadership for the younger players on the team. By being a part of the success Borders generates, his word as a leader has been influential in the development of his teammates.

“I always tell my teammates to keep working hard, and it helps that they have witnessed the rewards of my hard work,” says Borders. “I have spent many extra hours in the gym and gone the extra mile to become the player I am.”

Borders, who shares a true love for the game of basketball, has learned to “live and breathe” the sport that he has been playing for nearly his entire life.

“I am blessed with a skill to understand the game of basketball, which has helped me immensely,” he says. “The way I learn is by watching game film and other teams and by being a true student of the game.”

He also grew to appreciate the point guard position, and most of all, those who came before him. While admitting that he did not pattern his game after any particular player, there were a pair of point guards who caught the eye of Borders as a young player growing up.

“I grew up watching Scott Skiles, when he was with the Magic,” says Borders. “I also looked up to John Stockton, mostly because of his passing ability as one of the greatest point guards ever.”

As the owner of nearly every assist record at The University of Tampa, Borders also has broken the Sunshine State Conference single-season assist record, and ranks second in the SSC in career assists while playing only three seasons in the league.

“The records are an accomplishment, so it definitely means a lot to me,” says Borders. “It is something I can eventually tell my kids and grandkids one day. My goal was to come here and set my name in the school history.”

The Next Level

A major source of inspiration for Borders has been from the fans at his games, particularly his family and friends. He admits that having those who mean the most in his life in attendance is a major benefit when playing.

“It means a lot to have my family and friends at the games,” says Borders. “They have been my fans since day one, and their support definitely keeps me going and makes it fun.”

With a family consisting of primarily children, Borders has taken the opportunity as a role model to help guide the younger members of his family in the right direction.

“I am real close to my nieces, nephews and little cousins,” says Borders. “I am the first from my family to go to college and have the opportunity to be a positive role model. It really keeps me going. I have a lot of younger people in my family, and I love the opportunity I have to be a good influence.”

Throughout his college years, Borders has used his status to become active in the community. A regular at the Tampa summer basketball camps, he lends his hand as a volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club in Mulberry, FL. He has coached kids in the “Just Bigger” league, where he teaches kids 14 and under on weekends.

Borders also has been active in the community outside of basketball, working as a mentor for the Hillsborough Association of Retarded Citizens’ community integration walking program, which provides physical activity for the mentally challenged.

“I just like helping people,” says Borders. “I feel that it is also my responsibility to be a good citizen and make a positive impact on others. There is no better feeling than knowing that I have done my part in positively affecting another person’s life.”

As a senior, Borders does not have to think very hard about what he will pursue upon graduation. He realizes that his true love for basketball will not end, and has made it a point to get to the next level.

“1 want to continue playing basketball,” he says. “I would like to play in the United States, but I would also play overseas if it does not work out. I love this game, and just want to do something that I love.”

With all his success at the collegiate level, Borders is the first to point out that he still has a lot to learn.

“I don’t know everything yet,” says Borders. “I still have a lot to learn, and will continue being a student of the game. It is my job to continue improving and to ultimately become the best player that I can be.”

“Tell my teammates, friends and other players not to be like me, but to be better than me.” —Mark Borders

Input Welcome on HOF Timeline

As part of the 75th anniversary of The University of Tampa, the athletic department will develop its Hall of Fame in the Bob Martinez Sports Center with a historical timeline featuring sports memorabilia from years past. If anyone can contribute any historical artifacts, please mail them to the UT Athletic Department at 401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Box I, Tampa, FL 33606-1490.
Baseball: High Expectations for Retooled Spartans

The University of Tampa baseball team will be expecting the offense to fire on all cylinders as a complement to the upgraded pitching staff this season. The Spartans also will rely heavily on a defensive alignment completely revamped from last season, with the only similarity being Scott Leffler behind the plate.

Lots of Letters

Lost from last season are shortstop Brad Chamberlain, leftfielder T.J. Alonzo, centerfielder Roberto Valiente, pitcher Justin Boza and utility man Alex Castellvi. Head Coach Joe Urso is expecting to start five newcomers when the season opens with a completely new infield. Even with all the new faces, this year’s team is loaded with experience. All of the projected starters are at least junior status, except one. The Spartans also return 22 letter-winners, including six starters from last season’s 40-18 squad.

The pitching staff will be bolstered by ace Sergio Perez and closer Aaron Cook. Both Perez and Cook were first-team all-Sunshine State Conference selections last season. Perez led the team with nine wins, while Cook led the staff with 12 saves while also registering eight victories.

Johnny Williams looks to become a more dominant member of the staff, and will be the No. 2 pitcher. Last season, Nick Peterson was a hard-throwing reliever. This season, he will be expected to rely on his dominant fastball as the third starter. Justin Valdes, a junior transfer from the University of Louisville, will bring Division I experience to the staff, while sophomore Michael Harley, who started seven games as a freshman, will be available for some starts as long relief.

All-American Lee Cruz will be in left field and All-American Lee Cruz will be in left field and will be batting in the third slot, where he is looking to produce the same kinds of numbers as last year, when he led the SSC in home runs (17) and RBIs (71).

Rosales, an all-region performer and last season’s lead-off hitter, will bat in the middle of the order and look to drive in more runners this year, while keeping runners honest with his strong arm from centerfield. Troy Ferguson will start in right field. Ferguson, as well as Mena, Rosales and Corrado, will be the main threats on the bases, and look to bolster the team’s on-base percentage ahead of the power hitters.

Tampa is optimistic heading into the season, and likes its chances for a Sunshine State Conference crown, with hopes of making a run at the national championship once again. The Spartans are loaded with experienced talent and depth, as the lineup is skilled in all aspects. In preseason polls, the Spartans have been picked to finish second in the SSC behind defending national champion Florida Southern, and fifth in the nation. Tampa has the capabilities to go deep into the National Championship Series in Montgomery, AL, but will have to rely on its new members more than it did in years past.
Softball: Pitchers, Batters Could Spark Return to Glory

Tampa looks to regain the magic that was created during the 2004 season, when the Spartans won 33 games and made an appearance in the NCAA South Region Tournament. Tampa will need to do this while coming off a disappointing 2005 season in which it posted a record of 19-22. The Spartans were plagued by injuries to their top pitchers. But head coach Leslie Kanter is optimistic, and said, “This might be one of the strongest teams we have had.”

The Spartans lose a couple of big bats from the 2005 lineup. Tampa graduated last season’s top hitter and career homerun leader. Outfielder Katie Bender led the team with a .314 batting average, while fellow senior Kristin Law left the team with nine career homeruns, a UT record. The third starter that the Spartans lost is senior third baseman Kami Bird.

A Big Plus

Tampa returns its top two pitchers, and both will share in the role of staff ace. They make up one of the best pitching combinations that Coach Kanter has had under her tutelage, possibly the best in conference. The Spartans should not lack experience, returning an additional 10 players from last year’s roster.

The Spartans will rely on their pitching to carry them to an NCAA Tournament berth. Kanter believes that she truly has two aces in Devlin Dougherty and Niki Trowell. What makes the duo effective—even dangerous—is their divergent pitching styles. This is a big plus for the Spartans, as their opponents will be forced to adjust to this difference in the second games of doubleheaders.

Behind Dougherty and Trowell, Kanter has added talented youth, and expects to have a solid infield made up of freshmen and sophomores. The performance of the infield will be key to the team’s success. That said, the infield also raises the biggest question mark: The young infielders will need to prove themselves, as they are the coach’s major area of concern entering the season. The middle infield will consist of freshman shortstop Michele Horan and sophomore second baseman Brandyc Trowell. The corner positions are up for grabs, and will be decided during the preseason.

In the outfield, expect to see centerfield patrolled by junior Kelly Glover. Coach Kanter looks to round out the experienced outfield with a combination of seniors Nicole Fenno, Sara Hokin and Jenny Luis, sophomore Katie Davis and freshman Jessica Keefe.

The battle for the catching duties will fall upon two sophomores: Melissa Krenn and Brandi Bout will make their push for the starting position during the preseason.

As for their offense, Coach Kanter is looking to have six hitters hit .300 or better. The offense will be anchored by Fenno, who was the team’s second-leading hitter a year ago. Also expected to be big contributors to the offense are Keefe and Trowell, who likely will be the lead-off hitter in this strong offense.

This year’s team also looks to provide depth on offense. Kanter said she expects to get solid season performances up and down the batting order.

If the pitching staff that Kanter has dubbed the strongest in the conference can remain healthy, the Spartans should be able to make a run at a return to the NCAA Tournament and get back to the success of two years ago.
MUEZZIN
mu•ez•zin/myoo-ézin, mō-/-n. crier who calls the people to contemplation from a minaret.

75 Years of Spartan Style

1931-2006: Some folks refer to this milestone as a diamond anniversary. Others have called it a diamond jubilee. Here at UT, we’re calling it 75 Years in the Heart of Tampa.

This fall marks 75 years of the University’s existence. Since its founding, The University of Tampa has graduated more than 17,000 alumni living in all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries. The 75th anniversary celebration kicks off on Oct. 5, recognizing the date UT first held classes back in 1931. Anniversary festivities will close out 2006 and continue into 2007. With the excitement only a few months away, here are a few ways that alumni can join in the celebration.

Set Sail With Your Friends

What better time to reunite with alumni and friends than during UT’s 75th anniversary celebration. In honor of the occasion, the Alumni Office is coordinating an alumni cruise from Tampa to Cozumel in early 2007. All UT graduates are invited to join in the fun, with a special invitation to the classes of ’80 -’82, ’95 -’97, and ’00 -’02 to celebrate their 25+, 10+ and 5+ years of being UT alumni.

The four-night cruise will depart Tampa on Thursday, Feb. 8, and return by 8 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 12. Prices start at $421* per person, and flexible payment plans are available. Make your reservation now, and start spreading the word to your friends! For more information, e-mail alumni@ut.edu.

Clean Out Your Attic

If you have old photos or memorabilia from your days at UT, consider leaving a lasting memory by donating these items to the University’s archives. The archives are collecting vintage athletic uniforms, fraternity and sorority jerseys, “rat caps” and photographs from the last 75 years. If you are donating a photo, make sure to include the names of those in the picture, as well as a description. Or, if you have “borrowed” items from the University at one time and would like to “donate” them back, the archives are happy to accept those items, as well (no questions asked!). For more information on contributing to the University’s archives, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (813) 253-6209 or alumni@ut.edu.

Tell Your Stories

In celebration of the University’s 75th Anniversary, alumni are encouraged to share their favorite UT memories. Just send us a note describing your most memorable UT moment or your favorite University of Tampa experience (please make sure that the memory or story can be printed and read by others). E-mail your stories to 75years@ut.edu or mail them to Box H, 401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33606-1490. We are excited to hear from you!

Share Your E-mail Address

In recent years, electronic communications have emerged as a quick and simple way to relay information. The University regularly sends e-mail announcements of its programs and events to alumni, but it has valid e-mail addresses for only about 40 percent of its graduates. You can stay informed of the 75th anniversary activities and other alumni news by sending us your e-mail address. Just send an e-mail to alumni@ut.edu with your full name (including maiden name for women) and class.

The University has come a long way in 75 years, and I’m looking forward to celebrating with you later this year. If you have other ideas or suggestions for alumni-related anniversary activities, please feel free to send them my way. Happy Anniversary!
Madeline Anderson is a media specialist at Longwood Elementary School in Longwood, FL. She was named Teacher of the Week in Seminole County for her 45 years of excellent service as an educator.

Robert L. Lovelace is an accountant for Meals on Wheels Plus. He and his wife, Jewel, live in Bradenton, FL.

Richard O. Fimbel and Mary Ellen (Bowen) ’71 are retired and live in El Paso, TX. They are the co-presidents of Andrew’s Toy Boxes, a charitable organization dedicated to providing special “care packages” filled with toys and books to children with serious or terminal illnesses.

Edward C. Levine and his wife, Lydia, relocated to Winter Park, FL. He is a retired teacher from Miami-Dade County, FL.

Howie Thompson wrote “A Game for All Seasons.” It is the story of a young girl’s soccer team that grows up and plays for the national championship. The book is available at Borders stores, as well as all Barnes and Noble and Borders stores, as well as Amazon.com.

Douglas Henderson, M.D., opened a new rehabilitation therapy center in Gainesville, FL. He and his wife, Nancy, ’74, live in Gainesville.

Sean M. Evans recently completed maritime intelligence operations in Micronesia. He is serving as senior police advisor in the Afghanistan Ministry of the Interior, Situation and Intelligence Center. E-mail: s.evans.i290@hotmail.com

Robi Sue Beninson married Daniel Niesenchuck on Jan. 22 in Jupiter, FL.

Gregg and Deidra (Nylenn) Gochneaur are the founders of Nylenn Cosmetics Inc. They live in Lewisville, TX.

George P. Lechler III is the contract public works manager for the U.S. Navy’s Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center, located on Andros Island, Bahamas.

Edward C. Schuppenhauer retired as the postmaster in Bonita Springs, FL. He is the deputy sheriff first class with the Lee County Sheriff’s Office. He plans to retire in July 2007. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in Fort Myers, FL.

Gerald G. Anderson is a soccer referee in Shiloh, IL. He also works as a financial analyst for Northrop Grumman.

Eric J. Romanino and his wife, Maryanne, live in Beacon, NY. Eric is the director of Physical Education, Health, Athletics and Recreation in the Beacon City school district. He has taught physical education, coached varsity football, wrestling and baseball, and was the assistant principal in the middle and high schools over the past 25 years.

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Website: www.nylenn.com

George P. Lechler III is the contract public works manager for the U.S. Navy’s Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center, located on Andros Island, Bahamas.

E-mail: glechler@hotmail.com

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E-mail: romroad@optonline.net

Rob C. Richard and his wife, Joanne, live in Ocala, FL. Joanne is the former chair of nursing at UT and has been named associate dean for academic and student affairs for the College of Nursing at the University of Florida.

E-mail: robert5455@earthlink.net

Melody Shacter is the division president of Harmony Homes, a Dress company. She and her husband, David, have two children, Zachary, 15, and Jacob, 10.

Laurence M. Bagan was hired as the chief operating officer of CyberMetrics Corp. in Scottsdale, AZ. He was married on June 5, 2004, and he and his wife, Stacey, relocated to Scottsdale from Chicago.

E-mail: lmabagan@msn.com

Kimberly (Adams) Lowe received the Department of the Army’s Commander’s Award for Public Service in Schinnen, Netherlands. She serves as a major in the Army Reserve. She and her husband, Chris, moved to Ft. Meade, MD. They have two children, Andrew, 8, and David, 5.

E-mail: kembragan@earthlink.net

Beth A. Krueger received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in May. She has a new job as an dean of academic affairs at Miles Community College in Miles City, MT. She lives in Miles City.

E-mail: yardengine1919@hotmail.com

Tony Bonitaitibus owns his own CPA firm called Bonitaitibus and Co. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in Boca Raton, FL, with their two daughters.

E-mail: tbracerx@aol.com

Laura Atteberry-David teaches at North Port High School in Sarasota County, FL.

Jerry Flynn works as a criminal defense attorney as a fulltime public defender. He and his wife, Lisa, have three children: Hannah, 4, Michael, 2, and Norah, 1. They live in Valparaiso, IN.

E-mail: Jerry_flynn@fd.org

William Bailey relocated to Nevada for his new job as the Las Vegas area manager of Bison Building Materials. He and his wife, Susie, live in Las Vegas.

Bret James served as an active-duty Airborne Ranger Infantry Lieutenant with the 101st Infantry Division at Ft. Campbell, KY. He now manages more than 150 properties as a self-employed real estate investor. He and his wife, Jennifer, have four children and live in Cordova, TN.

E-mail: 216bret@bellsouth.net

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E-mail: 216bret@bellsouth.net

Robert Eppenstein was hired as the assistant criminal division manager for the state of New Jersey.

Rashid Skaf was appointed president and CEO of AMX Corp. in July 2005 after serving as the company’s president and chief financial officer.

Todd and Karen ’94 Jordan celebrated the birth of their third child, Brooke Stevens, on Sept. 10. They live in Clearwater, FL.

E-mail: Todd.jordan@ge.com

Kelly H. Myers is a senior technical analyst in the Office of Technical Guidance in Washington, DC. He and his wife, Sarah, live in Huntsville, AL. Their daughter, Amy, is attending Baylor University pursuing her Ph.D. in psychology.

E-mail: kelly.h.myers@irs.gov

Jalesia F. McQueen married Justin Gadberry on Sept. 2. She is an attorney for Gallop, Johnson and Neuman, L.C. They live in St. Louis.

E-mail: jashgriff@aol.com

O. Kumar Prasad joined Publix Supermarkets as a senior business consultant. He lives in Land O’ Lakes, FL.

E-mail: Kumarprasad1@hotmail.com
‘96
Gilda Ferlita Capitano was named the 2005 Woman of the Year by the Opti-Mrs. Club of Ybor City.

Ardria Kenney was married to Michael Cucinotta on June 18. They live in Waltham, MA.
E-mail: ardria@msn.com

Mark Givens is a major in the United States Air Force Reserve. He is chief administrator of the Reserve’s 514th Aerospace Medicine Squadron of the 514th Air Mobility Wing stationed at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey.

Beatrice (Siller) Miller graduated from South University with an MS in physician assistant studies. She works as a medical assistant at Hooper Medical Clinic #4 in Ft. Stewart, GA. She and her husband, Mark, live in Hinesville, GA.
E-mail: siller2miller@yahoo.com

Stephanie (Whitmore) Schaff is a manager for Ernst and Young. She lives in Tampa.
E-mail: stephanischaff@cy.com

Michael Wollenhaup moved to Chattanooga, TN, in January 2005 to serve as a senior vice president and regional senior credit officer for SunTrust. He and his wife, Christine, have three children, Lizabeth, 12, Megan, 8, and Michael, 6.
E-mail: mwohlonph@comcast.net

Zak Wyche is in his second year of coaching the varsity boys wrestling program at Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy. He and his wife, Jennifer, have three children. Zak is the son of former Cincinnati Bengals and Tampa Bay Buccaneers head coach and present Buffalo Bills quarterbacks coach Sam Wyche.

‘97
Christine Benza married Jeremy Crouse on Oct. 16. She works as a food scientist for PepsiCo. They live in Cary, IL.

David W. Noble and his wife, Jihyun, welcomed their first son, Zackary, on Sept. 24. He is working as a facilities officer for the United States Military Academy athletic department. They live in Harriman, NY.

Nicole Cohn, D.D.S., and her husband, Doug, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Marena Nicole Maulle, on Dec. 16. Nicole is a dentist with Mid Hudson Dental. They live in Hopewell Junction, NY.
E-mail: Nfc203@yahoo.com

Dan Matauch operates a packaging design firm called Flowdesign Inc. in Northville, MI.
Website: www.flow-design.com

Avi and Tania ’96 Mazliach have two children and are expecting their third child. Avi is a professional basketball player and works in the Israeli Stock Market. Tania teaches at the university. They live in Pardes Hanna, Israel.
E-mail: Taniaav2002@gmail.com

Demetri and Naima Wolfe

David Virgilio is director of natural gas trading for Constellation Energy Commodities Group. He lives in Houston.
E-mail: david.virgilio@constellation.com

Jennifer (Wolson) Waters and her husband, Matthew, celebrated the birth of their baby girl, Sarah Michelle, on Sept. 22. They live in Reston, VA.
E-mail: jennifer_waters@hotmail.com

Abebi Wolfe lives in Washington, DC, and is the proud mother of Demetri, 8, and Naima, 5 months. Abebi is the manager of Regulatory Affairs for RCN Corp. and the leader of the Washington Zeta Alumni Chapter.
E-mail: abebi.wolfe@rcn.net

Heather Brannon accepted an information worker solution architect position with Microsoft Corp. in October. She covers the Tennessee, Kentucky and southern Ohio region. She received her MBA from Belmont University in 2005. She lives in Franklin, TN.
E-mail: hbrannon@microsoft.com

Brian M. Cozine is a captain in the United States Army. He is stationed in Germany with his wife, Stacey, and son, Matthew.
E-mail: brian.cozine@us.army.mil

Nicholas D. Davi married Sarah Uhl on June 3. They relocated from Biloxi, MS, to Las Vegas after hurricane Katrina. He works for The Mirage.
E-mail: bacala38@hotmail.com

Michele (Crane) Diaz is a paralegal for Gray-Robinson, P.A., in downtown Tampa. She and her husband, Alex, live in Tampa.
E-mail: caspers461@msn.com

Robin (Dembowitz) Powell was married on Sept. 3. She works for Baycare Health Systems. She and her husband, Thomas, live in St. Petersburg, FL.
E-mail: rjd5428@msn.com

‘00
Jodelle Kruger became engaged to Erik Omlor on Nov. 13. They are planning to be married in the spring of 2007. She works for AdoptionLinks/Jewish Family Services. They live in Shermandale, PA.
E-mail: jkruger@jsofhbg.org
Website: http://wedding.theknot.com/pwp/view/co_main.aspx?coupleid=3267856320244632

‘01
Richard Langton married Jody Filipiak on June 25. They live in St. Petersburg, FL.

Samuel R. Metott became engaged to April Frisenda on July 4. He is attending Nova Southeastern University for his MBA. He works for the city of Hollywood Park and Recreation athletic division. They live in Hollywood, FL.
E-mail: meter1@aol.com

Rosie Vergara married Juan Morales in October. She is working as an academic advisor for Kaplan University. They live in Miami.
E-mail: rosiev@hotmail.com

‘02
Joseph Sansoneitti is an information technology coordinator for Trinity School for Children in Tampa. He also is the varsity baseball coach. He lives in Tampa.
E-mail: pinmanjoe@aol.com

‘03
Racquida Augustus married Earnest Williams.
What’s Happenin’?

Eleanor Adamson Galvez

Angela D. Cain is a public relation information specialist for the Hillsborough County Department of Aging Service. She lives in Brandon, FL.
E-mail: angelacain@excite.com

Marlen Cortez is working on her juris doctor degree at the University of Illinois College Of Law. She plans to graduate in May and work as an associate at the Chicago firm of Winston & Strawn LLP. She lives in Chicago.
E-mail: mcortez18@hotmail.com

Christine M. Glesmann became engaged to Darren Coen on Oct. 12. They live in Quincy, MA.
E-mail: ChristineGlesmann@yahoo.com


Noreen C. Moy relocated to Palm Bay, FL. She is a staff supervisor for Merrill Lynch.
E-mail: noreen_moy@ml.com

‘04
Radek Knesl married Kerry Frechette ‘04 on April 30. Radek was promoted to vice president of business development at TCM Bank. Kerry accepted a new position as pharmacy regional account executive with United Healthcare. They live in Tampa.
E-mail: kerry_w_knesl@uhc.com

Nicholas J. Galvez and his wife, Mary, celebrated the birth of their first daughter, Eleanor Adamson, on Aug. 27. He works as director of rehabilitation services for PeopleFirst Rehabilitation Services. They live in Tampa.
E-mail: nickgalvez@kindredhealthcare.com

Lacinda Norman was promoted to assistant coach of the University of Louisiana-Monroe softball team.
E-mail: norman@ulm.edu

Victoria M. Venn is living and working in Vessy, Switzerland.

Valerie Wolf is associate producer of “Florida This Week,” a political roundtable seen Fridays on PBS television affiliate WEDU in Tampa. She lives in Riverview, FL, with her husband, Jay, and in her free time works on a novella.
E-mail: wolfgalv@tampadsl.net

‘05
Guillermo Hudtwalcker is a vice president for Citigroup. He lives in Tampa.
E-mail: ghudtwalcker@ampabay.rr.com

Kenew W. Malikido became engaged to Darian Fludd on Aug. 26. They plan to wed this Aug. 26 in Petersburg, VA.
E-mail: kengw12@yahoo.com

Class Acts

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 ut.edu/alumni/updateaddress.html 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) ____________________________

SPRING 2006 29
Members of the South Florida Alumni Chapter experienced the essence of Japan on a guided tour of the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens on Dec. 3. Spartans swapped memories of UT over a traditional Japanese lunch before exploring the exhibits and gardens of this one-of-a-kind museum. If you have ideas for future events or want to get involved in South Florida Spartan fun, contact Leo Berman ’69 at dacheze@aol.com.

Sushi and More

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ALUMNI and PARENTS to do @ut.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

Thursday, April 13
Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter Meeting
6 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting
Sword and Shield Room,
Martinez Sports Center

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

Friday, April 28
NAA Board of Directors Meeting
Noon-4 p.m.
Vaughn Center Board Room

MAY

Friday, May 5
Reception for spring graduates
4-7 p.m.
Lobby and ninth floor, Vaughn Center

Saturday, May 6
Spring Commencement
10 a.m.
St. Pete Times Forum

Wednesday, May 17
MBAA Leadership Meeting
5:15 p.m.
Sykes College of Business,
Room 150

Thursday, May 18
Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter Meeting
6 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting
Sword and Shield Room,
Martinez Center

JUNE

Thursday, June 21
MBAA Leadership Meeting
5:15 p.m.
Sykes College of Business,
Room 150

JULY

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

Thursday, July 20
Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter Meeting
6 p.m. social, 6:30 p.m. meeting
Sword and Shield Room,
Martinez Center

Friday, July 21
NAA Board of Directors Planning Session
8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Vaughn Center Board Room

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

Holiday with the Parents

Tampa Bay-area moms and dads stepped back in time on Dec. 7 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, making it one of the most successful parent events of the year!

WHO ARE YOU?

Name ____________________________
Address _________________________ State _________ Zip ____________
City _____________________________
Home phone (___) _____ Work phone (___) _____
Fax (___) ________________________ E-mail __________________________
Class Year __________ Major __________
Signature (required by federal law) ________________________________

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Job Title ____________________________ Employer ________________________
Address ____________________________
City _____________________________ State __________ Zip ____________

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

☐ I want to help recruit students to UT. ☐ I want to help with career development.
☐ I want to help plan Homecoming for alumni. ☐ I want to be a sports booster.
☐ I want to serve as a class agent for fund-raising. ☐ I want to __________________________

JOIN US

Complete and Return Your Interest Form Today!

Return to National Alumni Association • Box H • The University of Tampa • 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. • Tampa, FL 33606-1490 • Fax: (813) 258-7297

☐ Albany Rho Alumni Chapter (NY)
☐ Atlanta Theta Chapter
☐ Black Alumni Association
☐ Brandon Epsilon Chapter
☐ Broward-Palm Beach Chapter
☐ Capital City Kappa Chapter (Tallahassee)
☐ Chicagoland Chapter
☐ Clearwater Alumni Chapter
☐ COB Alumni Chapter
☐ CIS Alumni Chapter (Computer Information Systems)
☐ Germany Alumni Chapter
☐ Honors Alumni Association
☐ Jacksonville Chapter
☐ Manasota Omega Chapter (Manatee/Sarasota Counties)
☐ MBA Association
☐ Miami Delta Chapter
☐ Music Alumni Chapter
☐ New England Alumni
☐ New York Sigma Chapter
☐ Nursing Alumni Association
☐ Orlando Gamma Chapter
☐ St. Petersburg Beta Chapter
☐ Sweden Alumni Chapter
☐ Tampa Alpha Chapter
☐ Washington, DC, Zeta Chapter

SPRING 2006  31
Mile-High Spartans

Denver-area Spartans held their first alumni gathering at the Wynkoop Brewery on Jan. 11. A dozen UT alumni came out for an evening of networking and reminiscing hosted by Chris Finne ’97. Contact Chris at chris_finne@hotmail.com to get involved in Denver-area activities.

Alumni and friends get together for drinks at Wynkoop Brewery in the LoDo section of Denver. Back row, from left: Chris Finne ’97, Bob Everson ’95, John Kaufman ’88, Carolyn Spillner ’90, Patti Warner ’88. Front row, from left: Jamie Finne, Heather Everson, Susan Kaufman ’89, Todd Marrs, Sally Daniels ’89, Joe Daniels ’90.

SET SAIL AND Celebrate 75 Years!

Join UT alumni on a four-night Western Caribbean Cruise to celebrate the University’s 75th anniversary. The weekend cruise departs Tampa and stops in Cozumel, Mexico, before returning to Tampa.

COST: $421* per person
DATE: Feb. 8-12, 2007
CONTACT: alumni@ut.edu

Special invitation to the Classes of ’80–’82, ’95–’97 and ’00–’02!

*Prices are subject to change.

RETURN TO ZETA Bits

UT Comes to YOU!

Return to the District

Plans are in the works for a Spartan gathering this spring. Be on the lookout for your invitation to UT’s Return to the District. To get involved with DC-area alumni, contact Abebi Wolfe ’98 at abebi.wolfe@rcn.net.

Blowin’ into the Windy City

Last fall, UT held a successful mixer in downtown Chicago. This spring, Spartans will gather again for good times and laughs. Connect with Chicago-area Spartans by e-mailing Ed Coleman ’84 at ed.coleman@att.net or Scott Robins ’82 at scott.robins@sbcglobal.net. Event details will be forthcoming.

REGIONAL ALUMNI EVENTS

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Regional Alumni Events

The Common Good

GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

Gloria J. Sparkman
The Chislers Inc.
Elsa G. TerrI
Robert J. Terri
Deborah Wilkins
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Jack Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Marjorie Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin

The Common Good

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Marjorie Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin


Steven Anderson
John Jackson
GeorgIa Barranco
Mr. Anthony J. Borrell Jr./Borrell Foundation Inc.
Barbara Casey
Karen M. Casey

Dr. David DeLo
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Ferman Jr.
Helen Nance DePew
Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Crowder Jr.
Janette Dale
Paul and Georgia Danahy
Joan C. Duany
Andretta Marsh Properties
Cassius M. Eiseman

Richard Geller
Hopco Food Services Inc.
Tampa Bay Imaging
Frank and Frances Filewicz
Renatta Filewicz-Cochran
George W. Harris Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Ian Irwin
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
James Kelly
George and Barbara Pennington

Flora Laun
Dennis Laun
Dr. Sue McCord
Leesburg High School Class of ’55
Copeland D. “Cope” Newburn Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Katharine “Kitty” Levy Sheldon
Benjamin Sheldon

Gloria J. Sparkman
The Chislers Inc.
Elsa G. TerrI
Robert J. Terri
Deborah Wilkins
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Jack Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Marjorie Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred S. Austin
Gasparilla Fest
The Tampa Alpha Alumni Chapter held its annual Gasparilla Pre-Parade Brunch on Jan. 28. A record 320+ alumni and friends enjoyed a brunch buffet and spirits on the East Verandah before heading down to watch the Gasparilla parade.

Paco Perez ’05, Nando Quinones ’04 and Adam Jones ’04 (from left) enjoy a hearty meal at the Tampa Alpha Chapter’s Gasparilla Pre-Parade Brunch.

The UT Diplomats pose for a photo with Marc Rippen of the Krewe of Sparta. More than 320 attended this year’s brunch, and many, like Marc, were in costume!
Class of ’56 is Golden!

Members of the Golden Spartan Society gathered Feb. 17 in the Crescent Club for their annual induction luncheon and to celebrate 50 years of being UT alumni. At the luncheon, the Class of ’56 was officially inducted into the Society while more than 140 Golden Spartans cheered them on! The event was replete with George Wagner ’52 leading the group in the singing of the alma mater and Tony Kovach ’54 accompanying him on the piano. Mark your calendar now for the next Golden Spartan Reunion Luncheon, Oct. 20 during Homecoming week.

Members of the Class of ’56 are all smiles. Front row, from left: Al Leathers, Bill Minahan, Walter Minahan, Warren Haasl, Henry DiStefano. Back row, from left: Mike Menendez, Mario Sanchez, Ernest Segundo Sr., James Crosby.

Visit the Campus Store at utampabkstore.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 Cheryl Riley, Campus Store manager, at (813) 253-6230 for more information.

Sylvia ”Jerry” Davis Noland ’56 hugs Warren Haasl ’56 during the Golden Spartan induction ceremony as Al Leathers ’56 looks on.

Class of ’56 inductees Henry DiStefano and Ernest Segundo Sr. swap stories with other Golden Spartans.

Bill ’56 and Martha Minahan peruse an old Moroccan at the Golden Spartan Induction Luncheon.

After introducing her lunch partners, Jayne (Anderson) Smith ’54 describes what she believes makes a Spartan ”Golden.”
Kathryn Elizabeth “Beth” Shields, for more than four decades a leading educator in Hillsborough County, died of lung cancer in her Tampa home on Feb. 18. She was 68.

Shields was a Florida native, born in Ft. Lauderdale on Dec. 24, 1937. She was a 1958 graduate of UT, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education, with a minor in English. She went on to earn a Master of Arts in Mathematics Education, Administration and Supervision from the University of South Florida in 1967.

**A Career of Dedication**

Beginning her lifelong career in education in 1960 as a mathematics teacher at Memorial Junior High, Shields then taught mathematics at Plant High before being named dean in 1968 at Robinson High, where she later served as assistant principal for curriculum. In 1978, she was named principal at Coleman Junior High.

She served as principal of Plant High in the 1980s before being named assistant superintendent for personnel for the School District of Hillsborough County in 1987, and assistant superintendent for instruction in 1989. From 1996 until her retirement in 2003, she served as deputy superintendent for instruction.

Ironically, Shields, whose father had died while she was in the ninth grade, almost didn’t become an educator. She had planned to work after high school to help her mother, a telephone company employee, support the family, but a teacher shortage helped her to win a state scholarship for college.

Friends and colleagues described Shields as a tireless worker whose primary concern was the district’s children. She is credited with initiatives that helped bolster attendance and strengthen academic standards and curriculums. She is remembered as a deeply committed problem-solver who was instrumental in the creation and implementation of the district’s magnet school program.

When poor attendance became a problem across the district, Shields asked principals to create plans to reverse the trend, and held them accountable for implementing their plans.

Shields served on the boards of Southwest Florida Blood Services, United Way, Hillsborough County Anti-Drug Abuse Advisory Council, Health Advisory Council and SERVE, a regional association for the improvement of education, and was co-chair of the Middle School Task Force. She also was a member of the Athena Society, and was elected to the Hillsborough High School Hall of Fame.

**The First of Everything**

Shields was the first female deputy superintendent in the Hillsborough school district. It is for her that Beth Shields Middle School was named in 2004.

“She demanded from herself and gave of herself,” said former superintendent Earl Lennard, “but she also demanded the best from those around her.”

Superintendent MaryEllen Elia, the district’s first female superintendent, credited Shields with paving the way for women to advance in the district.

“She was the first of everything,” said Elia, whom Shields hired as a teacher 20 years ago.

At the University’s winter Commencement in December, Shields was honored with the National Alumni Association Alumni Achievement Award, which “recognizes alumni who have made great accomplishments in their chosen careers or civic involvement.”

Shields is survived by her husband, William, who also is a 1958 graduate of UT, daughter Kathy Shields, son Doug Shields and his wife, Vicki, daughter-in-law Deke Shields, brother John Carr and six grandchildren.

Information from a Feb. 19 Tampa Tribune article by Ben Montgomery was used in this report.
Live and Give through a Retained Life Estate

By Thomas R. Giddens, Ph.D.
Planned Giving Director

You want to live in your home the rest of your days, but have no heirs who want the property. You’d like to make it a gift to a favorite organization, but don’t want to move. A retained life estate agreement is one answer to this perplexing and increasingly common question.

One couple we know are retired and have been thinking about how they can make a significant gift to their alma mater, The University of Tampa. They have considered making a gift of their residence, but really don’t want to move into a retirement facility. They like their home and intend to stay there until they die. The logical solution seems to be a bequest to the University. Consequently, they decided to revise their wills and transfer their home to the University once both of them have passed.

Then they heard about a special provision in the tax code allowing them to give their home to the University now, without having to move out. And by doing it now, they can get a sizable income tax deduction—something they would not receive by making the gift of their home through their wills. It is, for them, a perfect solution.

How It Works

A personal residence or farm is deeded to the University through a retained life estate agreement. The deed indicates that the owners (husband and wife) reserve the right to use the property for the rest of their lives. Upon the death of the second spouse, the property is available to the University to sell or to use in some other way.

When the deed is conveyed to the University, the property is appraised to determine its fair market value. The life expectancy of the owners (donors) is considered, along with other factors, and the present value of the remainder interest is determined. This amount represents the charitable gift value of the arrangement and is available immediately to use as a charitable income tax deduction.

It is precisely this income tax deduction feature that makes the retained life estate agreement so attractive. If the property were transferred through the will at death, there would be no income tax deduction. But making the transfer during life—while retaining the right to use the property—creates the deduction. Also, removing the property from one’s estate now means a possible reduction in estate taxes and probate costs later.

After the agreement is signed, the tenants would be expected to maintain insurance, pay property taxes, care for typical maintenance and repair items related to the property, and permit the charity to assist as appropriate.

This may all sound a little confusing, but it really is quite easy to accomplish. Our planned giving staff is ready to discuss it with you, and to provide a personal illustration of what something like this might mean for you.

Achieving Your Objectives

Regardless of the type of planned gift you ultimately make, think first about why you want to contribute and whom you’d like to assist. If you’d like to make a difference in someone’s life but don’t know how to accomplish that goal, call the Office of Planned Giving for information on ways to give to The University of Tampa. Make a list of your personal objectives and concerns, such as providing an income stream for yourself during your lifetime or ensuring that your grandchildren receive a portion of your estate.

The Planned Giving Office can provide gift options that address your objectives and concerns. Finally, talk with your family and your professional adviser about your goals and objectives so that everyone understands the thoughtful nature of your decision.

We can provide information and assistance in thinking through your gift to UT. Call Tom Giddens, director, at (813) 258-7400 or

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Planned Giving at UT

Two Who Gave Back

CHARLES E. GOULDING JR., PH.D.

An acclaimed researcher helps others pursue the advancement of science.

Charles Goulding was truly a determined and focused individual. A self-described “poor student bent on getting an education at The University of Tampa,” he graduated from UT in 1939, fulfilling his dream and launching himself into a lifetime of achievement in the field of science.

Acclaimed for his worldwide biomedical research and advances toward finding a cure for viral diseases, he received the Research Medal of Honor from the Albert Einstein International Academy.

Spurred to action by his passion for science and the obstacles he had overcome to achieve his goals, Charles bequeathed his entire estate to The University of Tampa, the largest realized planned gift to the University to date.

This remarkable gift has enabled students, including those with various social and financial challenges, to receive scholarships through two endowed funds: the Charles E. Goulding Jr. and Germaine Goulding Chemistry Scholarship Fund, and the Pamunkey Tribal Indian Scholarship Fund for Native American Indians.

ELIZABETH ENLOW

A firm believer in education and scholarship, she set a benchmark for other UT alumni.

Elizabeth Enlow’s legacy, reflecting her strong belief in education, continues to touch students’ lives every day at UT. This successful UT alumna, class of 1944, used her degree in education to become a teacher in the Dallas public school system, where she taught until her retirement in the late 1980s.

She and her husband, Holland Enlow, had no children, so after his death, she “adopted” future generations of UT students as the beneficiaries of her legacy. She named The University of Tampa, her alma mater, as residual beneficiary of her estate, and designated the assets to fund student scholarships. Her name is forever honored at UT through the Elizabeth Holton Enlow Scholarship Fund for Honors Students.

Kelly Ritrievi, officer, at (813) 258-7373, or e-mail us at plannedgiving@ut.edu with your questions or requests.

Planned giving can be one of the most satisfying and significant decisions that you can make now and impact others far into the future, especially when the thought behind the action reflects your personal objectives.

Check Us Out on the Web

There’s a lot to learn about estate planning, wills and other planned giving ideas on our Web site. Go to www.ut.edu/alumni/giving.html, then click on “Planned Giving.”

You’ll find news on
• “Tax Law Changes for 2006”—highlights of recent tax changes affecting charitable giving.
• “Four Ways to Make a Difference”—information on how you can help others without jeopardizing your own security.
• “Tips for a Sound Estate Plan” will help you focus on the 20 percent you need to do now that affects 80 percent of what happens with your estate in the future.
• “Golden Strategies: Bright Ideas for Senior Citizens”—lifestyle tips for older adults, plus a FREE e-brochure to learn more about planned giving.

Go to the article “Discover Valuable Lessons With Our Free E-brochures” for a complete list of topics.

New Fully Funded Endowed Scholarships

• The Helen Davis Memorial Endowed Scholarship-$100,000
• The Krewe of Sant Yago Endowed Scholarship in honor of Richard A. Nimphie-$25,000
Alumni Participation = Annual Fund Success
(and a More Valuable Degree)

If someone told you there was a way you could add even more value to the college degree you worked so hard to get, would you do it?

One of the best ways you can add value to your degree is by participating in the UT Annual Fund.

Each year, UT conducts its Annual Fund program to raise support for academic programs, campus improvements, faculty development and student scholarships. Allocating funds to these areas is critical to continuing the tradition of excellence UT is known for.

Alumni participation is so important to the overall success of the Annual Fund that goals for dollars raised from alumni and percentage of alumni participation are set and striven for.

This year, UT’s goal is to raise $280,000 in unrestricted support, and although our alumni participation rate has been at 21%, UT strives to be closer to 25%.

Name, Rank and a Degree Worth More than Paper

So, you’re thinking. “This is all well and good, but how does the value of my degree increase?”

Alumni giving affects how colleges rank among other colleges competing for the same students. You can view these rankings in various reports like U.S. News & World Report: America’s Best Colleges.

Quality students attend top colleges. Top colleges attract top faculty. Top faculty build top academic programs. Top academic programs attract and challenge the best and brightest prospective students. The higher your school is ranked, the greater the value of your degree.

Another reason alumni giving is so important is because, quite often, alumni set the example for others to follow. Trustees, foundations, corporations and friends look at alumni support as an indicator of how worthy an institution is of their support. If alumni aren’t giving, there must be a good reason why. Lack of alumni support is an indicator that a school is not doing a good job of connecting with its alumni.

We like to think we do a good job of connecting with our alumni and communicating the importance of UT’s mission to deliver challenging and high-quality educational experiences to diverse groups of learners. The proof will be in the Alumni Annual Fund results at the end of May. If we’re doing a good job, tell us so by participating in the Annual Fund. If you feel we could do better, let us know how.

The impact alumni gifts have is far reaching. If you haven’t given this year, please consider joining your fellow alumni in support of the Annual Fund before the fiscal year ends on May 31.

Alumni Challenge Update!

We are close to meeting the MacLeod Challenge of raising $50,000 in new and increased unrestricted gifts, although there’s still time to give!

Jim ’70 and Liz ’71 MacLeod will generously match all new and increased unrestricted gifts up to $50,000 when received by May 31, 2006. Qualifying gifts from alumni who graduated 1995-2005 will be double-matched.

If you haven’t given to the Annual Fund since June 1, 2004, the entire amount of your gift will be matched. Or, if you have given since that date, increase your gift, and the amount of the increase will be matched.

Join the MacLeods in support of the Annual Fund by making your gift today!

Ybor City is a sparkling anomaly in a state best known for tourism and citrus—a cigar factory mecca built by immigrants whose architecture, culture and cuisine pulse with a distinctive Latin flavor. Ybor City’s history and characters come to life in this landmark book about a National Historic Landmark town—a story enriched by the anecdotes and memories of native son Frank Trebín Lastra, who was born and raised in Ybor City, with family ties to both Spanish and Italian immigrant pioneers.

Oversize format. 488 pages. 633 illustrations.
$39.95 hardback • $29.95 paperback

E. J. Salcines, Vice President, Tampa Historical Society
Happy Hillel!

All smiles at the Oct. 11, 1975, Hillel breakfast are (from left) Robert Bigman, of Washington, D.C.; Steven Frent, of Syracuse, N.Y.; Cy Sinar, of Baltimore; and Leslie Lefkowitz, of Cookeville, Tenn.

Hillel is the largest Jewish campus organization worldwide, with chapters at more than 500 colleges and universities.
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Revamped Tournament
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Official Tampa Tarpon Tournament Entry Form

Please complete and mail, with check made payable to The University of Tampa, to Tampa Tarpon Tournament • Box 83F • 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. • Tampa, FL 33606-1490

Name
Address
City State Zip
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Check division entering
Guide
Fly
Amateur

Category
Women
Junior

Name of boat/guide T-shirt size M L XL XXL

I agree to abide by the rules of the Tampa Tarpon Tournament and the decisions of the rules committee. I further agree to participate in the Tampa Tarpon Tournament at my own risk, and I release the Tampa Tarpon Tournament, its officers, directors and sponsors from any liability for personal or property damage incurred related to my participation in the 2006 Tampa Tarpon Tournament.

Signature

UT Journal Change of Address

Please complete this form and return it to

Office of Alumni Relations • Box H
The University of Tampa
401 W. Kennedy Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33606-1490

Old Address

New Address

Signature (required by federal law)

Address changes also can be made online by clicking on ut.edu/alumni/updateaddress.html.
Plate Riding High, Journey Not Over

We’ve driven the UT license plate to higher ground, with 958 sold as of the latest count. The time is now to drive it over the top!
Remember, our goal is to sell at least 1,200 by July 1, so even though we’ve driven a long way, this road trip is far from over.
The University of Tampa license plate makes a great graduation or end-of-school-year gift for students, faculty or staff. At just $27 in addition to the regular tag fee, it’s an affordable, handsome and lasting tribute to any UT success, and every sale brings in $25 for the University.
To learn how to get yours, call the alumni office at (813) 253-6209, or e-mail alumni@ut.edu. (Florida residents only)