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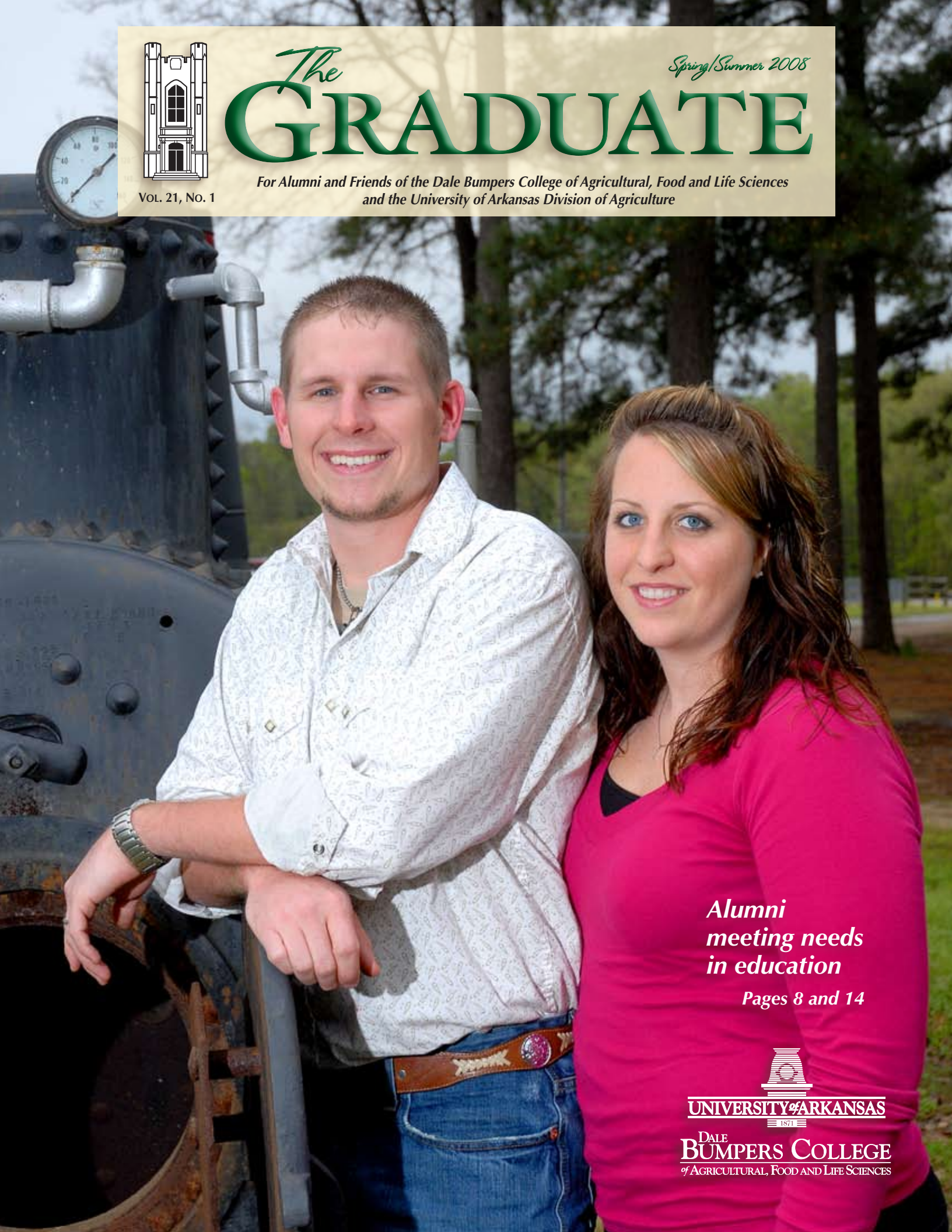


VOL. 21, No. 1

The
GRADUATE

Spring/Summer 2008

*For Alumni and Friends of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences
and the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture*



*Alumni
meeting needs
in education*

Pages 8 and 14



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

1871

**DALE
BUMPERS COLLEGE**
of AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND LIFE SCIENCES

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COVER: COVER: Agricultural science teachers Cody and Hannah Gray pose with an antique steam engine in Fair Park near their home at Hope. (Photo by Fred Miller)

Weidemann accepts Connecticut deanship

Dean Greg Weidemann accepted a position as dean and director of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Connecticut, effective June 30. He will assume administrative leadership for teaching, research and extension programs.

A watch, plaque and framed proclamation of appreciation from the faculty were presented to Dean Weidemann by Faculty Council Chairman Dick Oliver at the spring faculty meeting May 2 in Hembree Auditorium in the AFLS Building. He and his wife, Rozanne, were honored at a reception May 12 in Boyer Hall in the Janelle Y. Hembree Alumni House.

Weidemann joined the U of A department of plant pathology in 1983. He was named associate director of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station and associate dean of Bumpers College in 1995 and was appointed dean and Division of Agriculture associate vice president—research in January 2002. When a separate position was created for associate vice president—research in August 2007, his appointment was changed to dean of Bumpers College and associate vice president for academic programs of the Division of Agriculture.

Highlights of Weidemann's tenure include 30 percent growth in enrollment from 1,015 undergraduate students in the fall of 2001 to 1,342 in fall 2007; growth of the college's scholarship endowment from \$5 million to more than \$15 million; a higher graduation rate and a record number of 270 degree candidates in the class of 2008; a development campaign that helped renovate 10 classrooms with the latest teaching technology, among other projects; and endowments for a number of faculty chairs and professorships.

"Seeing the love our alums have for this institution and this college was always an inspiration. A simple thanks will never be enough. It has been a true honor to serve as dean of Bumpers College," Weidemann said. ■

'THANKS DEAN'
— Faculty Council Chairman Dick Oliver, right, presents a watch, plaque and framed proclamation of appreciation to Dean Greg Weidemann at the spring faculty meeting.



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The Graduate is published for alumni and friends of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences and the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture. Send alumni news and other correspondence to Ashley Harris, Bumpers College Alumni Society Director, AFLS E108, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

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From the Dean

Always a Razorback

This is my final column as Dean of the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. After more than 25 years of service to the University of Arkansas, I have accepted an administrative position at another land grant institution beginning this summer. After serving as dean of this exceptional college for more than seven years, it is perhaps a good time to reflect back on what our faculty and staff have accomplished to better serve our students.

When Chancellor White assumed leadership for the University of Arkansas, he established a number of ambitious goals to increase student quality, improve retention and graduation rate, increase enrollment, increase diversity and enhance private fundraising. The university has made dramatic progress toward reaching those goals, and our college has been a big part of that success.

Our undergraduate enrollment is the highest ever and has increased almost 30 percent over the past seven years and more than 64 percent since those goals were established in 1997. Our six-year graduation rate has improved 10 percent and usually leads all colleges. Our scholarship endowment has grown from \$5 million to more than \$15 million, ensuring that more deserving students will receive the financial assistance that they need.

During the Campaign for the Twenty-First Century, a number of generous donors provided the funds to renovate 10 classrooms. A planned gift will create an endowment for classroom upkeep to ensure that our classrooms will always have the latest teaching technology and a pleasing learning environment. A number of faculty chairs and professorships were created in key areas of scholarship important to our college and our state.

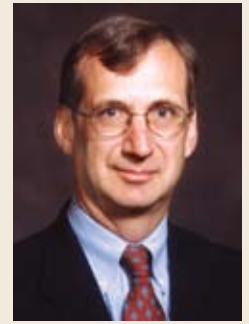
The opportunities for our students continue to increase. Our Honors Program has provided our best and brightest students with an opportunity to challenge themselves and become engaged with our faculty in research and scholarship. Recommendations from a recent review of the program will strengthen the program further. More and more students are taking advantage of our expanded study abroad program to better prepare themselves to succeed in our global economy.

Our student services continue to improve. The creation of the Academic Enhancement Program ensures that those students requiring additional assistance receive it. A student mentoring program was created last year to let our freshmen benefit from the advice of our upperclassmen. Our student diversity continues to improve; last year we had the highest minority enrollment ever.

Bumpers College prides itself on being the most student-friendly college with a family-like atmosphere. I believe it was true when our alums were students, and it is true today. That atmosphere is due to the dedication of our faculty and staff to each and every student. This college is indeed a family, and one I will always feel part of.

One of the great joys of my life has been the opportunity to serve this great state, this wonderful university and this remarkable college. Seeing the love our alums have for this institution and this college was always an inspiration. A simple thanks will never be enough. It has been a true honor to serve as dean of Bumpers College.

Although I am leaving the University of Arkansas to take on another opportunity for professional growth, this college and this university will always be in my heart. I will always remain a Razorback. ■



Dr. Gregory J. Weidemann
Dean and
Associate Vice President
– Academic Programs

Dear Alumni



Dale Bumpers College
of Agricultural, Food
and Life Sciences
Alumni Society

ARKANSAS ALUMNI



Ron Rainey
President, DBCAFLS
Alumni Society

*“It is not the style of clothes one wears,
neither the kind of automobile one drives,
nor the amount of money one has in the
bank, that counts. These mean nothing.
It is simply service that measures success.”*

— George Washington Carver

Greetings from the DBCAFLS Alumni Society! Congratulations to our 2008 graduates, the newest alumni for the University of Arkansas. I wanted to share this quote with you all as a challenge for all alumni, both past and present graduates, to give back. As one of the greatest agricultural scientists of the 20th Century, George Washington Carver shares his insight that it is not what we get in life that matters, but rather it is what we give.

When I think back on my years on campus, I reflect on all the experiences that shaped me into who I am today. In addition to the education and training, I appreciate the friendships and relationships that I will maintain for my entire life. I am grateful for what the Dale Bumpers College and the university have provided me. So with that in mind, I encourage you to reflect on the ways the university has impacted your life and challenge you to give back to the place that has given you so much.

As I look around and see the beauty of spring, the lush green trees, the blooming flowers, the fields being prepared for planting new seeds for a new crop, it reminds me that spring is the season for planting. I ask you to plant some seeds today by participating in the activities of the DBCAFLS Alumni Society. Your efforts can increase the future harvests by focusing the attention of a new student, convincing someone that college is a viable option or expanding the impact and awareness of the college’s activities to your local area.

— Ron Rainey



New president is passionate for his college

Ron Rainey, new president of the Bumpers College Alumni Society, is passionate about his alma mater. He loves the University of Arkansas and everything that is Razorback, and, more importantly, he believes in the value of education.

“I love the Razorbacks, but there’s a lot more to the University of Arkansas and Bumpers College than the Razorbacks,” Rainey says. “The Alumni Society helps alumni to become as passionate about the college as they are about the Razorbacks.”

Rainey, BS ’91 MS ’93 PhD ’01, and his brothers Alfred, BS ’88, and Dan, BS ’90, earned their degrees in agricultural economics and agribusiness. Ron Rainey is an extension associate professor of agricultural economics in the University of Arkansas System’s Division of Agriculture.

A native of Conway County, Rainey has worked for the Division of Agriculture since 1993. As an extension economist, his responsibilities include developing programs and resources for farm management, marketing and business planning. His primary focus is on cost analysis, business trends and successful planning and marketing strategies for the horticulture industry. He also works with farmers markets and alternative agriculture, including organic and agritourism enterprises.

As Bumpers College Alumni Society president, Rainey wants to continue efforts and expand activities to engage new alumni in the society.

Rainey says such activities serve to link alumni with the society and Bumpers College. “We want to make sure they know what’s going on in their college, to help them be aware of recruiting opportunities in their communities and to participate in alumni activities in their areas,” he says.

“The society links you to the university and the college even when

(Continued on Page 5)

Graham named to Diabetes Foundation board

Ginger L. Graham, BSA '79, was named in February to the American Diabetes Association Research Foundation Board of Directors. Graham, a public speaker and health care consultant, is the former chief executive officer of Amylin Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company in San Diego, and currently serves on the Amylin board of directors.



Ginger L. Graham

Graham started her career with Eli Lilly and Company and served in a number of management positions. Her diverse career path gave her the opportunity to work in a variety of industries including agriculture, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, investment banking and medical technology.

"Ginger Graham is an outstanding addition to our team," said Cathy Bernstein, chair of the ADA Research Foundation Board of Directors. "The board members, in addition to our volunteers and donors, are the heart and soul of the Research Foundation." ■

A native of Springdale, Graham has a B.S. degree in agricultural economics from the University of Arkansas and an M.B.A. degree from Harvard University. She currently serves as Entrepreneur in Residence at Harvard Business School.



SPECIAL PEOPLE — President George Bush's list of "extraordinary people" he met in 2007 included Cordia Harrington, right, pictured with Jada Thompson, left, and Sharon Linder, who received global travel grants provided by Harrington last May.

Alumna makes President's 'extraordinary people' list

The December 30 issue of *Parade* magazine included an article by President George W. Bush on "What Made My Year Special."

The President wrote that, "Inevitably, (Laura and I) find that our most treasured memories revolve around the extraordinary people we have met. These men and women inspire us, they touch our hearts, and they remind us of the true strength of the nation."

He wrote the following about Cordia Harrington, BSHE '75, who received the Bumpers College 2007 Outstanding Alumnus Award. She is founder, CEO and owner of Nashville Bun Company and three other Tennessee-based bakery companies.

"I was also grateful for the opportunity to meet entrepreneurs like Cordia Harrington. A little more than a decade ago, Cordia was a single mom with a dream of starting her own company. Today, she owns a thriving bakery, employs more than 200 people and calls herself 'the bun lady.' One hot day last July, I flew to Nashville to see her factory and meet Cordia. I found a strong spirit of enterprise. Risktakers like Cordia create jobs and opportunities for their fellow citizens and show the world the power of the American Dream." ■



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS — Poultry judging team coach Jason Emmert, left, is pictured with Samantha Blair, Chris Scarborough, Sherita Baker, assistant coach Dennis Mason and Nicole Young. The team won first place in the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association's national contest April 3-5 at Louisiana State University.

New president... (cont.)

you're working in your career," Rainey said. "It's a win for the college, and it also has many benefits for the alumni. "It maintains the relationships you had while in school.

"We have a fantastic alumni board and a good leadership team working to help recent graduates see the value of getting involved," Rainey says.

In addition to his participation in the Bumpers College Alumni Society, Rainey is an active member of the Arkansas Alumni Association, serving as vice president of the Little Rock Capital Chapter. He is also very active in his community, serving in leadership roles for several organizations and volunteering for the Arkansas Food-Bank. He is also on the board of directors for Literacy Action of Central Arkansas and the Jesse W. Mason Sr. Foundation.

Rainey lives in Little Rock with his wife Jenel and daughter Marlee Emma. ■

Donors add to scholarship endowments

Alumni and friends of Bumpers College have added to existing scholarship endowments and created new funds with recent gifts.

Carroll E. Walls Sr. and Colleen S. Walls Endowment

A planned gift from the estate of Carroll Walls, who died Nov. 11, 2007, in Little Rock, included \$92,000 for the Carroll E. Walls Sr. and Colleen S. Walls Endowment in Agriculture for Bumpers College scholarships. Gifts were also designated for endowed scholarships in the College of Education and Health Professions and the School of Forest Resources at UA Monticello.

Carroll Walls, BSA '55 MS '56, and Colleen Sue Hooten were married in 1956, the year he received his master's degree in agronomy and she her bachelor's degree in education. He was the 2003 Bumpers College Outstanding Alumnus. A native of England, Ark., he retired from research, development and management positions with DuPont in 1993 and then became manager of research and development with Timberland Enterprises.

Walls helped establish the U of A System's Agricultural Development Council and was its first chairman. Other gifts from the couple benefiting Bumpers College include an annual honors undergraduate research grant; a gift to renovate what is now the Walls Classroom in the Human Environmental Sciences Building; a van for the department of crop, soil, and environmental sciences; and unpublicized gifts to help individual students. They have been recognized as "Towers of Old Main," which is a title for the U of A's most faithful supporters.



WALLS CLASSROOM — Sue and Carroll Walls, center, are joined by Dean Greg Weidemann and Dr. Mary Warnock, head of the School of Human Environmental Sciences, following the Dedication of the Walls Classroom in 2004.

Alvin and Lorena Neumann endow new and existing funds

A gift of \$250,000 was added to the Alvin L. Neumann Endowed Scholarship in animal science and another gift of \$250,000 has created the Lorena Peterman Neumann Home Economics Scholarship. The gifts are from the Neumanns' estate.

The Neumanns lived in Urbana, Ill., when Dr. Neumann died Sept. 13, 2006, and Mrs. Neumann passed away Feb. 26, 2007.

Lorena Neumann, BSHE '47, enrolled at the University of Arkansas as a foods and nutrition major when her husband was hired as an assistant professor in the animal industry department in 1946. He left after two years to obtain a doctorate in animal nutrition and physiology at the University of Illinois in 1949 and returned to the U of A as a professor of animal nutrition for a short time before joining the faculty at Illinois.

Neumann served as head of the beef cattle division at Illinois from 1953 to 1964. He was head of the department of animal, range and wildlife sciences at New Mexico State University from 1964 to 1971 when he returned to Illinois as a professor and retired in 1976. He was elected to the Animal Science Hall of Fame at Oklahoma State University and was a fellow of the American Society of Animal Science.

PLR Farms/J.O. and Marie Parker Endowed Scholarship

J.O. Parker of Farmington and the late Marie Parker have provided a gift of \$30,000 for the PLR Farms/J.O. and Marie Parker Endowed Scholarship with preference for students with financial need, from Washington County, involved in the Polled Hereford/Hereford industry, or a 4-H or FFA member.

The Parker's owned and operated the Parker Lakeview Ranch, which was well known for its Polled Hereford breeding stock, on Hwy. 265 between Fayetteville and Springdale for more than 45 years. They sold the property and relocated the farm to Rheas Mill west of Farmington. Parker was an avid supporter of the bull-testing program conducted by the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture.

Marie Parker retired from Washington Regional Medical Center after 45 years as a nurse and physical therapy technician. She died March 23, 2008.

Olen and Mary McKnight Endowed Award

The children of the late Olen and Mary McKnight — Mark McKnight, Lynn Beatty and Kathleen Sanchez — have given \$10,000 to establish an award fund in memory of their parents, with preference for students from Clinton and Van Buren County.

Mary Emma Linn McKnight, BSHE '47, was a home demonstration agent in Clinton, where she met and married Olen and was not allowed to continue in her job as a married woman. She returned to work as a home economist in Clinton in the late 1960s and retired in 1985. She received the state Home Economist of the Year Award. She died in January 2002.

Olen McKnight was a dairy science major at the University of Arkansas for two years before joining the Army to serve in World War II. He received a BSA degree in dairy science from the University of Wisconsin and returned to his hometown of Clinton, where he owned and operated a cheese plant. He was manager of the Clinton Poultry and Egg processing plant now owned by Pilgrim's Pride for 27 years. He retired in 1984 and died in February 2006.

Poultry science tournament adds to scholarship funds

The Ninth Annual University of Arkansas Poultry Science Scholarship Golf Tournament April 15 at the Valley View Golf and Country Club in Farmington netted \$20,000 for scholarships.

Thirty-four teams participated. Major sponsors were Cobb-Vantress, Inc., and FPEC (Food Processing Equipment Company). Others who helped support the event were Marel Food Systems, Arkansas Farm Bureau and Harps Food Stores, Inc. The annual event has raised more than \$160,000 over the past nine years. ■



TURF CLASSIC — The horticulture department's turf team poses with U of A athletic coaches at the beginning of the U of A Golf and Sports Turf Classic April 14 at Stonebridge Meadows Golf Course. From left are Head Football Coach Bobby Petrino, Women's Head Golf Coach Shauna Estes, Extension Turf Specialist Aaron Patton, Women's Assistant Coach Mike Adams, Associate Professor Doug Karcher and Professor Mike Richardson. The annual golf tournament raises research and scholarship money for the U of A's turfgrass program.



HORSE FESTIVAL — Erin Bogle, BSA '03, of Bentonville, a licensed two-star Parelli instructor, demonstrates the application of equine psychology to horse training during the ninth annual University of Arkansas Horse Festival March 29. The annual event has raised more than \$600,000 for the Dorothy E. King Equine Program in ticket sales and contributions.

General human environmental sciences major

The general human environmental sciences major provides a general education in all areas of human environmental sciences, with enough elective hours to personalize the degree. Basic requirements include courses in apparel sciences, human development and family studies, interior design and nutrition.

The major prepares students for careers in social services, business, education and the Cooperative Extension Service. The education track, which includes courses in the College of Education and Health Professions, can be completed in four years for students interested in teaching family and consumer sciences in public schools.

This major offers the flexibility to double major with other programs, such as journalism or business, for a highly marketable degree in a variety of professions.

Students gain vital career skills and earn college credit during on-the-job training as pre-professionals through the student internship program.

Students receive personal attention from faculty members in a family-like atmosphere. A student chapter of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and the Phi Upsilon Omicron honor society provide professional development and networking opportunities.

This major is one of five in the School of Human Environmental Sciences, which is part of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. ■

HESC Graduates are meeting basic needs

Megan Hula, BSHE '06, and Grant Gullett, BSHE '00, who have been dating for about two years, have a lot in common, including University of Arkansas degrees with majors from the School of Human Environmental Sciences in Bumpers College. She came to the U of A from DeValls Bluff, and he is a Pine Bluff native. Both now live in Fayetteville.

Her major was general human environmental sciences plus a one-year master of arts in teaching degree. His was foods, nutrition and hospitality with a concentration in restaurant and hospitality management.

They both enjoy cooking, which works for her as the family and consumer sciences teacher at Huntsville High School, and for him as owner of one of Fayetteville's newest restaurants, Gullett's Gourmet, on West Avenue just off Dickson.

Like a good recipe, their relationship blends the spice of variety from careers in business and education with their common enjoyment of helping people meet their basic needs.

Hula has found that many students appreciate learning "everyday living skills," like balancing a checkbook, fixing a simple meal, basic nutrition, using credit wisely and insurance basics. Others enjoy her more career-oriented courses such as foods and nutrition, family dynamics and housing and interior design.

A major challenge, Hula says, is balancing classes for her 115 students in grades 9–12. Some need vocational training and others are college bound. This past year, five students had babies and four were accepted at the U of A.

Hula's UA courses helped prepare her to understand and enjoy the adventurous, inquisitive spirit of adolescents, she says.

"The wheels are always turning, and they will try out crazy ideas in the process of figuring out who they are. They help me grow as a teacher and a person as much as I help them," she says.

Hula is excited about next year when she will start an "Education in Training" program that will provide credit hours toward an education degree. A state grant provided funds to equip a room with computers and other tools for teaching education principles and practices.



MS. HULA — Megan Hula, BSHE '06, must meet a wide range of needs for 115 family and consumer science students in grades 9–12 at Huntsville High School.



RESTAURANTEUR — Grant Gullett poses with the neon sign for one of Fayetteville’s newest restaurants in the background.

Food, human nutrition and hospitality major

The food, human nutrition and hospitality major has three concentrations: dietetics, general foods and nutrition, and hospitality and restaurant management.

The hospitality and restaurant management path leads to careers in the restaurant, hotel and tourism industries. Classes meet in the Inn at Carnall Hall and Ella’s Restaurant on campus. The curriculum provides business skills as well as people skills and hands-on training with food preparation and other specialties. Student internships are available with the campus hotel and many other businesses in the U.S. and abroad.

Students who complete the dietetics curriculum for a B.S. degree are eligible for a fifth year internship to qualify for the national registration exam to earn the title of registered dietitian, which opens a variety of career options in the health care field. The dietetics option is also an excellent pre-medicine, pre-pharmacy or pre-dental curriculum.

The general foods and nutrition option leads to careers in the food industry, education and public service. Many elective hours are included to allow for combining foods and nutrition study with other areas such as exercise science, journalism, business or physical and biological sciences.

This popular major is offered by the School of Human Environmental Sciences, which is part of Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences. ■

“I have always dreamed of opening a restaurant, and now it is a reality,” says Gullett, who has managed three Fayetteville restaurants including Grubs Bar and Grille, which he helped design and start up.

Gullett, Megan and their mothers have visited many restaurants and conducted focus groups with restaurant managers and customers to develop the Gullett’s Gourmet concept. “We have taken some ideas from the 1217 in Hot Springs and Diane’s in Little Rock,” he says.

A signature item is “Fire and Ice” pickles; they are “sweet with a little bite at the end,” Gullett says. “Mom has made them from her own recipe for years as Christmas gifts.”

Sandwiches, salads and a pay-by-the-pound salad bar are staples, along with prepared entrees and sides for “eating in” or “to go.”

The new restaurant, “is like a deli, but not a typical deli. We take things that we know people like and put a twist on them to make them unique,” Gullett says.

He says his experience as a manager and his training in the restaurant and hospitality program, plus a minor in business, have prepared him to accept the risks of starting a new restaurant and managing it for the long haul. ■

— Howell Medders

Ag Hall of Fame inducts Bill Dorough

William “Bill” Dorough, BSA ’53, of Little Rock was inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame March 14 in Little Rock.

Dorough, who had the Grand Champion Jersey Bull four years in a row at the Arkansas State Fair, became livestock director of the State Fair from 1973 to 2003. He owned a dairy for many years, and now has an Angus calf/cow herd at Sweet Home in Pulaski County.



William “Bill” Dorough

Dorough has held a number of leadership positions in agricultural and civic organizations. He and his wife, Frances, are active members of the Primrose Methodist Church in Little Rock. He is a veteran of the Korean War and a graduate of Arkansas Tech University and the University of Arkansas.

Others inducted this year were the late Esther Hill Chapin of Trumann, who formed the Judd Hill Foundation; the late George Dunklin of Pine Bluff, former president of Planters Cotton Oil Mill; C. Michael French of Conway, associate director for programs with the Cooperative Extension Service; and Leland Stratton of Stuttgart, founder of Stratton Seed Co., the South’s largest seed production, conditioning and marketing company.

The Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas Farm Bureau sponsor the Hall of Fame. ■

Commencement 2008



The class of 2008 is the largest ever with 270 students completing bachelor's degree requirements this spring as well as last summer and fall. Family and friends of the Class of 2008 nearly filled the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center for Commencement May 10. In keeping with the tradition of the last several years, one of the outstanding graduates, Laura Sossamon, delivered the Commencement address.

The 2008 Outstanding Alumna is Darlene Z. Baker Millard, BSHE '76 MS '81, of Bryant, assistant director for 4-H Youth Development in the Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture.



Darlene Z. Baker Millard

As a 4-H member in the 1970s, Millard twice won the state 4-H record book award. She was a national 4-H ambassador and spent eight weeks in Germany with the International 4-H Youth Exchange.

After graduating from the University of Arkansas with her master's degree, Millard joined the Extension Service as Pulaski County 4-H agent and advanced to a state specialist position after receiving a doctorate in consumer science from Texas Women's University.

Under Millard's leadership, Arkansas became the most prolific 4-H record book program in the nation. She twice has served as chairperson of the National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System steering committee. She was appointed to the Governor's Task Force on Out of School Time to help guide policy and funding for after school programs.

Millard has served on the DBCAFLS Alumni Board for six years. She has

served as scholarship committee chair and on the strategic planning committee.

Laura R. Sossamon of Ozark is an agribusiness major in the pre-law program with a Spanish minor. She is a Bumpers College **First Ranked Senior Scholar**, signifying her achievement of a 4.0 grade point average during four years as a Bumpers College student at the University of Arkansas, and a **John W. White Outstanding Student**. Her career goal is to work in public policy and law. She is conducting an honors research project, was a student leader for a service project in Belize, served on the Dean's Student Advisory Board and is one of 17 students nationally selected for the USDA 2008 Agricultural Outlook Forum.



Laura R. Sossamon

Lydia Joann Rice of Joplin, Mo., is a **Senior Scholar**, which signifies a 4.0 GPA with some credit hours from other colleges, and a **John W. White Outstanding Student**. She is receiving a B.S. degree with a food science major and plans to pursue advanced degrees with the goal of becoming a university professor in the field. Rice has studied at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark and the University of Valencia in Spain. Among many other activities she has conducted an honors research project and served as a volunteer for campus and community organizations.



Lydia Joann Rice

Megan Rochelle Norton of Lincoln is a Bumpers College **Senior Scholar**, which signifies a 4.0 grade

point average with some credit hours from other colleges. Norton is a poultry science major with a minor in Agricultural Business. Since 2005, she has worked 30 hours a week as a bank teller while compiling a 4.0 GPA. She was on the UA Poultry Judging Team, is a Poultry Science Club member and has been a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kid's Sake and a Lincoln Lake clean-up project.



Megan Rochelle Norton

The **Dale Bumpers Distinguished Scholars** awards are presented to an outstanding undergraduate transfer student and outstanding master's and doctoral students.

Kristin MacKenzie Hopper of Rogers was selected for the **Distinguished Scholar** undergraduate transfer student award based on her outstanding record as an agricultural education, communication and technology major. A transfer from Kansas State University, she is a Collegiate FFA-4H officer, is active in Sigma Alpha and has been a volunteer worker at the women's shelter, Red Cross and other community organizations. She plans to pursue a career in agricultural education.



Kristin MacKenzie Hopper

Jon M. Zawislak's M.S. research involves studying methods for control of the varroa mite, a parasite with the most pronounced economic impact on the beekeeping industry. It may be a



Jon Zawislak

Honors Program Distinguished Graduates



J. Grant Ballard



Amanda Bettasso



Laura R. Carpenter



Misti Clark



Lindsay Copenhaver



ReGina Finley



Edison Froelich



Lindsay Marie Irion



J. Brent Koonce



Donna Moll



Kathryn Y. Murphy



Trisha Reed Quinn



Ashley Rashé



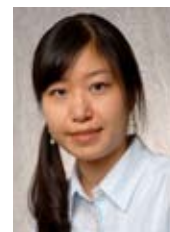
Lydia Joann Rice



Laura R. Sossamon



Jennifer Stabach



Mioko Tamura

Seventeen members of the Class of 2008 who successfully completed the Bumpers College Honors Program and are **Honors Program Distinguished Graduates** are listed with their major and faculty mentor.

- **J. Grant Ballard**, Roland, Okla.: agricultural business, Mike Thomsen.
- **Amanda Bettasso**, Joplin, Mo.: food science, Navam Hettiarachchy.
- **Laura R. Carpenter**, Benton: apparel studies, Lona Robertson.
- **Misti Clark**, Prairie Grove: agricultural business, Eric Wailes.
- **Lindsay Copenhaver**, Conway: environmental, soil, and water science, Mary Savin.
- **ReGina Finley**, Searcy: poultry science, Gisela Erf.
- **Edison Froelich**, Fayetteville: agricultural business, Jennie Popp.
- **Lindsay Marie Irion**, Conway: food, human nutrition and hospitality, Jerald Foote.
- **J. Brent Koonce**, Little Rock: animal science, Beth Kegley.
- **Donna Moll**, Little Rock: apparel studies, Lona Robertson.
- **Kathryn Y. Murphy**, North Little Rock: animal science, Charles Rosenkrans.
- **Tricia Reed Quinn**, Fayetteville: interior design, Catherine Wallack.
- **Ashley Rashé**, Shell Knob, Mo.: environmental, soil, and water Science, Mary Savin.
- **Lydia Joann Rice**, Joplin, Mo.: food science, Luke Howard.
- **Laura R. Sossamon**, Ozark: agricultural business, Eric Wailes.
- **Jennifer Stabach**, Springdale: apparel studies, Laurie Apple.
- **Mioko Tamura**, Saitama, Japan: crop management, Pengyin Chen.

contributing factor to Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) which is threatening hives throughout North America. He has worked on a variety of projects as a research technician since 1998 in the Insect Pathology Lab and has nine refereed publications. He is secretary-treasurer of the Arkansas Entomological Society and a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, the Isely-Baerg Entomology Club and the Entomological Society of America.

Jacquelyn Amber “Jackie” McKern’s Ph.D. research will help fill gaps in the classification of important insect species using molecular genetic markers. She captained the UA Linnaean Team, which



Jackie McKern

won a national championship this year, and is the Arkansas student representative to the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America. She has 14 refereed publications and has trained graduate students and served as a lab instructor and teaching assistant in undergraduate classes.

The **Spitze Public Policy Legislative Internship Award**, sponsored by Dr. Robert Spitze and Dr. Hazel Taylor Spitze, provides for a student internship in the United States Congress or the



Megan S. Cunningham

Arkansas Legislature. This year's recipient, **Megan S. Cunningham** of Carl Junction, Mo., will serve as a summer intern with Senator Blanche Lincoln. Through the Bumpers College Global Studies Program, she has already served an internship in the Scottish Parliament. She plans to pursue graduate studies in agricultural policy. An agribusiness major with minors in global studies and communications, she is a member of the Dean's Advisory Board, UA and College Ambassadors and Alpha Zeta and received the UA Community Builder of the Year award.

The **Presidential Scholar Award** is presented to **Holly M. Minard** of Shreveport, La., as the student with the highest grade point average after having earned at least 45 credit hours. Minard



Holly M. Minard

is a junior animal science major in the pre-veterinary medicine program. She is conducting an honors program research project and will be a summer intern in the Royal School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh, Scotland. Her many activities include Northwest Quad senator, Honors College Ambassador, Pre-Vet Club officer and Fayetteville Animal Shelter volunteer.

The Bumpers College Alumni Society sponsors an annual scholarship and names two Ring Scholars each year, who each receive a class ring when they graduate.

Jordan Love Fisher of Tulsa is the **Alumni Society Scholarship** recipient. She will receive her BSHES degree with a major in apparel studies and then move to New York City for an

internship with a design firm. Her goals include enrolling in the Fashion Institute of Technology for an advanced degree and, eventually, starting a fashion design company. She has been involved in University Programs and Heifer International and has been an after-school daycare volunteer.



Jordan Love Fisher

Bumpers College **Alumni Society Ring Scholars** are Christopher Francis Peluso of Fort Smith and Chelsey Lehn Castrodale of Little Rock.

After his sophomore year, **Christopher Francis Peluso** of Fort Smith enrolled in the French Culinary Institute in New York City and worked as a chef there and in Florida. He is now a food science major in Bumpers College and plans to pursue a career in medical research related to food. His many volunteer activities include the Washington County Search and Rescue Team, Alpha Phi Omega, Golden Key Society and Alpha Epsilon Delta.



Christopher Peluso

Food science major **Chelsey Lehn Castrodale** of Little Rock is founder and president of the first collegiate tennis club in Arkansas at the U of A. She is conducting an honors research project on the effects of processing and storage on antioxidant capacity of blueberry jam. She works with children as an Ozone Ministries volunteer and is a member of the Bumpers College Student Advisory Board, the Food Science Club and Alpha Zeta honors fraternity.



Chelsey Castrodale

Associate Professor **Jason L. Emmert** is the 2008 recipient of the Bumpers College **Alumni Society Outstanding Advising Award**. As undergraduate curriculum coordinator in the poultry science department,

Emmert promotes a high standard for faculty advisers by example and by his leadership. He is an active recruiter and forms relationships with students that begin in high school and continue after graduation. He coaches the Poultry Judging Team, teaches a variety of courses and conducts poultry nutrition and management research.



Jason L. Emmert

Associate Professor **Jefferson D. Miller** is the 2008 recipient of the **Jack G. Justus Award for Teaching Excellence**. Miller has built the Bumpers College agricultural communications program into a position of national prominence. He has created several new courses, including a communications service course for students in other majors. He advises 22 undergraduate students and five graduate students and has chaired and served on a number of graduate committees. He also has an active research program and has produced 20 refereed publications since joining the faculty in 2001.



Jefferson D. Miller

Cassandra Cox is the 2008 recipient of the **John W. White Outstanding Teaching Award**. Cox is an instructor in the department of agricultural and extension education. She teaches multiple sections of "Applications of Microcomputers" and "Leadership Development in Agriculture," and she is helping to revise and teach "Management and Leadership" in the Honors Program. She also has led the department's recruiting efforts and directed the department's student representatives. Cox has B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural education, communication and technology from the University of Arkansas. ■



Cassandra Cox

Division of Agriculture presents faculty, staff awards

The University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture recognized outstanding performance by faculty and staff members at an awards luncheon Jan. 17 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Springdale.

Vice President for Agriculture Milo Shult said, "These awards signify the excellence of services provided by our faculty and staff members throughout the state. I am extremely proud of their work in support of our state's dynamic agricultural sector, the environment, families and communities."

The Division of Agriculture includes the Cooperative Extension Service and the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station. Many Division of Agriculture research and extension faculty members are also faculty members on University of Arkansas campuses in Fayetteville, Monticello, Pine Bluff and Little Rock and at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

The **Spitze Land Grant University Faculty Award for Excellence** was presented to **Duane Wolf**, professor of crop, soil and environmental sciences. Wolf is director of the honors program in Bumpers College and has served in many faculty leadership positions. His teaching and research are in soil science. The award carries a \$3,000 stipend provided by Robert G.F. and Hazel Taylor Spitze, who graduated from the university in the 1940s and have had distinguished academic careers.

John W. White awards for outstanding teaching, research, extension service and teamwork are named for the U of A System's first vice president for agriculture when the Division of Agriculture was created in 1959.

The **John W. White Outstanding Teaching Award** went to **Cassandra Cox**, an instructor in the department of agricultural and extension education. Cox works with students as an advisor, mentor and instructor in courses on leadership, management and computer applications.

Professor of Biological and Agricultural Engineering **Yanbin Li** received the **John W. White Outstanding Research Award**. The holder of the Tyson Endowed Chair in Biosensing Engineering, Li developed a biosensor system for rapid, in-field detection of the H5N1 avian influenza "bird flu" virus. He is also a leading scholar in detection of pathogenic bacteria in food products.

Poultry Specialist **Susan Watkins** of Springdale received the **John W. White Outstanding Extension State Faculty**



Award. She provides training and problem solving for poultry producers and industry personnel who work with producers. She has been director of the National Egg

Quality School for four years and manages the student internship program for poultry science majors.

Randy Chlapecka of Newport received the **John W. White Outstanding County Extension Educator Award**. As staff chair of the Jackson County extension office for 19 years, he manages a comprehensive program of support for agriculture, community development, family and consumer education, and youth development through 4-H clubs.

Mike Duren, program technician II at the Northeast Research and Extension Center in Keiser, received the Division of Agriculture Non-Classified Support Personnel Award. He works with faculty scientists to manage their field research projects in rice, corn and grain sorghum at NEREC.

Leslie C. "Sam" Atchley, farm foreman at the Northeast Research and Extension Center in Keiser, received the classified support personnel award. He supervises a staff that helps manage field research plots and is responsible for shop operations and building and grounds maintenance.

The **John W. White Outstanding Team Award** recognizes accomplishments of the **"Eating and Moving for Life" Program**, which is a joint project of the Cooperative Extension Service and the Arkansas Minority Health Commission. Team members are **Reyna Alvarez** and **Theresa James** of the Sevier County extension office in Ashdown, **Keith Cleek** of the Phillips County extension office in Helena, and **Easter Tucker**, associate professor and nutrition specialist at the state extension office in Little Rock. ■



Randy Chlapecka



Mike Duren



Leslie C. "Sam" Atchley



Duane Wolf



Cassandra Cox



Yanbin Li



Susan Watkins



Eating and Moving for Life Program Team:
Keith Cleek, Theresa James, Easter Tucker and Reyna Alvarez

In love with teaching (and with each other)

Cody Gray, BS '07, and Hannah Dicus Gray, BS '07, became best friends while competing together on the University of Arkansas Livestock Judging Team. Active animal science majors, they also worked with high school students during the U of A Livestock Judging Camp each summer.

Somewhere in the middle of all that, Cody likes to say, they fell in love with teaching and with each other. They married in July 2007, soon after graduation.

During Hannah's sophomore year and Cody's junior year, they decided to double major, adding agricultural education, communication and technology to their animal science degree programs. Cody, who was a year ahead of Hannah, added a year to his college career to make it happen, but he'll insist it was worth it.



Agriscience teacher Cody Gray, above, helps his student, Cody Taylor, with a project at Taylor High School.

Hannah Dicus Gray helps her student, Tracie Vanderbilt, research a report during her agriscience class at Prescott High School.



Hannah, a native of Paragould, said her entire educational experience helped lead her toward becoming a teacher.

"I was very active in my high school ag program, and in livestock judging in both high school and college," Hannah said. "I went back to all of that when I was thinking about what I wanted to do with my life."

Today, the couple lives at Hope, where Cody grew up. Hannah teaches down the road at Prescott High School, dividing her time between teaching agricultural science courses in animal science and horticulture, and facilitating a computer lab in which students study self-taught courses.

Hannah said she is building a livestock judging team for the school, something for which her own high school and college experience has prepared her well.

Farther down the road, Cody teaches agricultural science at Taylor High School. His courses include animal science, with a livestock judging team, and agricultural mechanics. He said Taylor High School also has a strong forestry program with a winning forestry judging team.

Husband and wife both credit the late Dr. Nolan Arthur, professor of agricultural and extension education,

with leading them into the agricultural education program.

"Dr. Arthur was one of the most influential people in my college career," Cody said. "He really had a big impact in helping me see that teaching was for me."

Cody credits Dr. George Wardlow, professor of agricultural and extension education, with getting him ready for the classroom, with strong emphasis on methodology and the thought processes necessary for planning and carrying out lessons and learning activities.

"Dr. Arthur got me ready for the people end of teaching, and Dr. Wardlow got me ready for the business end of it," Cody said. "The transition from college to the classroom was an easy one to make."

Hannah adds that Dr. Freddie Scott, professor of agricultural and extension education, also had a big impact on getting her ready to teach. She said the whole agricultural education program provided the tools she needs to succeed in her teaching career.

"The program gives you lots of hands-on experience in the classroom so you'll be prepared and aware of what to expect when you walk into the classroom," Hannah said.

Both are happy with their chosen careers and plan to further their education by earning master's degrees. Cody plans to eventually earn a Ph.D. and hopes to teach at the college level. Hannah said she wants to stay in secondary education, teaching high school agricultural science.

"I enjoy being involved with the students and helping them find things that pique their interest and open opportunities for learning and careers," Hannah said. ■

— Fred Miller

Agricultural education, communications and technology major

The agricultural education, communications and technology major has three areas of concentration. In all three areas, students learn basic principles and practices of agricultural sciences and technology.

The **agricultural education** program prepares students for careers in education as well as industry and public service. Graduates are in demand as teachers of agriculture and the related sciences.

When students decide to study in this area, they enter one of the most unique professional teacher education programs in the nation. The Bumpers College curriculum leads the way in professional teacher training.

The program includes study in the agricultural sciences and technologies as well as professional study in educational pedagogy. In addition to coursework, students will participate in field-based internships in agricultural education. They will also participate in leadership experiences through the department's first-in-the-nation combined Collegiate FFA/4-H Club.

The **agricultural communications** program provides technical knowledge about agriculture and communication skills to make that knowledge accessible to the public through print, broadcast and electronic media.

In addition to courses in the sciences and in the many different areas of agriculture, students can choose from courses such as news and broadcast reporting, feature writing, public relations and photojournalism.

Agricultural communications graduates find jobs in agricultural information agencies; newspaper and magazine feature writing, editing and photography; public relations and advertising; radio, video and television production; environmental reporting; and law.

Students also have opportunities for internships with agricultural industries and can join Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow. This organization offers professional contacts and recognizes professional excellence and growth.

The **agricultural systems technology management (ASTM)** program combines agriculture, technology and business to provide students with a solid background for success in professional careers related to technical operations and management in the broad industry of agriculture.

ASTM includes courses such as electricity in agriculture, computer applications and mechanized systems management. ASTM students also complete courses in the agricultural sciences, agricultural business and economics, as well as the humanities, communications, the basic sciences, and mathematics.

The ASTM program prepares individuals for technical careers in agricultural industries and businesses, production agriculture, and allied organizations. ■

Reed re-elected to American Farm Bureau board

Stanley Reed, BS '73 JD '76, was elected in December to a fifth term as president of Arkansas Farm Bureau and to his third two-year term on the American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors.



Stanley Reed

Reed, a cotton farmer from Marianna, said, "I'm honored to be asked to serve on the board again. There are several critical tasks facing agriculture we must address, not the least of which is securing passage of the 2007 Farm Bill. Also, the issues of foreign trade, alternative biofuels, farm animal welfare and a tangle of government regulations are of great importance to the future of America's farmers and ranchers. I have tried to bring an Arkansas farmers' view to these important issues."

Reed is the immediate past-chair of the University of Arkansas System's Board of Trustees.



CSES BOOTH — Alumni and friends visited the Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science booth at the Mid-South Farm and Gin Exhibition Feb. 29-March 1 in Memphis. Mike Burnside, right, of Lake City visited with Duane Goldman of Pine Bluff, one of the CSES alumni who helped staff the booth. Dr. Goldman, BS '85 MS '87, is a technical development manager with Monsanto.

Engineering academy inducts four alumni

The Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering inducted four Bumpers College alumni at an April 11 banquet: Karl VanDevender of Little Rock, Pat Bass of Little Rock, Darrell Holmes of Houston, Texas, and Jonathan Pote of Starkville, Miss.

Karl VanDevender, extension professor of biological and agricultural engineering at the University of Arkansas, received B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural engineering from Mississippi State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas in 1992.

VanDevender is leader of the livestock and poultry waste management program for the U of A System's Division of Agriculture. He serves as an ex-officio member of the Arkansas Pork Producers Board of Directors, is an active member in the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers and a member of the National Pork Board's swine educators advisory group. He also serves in the Southeast Region Extension Water Quality Working Group.

Pat Bass has his own consulting firm, Bass Engineering Inc., and also partners with Sullivan and Associates as a principal engineering specialist. He earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering at the U of A and has graduate training in both geotechnical engineering and advanced irrigation methods from the U of A and Utah State University. He has more than 20 years experience with watershed projects in Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Bass is a registered professional engineer in both Arkansas and Oklahoma and a registered land surveyor in Oklahoma. He served in numerous capacities during his 33 years with the National Resources Conservation Service, including assistant state conservation engineer, special project leader, state water management engineer, area engineer, project engineer and agriculture engineer in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Darrell Holmes earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering from the U of A in 1981. He studied toward an M.B.A. from Rice University's Jones Business School in Houston.

Holmes made notable achievements in the energy services industry since he began his career with Halliburton Energy Services in 1981. He worked in several locations in Oklahoma and Texas and is presently the region technology manager for Hexion Specialty Chemicals (Oilfield Technology Group) in Houston.

Holmes has more than 26 years experience in the oil and gas industry and extensive background in quality and man-



2008 inductees to the Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineers are, from left, Pat Bass of Little Rock, Darrell Holmes of Houston, Texas, Karl VanDevender of Little Rock and Jonathan Pote of Starkville, Miss.

agement systems including Lean and Six Sigma Quality methodology.

Holmes' accomplishments include the development of global standards and processes and the "Done Right Index" to track total service quality, both for Halliburton.

Jonathan W. Pote is a professor of agricultural and biological engineering and associate director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station at Mississippi State University. His research areas are water chemistry, water quality, water management and

conservation, aquaculture, and environmental planning.

Pote received a Ph.D. degree in biological and agricultural engineering at the U of A in 1984. He received a B.S. degree in chemistry at Hendrix College in 1975 and an M.S. degree in environmental engineering and water resources at Oregon State University in 1975.

Pote's method of water conservation for the aquaculture industry has been adopted by the Natural Resources Conservation Service as a best management practice and is a major incentive program for the industry.

The Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering was founded in 2002 by the department of biological and agricultural engineering. Members are eminent graduates or supporters of the biological and agricultural engineering program of the University of Arkansas.

News releases and photos are available online at <http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/392.htm>. ■

Mentoring program started

A new Bumpers College Peer Mentoring Program will provide the opportunity for new students to have a current student as his or her personal guide to student life at the University of Arkansas.

The mentor and new student will meet at least weekly during the first eight weeks of fall semester, program director John Kelly said. He said mentors can help ease the transition from high school or community college, help students connect to campus resources and provide moral support and "reality checks" to help students stay on track. ■

UA names animal science graduates of distinction

Benton County native Jerry Rakes and Washington County dairy farmer Bob Spears were named Graduates of Distinction by the department of animal science in Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences at the University of Arkansas.

Spears graduated from Mountainburg High School and from the U of A with a bachelor's degree in animal science in 1962. During his college career he was a member of the Livestock Judging Team, was on the Dean's list for two years and was a member of Alpha Zeta Honorary Fraternity.

After graduating, Spears first worked as a livestock buyer for Swift & Company in Kansas City. In 1968 he became a partner in a 25-cow dairy farm in Washington County. The milking herd was expanded to 400 mature Holstein cows with modern facilities near Farmington. It was the highest producing herd in Arkansas 12 times during a 20-year span and was the highest classified herd in the state.

Cattle and embryos from Spears' farm have been exported to Mexico, Honduras, several countries in Europe, and Japan. The milking herd, which at one point was the largest in Arkansas, was sold in 2001, and the primary enterprise became raising about 1,300 dairy heifers annually on 2,000 acres of land.

Rakes entered the U.S. Army after high school and served during the Korean Conflict. He completed a B.S. degree in 1955 and an M.S. degree in 1956, both in animal science at the U of A and a Ph.D. degree in animal science at Iowa State University in 1958. He joined the U of A animal science faculty in 1958 and was promoted to associate professor in 1964 and professor in 1968.

During his tenure at the U of A Rakes taught dairy cattle judging and selection, principles of genetics, dairy cattle breeding, artificial insemination of cattle, dairy junior judging team activity, dairy senior judging team activity and market milk.



Bob Spears, right, a Washington County dairy farmer, receives the 2008 Animal Science Graduate of Distinction award from Bumpers College Dean Greg Weidemann. Not shown, Jerry M. Rakes, a native of Benton County, was named the 2008 Animal Science Advanced Graduate of Distinction.

Rakes conducted research in management and genetics of dairy cattle, particularly in selection for protein concentration in milk and in embryo development in the bovine. He was a member of Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi, Alpha Zeta, the Arkansas Holstein Association, the American Holstein Association, the American Dairy Science Association, and the American Society of Animal Science. Rakes retired in 1993.

The awards were presented during an awards banquet April 16 at the U of A.

News releases and photos are available online at <http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/392.htm>. ■



Banding Together — Paul and Tina Teague of Jonesboro and their children, Zoe and Jack, are pictured at the 2007 homecoming game after the alumni band marched with the Razorback Marching Band during pre-game activities. Jack, a biological engineering major, and Zoe, an environmental science major, are following in the footsteps of Paul and Tina, both MS '81, as Razorback Band members. Paul owns the Delta Fresh produce brokerage, and Tina is a Division of Agriculture professor at Arkansas State University; they have Ph.D. degrees in agricultural economics and entomology, respectively.

1950s

Troy and Sue Dennis, BS '59 MS '67, of Huntsville celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary July 14, 2007, with a Hawaiian vacation and cruise. The couple have one child, Marty, and three grandchildren.

1960s

Judy Hobson, BS '65 MS '83 EDS '91, was appointed director of a new Education Renewal Zone office for English language learners. She retired as coordinator of English as a Second Language and migrant programs in the Springdale School District after working for 39 years in public education.

James E. Marrs, BSA '64, sold his restaurant and business in Rome, Ga., after 35 years in business. He is now working freelance consulting and business consulting for Western Sizzlin Franchise Corporation.

Snyder named to EPA committee

Cliff Snyder, BS '78 MS '80, was named to the new Farm, Ranch and Rural Communities Advisory Committee recently created by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Snyder is nitrogen program director with the International Plant Nutrition Institute at Conway and an adjunct faculty member in the department of crop, soil, and environmental sciences.

The committee will advise the EPA administrator on policy issues impacting farms, ranches and rural communities. Issues include policies related to climate change, renewable energy sources, managing wastes from livestock operations and other emerging issues.



Cliff Snyder

Patricia M. (McEachern) Wallace, BS '61, was recently awarded the Sapphire Pen for 10 years of volunteer service at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla.

Don, BSA '62, and **Maribelle Blew Williams**, BS '59, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family cruise in July. The couple have four sons, Doug and Paul, both of Farmington, and Wade and Dwight, both of Fayetteville. They also have 10 grandchildren.

1970s

Joe David Rice, BA '74, who has served as Arkansas' tourism director since 1987, has been elected Chairman of the National Council of State Tourism Directors.

1980s

Jawanda B. (Barnett) Mast, BS '83 MS '89, is the executive director of the Down Syndrome Association of the Mid-South and was named by *Memphis Women's Magazine* as one of the 50 women in Memphis who made a difference.

Patricia (Berryhill) Anderson, BSA '82, has started a landscape design business, Berryhill Designs. She has also been elected membership chair of the Peninsula District of the California Chapter of the Association of Landscape Designers (APLD).

D. Trent Roberts, BSA '80 MS '82, has been re-elected secretary/treasurer of the Arkansas Foodbank Network — the largest food bank in Arkansas, serving 450 food pantries, shelters and soup kitchens that feed the hungry in 33 counties.

1990s

John Charles Easley, BSA '92, is serving as executive officer in the 188th Maintenance Group, 188th Fighter Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard. He and his wife, **Heather (Hillman)**, BSA '95, live in Siloam Springs.

Eric Stafne, MS '99 PhD '05, is assistant professor Fruit and Nut Crops Extension, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University.

Richelle Stafne, BSA '97 MS '99, is senior research specialist in horticulture at the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center, Oklahoma State University. She is also a contributing writer to *Oklahoma Gardener* magazine.

Births

Lacey, BSA '02, and **Aaron Jennen**, BA '01 JD '04, proudly announce the birth of

Send your class notes to
Ashley Harris
awharris@uark.edu
or mail the attached card.

a daughter, Parker Delaney Jennen, Nov. 19, 2007. Parker joins big brother Jackson Davis.

Deaths

George Benjamin Spencer Jr., BSA '49, of Paducah, Ky., passed away on Sept. 30, 2007. He was a farmer, WWII veteran, retired major with the U.S. Army Reserves Corps of Engineers and retired manager of Land and Right of Way for Arkansas Power and Light Co. (now Entergy Arkansas). George was also a member of Alpha Zeta, an honorary agriculture fraternity.

Jack McNeil, BSA '46, died May 25, 2007. McNeil was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity and an avid Razorback fan. Jack even had "Go Hogs!" on the bottom of his business cards. He was a member of the Arkansas Children's Hospital Ruth Beall Society.

Dr. Bill R. Webb, BSA '57 MS '60, passed away Jan. 17, 2008. He was a retired professor of sociology at Texas A&M University of Commerce, Department of Sociology in Commerce, Texas.

James W. Bean, BSA '53, died Dec. 14, 2007. After graduating from the University of Arkansas on a four-year track scholarship, Bean joined The Prudential where his career spanned 55 years. He also served in the U.S. Army Signal Corp. He is survived by his wife, Dolores, BSHE '53, daughters Sara and Cynthia and two grandchildren.

Donald Flournoy Huenefeld, BSA '50, died Dec. 18, 2007. He was a farmer, a U.S. Navy pilot, Vietnam War veteran and an Arkansas Civil Air Patrol wing commander. He was employed with USDA Farmers Home Administration (presently Rural Development) from 1966 until he retired in 1996 as Pope County administrator. He later worked as secretary for Duncan Construction Inc.

Kenneth Griffith, MS '82, passed away Oct. 1, 2007.

Edwin C. Kersey Sr., BSA '53, died Feb. 17, 2008, in Conway.

Patrick Sims Honeycutt, BSA '50, passed away Jan. 25, 2008. He was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Blue Key, Animal Industry Club, ADA, AZ and Scabbard and Blade. He was a rancher all his life and raised commercial cattle for more than 58 years. ■

Arkansas counts on Agriculture.

Agriculture counts on Farm Bureau.



Arkansas Farm Bureau has a long tradition of supporting Bumpers College students and alumni and the research and extension programs of the University of Arkansas System's statewide Division of Agriculture.



www.arfb.com

Thanks for your support!

Arkansas Farm Bureau is helping to pay for printing of this issue of *The Graduate*.

Student-Faculty Team Continues Belize Project

Students and faculty members are continuing a service learning project in Belize this summer. They will continue work started last spring as part of a campus-wide project sponsored by the UA Honors College in collaboration with Peacework, a nonprofit international volunteer agency based in Blacksburg, Va.

Associate professors Nilda Burgos and Jennie Popp are faculty sponsors for the “St. Matthew’s Sustainable Farm Project” to help students and volunteers at a rural school raise vegetables and other food products for use at the school.

Students participating this year include Edison Froelich, agribusiness; Audrey McCoy, art history; Amanda Simpson, agribusiness; Jillian Harper, agribusiness; Ashley Gatling, agricultural education; Raymond Jones, horticulture; Brooke Jackson, agribusiness; and Ashley Jones, agribusiness. Lindsay Copenhaver, crop management and environmental sciences, is assisting in the planning efforts, but



Students participating in the St. Matthew’s Sustainable Farm Project this summer include, seated from left, Raymond Jones, Lindsay Copenhaver, Jillian Harper, Amanda Simpson, Ashley Gatlin, Edison Froelich and Audrey McCoy; (not pictured are Brooke Jackson and Ashley Jones.) Standing are, from left, Laura Sossamon, Nilda Burgos, Jennie Popp and Misti Clark.

will not join the team in Belize this summer.

Last summer’s team, working with local people, cleared land for a pepper garden, planted the crop and helped arrange marketing. The students also taught science classes in the school.

Popp said last summer’s work on the project was very successful, thanks in part to the participation of local volunteers and agencies in Belize. Peppers

from the garden were harvested and marketed throughout the fall and into January.

This summer’s team will renovate the garden and plant a variety of vegetables for use in the school, Popp said. She and Burgos are seeking funds to help provide a storage building for garden equipment and supplies.

The team also hopes to lay the groundwork that will allow the school to eventually raise pigs and chickens in addition to the vegetable garden, Popp said.

The project is scheduled for a total of five years. “Our goal is, in five years, to walk away and have the local people sustain the garden and other activities,”

Popp said.

“Community Development in a Global Context: An International Service Learning Program” includes seven teams in the areas of literacy and creative writing, education, health, engineering, business, social work and agriculture. The goal is to help improve conditions in Belize’s economically depressed Stann Creek District over a period of five years. ■



The GRADUATE

DBCAFLS Alumni Society, P.O. Box 1070, Fayetteville, AR 72702