

SOUTHEASTERN

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS MAGAZINE

WINTER 2023



ZACK AND JENNA WHITT
LIFE ON MISSION

ALSO FEATURING
Jamie Hale
Eli Mosley
Namiah Simpson

FEATURES

16 **NAMIAH SIMPSON: NURSING, MISSIONS AND SERVING OTHERS**

A nursing graduate, 10-time NAIA Track and Field All-American and two-time Academic All-American, Namiah Simpson discovered her passion on a medical mission trip to Uganda. There, she found a love for serving others and showing Christ through medicine, and now sees her future nursing career as her mission field.

22 **FROM NASHVILLE TO A CATTLE RANCH - A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ELI MOSLEY**

Whether he's touring across the nation with his band or managing a cattle ranch in Bartow, Fla., Eli Mosley is doing what he loves. As a country music artist, he frequently travels to Nashville, Tenn., where he records and produces his music and has traveled across the country and performed with several country music stars including Tracy Byrd, Joe Nichols and many others.

25 **ISAAC EISENHauer: FINANCE GRADUATE, BUSINESS OWNER AND EDUCATOR**

Ever since high school, Isaac Eisenhauer knew he wanted to go into finance. He is now the owner and a portfolio manager at IvyLine Capital, an investment firm and macro-driven equity fund, and has used his experience in the business world to teach finance students and prepare them for their careers.

28 **JAMIE HALE: CREATING COMMUNITY AND MINISTERING THROUGH DERMATOLOGY**

After doing a research project in high school, Jamie Hale discovered her love for dermatology. She now co-owns Azeal Dermatology Institute in Boulder, Colo., where she has served and ministered to her local community for the past seven years.



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31 SHOWING JESUS THROUGH COFFEE, PASTRIES, WEIGHTLIFTING AND MISSIONS

Zack and his wife, Jenna (Pruitt) Whitt, are making a difference in their community and around the world. As pastors in Lake Norman, N.C., the couple live out their faith through their coffee shop, bakery, and through their involvement with CrossFit and several AG missions' organizations.

34 FROM SEU TO WGEM NEWS

In Quincy, Ill., five Southeastern graduates have reunited at the tri-state news station, WGEM. Together, they have found community and enjoyed learning and growing alongside one another in their new positions at the NBC-affiliated television station.

37 MIKE COOPER: LOVING NEIGHBORS WITH THE DREAM CENTER

For over 14 years, Mike Cooper has been dedicated to establishing the Dream Center of Lakeland's connection to the surrounding community as its executive director. Through programs and resources including mentoring, neighborhood cleanups, and food and clothing distribution, Mike and the Dream Center aim to fulfill the needs of local community members.



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ON THE COVER

Zack and his wife, Jenna (Pruitt) Whitt, are expressing the love of Jesus locally and internationally through unconventional avenues such as their bakery, coffee shop and CrossFit.

SOUTHEASTERN

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Every year, I am reminded of God's faithfulness to this university. He has given us many promises over the years, for our students and for our community. As we continue to be obedient to his leading and sowing seeds as he directs us in pursuit of those promises, we have seen him do incredible things.

This year's Word of the Year was "Possess the Promise." While this has meant many different things to our community, I have found this to be the most evident in the lives of our graduates and students.

As president of Southeastern University, I have seen God do remarkable things in our students and heard incredible stories from you, our alumni, of how God is continuing to work in your lives and bless all you are doing. Your stories constantly inspire and encourage us to continue pursuing our mission at Southeastern, that God can continue working in our graduates and use them to change the world, for his glory.

In this edition, you'll read about fellow alumni like **ZACK '11, '13 (MAML), '14 (MBA)** and **JENNA (PRUITT) WHITT '16**, lead pastors at Multiply Church in Lake Norman, N.C., who are loving and serving their community outside of the church walls through their bakery, coffee shop, missions and connections with CrossFit. **ISAAC EISENHAUER '09** first discovered his love for finance in a high school economics class, and is now the founder and a portfolio manager at Ivyline Capital, an investment firm that also offers education courses for emerging finance students.

You'll also read about **CHARITY BELL '19, VICTORIA BORDENGA '22, SHAQAILLE McCAMICK '22, JAMESE McLENDON '20** and **ISAIAH HAYWOOD '22** — five alumni with a passion for journalism who all ended up working together at WGEM News, a tri-county, NBC-affiliate news station in Quincy, Ill. **DR. JAMIE HALE '07** is a board certified dermatologist and co-owner of Azeal Dermatology in Boulder, Colo., which she founded alongside a colleague and uses to serve her local community.

ELISHA "ELI" MOSLEY '15 is a country music performer, singer and cattle ranch foreman who has recorded and produced three albums in Nashville and tours across the United States. **NAMIAH SIMPSON '22** is a recent nursing graduate who found her calling during a medical mission trip to Uganda, and plans to continue her education and earn her master's in nursing.

You'll learn about new things happening on campus, like the recently announced leadership of the Carrión Hispanic Leadership Center. You will also read about our partnership with Lakeland Regional Health and their Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program.

My prayer is that as you read through these pages, you'll see God's hand at work in the lives of our students and alumni, and see him moving across our campus in new and exciting ways. We hope these stories will encourage and inspire you to continue pursuing your divine design, wherever God may have you, that you may continue to honor and serve Christ in everything you do. May God bless you and all your endeavors.

FRAMEWORK LEADERSHIP



LEADERSHIP REQUIRES A FRAMEWORK

Join Kent Ingle as he talks to the world's most innovative leaders about how they develop a framework for life and leadership.

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FRAMEWORK LEADERSHIP

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SEU RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Southeastern has once again been named one of the fastest-growing private non-profit institutions in the country in the 2022-23 almanac released by The Chronicle of Higher Education (CHE). Based upon growth data acquired from the years 2010-2020, SEU has been ranked fourth among master's level colleges and universities due to its 243.5% growth in enrollment.

This past fall semester marked another record-breaking year of enrollment for SEU, with a total enrollment of 10,044 students — a significant increase from the previous year's enrollment of 9,365.

Of the university's 10,000 students, nearly 3,000 took classes at SEU's Lakeland campus. The remaining

number were online, dual-enrolled or spread out among 203 partner site campuses across the country.

SEU has also been ranked by the CHE as one of the top producers of undergraduate majors in theology and religion in the country. This classification followed shortly after the introduction of two new doctoral degrees for the 2022 fall semester: a Doctor of Missiology degree and a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership with a concentration in Ministry Leadership.

SEU has also been ranked as a top college in both social mobility and diversity by the U.S. News & World Report in its 2022-2023 rankings, which evaluates more than 1,450

colleges and universities on up to 17 measures of academic quality.

Ranked 105th, SEU was in the top 25% for social mobility. Top performers in social mobility are determined based on a university's success in enrolling and graduating students who received the Pell Grant.

In addition, SEU ranked .59 on the diversity index scale — outranking larger institutions such as Florida State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the ethnic diversity category. The diversity index scale is configured based on the likelihood for students to encounter other students from racial or ethnic groups different from their own.

Fall 2022

SPEAKERS

Southeastern's American Center for Political Leadership (ACPL) and Global Pentecostalism Center hosted several speakers at the Lakeland campus in the fall of 2022. The speakers included Florida Supreme Court Justice Charles T. Canady; Hogan Gidley, director of America First Policy Institute's Center for Election Integrity; and author and speaker **DR. DAVID DOCUSEN '01, '15 (MAML), '19 (D.Min.)**.

In September, the ACPL hosted Canady, who spoke on "The Constitution and the Rule of Law" for their Constitution Day event. Canady served three terms in the Florida House of Representatives and four terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a member of the House Judiciary Committee and was the Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution for three terms. Canady was also the General Counsel for Governor Jeb Bush, who appointed him to the Second District Court of Appeal for a term. He was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court in 2008 and served as Florida's 54th Chief Justice from July 2010 to June 2012. Canady was reelected as Chief Justice for a second term in 2018 and a third term in 2020.

As part of the ACPL's Politically Speaking Lecture Series in October, Gidley spoke on "The Role of the Press in Politics." He has over 20 years of experience working as a communications, political and marketing consultant. Gidley recently served as the national press secretary for Trump's re-election campaign. During the Trump administration, he was the principal deputy press secretary and the deputy assistant. Gidley also served as the executive director of the South Carolina Republican Party and has been the director of communications for Mike Huckabee, Elizabeth Dole and Rick Santorum.

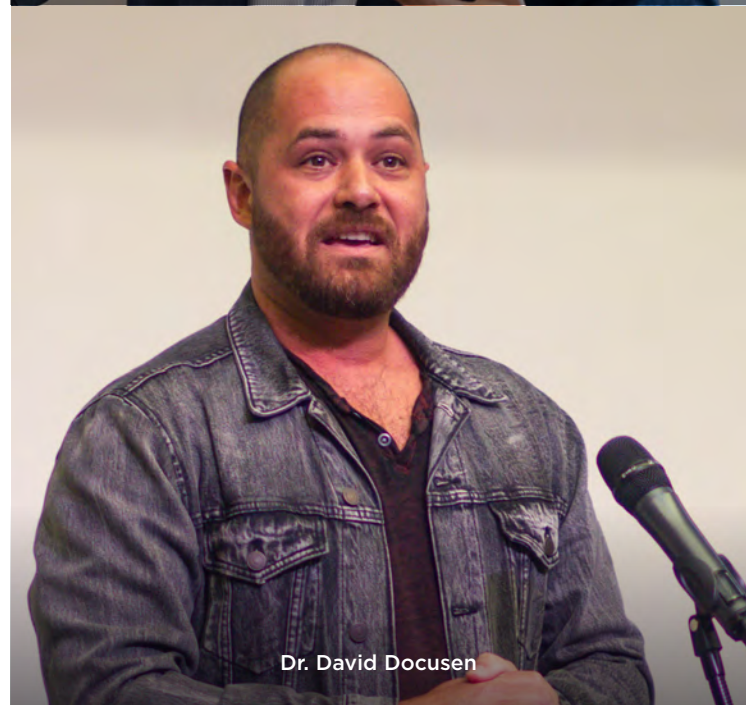
In November, Docusen spoke on "Neighborliness Across Dividing Lines" for the Global Pentecostalism Center's Fall Speaker Series. Docusen has over 20 years of experience as a pastor, speaker, author and professor. He is the founder and director of the Neighborliness Center in Winston-Salem, N.C. Docusen was featured on "Good Morning America" for his book, "Neighborliness: Love Like Jesus. Cross Dividing Lines. Transform Your Community."



Justice Charles T. Canady



Hogan Gidley



Dr. David Docusen



LILLY ENDOWMENT AWARDS SEU \$1 MILLION GRANT

The university was recently awarded a \$1 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., as a part of its Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. SEU was one out of 21 theological schools across the United States and Canada to be approved for a grant, and will be using the funds to finance Project Ostiarus.

Lilly Endowment is a private philanthropic foundation that supports religion, education and community development causes. Through the Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative, it aims to strengthen the educational programs of theological schools and enhance their financial viability so they are able to better equip and support the next generation of pastoral leaders for Christian congregations.

SEU's Project Ostiarus will aim to accomplish this goal through the research, design and implementation of a new educational delivery modality utilizing the advancements of Competency Based

Education (CBE). Through the CBE modality, SEU will focus specifically on providing competency-based, contextualized graduate education for current and aspiring Hispanic and Latino ministers and pastors.

“Our vision for Project Ostiarus is to come alongside the Hispanic church and provide them with access to educational content and experiences that are innovative and relevant to their communities,” said Vice President for Innovation and Communication **DR. MICHAEL STEINER '14, '15 (MBA)**, one of the principal investigators on the project.

In order to develop and teach courses that are culturally accurate, SEU will collaborate directly with the Carrión Hispanic Leadership Center, the National Latino Evangelical Coalition and the Association for Hispanic Theological Education.

The CBE learning format will allow the university to dramatically reduce instruction costs for courses in the program, and allow content to be continually adjusted to remain socially, culturally and theologically relevant.

“We are truly so grateful for the generosity of the Lilly Endowment and look forward to expanding our relationship with them as we build out and launch this program,” President Kent Ingle commented. “We are beyond excited to embark on this new journey over the next five years as we continue to create education that is both affordable and accessible for individuals of all backgrounds.”

Steiner emphasized, “We would not have been able to make it to this point without the incredible foundation that has been established through the SEU Network, as well as the vision of Dr. Ingle and his heart for serving the local church.”



SALGUEROS TO LEAD CARRIÓN HISPANIC LEADERSHIP CENTER

In September of 2022, Rev. Jeanette Salguero was appointed as the executive director of SEU's Carrión Hispanic Leadership Center.

The Carrión Hispanic Leadership Center is a joint initiative and partnership launched by the National Latino Evangelical Coalition (NaLEC) and SEU which seeks to serve, empower and collaborate with Hispanic evangelical and Pentecostal students, congregations, pastors, leaders and laity in the United States.

Jeanette serves as a pillar in the Carrión Center's leadership, providing her voice and expertise in the resourcing and advancement of the center's overall mission and strategic goals.

"I am honored to be named the executive director of the Carrión Hispanic Leadership Center," remarked Jeanette. "I am committed to serving Christ, empowering the Latino community and

working in creative ways to serve the local church."

Jeanette is an advocate for issues related to immigration, education and health, and is a powerful voice on issues that affect Latino communities in the United States. She has provided consulting for governmental agencies such as the Department of Health & Human Services, the Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services as well as the American Psychological Association.

**"I am committed
to serving Christ,
empowering the Latino
community and working
in creative ways to serve
the local church."**

In addition, SEU named Rev. Dr. Gabriel Salguero as the distinguished fellow for the Carrión Center. In this role, Gabriel leads the development and management of the center's educational programs and contributes his efforts to the achievement of enrollment goals.

Gabriel is the former director of the Hispanic Leadership Program and the Institute for Faith and Public Life at Princeton Theological Seminary. He has been named as one of the nation's most prominent Latino evangelical leaders by The New York Times, Huffington Post, the New York Observer, the Center for American Progress and others.

The Salgueros currently serve as pastors at The Gathering Place, a Latino-led, multi-ethnic Assemblies of God congregation in Orlando, Fla. Gabriel is the founder and president of the National Latino Evangelical Coalition (NaLEC), and Jeanette serves as the coalition's vice president.

FORUM

AT SEU

SEU HOSTS LEADERSHIP FORUM

The SEU Forum was created from the idea that the best leaders are those who keep learning. It exists to help leaders continue to develop, innovate, clarify their vision and elevate their teams.

The 2022 Forum centered on foundational leadership and how to serve with dignity through uncertain and challenging times. It was held on October 6 and 7 and featured guest speakers Cathie Wood, founder and CEO at Ark Investment Management, and former White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany. The Forum also featured keynote speakers Brian Wesbury, chief economist at First Trust Advisors L.P., entrepreneur Chris Heaslip, and chief solutions officer and CEO of NxtLevel Solutions, Scott Williams.



Kayleigh McEnany



Cathie Wood



Brian Wesbury

COMMENCEMENT

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of Fall 2022!

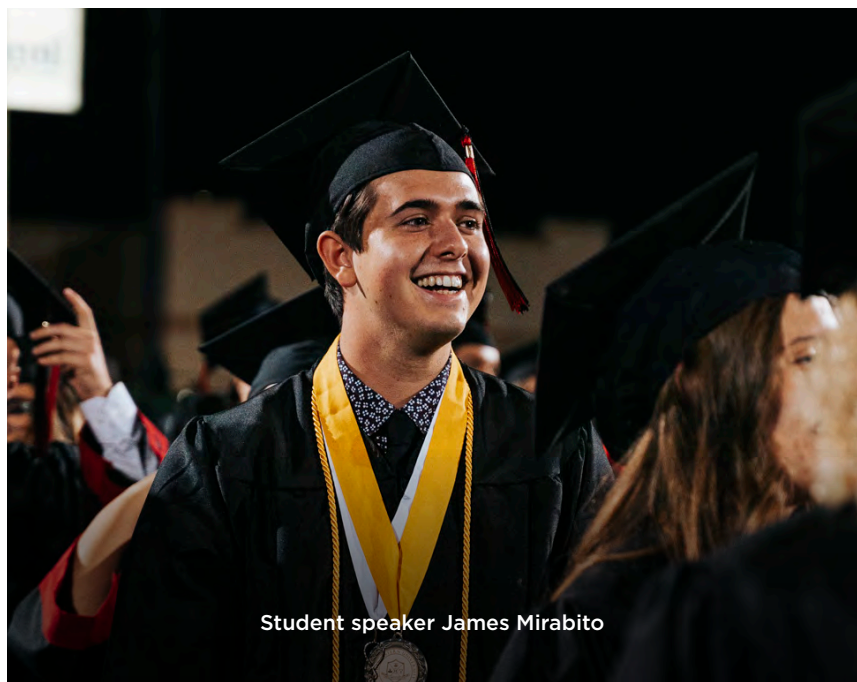


Southeastern University celebrated its Fall 2022 Commencement ceremony on Victory Field at its Lakeland campus in December. The fall class of 2022 is the university's 85th graduating class with a total of 548 graduates — raising the overall total of Southeastern graduates to 22,257. The graduates were from Florida, 35 other states and 13 countries, including Argentina, India, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Uganda and more. In addition, 156 graduates participating in the ceremony came from 49 of the university's partner site locations.

The ceremony featured guest speaker Dr. Alveda King, daughter of late civil rights activist Rev. A.D. King and niece of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The student speaker was **JAMES MIRABITO '22**.



Commencement speaker Dr. Alveda King



Student speaker James Mirabito


al Health
Women & Children



DEVON BARNETT

BRINGING HOPE AS

A HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

DEVON BARNETT '15 never planned on becoming a hospital chaplain.

After graduating with his bachelor's in criminal justice in 2015, he started working at GEICO. Over the next five years, he worked his way through the ranks, eventually becoming a supervisor. While he had enjoyed success in his career, Devon felt stuck. He felt like his life was missing something and started praying for direction.

In 2021, Devon was visiting a family member in the hospital and met Brian Hurley, a hospital chaplain and the director of Pastoral Services at Lakeland Regional Health (LRH). Devon's interaction with Brian led him to enroll in Lakeland Regional Health's Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program.

"I got his contact information. Next thing you know, we're talking back and forth and all of a sudden, I'm in a CPE program. I quit my job at GEICO, and I enrolled back into a master's program at SEU," said Devon. "My ultimate goal is to be a board-certified hospital chaplain. Ever since being in the hospital, I feel like that's my calling — that's where I'm supposed to be."

Devon was the first Southeastern student to graduate from Lakeland Regional's CPE cohort, and he is now earning his Master of Divinity (M.Div.).

Students in the M.Div. program are required to take at least one ministry practicum course. Previously, students who wanted to do a hospital chaplaincy

practicum had to go to Tampa General Hospital in Tampa, Fla. Southeastern's partnership with Lakeland Regional provides students at SEU's Lakeland campus with an opportunity to get their practicum hours at a local hospital.

LRH's Clinical Pastoral Education program is a provisionally accredited CPE center and practicum option for graduate students at SEU. Students can enroll in a full-time 10-week program that includes 300 hours of hospital rounds and 100 hours of education and supervision, usually held in the summer. There are also part-time units and a yearlong, paid residency that allows students to get on-the-job experience working as a hospital chaplain.

"It's one thing to be in a classroom setting and learn about things," said Devon, "but to actually experience it is another thing. You realize pretty quickly if this is for you or not."

During his time in the CPE program and as a part-time, on-call chaplain, Devon has had a variety of experiences ministering to patients, from calming nerves to comforting families dealing with the deaths of their loved ones.

"Some days you'll go in and you're just talking to individuals that are a little bit anxious or worried or stressed. Other days you're walking into a room where someone just died," said Devon.

"You need to go into each room and be respectful. Understand that each individual has their own life, has their own

upbringing, has their own understanding. And you have to try to match that in a complimentary setting. You're not going in there just to preach Jesus at them. But at the same time, you're trying to love them as Jesus loves."

His experience in the program helped prepare Devon for his current role at LRH and helped move him towards his goal of becoming a board-certified hospital chaplain.

"In any pastoral role, healthcare is a major dynamic," said Dr. Zachary Tackett, the faculty supervisor of graduate study practicums at Southeastern. "I see that as a primary concern of the pastorate. There's a huge need for that."

"I highly recommend this program, not just for people trying to be chaplains, but for pastors or anybody that's trying to be in leadership in the church," said Devon. "A lot of times the church setting has a typical vibe, but the hospital is its own animal. I would recommend anybody and everybody to at least do one unit just to check it out."

The CPE program at Lakeland Regional is available year round for students with at least a bachelor's degree. Southeastern students can also complete a hospital chaplaincy practicum at other area hospitals in Tampa or Orlando. For more information about SEU's M.Div. program and the hospital chaplaincy practicum, contact the graduate enrollment counselor for ministry programs at gradenrollment@seu.edu.

NAMIAH SIMPSON

NURSING, MISSIONS AND SERVING OTHERS

NAMIAH SIMPSON '22 is a 10-time NAIA Track and Field All-American and two-time Academic All-American — she is also a nursing major.

“When I was younger, I always had this inkling to be in the medical field and had a spirit for helping, so I always knew I would be in this field; I didn’t know the impact God was going to allow for me in that.”

During one of her nursing classes, there was a presentation on medical missions that intrigued Namiah. She was given the opportunity to go on a two-week medical mission trip to Uganda.

“At first I was kind of leery of it since I had never been out of the country,” she said. “I started praying about it and asking God for peace about it if He wanted me to go.”

Along with peace, Namiah also needed the means to make the trip. Her prayer was answered when her home church provided the remaining balance she needed.

The flight took about 36 hours, going from Orlando to New York, then to Belgium before finally arriving in Entebbe. There, Namiah was part of a group of 14 students that worked with Watoto Church.

She and her team helped mentor medical staff in various areas of Uganda, speaking



with clinicians and doing continuing education on identifying and treating trauma.

“It was so rewarding to see how eager they were to learn,” said Namiah. “They always had pens and notebooks out and were asking questions.”

Namiah and her team spent time serving the neglected, orphaned and widowed of the country in the capital city of Kampala and in Bira, Suubi and Gulu. They provided respite care to the mothers of the villages, consisting of a foot washing station, a massage station, a decompress station with worship music and a story sharing station.

The selflessness of the mothers was what stood out the most to Namiah, who served at the foot washing station the most. “Listening to those moms’ stories and how they love beyond reason and how selfless they are was so impactful,” she said.



Namiah washing the feet of a local mother.

“I love the foot washing station because I love to exemplify the hands of Christ and serve them in that way as they serve the children.”

When she would ask them what she could pray for, they would never make it about themselves; it was always about their kids. “My biggest takeaway was how I could be more selfless and show that in



Namiah with one of the local nurses

my everyday life and love beyond reason,” Namiah said.

Beyond that, Namiah saw her future profession in action and felt at home doing what she was called to — even though she was 7,500 miles away from home. Along with helping treat and heal people physically, Namiah wants her future patients to see Jesus through her work.

“I don’t see nursing as a career field and just a way to make money; how can I step in at my patients’ most vulnerable and weakest point in their life and encourage them?” said Namiah. “How can I offer a listening ear? How can I have the care that I give them reflect who Christ is?”

The Palm Coast native has interest in returning to Uganda for an extended trip working in a clinic. Namiah learned that many who come to Uganda to help are trying to get people out of the situation — instead of helping revive a country that has overcome dictators, mass killings, a coup and war over the last 60 years.

“I now see nursing as my mission field,” she said. “God is redeeming and restoring this nation.”

Namiah graduated in December and is now pursuing her master’s in nursing while completing her eligibility in track. She plans to work in a general practice and potentially move to labor and delivery in the future.



Namiah and the missions team in Uganda



Marc Viechec celebrates recovering a fumble for a touchdown at Savannah State.

Southeastern's fall sports had successful seasons with five teams making postseason appearances, four teams ending the year ranked in the NAIA Top 25, and both cross country teams advancing to nationals together for just the second time in program history.

FOOTBALL

The Fire football team concluded the 2022 season with a 6-4 overall record and 2-3 SUN record with three of their losses coming against NAIA Top 20 ranked programs, Keiser University and St. Thomas. Southeastern landed nine individuals on All-Sun Conference teams with First-Team honors going to Kaylan Wiggins, Ashton Garner, Logan Gregory and Marc Viechec. Viechec was also named the Sun Conference Linebacker of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive season. He concluded the season first in the conference in tackles with 88 and

recorded 3.5 sacks and eight tackles for loss. Wiggins captained the Fire offense and led the conference in passing yards per game with 193.5. Earning Second-Team honors were Bryan Bell, Shane McLaughlin, Tre Dickerson, Khalid Scott and Ryan Cunningham. Adam Waugh was promoted after the season to head coach after spending the 2022 season as the acting head coach.

MEN'S SOCCER

An 11-4-4 season and 5-2-1 Sun Conference record earned the men's soccer team a spot in The Sun Conference Tournament where they defeated SCAD-Savannah 3-0 in the quarterfinals to advance to the semifinals for the fourth consecutive season. In the semifinal, the Fire matched up with the nationally ranked Bobcats of St. Thomas. Due to lockdown defense by the Fire, the Bobcats were forced into overtime

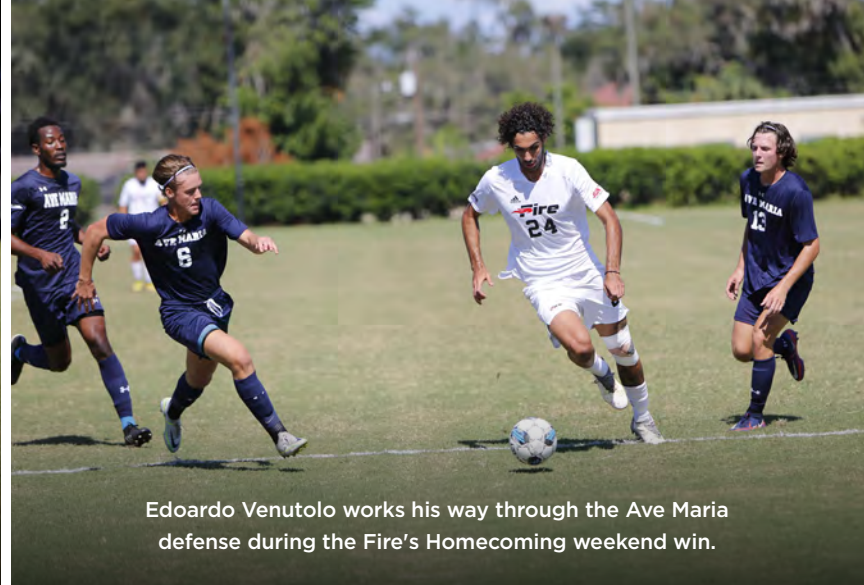
with penalty kicks deciding the final after 20 more scoreless minutes. The Bobcats managed to best the Fire 5-4 in penalty kicks to end the Fire's 2022 season. Edoardo Venutolo was named First-Team All-Sun Conference after concluding the season with 12 goals and a conference-leading 28 points with the addition of four assists.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

After spending a majority of the season ranked No. 9 in the NAIA Coaches' Top 25, the Southeastern women's soccer team concluded the 2022 season just one win away from making the final site of the national tournament. The Fire posted a 14-4-2 record with their only losses coming against NAIA Top 15 ranked teams. In the Sun Conference Tournament, the Fire defeated SCAD-Savannah 2-1 in the semifinal to advance to the final against top-ranked Keiser. In the final, the Fire fell to the Seahawks



Skylar Funk makes a play on defense against SCAD Savannah.



Edoardo Venutolo works his way through the Ave Maria defense during the Fire's Homecoming weekend win.



Naira Lopez takes a shot from the distance.



Grace Petty goes up for an attack against Florida Memorial in the Sun Conference Quarterfinal.

1-0 but received a bid into the NAIA National Tournament, hosting one of the 10 NAIA First and Second Round Tournaments. Southeastern defeated Georgia Gwinnett by a score of 4-0 in the first round before a 1-0 loss to Westmont to conclude the season. Seven members of the Fire were named to All-Sun Conference teams including Naira Lopez, Ariadna Lozano, Karissa King, Jennifer Luna, Chanel Garcia, Ramsey Watkins and Mason Schilling.

VOLLEYBALL

Fire volleyball concluded the season with a 14-14 overall record and a 9-5 Sun Conference record and advanced to the Sun Conference semifinal contest for the first time since the 2019 season.

Southeastern opened the conference tournament with a 3-0 win over Florida Memorial in the quarterfinals before falling to regular season and tournament champions, St. Thomas, in a five-set thriller. The Fire twice defeated the top-ranked team in the Sun Conference after taking down Ave Maria 3-1 and St. Thomas 3-2 in the regular season. Four members of the Fire earned SUN awards with Holly Kaczmarek and Emilia Harding earning First-Team honors and Grace Petty earning Second-Team honors. For the second consecutive season, Angelina Vaccaro was named the Sun Conference Champion of Character, marking the eighth consecutive season that the Champion of Character has been a member of the Fire.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Southeastern men's cross-country team had a program-best season in 2022, claiming their second Sun Conference title and their second trip to the NAIA National Championship. John-Perez Dunn earned his second consecutive individual Sun Conference title. Joshua Shields and David Milburn also earned First-Team All-Conference honors while Jonathan Fitzgerald, Nathan Evans and Jonathan Dinkins earned Second-Team honors. At nationals, the Fire concluded the race with a 29th place finish for the best placement in program history with Perez-Dunn finishing 82nd overall.



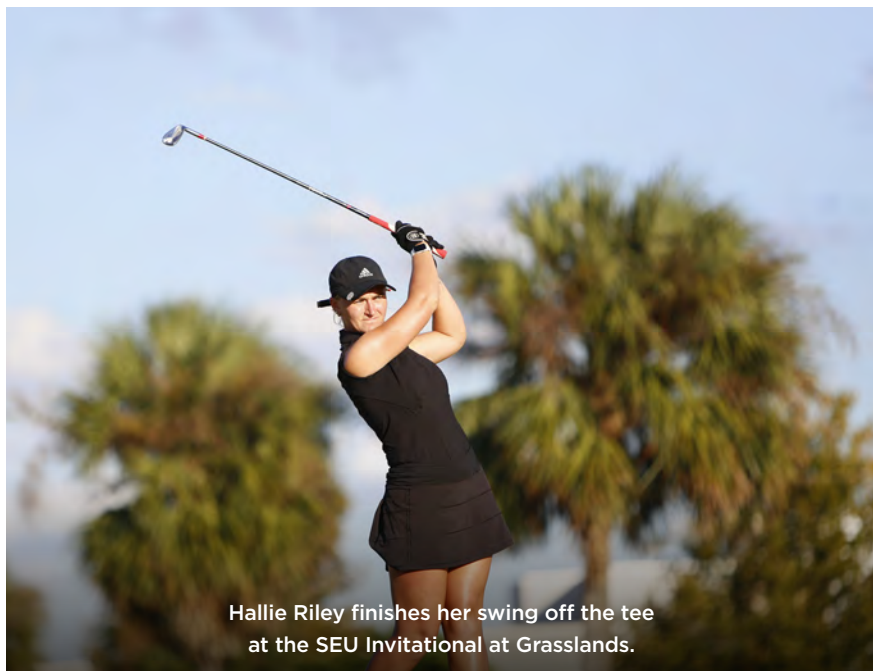
John Perez-Dunn races for the finish line at the Fire Short Course Invitational.



Julia Rohm sets her sight on the finish line in the first race of the season.



Matthew Soucinek watches his tee shot at Innisbrook.



Hallie Riley finishes her swing off the tee at the SEU Invitational at Grasslands.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

At The Sun Conference Championship, the Fire women finished second by just three points with Julia Rohm claiming her second individual title with a new program-record time of 17:45. Emma Woltjer finished fourth overall, joining Rohm on the First-Team All-Sun Conference team and earning an automatic bid into the national championship race. Abbie Baker and Jillian Blaser earned Second-Team All-Conference honors. The women earned an at-large bid into the national championship race after checking in at No. 25 nationally in the final national poll. At nationals, Rohm collected her third All-American honor to aid her team to a 28th place finish.

MEN'S GOLF

The Fire men's golf team concluded the fall portion of its season ranked 12th nationally after three second-place finishes and a first-place finish at the Coastal Georgia Invite to open the season. At the Innisbrook Invitational, the Fire knocked off four Top 10 ranked programs after finishing just seven shots behind No. 1 Keiser University and defeating No. 2 Dalton State, No. 5 USCB, No. 7 Coastal Georgia and No. 10 Reinhardt. Matthew Soucinek concluded the fall with a 71.82 average with two of his 11 rounds in the 60's and seven rounds with a par or better.

WOMEN'S GOLF

With two first-place finishes and two third-place finishes, the Fire women's golf team ended the season ranked fourth nationally with an average team score of 301.4 over 10 rounds. Individually, Marlie Smit concluded the fall with an average score of 74.6 and an individual win at the SEU Fall Invitational at Grasslands. Hallie Riley matched the program-record for lowest 18-hole score with a 69 at the Coastal Georgia Invitational and concluded the season with a 75.4 average score.



FIRE ATHLETICS TO ADD FISHING AS NEWEST TEAM

Southeastern University will launch its 20th athletic program when bass fishing begins its inaugural season this coming fall.

The Fire will compete in the Bassmaster College Series and Major League Fishing's Abu Garcia College Fishing Series where boats of two anglers each will fish in a tournament on a given weekend with each boat weighing in its five best fish.

Several donors, including Mark Overstreet and Pete Frantzis, got behind the program early on to help with its launch and encourage others to give.

"I have been bass fishing all of my life," said Overstreet, an avid outdoorsman who was paralyzed from the waist down at the age of 19. "Fishing is my passion. It has given me great freedom and it is my stress relief."

"We are very grateful for the generosity of Mark, Pete and all of those that gave to start the program," said Executive Vice President **DR. CHRIS OWEN '93, '06 (M.A.)**.

Southeastern will travel across the south to compete in various tournaments from the Harris Chain of Lakes in Leesburg,

Fla., to the Sam Rayburn Reservoir in Brookeland, Texas, to Lake Hartwell in Anderson, S.C.

"The addition of a fishing program brings one of the fastest growing sports to Fire Athletics," said Director of Athletics **DREW WATSON '18 (MBA)**. "It's no secret that bass fishing has taken the intercollegiate athletic world by storm, and this goes a long way towards expanding our brand into a new and exciting demographic of intercollegiate athletics."

Southeastern graduate **WESTON MARSH '13** will serve as the program's first head coach and is currently in the process of gathering sponsors and his first roster of 10 anglers to begin competition in August of 2023. Anglers participating will earn scholarships to participate on the team and will have their travel expenses and tournament entry fees covered by the program.

"Weston brings a unique mix of strengths and experience into his role of head coach," said Drew. "First off, he is a Southeastern alumnus who knows our campus and culture and has the unique ability to recruit mission-fit student-athletes who are accomplished anglers. Add to that his skill as an angler and the

wealth of knowledge of the industry and you have what is a great fit for the person to lead our program."

Weston returns to Lakeland to start the Fire Fishing program after working as a homebuilder in Charleston, S.C. He has a passion for the outdoors and boasts a very successful tournament fishing resume.

"I feel super privileged and very honored to have the opportunity to come back to Southeastern, do what I love doing, and do it at a university that I believe in," said Weston. "Southeastern absolutely changed my life in the four years that I was here and having the opportunity to come back and provide the same opportunity for anglers is an honor."

The high school fishing scene in Florida provides a fertile recruiting ground for Weston as just Webber International and Florida Gateway offer the type of fishing program that Southeastern will. Most of Florida's top anglers have had to look at colleges dozens of hours away in the past. Now, a much closer option exists.

"Some of the leading talent in the industry comes out of Florida," said Weston. "With Southeastern providing a legitimate program here, we are able to capture a lot of great talent in Florida."



FROM NASHVILLE TO A
CATTLE RANCH - A DAY
IN THE LIFE OF ELI MOSLEY



Eli and his band



Brahman cattle on Eli's ranch



Eli on his ranch in Bartow, Fla.

When **ELISHA “ELI” MOSLEY** ’15 isn’t mending fences or mowing pastures at the 3,000-acre ranch he manages in Bartow, Fla., he’s most likely traveling to Nashville for a country music project or touring across the U.S. with his band.

Since the age of six, Eli has known he was destined to be a country music artist after seeing one of his biggest inspirations, Tracy Byrd, perform live.

Now, at the age of 32, Eli has recorded and produced three albums in Nashville through Ocean Way Studio, Studio West and Sound Emporium. He is a verified artist on Spotify and one of his singles, “Soldier’s Wife,” has amassed over 140,000 streams. His most recent single, “Doin’ Alright,” has peaked at number 77 on the national Music Row chart.

Before stepping onto the music scene, Eli attended Southeastern University and graduated with a degree in music business.

“The classes that I took at Southeastern were so instrumental to my success in the music industry,” emphasized Eli. “You have to be able to understand the accounting, financing and business management aspects just as much as the actual music itself.”

Eli typically travels to Nashville for one to two weeks every month. While he’s there, he participates in writing and recording sessions, networking events, meetings with management and more.

“I basically pack a month’s worth of work into one week,” Eli remarked.

Although Eli has considered relocating to Nashville, he’s discovered that living in Florida allows him to establish a healthy work-life balance.

Eli explained, “Moving to Nashville would be like moving into the office. There’s always somewhere you should be or something you should be doing to further advance your career. I’ve come to realize the importance of keeping work and life separate.”

Living in Florida also makes it possible for Eli to serve as the foreman of a local cattle ranch. In this position, Eli oversees all of the ranch’s operations, from maintaining equipment to ensuring the cows are properly fed.

Eli got into ranch work in 2020 when the pandemic forced the music industry to be put on pause. Since then, it has proven to be a source of inspiration for his creative process.

“When you’re on the ranch working on a tractor all day, you get a lot of time to

think. I’ve been able to come up with numerous song ideas this way,” said Eli.

When it comes to songwriting, Eli has collaborated with individuals who have written hit singles for artists such as Garth Brooks, Reba McEntire and Rascal Flatts.

“I always make sure that I’m the least accomplished person in the room,” said Eli. “That’s the key as an independent artist. You have to surround yourself with the right team.”

Most recently, Eli and his band completed a 37-day tour across the continental U.S.

Comprised of five other musicians based out of Nashville, Eli’s band includes an electric guitarist, a bass guitarist, a drummer, a steel guitarist and an acoustic guitarist. “I recruit the best musicians I can find in Nashville and take them on the road with me,” he commented.

From the booking process to securing the contracts and accommodations, it can take up to 70 hours of prep-work to plan for one show. On most occasions, Eli and his band travel in a van with built-in bunk beds so they can sleep on the road. In other instances, festival and event organizers host them in a nearby hotel.

Luckily, Eli doesn’t have to stress over every detail, as his family assists him with the logistics. Michael Mosley, Eli’s father,



Eli performs a Memorial Day show in honor of fallen servicemen and women.



Eli on stage



Eli and his horse

dedicates his time to calling countless festivals, fairs and venues to book Eli's shows. Eli's wife, Anna, accompanies him on tour and makes sure everything is running smoothly behind the scenes. From backstage, Anna handles the photography and videography for the shows, oversees the tech aspects, and occasionally performs background vocals or plays the guitar. "She basically runs the show from the ground up," said Eli.

The couple first met when Anna joined Eli's band, and they have now been married for over two years.

"Between my dad booking the shows, Anna handling the issues on and off stage, and me overseeing the artist content — this is truly a family business," Eli explained.

Throughout his career, Eli has had the opportunity to check many experiences off his bucket list. He opened for Tracy Lawrence, Joe Nichols, Tyler Farr, Maren Morris and many others. In 2020, Eli even opened for his first country music inspiration, Tracy Byrd, at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland, Fla.

Eli has headlined the Cody Nite Rodeo, one of the largest and long-running rodeos in the world, performing for several thousand people. His largest audience was in Dallas, Texas, during a show where he played to a crowd of 45,000. In 2017, Eli performed a few acts

before Miranda Lambert for an audience of 8,000. He counted this as his first big show.

He recalled, "I remember walking out onto the stage and not being able to see the end of the crowd. I was shocked. But seeing hundreds of them singing right along with me, knowing every word to my songs — that was special."

One of Eli's favorite memories was having the chance to attend a luncheon for musical duo Brooks & Dunn's induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

"It's been amazing to be able to give back. I've always felt called to music and specifically to building the Kingdom through that platform."

"You never know what an artist's personality is going to be like backstage, but I got to speak with Kix Brooks and it was just like two buds hanging out," Eli laughed. "To be with someone so legendary yet so down to earth, it was one of the coolest moments."

Eli has also been able to use his music as a tool to minister to people across the country. Although his music doesn't fall into the Christian genre in a traditional

sense, the songs that touch upon his personal struggles have made a significant impact on many individuals dealing with the same issues.


"I've had a couple of guys reach out to me about my song, 'Just Need to Know,' which is one of the most real, honest songs I've ever written. They told me that during a very hard season in their life, it really helped them see that they weren't going through it alone," Eli recalled. "Through my lyrics, I try to reach people in their hour of need and point them to the cross."

In addition, Eli has supported missions through the profits he's made with his music and has sponsored numerous missionaries and their projects.

"It's been amazing to be able to give back," said Eli. "I've always felt called to music and specifically to building the Kingdom through that platform."

As for the future, Eli's ultimate career goal is to perform at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

"There's always that next thing that you're chasing after, but at the same time, there's the thought that I've lived my dream. I've opened for many of my musical influences. I've played shows that I never dreamed I would play. It's in those moments that I remember why I do what I do."

A portrait of Isaac Eisenhauer, a man with dark hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, sitting on dark stairs. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background consists of dark, horizontal steps.

ISAAC EISENHAUER
**FINANCE GRADUATE,
BUSINESS OWNER
AND EDUCATOR**

I SAAC EISENHAUER '09 knew finance was in his calling when he took his first business class in high school, Intro to Economics.

“The very first class I walked into, the teacher handed us all these Wall Street Journals and said we were going to play the stock market game in class and pick some stocks. As I started flipping through the Wall Street Journal, it was like a light bulb went off,” said Isaac.

After high school, Isaac started his bachelor's in finance and accounting at Southeastern. There, he met English major **CASANDRA “CASSIE” (SIMANCA) '10** at a mutual friend's birthday party, who would later become his wife.

Isaac found encouragement and support from several business professors, including Dr. Lyle Bowlin. His roommate, **RYAN KIRK '08**, helped him get his first job in Fort Worth, Texas, at TD Ameritrade, formerly known as TD Waterhouse.

Isaac worked as a business development consultant for nearly two and a half years before moving to WTS Securities as an equity options trader in New York. He then returned to TD Ameritrade in Harrisburg, Pa., as an investment consultant until 2015, when he decided to do something new.

“Those experiences gave me the idea of going out on our own and seeing what we could do,” said Isaac. “So I decided to partner with a former colleague to start and open up our own investment fund.”

That fund, known as IvyLine Capital, has been in operation for over seven years. IvyLine is an investment firm and macro-driven equity fund. At IvyLine, Isaac and his team manage investor portfolios and offer risk assessment and strategies for investors.

Several years into his role as portfolio manager at IvyLine, Isaac was approached by several college students.

“We had some students reaching out from local colleges wanting to know

how we started and so I thought maybe I could help, since I had a number of people who helped me along the way,” said Isaac. “They were asking me a lot of the same questions I was asking out of college, but I thought, ‘What can I do?’”

Isaac took his experience as a student and combined it with his experiences in the finance world. He started by creating a simulation other students could use to practice creating portfolios, along with an outline for how to apply finance theory to the real world. From there, it turned into a full, five- to six-month education course.

Managed by a team including Isaac and fellow Southeastern alumnus **KEVIN ZAHN '10**, the education program includes a mixture of live and recorded lectures. Students work at their own pace and complete several sections which include assignments, midterms and final exams alongside financial challenges. The program emphasizes networking with other professionals and students.



Isaac (right) with a group of IvyLine cohort students who are now working at Goldman Sachs.



Isaac and cohort members Vincent Preis (right) and Wharton and Huntsman student Faustin Amboko (center) at a Harvard versus the University of Pennsylvania game.



Isaac and his wife, Casandra (Simanca) '10



Isaac with IvyLine cohort members Vincent Preis (left) and Harvard offensive line Spencer Cassell (center) at a Harvard versus the University of Pennsylvania game.

IvyLine also has partnerships with the Yale-NUS (National University of Singapore) Student Investment Group and Florida International University's Phoenician Investment Fund (PIF), which are student-led investment clubs. Upon completing the IvyLine education program, the students earn a certificate and can apply to IvyLine's student-managed fund, which gives students the opportunity to manage real capital and practice trading.

Isaac remains involved in the education program as a mentor. He believes in helping students make the connection between finance theory and how finance is used in the real world.

"In the program, I'm more of a mentor, helping students gain more experience within the field by modeling or learning about derivatives or risk management,"

said Isaac. "It's been pretty fun to be a part of that process for students."

"I was a student at one point in time. I knew exactly what questions to ask. Now, these students are asking the same questions and I get to answer them."

Since its inception in 2018, the program has had over 1,100 graduates, averaging about 200 students per year. They have had several Southeastern graduates and students from over 140 different universities nationally and internationally, including Wharton, Harvard, Carnegie Mellon and the Warwick Business School in Coventry, England. Many of the program's graduates are now

employed at large firms like Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, Morgan Stanley and BlackRock.

"I really do feel like God's given some amazing opportunities to us. I think he's really opened up some doors for helping others," said Isaac. "I was a student at one point in time. I knew exactly what questions to ask. Now, these students are asking the same questions and I get to answer them. It's been great to really see opportunities created from this path that we're on."

Isaac and Cassie live near Philadelphia, Pa., with their dog, Bentley. They attend Victory Church along with several other Southeastern alumni. Cassie works as a financial recruiter for Robert Half. In his free time, Isaac is a part of a soccer league and enjoys playing golf.



Jamie and her husband, Nick, with their children, Ryder and Violet

JAMIE HALE CREATING COMMUNITY AND MINISTERING THROUGH DERMATOLOGY

DR. **JAMIE HALE** '07 first discovered her love for dermatology in high school. After doing a research project on how UV rays penetrate car windows, Jamie began shadowing a local dermatologist in her hometown of Louisville, Ky.

"I just fell in love with the field, already knowing I wanted to be a physician. And I never changed my mind," said Jamie.

After her high school graduation, Jamie was planning on attending the University of Kentucky with her friends. But when her parents moved to Florida, Jamie changed her plans. That's when she found out about Southeastern.

Jamie started her bachelor of science degree in 2004. While attending Southeastern, Jamie was the secretary of the Student Christian Medical and Dental Association and was a leader for the mentorship program, First Teams. She also played intramural flag football alongside her lifelong friend and current dean for the College of Natural and Health Sciences, **DR. AIMEE (VINSON) FRANKLIN** '07. At Southeastern, Jamie learned the skills she needed to excel in her field, academically and spiritually.

"I was a biology/pre-med major, so many of my classes directly affected my ability to succeed in medical school," said Jamie. "Many of my Bible classes gave me an excellent foundation in apologetics — which allowed me to keep my biblical worldview when placed in a very secular environment."

After graduating in 2007, Jamie completed four years of medical school at Nova Southeastern in Fort Lauderdale. She then went on to do her residency at the Largo Medical Center in Largo, Fla. Jamie met her husband, Nick, in 2013 during her residency, and they married the following year. While she was at the Largo Medical Center, Jamie also served as the chief resident alongside co-chief Stacey Pilkington.

Jamie and Stacey found they enjoyed working together. While completing the last year of their residency, they decided they wanted to start their own practice close to their families in Boulder, Colo.

"My parents had moved out to Colorado, and as part of my upbringing, I lived in Colorado Springs, so it's always been a part of my roots," said Jamie.

During the last year of their residency in 2015, Jamie and Stacey found a building

in Boulder and began work on their office space. They graduated at the end of June, then in the first week of July, they opened the Azeal Dermatology Institute.

"It has been an adventure learning the ins and outs of owning a business," said Jamie. "There are always challenges, but I am grateful to have a business partner to practice with. We share the joys of our business and divide the challenges."

Jamie and her partner have owned their own practice for seven years. They have a team of seven employees who help them offer a variety of dermatology services, including acne and eczema treatment, skin care surgeries and cosmetic dermatology. Along with the services they provide, Jamie and her partner believe in the importance of focusing on their patients.

"I've learned to try not to sweat the small stuff. If we keep the focus on outstanding patient care, everything else falls into place," said Jamie. "We practice medicine in a way that shows people we care about them."

Jamie is actively involved in her community. She and her partner have done free skin cancer screenings at senior centers, 5K charity runs and local



Jamie and Southeastern student, Karlee



Dr. Jamie Hale (right) and Dr. Stacey Pilkington (left)

businesses, and have spoken on skin care education in their community.

“I love people. Every day I get to encounter 20 or 30 people and meet them where they are,” said Jamie. “That’s part of what’s awesome about my job is that, yes, I’m practicing medicine and I’m treating their skin conditions. But at the end of the day, we’re people and relationship and connection is what it’s all about. In the last few years, I’ve had more opportunities to share my faith with people, and they’re open to it in my professional setting.”

Jamie has had several students shadow her from her local community. Through her

connection with Dr. Franklin, Jamie has also hosted several Southeastern students.

“Aimee reached out to me because one of the students was interested in dermatology and was going to be near us in Boulder. I got to host her for a week or so. It was really, really fun,” said Jamie. “I enjoy giving them the experience I was given when starting my career. They are always eager to learn and help, and I love watching their future unfold after meeting them.”

Jamie and her partner have also created their own skin care brand, Azealskin. They manufacture and sell a variety of products including moisturizers, cleansers

and spot treatments that they use to treat conditions like acne and eczema. They have recently expanded their product line to include longevity medicine under their new brand, LongLiv Health & Vitality, where they currently offer resveratrol, nicotinamide mononucleotide (NMN) and a sleep supplement.

Outside of work, Jamie enjoys spending time with Nick and their two children, Ryder and Violet. Nick owns Solstice Sports, an extreme sporting equipment store, and also competes in events such as the GoPro Games and Hydrofoil Surf Races. He and Jamie enjoy traveling, exercising, hiking and spending time at the lake as a family.

SHOWING JESUS THROUGH COFFEE, PASTRIES, WEIGHTLIFTING AND MISSIONS



ZACK '11, '13 (MAML), '14 (MBA) and JENNA (PRUITT) WHITT '16 believe in reaching people where they are — whether that's at a bakery, a gym, a coffee shop or on the mission field.

Zack and Jenna are lead pastors at Multiply Church Lake Norman in Lake Norman, N.C., but they also own Wander & Whisk Bakery and Good Drip Coffee in Davidson, N.C. Zack and Jenna do ministry locally and internationally alongside their church family and two daughters, five-year-old Piper Gray and one-year-old Harlowe Jane. They have been married for nine years, after first meeting at Southeastern in 2012.

Zack came to Southeastern from South Carolina in 2007. After graduating with his bachelor's in communication and

theology, Zack began his career in the university's admissions office.

While working at Southeastern, Zack served as the associate director of admissions, athletic liaison and admission counselor. While he was working at Southeastern, Zack met Jenna.

Originally from Hickory, N.C., Jenna came to Southeastern after graduating high school in Arizona. She first heard of Southeastern from her sister, **MELEAH (PRUITT) DEMENT '10**, and decided to pursue a degree to help fulfill her lifelong dream: to own her own bakery.

While she was still in high school, Jenna started making her own healthy baked goods. Following her passion, she took her first job at Nothing Bundt Cakes. From there, she gained experience working at a number of bakeries, including one owned

by Megan Faulkner Brown, winner of Food Network's "Cupcake Wars."

"It was a desire and a dream since high school. I just kept saying, 'I'm going to own my own bakery one day,' not really knowing how or when," said Jenna. "Continuing to be in that field helped to develop the skills and the mindset and helped me to learn different things from each place."

Jenna came to Southeastern in 2012. She kept pursuing her passion and baked for friends, staff, and for larger events like birthdays and weddings. Jenna majored in business and professional leadership, allowing her to get the knowledge she needed to open her own bakery.

Jenna and Zack married in 2013. After Jenna graduated, she and Zack moved



Zack and Jenna with their daughters, Piper Gray and Harlowe Jane



Zack preaching to his congregation at Multiply Church Lake Norman.

to Charlotte, N.C. There, Jenna decided to turn her passion into a business. Her dream became a reality in 2018 when she opened her wholesale bakery, Wander & Whisk.

“Owning your own business sounds really cool, but there’s a lot more to it that you have to invest,” said Jenna. “I am grateful that I got a degree and went that route just to have that business background.”

Jenna’s bakery makes homemade pop-tarts, muffins, scones, coffee cakes, cookies and a variety of gluten-free and vegan items. She continues to bake for large events such as weddings and birthday parties and sells her goods to local businesses.

“It’s been a total God thing — all the open doors and all the different connections I’ve had. It’s been a blessing.”

Jenna works with more than 10 coffee shops and a variety of local businesses, including a seven-days-a-week farmers

market and an ice cream shop, allowing her to be actively involved in the same community where she and Zack pastor.

Zack and Jenna helped plant Multiply Church Lake Norman in North Carolina, one of seven churches in the Multiply Church network. They serve alongside Jenna’s sister, Meleah, and her husband, **KEITH DEMENT ’12, ’15 (M.A.)**, a longtime friend. Keith and Meleah recently joined the church as executive pastors, bringing the two couples together after nearly 15 years apart.

Zack and Jenna have been the lead pastors of Multiply Church in Lake Norman for five years. Zack is over the Multiply Church network’s international church planting branch and works with the Assemblies of God Church Multiplication Network (CMN) and the Assemblies of God World Missions’ (AGWM) Urban Tribes. He is also the outreach director and coach for CrossFit 926, a faith-based community named after 1 Corinthians 9:26.

Their experience with their coffee shop and bakery has enabled Zack and Jenna to help international ministries implement the Business As Missions (BAM) church planting model in several countries, such as Nicaragua. There, Zack and Jenna worked with Get Strong Ministries to establish a CrossFit gym. The gym houses a church plant and serves as a way to reach the community.

“It’s really dependent upon what the area needs, but the purpose of all of the businesses is to fund ministry and to funnel people to ministry. It’s been a blessing to be able to walk through that stateside and be able to take that model anywhere,” said Zack. “Nicaragua is a fitness-based culture — a lot of individuals want to be healthy, they want to live, they want to get strong. That’s why CrossFit works.”

On a recent trip, Zack and the Get Strong team organized men’s and women’s events and helped a couple from the gym build facilities to raise chickens for their business. Zack has plans to help the



Zack participating in Lake Norman Fit Fest 2021.



Zack and a team from his church and Crossfit 926 working with Get Strong Ministries in Ocotal, Nicaragua.

team establish a children’s ministry in Nicaragua and plant more churches in other countries, including in some closed countries.

“I was in the Marines when I was at Southeastern — my heart just goes out for people in foreign and closed countries where they don’t have the liberties that we do,” said Zack.

**“The need is the call.
Whenever you see a
need, Jesus said, meet
the need.”**

He and Jenna believe in the importance of relational and practical ministry, both locally and internationally, within and outside of the church. Jenna works alongside Zack in international missions as the director of church advancement, where she helps coordinate their ministry’s church planting efforts. Jenna is also involved with hospitality and

congregational care. She makes sure that the members know they are supported relationally and practically, whether it be through setting up care for new moms or coordinating events like weddings and baby showers.

“The need is the call. Whenever you see a need, Jesus said, meet the need,” said Zack. “You can’t practice Matthew 25 without Matthew 28. Matthew 25 teaches us to take care of the widow and the orphan, while Matthew 28 says to make disciples of all nations. You can’t do one without the other.”

Zack and Jenna also own Good Drip Coffee, their coffee shop where Jenna sells her baked goods. While they don’t necessarily advertise as a Christian business, they have a prayer wall with over one hundred prayer requests from the community. Zack and Jenna’s team consists of church staff and members who support them and are ready to share Christ when the opportunity arises.

“We really try to incorporate everything with the church. It’s just the outflow of who we are. Through everything that we do, we want to impact people and tell them about Jesus. And a lot of times, telling them about Jesus is just hanging out with them,” said Zack.

Zack helped establish a branch of the Christian college ministry Chi Alpha at Davidson College and plans to start another group at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, N.C. Zack and Jenna also offer practicum opportunities at their church for students of SEU Carolina, one of Southeastern’s North Carolina-based partner sites.

Zack completed his MAML and MBA at Southeastern, along with his Ph.D. at Regent University in Virginia. He and Jenna enjoy spending time with their daughters at the beach or at the lake. Zack and Jenna enjoy fitness and regularly participate in marathons and CrossFit competitions.



FROM SEU TO WGEM NEWS

Jamese McLendon, Shaquille McCamick, Victoria Bordenga, Isaiah Haywood and Charity Bell (from left to right)

On the western border of Illinois, where Iowa and Missouri meet, a group of five Southeastern University alumni have built a community and created a home away from home at a local television station.

CHARITY BELL '19 was the first to relocate to Quincy, Ill., beginning as a multimedia journalist in February of 2020 at the NBC affiliate, WGEM.

In June of 2022, three more alumni joined the station. **VICTORIA BORDENGA '22** and **SHAQAILLE McCAMICK '22** signed on as multimedia journalists, and **JAMESE McLENDON '20** was hired as a master control operator. The last to make the move was **ISAIAH HAYWOOD '22**, who accepted a position as a digital news producer towards the end of the summer.

As a tri-state news station, WGEM reaches 16 counties in the regions of Quincy, Ill., Hannibal, Mo., and Keokuk, Iowa.

Charity's journey at WGEM began with a Facebook group. "A couple of weeks before graduation, I found this group for professionals in the news industry from

all different positions. At this point, I had already applied to at least 11 other places, but I happened to notice a post advertising an open spot for a multimedia journalist," she recalled.

A producer from WGEM had advertised the job. After creating her own website and reel to showcase her work, Charity submitted them directly over Facebook Messenger. Within the next few weeks, she was connected with the station's news director and began the interview process.

In the second round of interviews, WGEM flew her out to the station to meet the staff and get a sense of the environment and company culture.

"As soon as I got there, I just had this sense of peace. I knew that it was where I was supposed to be," remembered Charity. "For so long I knew that I wanted to be a reporter, so those fears of moving away from home and starting from scratch couldn't stop me."

After accepting the position, Charity graduated in the fall of 2019 and within less than a month, she was already moved into her new place in Illinois and diving in headfirst at WGEM.

Since then, Charity has been promoted to weekend anchor. She hosts WGEM's 10 p.m. broadcast on Saturday and Sunday with no co-anchor. Charity acts as a content manager, producing the show and overseeing the other reporters' scripts.

"I ensure that every story that we want covered gets covered," commented Charity. "And if there's breaking news, I'm usually the one to make the call on if we send a reporter out to the scene."

Charity's workday typically runs from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m., and on Monday through Wednesday, she serves as the evening reporter.

Between becoming accustomed to the fast pace of the news industry and navigating the ins and outs of her new leadership role, Charity has had to learn to adjust. "Every single day is different. I've definitely had to learn how to roll with the punches and be able to move on from the difficult moments. In this industry, you have to be able to keep the momentum going and work hard — even on the days that are tough," she expressed.

Charity continued, "What's really helped me is knowing that my station is based around



Jamese working in WGEM's control room.



Charity poses in the studio.

teamwork. Anytime that I'm struggling, I can seek guidance from the news director, coworkers and other reporters. It's made me realize that I don't have to do it all on my own, and there's nothing wrong with asking for help."

With very similar experiences, Victoria and Shaquille have also learned the significance of leaning on each other during the adjustment to their new careers and post-grad life.

Victoria and Shaquille both accepted their positions around the same time, and even started as multimedia journalists on the same day. "It's really reassuring to have someone else who is in the same exact boat as you," emphasized Victoria. "It made the transition moving from Florida to Illinois a lot more comfortable."

Shaquille added, "We've really been able to be a source of support for each other. We're both in the same stage of life, navigating our first job out of college and learning on the fly."

Although Shaquille had first heard of the opportunity at WGEM through a direct message from Charity on Instagram, both she and Victoria had received

encouragement to look into the station from their Southeastern broadcasting and journalism professor, Dr. Adrienne Garvey.

"The tendency of so many graduates is to shoot for high-ranking positions right out of school. While that sort of ambition is admirable, it robs students of opportunities for growth," said Garvey. "I started my own television career in a small market. Looking back now, I see the value in the lessons I learned in the small markets."

At the time, Victoria was looking to relocate to the northeast and Shaquille was torn between another offer in South Dakota. However, after connecting with the news director and completing their interviews, they were both able to see it was the right fit.

Shaquille accepted the position and signed her contract an hour before she participated in Southeastern's commencement ceremony.

"I have wanted to do on-camera work since middle school — that's where my passion lies. I knew that I had to go and do what I actually wanted to do, even if it meant moving out of my comfort zone," Shaquille said.

Victoria, who has loved writing since elementary school and has cultivated an interest in sports broadcasting, remarked, "As soon as I got my offer, I knew it was God opening the door for me."

As multimedia journalists, Victoria and Shaquille are each responsible for reporting on three different counties. Their days consist of pitching story ideas from their assigned areas and going out into the community to conduct interviews and shoot footage. Once they have everything they need, Victoria and Shaquille return to the office to edit their shots and write scripts to go with their stories.

They also convert their stories to a short, web-based format for the station's website. On occasion, they'll even go live in the newsroom or the studio to report their story directly.

"It's a very quick turnaround process, but at the end of the day when the story is done, it just makes it worth it," commented Victoria.

Victoria and Shaquille work together three days a week. In addition to helping each other edit their scripts at neighboring desks, they're also roommates.



Victoria reports from the street.

On weekends, Victoria and Shaquille work with Charity, who oversees their content and approves their scripts.

Charity explained, “Having the common ground between us from taking the same classes and sharing similar experiences at Southeastern allows me to know how to best encourage them in the work environment.”

Similar to how Charity reached out to Shaquille about an opening at WGEM, she also did the same for her friend and fellow alumna, Jamese.

Originally, Charity had encouraged Jamese to apply for a multimedia journalist position.

“I had been working in radio at the time, and I was looking for something different,” Jamese remembered. “Charity knew I had experience on-air, so she mentioned her station was hiring. I happened to see that they also had a master control position open, and I figured it could be a foot in the door.”

Now, Jamese works on the production side of news television, monitoring WGEM’s four stations as the master control operator. She oversees and organizes the lists and logs for each network, scheduling shows and commercials throughout the week.

“I basically work to keep everything running and ensure the newscast is flowing smoothly as a whole,” Jamese said.

During live shows and sporting events, Jamese has to manually enter commercials during the breaks. She also schedules pre-recorded shows and keeps the most popular, highly-rated productions in rotation.

Jamese commented, “I think I’ve just been in awe of learning what really goes on behind the scenes in what we see every day on television. The journalists, the producers — everyone plays a part.”

Another important function of the station, besides broadcasting and production, is the creation of digital content. Isaiah had also received a recommendation to research WGEM from Garvey and now serves as a digital news producer.

Isaiah is responsible for WGEM’s website and social media content, as well as the digital exclusive content that goes onto the station’s app. He writes web stories and highlights stories that come from Gray Television, WGEM’s parent company. One of his main objectives is to drive traffic to the station’s website and social media.

“So far, I’ve learned that news is quick. You really don’t have a second to waste,” Isaiah emphasized. “I’ve been able to apply a lot of the principles I’ve learned in my classes at Southeastern, and seeing my hard work pay off is the most exciting part.”

Although there is limited crossover and collaboration between all five alumni within the station setting, they make an effort to spend time together outside of work hours.

“We hang out all the time,” Charity said. “We’ll throw barbecues, pool parties or just get together for dinner.”

“There’s just something special about getting to hang out with the people that are familiar with where you come from,” Shaquille added.

Jamese reflected, “To see these relationships that were first born at Southeastern, to now see them states away at the same workplace — it’s surreal.”

None of these recent graduates intentionally set out to establish careers in Illinois, yet they’ve been able to come together and create a special bond.

“Having the chance to advocate and support other Southeastern students is huge,” Charity expressed. “Someone opened the door for me, and I think it’s just as important for us as alumni to do the same for our fellow Southeastern graduates.”

As for the future of the five alumni, they all have aspirations to branch out and further advance their careers in the news industry. Charity’s next step is to move closer to her family by relocating to Georgia or back to Florida. Victoria is striving to enter the world of sports broadcasting and dreams of working on-air for ESPN or the NFL Network. Shaquille is aiming to shift into entertainment reporting and Jamese’s ultimate goal is to do sports production. Isaiah hopes to work his way up to a leadership position at a television station.

“I am beyond proud of the crew that landed at WGEM. Every one of them proved to be a leader in our program during their time at SEU. They are lifetime learners. This is just the first step of many toward the calling the Lord has placed on their lives,” said Garvey.



MIKE COOPER

LOVING NEIGHBORS WITH THE DREAM CENTER

MIKE COOPER '98 is all about action. And as the executive director of Lakeland's Dream Center for over 14 years, Mike has been integral to establishing the organization's presence and connection to the surrounding community.

"A lot of the time, people want to sit down and methodically map out each strategy and each initiative," explained Mike. "But I say, let's get out there, do it and watch it unfold. Let God define it."

The Dream Center of Lakeland is a nonprofit organization that offers everything from youth and child mentoring programs, adult classes and

basketball leagues to neighborhood cleanups, a pregnancy clinic, and food and clothing distribution.

Originally established as the Freedom Center in 2003, the Dream Center received its current title in 2008. It was during this transition that Mike stepped into his leadership position at the center, joined by fellow Southeastern alumnus **STEVE HILL '07, '08 (MAML)**. Steve had previously served as Mike's intern at Carpenter's Home Church in Lakeland, Fla., and came on staff as the Dream Center's program director.

Steve assists with overseeing the center's weekly programs, communications, grant writing and much more. "The part of my role that I enjoy most is finding avenues to effectively pastor and disciple our neighbors as they come to embrace a life with Jesus," he said.

Prior to his role at the center, Mike worked as an athletic director and the assistant principal at Victory Christian Academy in Lakeland. In addition, he served as the coach for the women's club soccer team at Southeastern between 2002 to 2003, before the women's soccer program was officially introduced at the university.

Since becoming the executive director, Mike has worked to secure the trust of the community and create relationships with local businesses, law enforcement and city officials.

“I don’t see barriers. I don’t focus on just trying to land the funds. I look to create real connections with people and build those personal relationships,” Mike expressed.

This perspective has enabled Mike to obtain the assets and connections necessary for many of the Dream Center’s projects and expansions, including the recent completion of the center’s Kids Club Park. In July of 2022, the center celebrated the opening of a brand new outdoor stage and covered pavilion. Mike hopes to use these two structures to further frame the Dream Center as the focal point for community gatherings.

Mike emphasized, “Our property is continually being developed. My goal is to create a place where the whole community can come together and bring even more people in proximity with the gospel.”

Kids Club Park also features a community garden that supports the Dream Center’s food pantry and soup kitchen. The garden gives children from the surrounding community the opportunity to learn about the basics of hydroponic gardening.

“Eventually, I’d love to see the community running all of this,” said Mike.

The Dream Center’s campus also includes a community center, complete with a commercial kitchen, a computer lab, a gym, and various classroom spaces for mentoring and Bible studies. The main gym is typically set up for the weekly Kids Club program, which brings in children from 18 different at-risk neighborhoods on Saturdays. The children who attend

have the opportunity to participate in games and learning activities and hear a biblically-themed message.

On weekdays, the Dream Center utilizes a truck with a stage, sound system, TV screen and puppet stage to hold a children’s church service at local parks and apartment complexes.

TERESA SWANN ’90 is the director of Kids Club and has been involved in children’s ministry for over 30 years.

“God gave me a passion for the lost, and He equipped me with the ability to do something about it,” Teresa explained. “These kids just need someone to believe in them. The Dream Center invests and believes in them when no one else will.”

In the county where the center is located, one in four children are considered food insecure and do not have regular access to three adequate meals per day. The Dream Center distributes over 4,000 pounds of food each month, primarily through the Mercantile — a designated space where members of the community can pick up



A child takes part in an obstacle course during Kids Club.

groceries and other essentials. They also offer resources to expectant mothers at their pregnancy center, which houses a diaper bank and the pregnancy clinic, which is equipped with a full exam room and sonogram machine.

With a clear intentionality for reaching the community, Mike devotes his time to



Dream Center volunteers repair a house in the surrounding neighborhood.

ensuring every effort from the center is fulfilling a need. Mike's typical day isn't based around meetings or a strict schedule. Rather, he prioritizes the visits from local business owners or individuals from the neighborhood who come seeking his guidance or looking to connect.

Mike also dedicates his efforts to serving on the SEU Nursing Advisory Council and the Lakeland Police Department's Police Athletic League (PAL) Advisory Board.

"This community can tell when you're being real and genuine in your interactions with them. I think I've been able to break the walls down just by being

Another key aspect to securing the trust and backing of the community has been the center's neighborhood cleanups. The Dream Center currently works with 12 churches in varying regions of Lakeland and helps them each host two outreaches a year. By partnering with local churches to hold service days for their congregations, the Dream Center has been able to restore many areas throughout Lakeland that were once deemed dangerous.

Mike remarked, "Something as simple as cleaning up and cutting down bushes and trees can make people feel more comfortable and safe walking down the street. It allows neighbors to see neighbors."

Between serve days, weekly programs and events, volunteers give an average of over 23,000 hours of service to the Dream Center each year.



Children coloring with Kids Club volunteers.



Local children gather around Teresa Swann and the Kids Club truck.

comfortable in my own skin," Mike reflected. "They appreciate that sense of authenticity — it opens the door for that personal relationship to develop."

The Dream Center provides all the tools and resources for volunteers, including mowers, weeders, gloves, goggles and first aid kits — everything needed to establish a successful outreach.

"I always tell people that the Dream Center is defined by outreach. We are compelled by Christ, and that is why we are out there, week after week, plugging away," said Mike. "It's always about that next person we're gonna reach."

Although it would be easy to see Mike's high energy and assume he was born extroverted, he wasn't always so outgoing. It wasn't until Mike discovered his calling that he received his people-oriented gift set.

"When God called me into the ministry, I changed overnight," Mike recalled. "I used to be very quiet and meek, but God gave me this boldness."

Mike grew up in the Appalachians, originating from a small town in Western Maryland known as Oldtown. He attended a small Assemblies of God church in the country with his family and describes the moment he accepted Christ as a radical experience.



Mike brings volunteers in for a huddle before they get to work.



Volunteers sorting donations in the Mercantile.



Steve Hill directing volunteers.

Mike recollected, “I was just hit by the Holy Spirit, and I had never experienced anything quite like it. I danced all over the church. And that night, the pastor had confirmed my feeling that I had been called into the ministry.”

Mike went on to attend Allegheny County College and Evangel University, where he continued to earn credits towards his degree while coaching. He ended up finishing his degree through a Southeastern extension program while working as a youth pastor in Baton Rouge, La.

“Although I didn’t attend Southeastern as a traditional student, it allowed me to gain a foothold in the Lakeland community. It also made it easy to incorporate the university into our outreach plan for Lakeland.”

Between current students and alumni, the Dream Center sees heavy involvement from Southeastern. Nursing students volunteer weekly in the center’s clinic, and athletes and athletic staff volunteer their time on a monthly basis, assisting in a variety of capacities.

Most recently, the center welcomed two more alumni, **MADISON MYER ’21**

and **NICK DELL ’15**. Madison serves as the front desk receptionist and assists with Kids Club, and Nick is the outreach director.

As for the future, Mike is confident that the Dream Center will continue to expand its programs and properties.

“The Dream Center’s impact will get greater and greater with time,” Mike expressed. “We’re just going to keep loving people and serving people and leave the rest up to God.”



SOUTHEASTERN

HOMECOMING
 2022
 UNIVERSITY



Nearly 200 alumni returned home to Southeastern's Lakeland campus for Homecoming 2022 in October. The weekend was packed with a variety of events and gatherings where alumni reconnected with friends, former classmates, faculty and staff. Alumni had the opportunity to hear about Southeastern's exciting campus updates and accomplishments from the past year at the annual Alumni Social and Alumni Brunch. In addition, alumni participated in decade reunions for the classes of the 1950s to the 1980s, as well as a special reunion for those who were involved in any of the university's vocal groups in celebration of SEU Worship's 10th anniversary. Be sure to join in on the fun at next year's Homecoming weekend on October 27-28, 2023 — you won't want to miss it!





MILTON E. DYKES '71



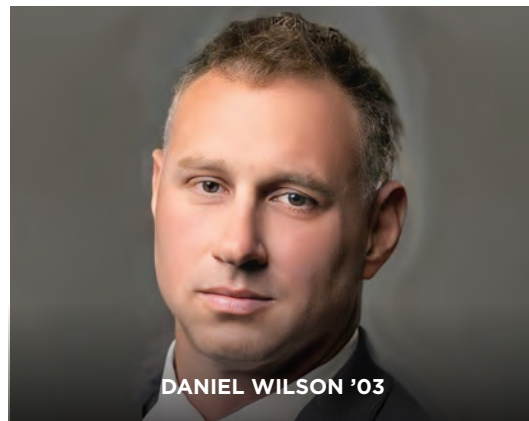
JAMES N. KOCHENBURGER '87



JOEL JOHNSON '92



SHELLEY (McSPADDIN) KOFAHL '01



DANIEL WILSON '03



DEREK BRITT '05

CLASS NOTES

IN THE LIVES OF SEU ALUMNI

1971

MILTON E. DYKES is a chaplain through the Assemblies of God's U.S. Missions. He started Campfire Chaplains, a ministry dedicated to reaching people in campgrounds. Milton and his wife, Wanda, travel across the country ministering to people in national, state and private parks. Milton previously pastored several AG churches, including Lineage Church in Jacksonville, Fla., where he served as the lead pastor for 20 years.

1986

STEPHEN C. CHASE works full time for the Polk County Sheriff's Office

(PCSO) in Winter Haven, Fla. He works as a 911 classroom training officer alongside his wife, **DIANE (SMOTHERS) '94**, who is a career development specialist. Stephen also serves as the associate pastor for Genesis Church in Highland City, Fla. He and Diane have two sons and one daughter.

1987

JAMES N. KOCHENBURGER has been a licensed marriage and family therapist for First Orlando Counseling for seven years. He and his wife, Karen, have used their 37 years of marriage experience to create an online marriage course, The Love Seat Experience: 8 Keys to Lifelong Love. Jim has used his experience in youth and family ministry to publish several

books. He worked for numerous publishing companies including Charisma Media, Group Publishing and Xulon Press.

1992

JOEL JOHNSON has accepted a position as the vice president of college relations at Crown College in Saint Bonifacius, Minn. He is working on his doctorate in organizational leadership at Southeastern where he served as the director of alumni relations for four years.

1998

PETE MILLER and his wife, **PAM (ALLEN) '96**, recently moved from



MATTHEW LUNSFORD '06



PAMELA (PARRY) HUTCHINSON '09



NICKI (ROSE) TURNER '09



GABE GRINDER '11

Cleveland, Ohio, to Stafford, Va., to pastor Abundant Life Assembly of God. Pete and Pam have three children and welcomed their first granddaughter in January of 2022.

2001

SHELLEY (McSPADDIN) KOFAHL

was promoted to principal of Westwood Elementary in Fairview, Tenn. Shelley has worked for Williamson County Schools (WCS) for five years, where she served as a teacher and was the assistant principal of Scales Elementary in Brentwood, Tenn., and Allendale Elementary in Spring Hill, Tenn. She graduated with her master of education from Middle Tennessee State University in 2005 and completed her doctorate of education in 2016 at Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tenn.

2003

DANIEL WILSON accepted a position as the service director for the city of Macedonia, Ohio. He previously worked as a crew leader, maintenance technician and was the operations manager for the department of public service and engineering in Gahanna, Ohio. Daniel

is working on his master's in public administration at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark.

2005

DEREK BRITT helped relaunch a branch of the Assemblies of God (AG) college ministry, Chi Alpha, at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. Derek previously served as a staff pastor at Calvary Temple in Indianapolis, Ind., before becoming an AG U.S. missionary. Derek currently coaches high school soccer and serves as the Chi Alpha director for Indiana University and the AG Indiana District. He and his wife, Jordan, have two sons, Davis and Jonas.

2006

MATTHEW LUNSFORD is a music teacher at Chiefland Elementary School in Chiefland, Fla. He and his wife, La'el, have been worship leaders for six years at Christian Life Fellowship Church in Newberry, Fla. Matthew also serves as the Assemblies of God Section 3 Worship Representative of the PenFlorida District.

2009

PAMELA (PARRY) HUTCHINSON

is a middle school Spanish teacher for the Atlanta Public School system. She also serves as the minister of worship for Atlanta Vineyard Church in Atlanta, Ga. Pamela and her husband, Nathaniel, married in June of 2022 and recently bought a house.

NICKI (ROSE) TURNER

has started her own business, Cori Rose Handmade. She makes handmade clay jewelry and sells it in her online store. She has volunteered with Parker Street Ministries and worked with the Florida Department of Children and Families in Lakeland, Fla. Nicki and her husband, **BEN '08**, are the founders and lead pastors of Strong Tower Church in Lakeland, Fla. Together, they have three daughters.

2011

GABE GRINDER

has accepted a position as the head baseball coach for the University of Texas Permian Basin in Odessa, Texas. Gabe was previously the head coach for the Braves of Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan. He also served as the pitching coach and recruiting coordinator



PETER & KAT (CHILDS) BIGELOW '13



RACHEL (WARD) BOATWRIGHT '15



KIRSTI (MUTZ) LEWIS '15



STEVE PARKER '15 (MBA)



LINDSEY HULL '18, '20 (M.S.)



NATHANIEL JORDAN '18

for Oklahoma Wesleyan University in Bartlesville, Okla., and helped them get to the 2017 NAIA World Series and rank No. 5 in the nation. Gabe was also the pitching coach at Southeastern, West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W.Va., and Morningside College in Sioux, Iowa.

2013

PETER BIGELOW and his wife, **KAT (CHILDS)**, met in Southeastern's School of Honors nine years ago. Peter works as an attorney at Hilgers Graben PLLC in West Palm Beach, Fla. He received his Juris Doctor degree from the George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C. Kat is a certified public accountant (CPA) and previously worked in the finance department at the Special Olympics headquarters in Washington, D.C. She is currently a stay-at-home mom for their three-year-old daughter, Caroline.

2015

RACHEL (WARD) BOATWRIGHT is the senior academic advisor for Florida State University's (FSU) College of Music in Tallahassee, Fla. Rachel is currently working on her master's in arts administration from FSU. While in Southeastern's School of Music program, Rachel met her husband, **JOHNNY '16**, when they were both students in Dr. Daniel Gordon's Chamber Singers Ensemble. Together, they own a house and have two dogs in Tallahassee.

KIRSTI (MUTZ) LEWIS owns a non-profit organization, People Like Us. Inspired by her honor's thesis, Kirsti founded People Like Us to help educators use the performing arts to create more inclusive and effective learning environments for students with developmental disabilities through research-based curriculum, online

courses and in-person consulting. Kirsti is also an executive board member for Georgia's Council of Exceptional Children.

STEVE PARKER (MBA) was hired as the chief of police for the Davenport Police Department in Davenport, Fla. He is a United States Air Force veteran and was previously employed with the Polk County Sheriff's Office, where he served as a patrol deputy, homicide detective, sergeant and patrol platoon commander. He was also a Safe Schools Division lieutenant and Southeast District lieutenant, where he managed detectives assigned to the district's General Crimes. Steve earned his Bachelor of Social Science in Criminal Justice from Columbia Southeastern University, completed the State of Florida Certified Public Manager program at Florida State University and graduated from the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Steve has been married to his wife, Donna, for 39 years. Together, they have four children.



JOEL PERTTULA '18 (Ed.D.)



APRIL CLEMENTS '19 (MBA)



BROOKE MARTIN '19



NOAH QUILES '19



JOHN POKHAN '22

2018

LINDSEY HULL '20 (M.S.) is an area representative for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) in Tampa Bay. She was recently featured on “Eat, Shop, & Play,” a radio show with Tan Talk Radio Network based in Clearwater, Fla. Lindsey completed her Bachelor of Science in Ministerial Leadership in 2018 and her Master of Science in Kinesiology in 2020. She returned to Southeastern in July of 2022 to lead an FCA camp.

NATHANIEL JORDAN graduated with his doctor of osteopathic medicine in 2022 from the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, W.Va. He was accepted to a residency in Family Medicine at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tenn.

JOEL PERTTULA (Ed.D.) and his wife, Bernadette, were on the ABC

show, “The Final Straw,” in August of 2022. Joel is currently a teaching pastor at Church of the Living Christ in Simi Valley, Calif., and an online instructor for Southeastern’s master of kinesiology program. He is also a full-time Bible teacher at Oaks Christian School in Westlake Village, Calif., where he and Bernadette have led a boys’ and girls’ tennis program for the last 15 years.

2019

APRIL CLEMENTS (MBA) works as the senior vice president II of human resources for MIDFLORIDA Credit Union. April was featured in The Ledger, a newspaper based in Lakeland, Fla., where she discussed leadership and her over 17 years of experience with MIDFLORIDA. April and her husband, David, have three children.

BROOKE MARTIN has completed her first year of teaching in the Orange County School District. She teaches music at Laureate Park Elementary School in Orlando, Fla., and was featured by Central Florida’s Spectrum News 13 as an A+ Teacher.

NOAH QUILES has accepted a position as a financial representative at The Bulfinch Group, a wealth management firm in Needham, Mass. He is actively involved with Liberty Church in Shrewsbury, Mass., where he plays acoustic guitar and serves in their youth ministry. Noah is also the creative director for Royal Family Kids’ Camp, a network of child mentoring camps and programs for abused and neglected children in the foster care system.

2020

CARLOS DIAZ '22 (MBA) owns his own content creation company, Finesse Photography Worldwide, LLC, and travels the country photographing combat sports.

2022

MACY KAISER (M.A.) has accepted a position as the communications coordinator for Big Machine Label Group based in Nashville, Tenn. She worked this past summer for the Country Music Association (CMA) as the communications assistant for CMA Fest.

ALLISON LOSEE (MSW) has accepted a position as a medical/hospital social worker at South Florida Baptist Hospital in Plant City, Fla.

JOHN POKHAN has accepted a position as a middle school science teacher at First Baptist Academy in Naples, Fla. John is also working towards his Masters of Science in Anatomical Sciences Education through the University of Florida.

IN MEMORIAM

1950

VAUDIE VERNON LAMBERT JR. passed on June 16, 2022, at the age of 93. Vaudie was the chairman of the board at Southeastern for many years and was an ordained Assemblies of God minister throughout Florida and Alabama. He last planted Central Assembly of God in Montgomery, Ala. Vaudie served as the Christian education director and was the district superintendent for the Alabama District of the Assemblies of God for 22 years. Vaudie is survived by his wife of 72 years, Lillian; his daughter, Julie; daughter-in-law, Ruth; five grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

1980

PAUL CRITES passed away December 2, 2021, at the age of 63. He was an author, speaker and minister. Paul is survived by his wife, Angel; his four children; his sister and three granddaughters.

1984

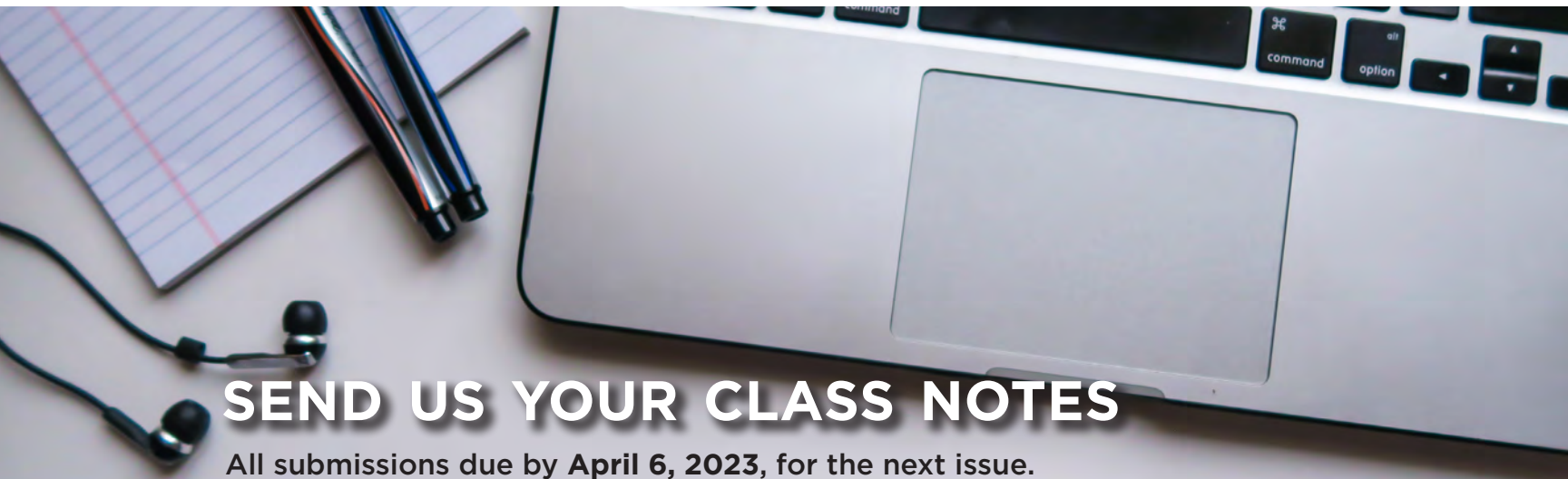
TIM SHIELDS passed away on November 4, 2022, at the age of 68. He served as a Polk County history teacher for 32 years. Tim taught at George Jenkins High School in Lakeland, Fla., for 22 years, where he was also an athletic business manager, swimming and baseball coach. He coached for a total of 29 years and played basketball and baseball during his time at Southeastern. Tim was also a member of Lakes Church where he served as a deacon and Sunday School teacher. He is survived by his wife, Jan, of 39 years; his son, Brian; his sister, Judy; and other family members.

2021

LAUREN BOSS passed away unexpectedly on October 25, 2022, at the age of 21 from a heart condition. She graduated from Merritt Island High School in 2019 and finished her

bachelor's in practical ministry two years later. Lauren worked as a social media and content assistant for Saints Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. She is survived by her mother, Kim; and her two older brothers, Paulie and Kyle; along with many other family members.

SAM BENNETT passed away on September 7, 2022, at the age of 70. He was the first dean of Southeastern University's College of Education for five years after serving in public school education for over 20 years. Sam was awarded the Florida Teacher of the Year award, the Big Brother of the Year award for the Tampa Bay Area and was given the Polk County Teacher of the Year award for two years in a row. He was a teacher at Garner Elementary in Winter Haven, Fla., and was a professor in Southeastern's College of Education for over 16 years.



SEND US YOUR CLASS NOTES

All submissions due by April 6, 2023, for the next issue.

Email: alumni@seu.edu
Submit online at: [SEU.edu/alumni](https://seu.edu/alumni)

Mail to: University Advancement
Southeastern University
1000 Longfellow Blvd., Lakeland, FL 33801



LEAVING A LEGACY



Planned Giving

A planned, or deferred, gift enables you to make a larger gift to Southeastern University than you may have thought possible, while still providing financial security for you and your family.

Here are a few ways you can leave a lasting legacy.

Bequest

One of the easiest and most flexible ways to leave a legacy gift is bequeathing a gift to SEU in your will or trust, which the university will receive upon your death. A bequest, or estate gift, may be in the form of cash, stock, or real property.

Beneficiary of Life Insurance or IRA

This option allows you to designate SEU as a beneficiary of your insurance policy or IRA, either in your existing policy or in a new, separate policy naming SEU as the sole beneficiary.

Charitable Remainder Trust

This type of trust can make a meaningful gift to Southeastern while providing income for life (or a specific term) for yourself and/or others. This gift can increase current income and diversify assets—without up-front capital gains tax.

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