A black and white profile photograph of a man's face, looking towards the right. The image is the background for the entire page.

SPRING 2002

Excellence

FOR ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Coach Duke Enters ITA Hall of Fame

INSIDE:

Homecoming 2002: Forever Linked

Alumnus of the Year 2002 Awards

Alumni Foundation Annual Report

What Happened to Excellence?

A letter from the Chairman of the Alumni Association Board of Directors

Those of you who have been receiving this magazine for many years are probably wondering what's going on. Let me explain.

It's been about ten years since the alumni magazine received a "makeover." The decision to change it up came out of a desire to give *Excellence* a fresher, "more excellent" look, more inviting graphics, and a clearer description of how the ORU of today is carrying out the original vision and staying true to its founding principles. Since the primary focus of the magazine is alumni, we'll keep doing feature stories about our classmates and their lives. We'll also keep the alumni news notes, and continue to talk about students, faculty, and Golden Eagle athletics.

Rather than simply present you with a new design, we decided to ask for your help. This issue and the summer issue are being designed by two different artists. We want you to look at both issues, figure out what you like and don't like, and send us an e-mail (alumni@oru.edu) or use the Alumni Registry (alumniweb.oru.edu) to tell us your thoughts. Your input matters. Your opinions count. The fall issue (and future issues) will incorporate, as much as possible, what you tell us you like best.

This issue examines what some alumni are doing to make a difference in their worlds — medicine, education, international missions, business — and how other alumni are ministering to the homeless and touching their local communities by organizing family events. The quality of an ORU education continues to improve, as evidenced by the engineering and physics department's newest class project. To answer your questions about the financial situation of the University and the Alumni Foundation, we've included annual reports.

When you've finished reading this issue, I hope you will see that change is in the air: among alumni as they continue to follow God's will for their lives, among our students as they prepare their spirits, minds, and bodies for service, and at ORU, where the goal is to constantly improve that which has been so good for so long.



Robert Vander Lugt (87)



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"Called and Committed to Supporting and Serving"

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Excellence Magazine
Mission Statement

The purpose of *Excellence* magazine is threefold: to make alumni aware of what their former classmates are doing, to tell alumni what is happening today on the Oral Roberts University campus, and to share the good news about alumni accomplishments with faculty, staff, and friends of the University. *Excellence* magazine is proof positive that the mission of ORU is being carried out on a daily basis all over the globe – “in every person’s world.”



Excellence

SPRING 2002 • VOL. 14, NO. 1

Table of contents

Features

5 Homecoming 2002

A chance to reconnect, to “link up” with dear friends and favorite faculty members . . . and honor “Alumnus of the Year” awardees who are going into every person’s world.



PAGE 5

12 Cleared For Takeoff

Engineering and physics students are getting an education that most of their contemporaries only dream of: They’re building a plane.

14 The Annual Reports

How did the ORU Alumni Foundation and the University fare, financially speaking, in 2000-01? Review the numbers for yourself.

Departments

2 Your Voice

A Message from Alumni Board Chairman Robert Vander Lugt

4 Presidential Perspective

Where We’re Going

16 Campus Currents

- ~ Students, Alumni Come Together
- ~ News in a Flash
- ~ To Help all Students Learn . . .
- ~ Making Way for the Future



PAGE 14

19 Head of the Class

To the Uttermost Bounds

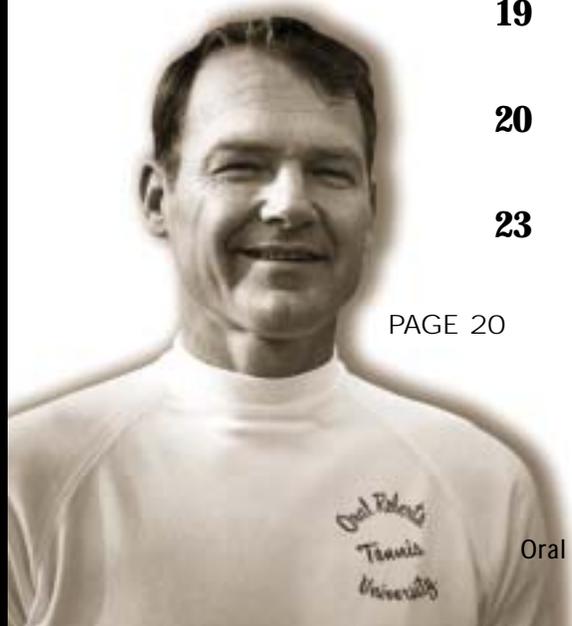
20 The Eli Report

Duke Earns Hall of Fame Honors

23 Lifelong Links

- ~ Notes from Alumni
- ~ Board News: New directors, 2002 election, Alumnus of the Year 2003
- ~ A Closer Look at . . . Kevin Manning (89), Ralph Plumb (75), and Doug Ott (88)

PAGE 20



Where We're Going

Take a look at this photo of Lindsay and me with a group of ORU students known as the Maniacs. (That's what they call themselves, and if you've seen them at an ORU basketball game, you know that also describes their behavior!) Are you wondering if the president and first lady have lost their minds, or are you thinking that we're having the time of our lives?

I hope you picked the second response, because it's the truth. In fact, Lindsay and I have become associate members of the Maniacs.

I spend a lot of time these days driving around campus, praying as I go, and as surely as I know anything, I know that God is in this place and has great plans for us. I see evidence of His presence everywhere I look, from chapel and campus church services to the classrooms and the cafeteria. (Yes, I eat with the students at Sodexho now and then.) Knowing that God remains at the center of everything we're doing here at ORU, Lindsay and I are excited about what tomorrow will bring.

We've faced a lot of challenges since I became the president in January of 1993. Although I wouldn't want to go through any of them again, I believe they made us stronger, and better able to face the future. What's exciting is that in the midst of struggles, we've been able to create new degree programs and new academic programs such as Honors, improve our career services area, and make enormous strides in the area of leadership training for our faculty. We have also begun work on a new service learning program that's going to touch not just our students and faculty but the Tulsa community as well, and see a marked improvement in the GPAs of our student athletes (for which we earned national recognition last year).

Sometimes universities get so busy doing new things, they forget where they came from and why they were created. That hasn't happened at ORU. We have remained true to our founding principles. We continue to educate the whole person — spirit, mind, and body. We are training our students to hear God's voice, to work hard, to exceed the works of our founder, and to go into every person's world. We'll continue to make changes to improve ORU, but *we will never change who we are!*



A few years ago, I began teaching a class called Charismatic Life and the Healing Ministry. In a sense, it's an updated version of Holy Spirit in the Now — and much more. I talk about how and why ORU was founded, what we believe, my father's roots in healing evangelism, how to hear God's voice, and how the Holy Spirit works in our lives. All undergraduates are required to take this three-hour course, which I actually team-teach with our theology chairman, Dr. Dan Thimell. I believe this course gives our students a better understanding of why we say we have a ministry with a university, and of how the University is in itself a ministry to the world.

I'm greatly encouraged when I hear that our alumni are continuing to carry out the mission that's branded on every ORU graduate. With so many thousands of ORU students following in your footsteps, you continue to have a major role to play in preparing these world-changers for what God is calling them to do. By observing your faithfulness and your commitment, today's students can see that with God, all things are possible!

So, where are we going? Forward. Always forward.

Richard Roberts

Richard L. Roberts
President and CEO

F O R E V E R L I N K E D

ORU is getting better and better, and so is each year's Homecoming celebration.

In February, hundreds of alumni made the journey to the place that gave them Saga food and Sagabogganing, wing retreats and devos, aerobics points, all-night study sessions, soapsuds in the LRC fountain, wind-tunnel hairstyles, Christmas banquets, burgers in the Sub, Java Huts, and celebrities in chapel. Why did they come back? Because the ties that bind ORU alumni to one another are so strong.

If you ask an alumnus what he or she liked best about ORU, the answer is always, "the people." Those relationships forged with fellow students and faculty members are unbreakable. As people who shared a moment in time in our lives, there's no getting away from the fact that we are **Forever Linked**.

On these pages, we'll show you a glimpse of the great time shared by all at Homecoming 2002.

At chapel on Friday, the official "launch" of Homecoming, President Richard Roberts preached one of his father's best-known sermons, "The Fourth Man." After chapel, doctors who attended the third annual Continuing Medical Education conference enjoyed a luncheon with members of the Alumni Board. The second annual continuing ed conference for mental health professionals also took place on Friday.

Friday night was the night to remember for the Classes of 1972, 1982, and 1992. Special videos of those wonder years brought both laughter and tears. Alumni also enjoyed having time to catch up with cherished friends and favorite faculty members and

share what is happening in their lives. Conversations briefly halted as members of the '82 and '92 reunion classes were awestruck by the astonishing sleight-of-hand feats of the guest illusionist.

Saturday was educational (Alumni University), strenuous (alumni vs. faculty/staff basketball), inspirational (the Women's Brunch), nostalgic (departmental open houses), and victorious (both Golden Eagle teams won their games). It was also touching for those who attended the banquet, where President Richard Roberts reminded alumni that "you are a part of ORU's past, part of its present, and a vital part of building its future." The Preslar Sisters had the crowd cheering their music, and a new feature — the "Alumnus of the Year Awards" video — gave everyone a chance to see the award winners in action. Reminiscing continued at the post-game reception.

Here's some great news for you: Homecoming 2003 is less than a year away! Plan now to enjoy meeting friends and faculty in Tulsa for another celebration of what was and what is yet to come.

PICTURED BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT: THE PRESLAR SISTERS (CASEY, SHELLY, AMANDA) PROVIDED MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BANQUET; HOMECOMING QUEEN AND KING, TIFFANY TABOR AND WILLIAM CUMBY; PRESIDENT RICHARD ROBERTS (THIRD FROM LEFT) POSES WITH 2002 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS JOHN AND PATRICE CROSS, DR. ALMA ALFORD, AND RON AND KATIE LUCE.



Fanning the Flames

By Elissa K. Harvill

What is Ron Luce doing today, besides leading one of the largest Christian youth organizations in the world, Teen Mania, which he founded with his wife, Katie, in 1986?

“I’ve been in meetings all morning,” he says — OH, BUT WAIT! These aren’t some boring, tedious work meetings; these are meetings of souls on fire! This particular morning, Ron has met with Christian leaders, aspiring preachers, and his Teen Mania staff, “pouring into their lives,” he says. After 15 years, Ron has still got the fire.

It takes 90 staff members, 720 interns, and 60 other people in the continuing education program to run Teen Mania today. Ron says that one thing he keeps in mind whilst doing his job is “remember why you’re there — God has put something inside of you that everybody

around you needs. If we can remember that, then we can realize that no matter what we’re doing at work, we’re ministering.”

Ron and Katie both graduated from ORU (1983 and 1984, respectively). Ron went to ORU because his preacher said he wanted all his kids to go there, and that was good enough for Ron, who wanted to major in God. Almost immediately after graduation, Ron and Katie started Teen Mania. Ron says, “I didn’t want to wait until I was older, because there might have been less drive to take the risk I needed to take right then. I just felt like God wanted me to do it NOW!”





HANNAH, RON, CAMERON, KATIE, AND CHARITY LUCE

Katie remains very involved with Teen Mania through speaking and traveling, even as she and Ron tend to their three children, who also travel with them. “One gets to go along with me for each trip,” Ron says happily.

Keeping the family close and together is top priority for the Luces. This is reflected in what Ron believes is the most important thing parents can do for their kids: “KNOW THEM.” In his opinion, “Today, the ‘ideal’ family consists of everybody doing their own thing and

then coming back together for one meal, and then they wonder why they don’t get along.” Ron encourages parents to “make sure that along your path you keep your family a priority by constantly reading books together and listening to tapes that will help you stay close and involved with each other.”

One of the most profound things Ron has learned recently came from his seven-year-old son. “The other day, we were working on a painting project and my son kept saying, ‘Papa, how am I doing?’ and I’d tell him he was doing fine, and then he’d ask again and again, and it hit me — this is what everyone is saying all the time, but they’re just too sophisticated to voice it.”

Ron believes that it only takes one ordinary person to make an extraordinary impact, “so make an impact,” he says. “If you’re going into the world, but not making an impact, then SO WHAT?!”

Ron and Katie make their impact from Garden Valley, Tex., with their three children, Cameron, Charity, and Hannah. At Homecoming, the couple received the 2002 “Alumnus of the Year” award for Distinguished Service to God. ■



PHOTOS 1-3: AT THE WOMEN’S BRUNCH, ROYAL TREASURE FOUNDER LU DUNBAR SPOKE ABOUT “A WOMAN’S DIVINE PRIVILEGE” TO SHARE HER TIME, TALENTS, AND TREASURES IN ORDER TO EXPAND THE KINGDOM OF GOD. ■ PHOTOS 4-5: GOLDEN EAGLE BUSINESS CONNECTION LUNCHEON, FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER DAVID BARTON (76), FORMER ALUMNI BOARD CHAIRMAN.

Team Efforts

At the age of nine, Alma Rhoades read a book by Dr. Ida Scudder, a missionary to India, and realized that she too could become a doctor.

Today, ORU medical school graduate Dr. Alma Alford (84), wife of ORU dental school graduate Jerome (80;84), is chief of Family Medicine at the Gallup Indian Medical Center in New Mexico, which serves a large Navajo population. Since finishing her residency in 1988, she has worked almost exclusively with Native Americans. At the Homecoming banquet, she received the Alumnus of the Year award for Distinguished Service to the Community.

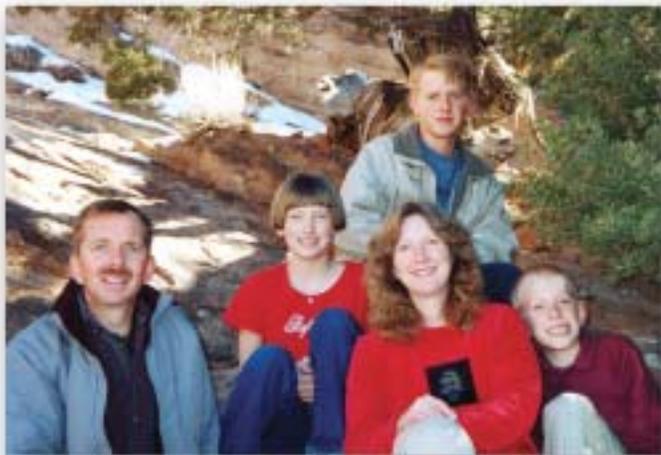
Jerome joined the Indian Health Service right out of dental school. He later spent one year in private practice, decided it wasn't for him, and returned to IHS. Alma, who had done a rotation with IHS, said, "It seemed like an appropriate choice for us."

The Alford's spent three years (1988-91) in Neah Bay, Wash., working with the Makah Indians. At a remote outpatient clinic, Alma got a good taste of emergency medicine. A program she helped develop, a multidisciplinary approach to dealing with medical emergencies, was written up in a national IHS Journal.

In 1991, the Alford's moved to Tahlequah, Okla., where Alma worked at the Indian Health hospital in Family Medicine and Obstetrics.

Since arriving in Gallup in the summer of 1993, Alma has launched a full-fledged family medicine program that touches all ages, from the unborn to the elderly. It's a far cry from the simple walk-in clinic that provided limited care. Now there are eight physicians on staff and several other health-care providers who serve about





JEROME, ANNETTE, ALMA, BEN, AND BRIAN ALFORD

100 patients per day.

“I hope that what we do here makes a difference,” Alma said, citing a low turnover in staff and her plans to enhance care even more in the future.

Although she was recognized at Homecoming for her involvement in the community, which includes leadership positions at her church and missions work in the U.S. and abroad, Alma’s priorities lie elsewhere. Jerome and their three children — Ben, almost 16, Annette, 13, and Brian, 10 — come first.

“When I look back someday,” Alma said, “I want to say that I fulfilled the call of God in my life, in whatever area. I always want to be willing and sensitive to His leading. I constantly evaluate that, especially now with our children’s needs.

“As a family, we’re in this all together.” ■

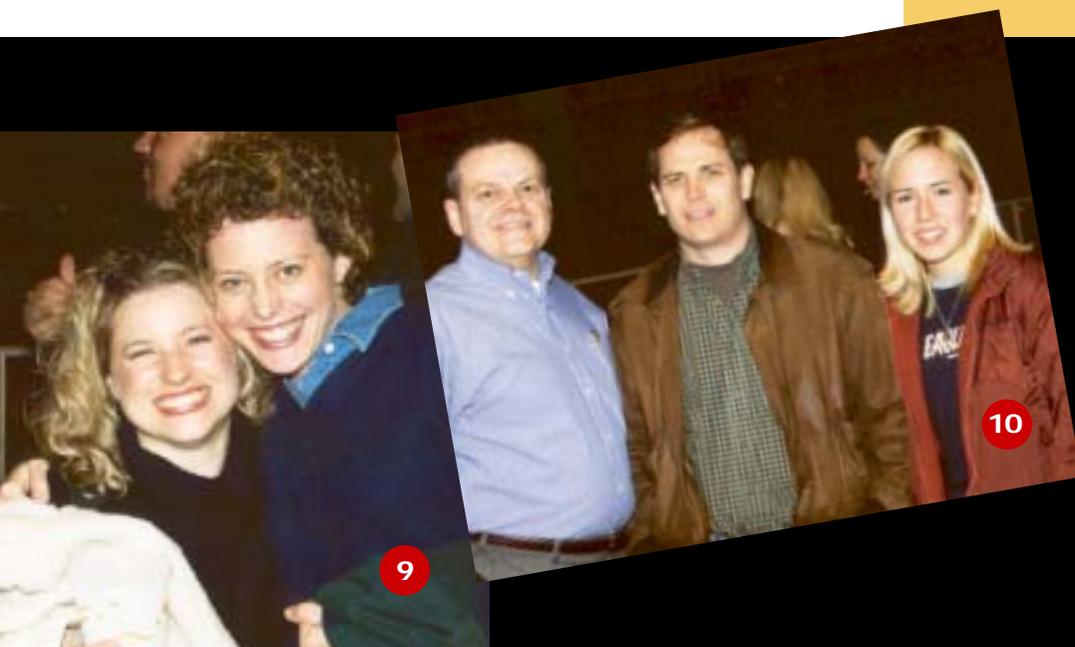


History is Golden

She couldn’t wait for Homecoming. Golden Eagle star player Krista Ragan scored 29 points in a January 28 game against Southern Utah, and in the process, became the Mid-Continent Conference’s all-time leading scorer. By the end of her team’s 88-85 double-overtime win, Ragan held the MCC record with 1,889 points. The ladies also won at Homecoming, defeating UMKC by a 75-72 score.



PHOTO BY CRIS BELVIN



9

10

PHOTO 6: SENIOR MARKIUS BARNES TIED A MABEE CENTER RECORD BY HITTING NINE 3-POINT SHOTS. HE SCORED A CAREER-HIGH 35 POINTS AS HE LED THE GOLDEN EAGLES TO AN 85-75 VICTORY OVER UMKC. ■

PHOTO 7: SADIE BISH, DAUGHTER OF KEVIN (93) AND NICOLE (95), IS READY FOR CHEERLEADER TRYOUTS.

■ PHOTOS 8-10: ALUMNI AND FACULTY ENJOY THE RECEPTION.

Life Lessons

"We're glad that ORU was here for us," said John Cross (79), as he and his wife, Patrice (Dill-A), accepted the Alumnus of the Year award for Distinguished Service to the Alma Mater. "It's a special place like no other. Here at ORU, we became rooted and grounded in God's love, and learned to practice seed-faith."

The lessons that the Crosses learned at ORU were put to the test immediately after John completed his MBA at Arizona State University in 1982. When he and Patrice returned to Lewis, Kan., to work at the family business, they were met with the news that Cross Manufacturing was filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Shortly thereafter, John was appointed leader of the struggling company. (See the Fall 1997/Winter 1998 issue of *Excellence* magazine, available online, for the complete story.)

During the next five years, John and Patrice did everything they could do, and relied on God to do what only He could do, to bring the company through. At the very beginning, it was Patrice who recognized that they needed to "sow a seed" out of their need. God was faithful, and the company began its steady return to profitability.

In the past 23 years, the Crosses have found a variety of ways to give back to the University. John has served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. He and Patrice





PATRICE AND JOHN CROSS

have used their influence and their cherished memories of ORU in helping the University recruit new students. They've also co-sponsored alumni chapter receptions near their home. This year, their oldest child is a student at ORU.

“ORU is raising up a new generation,” John said at the Homecoming banquet, “and President Richard Roberts is keeping ORU true to its founding purpose.

“The good works that God is doing in the lives of the students,” he concluded, “makes ORU worthy of the support of all alumni.” ■

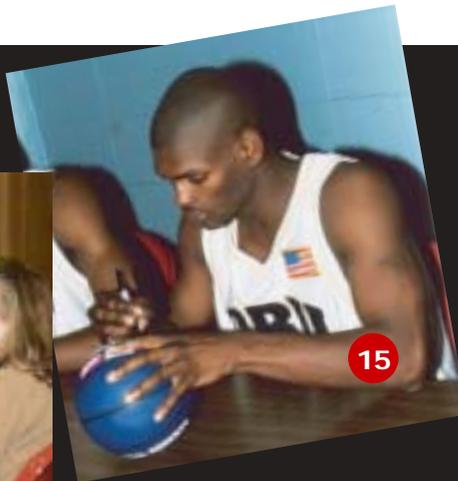


PHOTO 11: ALUMNI TOUR THE BEAUTIFUL NEW GABRIELLE CHRISTIAN SALEM RESIDENCE FOR WOMEN. ■ PHOTOS 12-14: REUNIONS WERE HELD FOR THE CLASSES OF 1972, 1982, AND 1992. ■ PHOTO 15: THE GOLDEN EAGLE BASKETBALL TEAM TOOK TIME OUT TO AUTOGRAPH BASKETBALLS FOR FANS.

ORU engineering and physics students are **Cleared for Takeoff**

By Jessica Hill

Alumni of the 1967 Flying Club will be happy to know that a new generation of ORU students is preparing to take to the skies. In this case, however, they aren't just learning to fly . . . they're actually building the plane.

When the spring semester began on Jan. 9, engineering and physics students were introduced to the newest element of the mechanical engineering curriculum: an Aerocomp CompAir 6 airplane kit. Over the next two years, these students, under the supervision of faculty members Dr. Dominic Halsmer, Roger Bush, and Dr. John Matsson (a new engineering faculty member from Sweden), will assemble the single-engine, six-seat plane in a garage-turned-hangar on the first floor of the LRC.

Dr. Halsmer, chairman of the engineering and physics department, contacted Merritt Island, Florida-based Aerocomp, Inc., last fall to ask about the plane kit. Aerocomp president Steve Young decided to donate the kit at cost, and then made a \$15,000 donation to ORU to offset the remaining expense. The entire kit, including fuselage and wings, is worth about \$40,000.



Aerocomp is a Christian company that was originally designed to build airplanes for missions projects. The CompAir 6 is called a "tail dragger," meaning that it has two wheels in the front and one in the back, thus making it easier to land on grass airstrips, which are common in Third World countries. More than 300 CompAir 6 kits have been sold, and more than 100 are being flown today. They have an excellent safety record.



DR. HALSMER AND THREE FUTURE AVIATORS EXAMINE A WING.

The plane is made of composite materials, a combination of carbon fiber with a resin and hardener added to stiffen the material. The result is a strong but lightweight product that is being used in military and commercial airlines, and that will provide engineering students with valuable experience working with modern materials.

Originally, Halsmer was considering a different airplane kit, but on the recommendation of an experienced pilot and plane builder, he contacted AeroComp. Over the course of several weeks during the fall semester, Young went from an initial offer of 15 percent off the cost of the kit to an outright donation of all the materials. In addition, the kit came with the tapered wing option, which increases the plane's cruising speed, and the quick-build option, which will allow the students to assemble the plane in just two years.

Halsmer, Bush, and student Dan Ashby traveled to Florida in December to pick up the kit. While there, they flew in a CompAir 6 and toured the factory where the kits are produced. Halsmer said the plane would be used in several engineering courses, including Strength of

Materials, Fluid Mechanics, Control Systems, Statics, Principles of Design, Advanced Design, and Machines and Mechanisms, as well as a special topics course on Airplane Design. He hopes that airplane construction will become a staple of the curriculum.

"Not only will this project provide our students with essential real-world experience, but it will also give the engineering faculty the opportunity to work closely with students in a non-classroom environment — and I think it will be fun for everyone involved," said Halsmer. He said there are only a few other universities whose engineering departments feature airplane construction.

As a pilot and airplane aficionado for many years, Roger Bush (no relation to the president), a faculty member in the communication arts department, helped Halsmer evaluate airplane kits and arrange for transport of the kit from Florida to Oklahoma, a 24-hour drive. "I'll be working with the students when they begin doing the electronics, wiring, and instrumentation for the plane," Bush said.

Before the airplane will be airworthy, the department will have to obtain an engine and a propeller, which each cost around \$10,000. Halsmer is hopeful that this funding may come through donations or investors. He said that a group of faculty members with pilot's licenses have expressed interest in utilizing the assembled plane. ■

JESSICA HILL IS THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AT ORU.

Annualreports

The ORU Alumni Foundation Annual Report

This excerpt was derived from audited statements, which may be reviewed in the Alumni Office.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION August 1, 2000 - July 31, 2001

	FY 2001	FY 2000
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 696,365	\$ 637,123
Other receivables	8,919	1,687
Investments	351,041	403,631
Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation of \$18,181)	8,215	9,986
Other	32,808	29,702
Total assets	\$ 1,097,348	\$ 1,082,129
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 9,657	\$ 4,535
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	290,197	302,630
Temporarily restricted	386,028	380,814
Permanently restricted	411,466	394,150
Total net assets	1,087,691	1,077,594
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,097,348	\$ 1,082,129

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

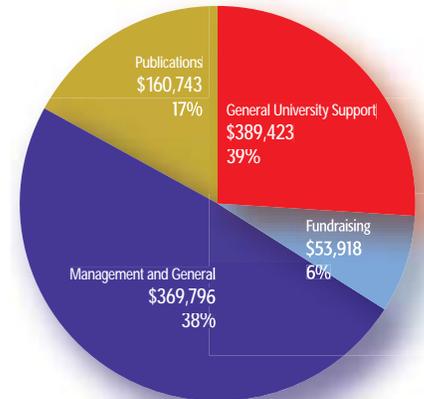
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	FY 2001 Total	FY 2000 Total
Revenues					
Contributions					
Cash	\$ 265,520	\$ 394,637	\$ 5,050	\$ 665,207	\$ 555,662
In-kind services from the University	244,876	-	-	244,876	236,292
Interest and dividend income	36,241	-	12,266	48,507	37,873
Realized and unrealized investment gain (loss)	(72,170)	-	-	(72,170)	-
Other income	97,557	-	-	97,557	83,646
Net assets released from restrictions	389,423	(389,423)	-	-	-
Total revenues	961,447	5,214	17,316	983,977	913,473
Expenses					
Program services					
General University support	389,423	-	-	389,423	188,392
Publications and other	160,743	-	-	160,743	119,904
Management and general	369,796	-	-	369,796	351,604
Fundraising	53,918	-	-	53,918	54,005
Total expenses	973,880	-	-	973,880	713,905
Increase in Net Assets	(12,433)	5,214	17,316	10,097	199,568
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	302,630	380,814	394,150	1,077,594	878,026
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 290,197	\$ 386,028	\$ 411,466	\$ 1,087,691	\$ 1,077,594



How Your Money Was Spent

ORU Alumni Foundation

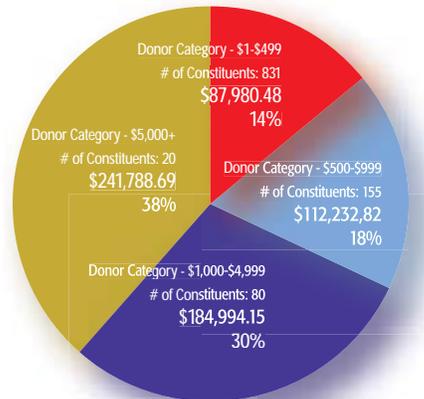
Fiscal Year 2000-2001



Donor Category Report

ORU Alumni Foundation

Fiscal Year 2000-2001

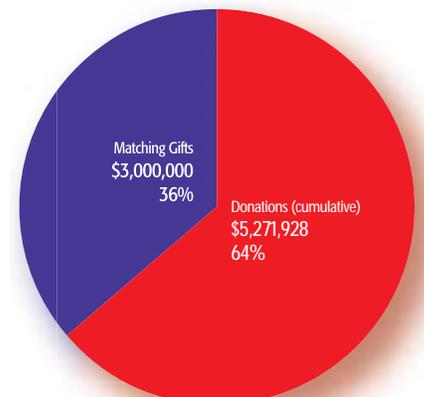


Donation History

ORU Alumni Foundation

1990-2001 (Fiscal Year)

Total All Gifts: \$8,271,928





ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY

Financial Report Summary
For the year ended July 31, 2001

The year 2000-2001 once again produced a record enrollment with 5,368 students served. With 65 undergraduate majors, 10 master's degrees, and two doctoral degrees, Oral Roberts University continues to attract quality students who are highly motivated to pursue excellence in academics in a strong spiritual atmosphere.

For the year ending July 31, 2001, the audited financial statements show a significant increase in total revenues of \$4,950,467. This was due in large part to increases in tuition and fee revenues, along with a substantial increase in contributions and bequests.

ORU boasts its financial aid program offers aid to more than ninety percent of its students. This amount compares very favorably to other private universities of its type, and allows the opportunity of attending ORU to a broader cross section of students. This year's scholarships and fellowships equaled \$16,351,415; this number includes government grants (SEOG and Pell).

Total expenses increased approximately \$5.2 million. While much of this was anticipated, utility costs soared more than \$3.2 million over budget, due to the skyrocketing costs of natural gas during the year. This resulted in a deficit for the period of just over \$1.75 million. New accounting standards required that the ORU Alumni Foundation be included in the University's financial statements. The cumulative effect of this change is shown separately in this statement.

As ORU continues in its pattern of growth, facility needs increase. In April 2001, President Richard Roberts announced plans to build a state-of-the-art \$175 million customer service-oriented Student Center on the campus that will house offices for Student Services as well as provide for much-needed additional meeting space. After a successful multi-million-dollar capital campaign to transform one of the University's longstanding male dormitories into a women's dormitory, President Roberts dedicated the newly renovated Gabrielle Christian Salem Residence for Women in October 2001. This new dorm will accommodate the growing number of female students who are enrolling.

As the University entered a new school year in August 2001, the number of students served was 5,389, once again enabling ORU to claim its place as the state's largest private university. With the tragic events of September 11, a renewed emphasis was placed on the mission of the University to prepare men and women to make a positive impact in the world in their chosen professions. More than ever, Oral Roberts University is relevant in a world with problems that need answers only God can provide. He has chosen to use people to be part of the answer, and ORU's graduates are prepared to carry that message.

The Oral Roberts University Annual Report

These are condensed statements that are derived from the audited financials.

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION August 1, 2000 - July 31, 2001

	FY 2001	FY 2000
Assets		
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 2,983,322	\$ 3,806,926
Receivables, net of allowances for doubtful accounts	7,937,222	5,072,221
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,455,315	1,018,759
Loans to students, net of reserve for loan losses	19,325,411	19,663,777
Beneficial interest in assets of Alumni Foundation	1,087,691	-
Long-term investments - at cost, or market value at date of gift		
Securities - at cost, which approximates market	5,857,628	5,674,012
Endowment trust, net of notes receivable	4,639,803	4,340,127
Real estate and buildings, net of accumulated depreciation	60,164,422	58,387,698
Land and other	426,240	426,240
Educational plan, net of accumulated depreciation	73,735,197	68,804,887
Rock, mineral and artifact collection value at date of gift	2,425,235	2,425,235
Total assets	<u>\$180,037,486</u>	<u>\$169,619,882</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 12,096,670	\$ 6,300,469
Deferred revenue	5,202,929	1,842,249
Life loans	455,848	368,209
Notes payable	37,944,286	34,465,710
Obligations under capital leases	4,717,481	5,541,445
Refundable federal student loans	13,783,265	13,505,050
Total liabilities	<u>74,200,479</u>	<u>62,023,132</u>
Net assets	<u>105,837,007</u>	<u>107,596,750</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$180,037,486</u>	<u>\$169,619,882</u>

CONDENSED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES August 1, 2000 - July 31, 2001

	FY 2001	FY 2000
Revenues, gains and other support		
Tuition and fees	\$ 40,052,021	\$ 36,228,032
Sales and services of auxiliary services	15,554,124	14,727,258
Less: Scholarships and fellowships	(16,351,415)	(15,691,330)
Net tuition, fees and sales and services of auxiliary services	39,254,730	35,263,960
Contributions and bequests	18,439,323	12,660,980
Other revenue	6,106,041	10,924,687
Total revenues, gains and other support	<u>63,800,094</u>	<u>58,849,627</u>
Expenses and losses		
Education and general	42,539,220	39,923,861
Auxiliary enterprises	11,801,807	11,316,178
Depreciation	2,732,112	2,646,225
Interest on indebtedness	3,364,615	3,521,233
Other expenses	6,199,677	4,032,069
Total expenses and losses	<u>66,637,431</u>	<u>61,439,566</u>
Change in net assets before cumulative accounting change	(2,837,337)	(2,589,939)
Cumulative effect of accounting change	1,077,594	-
Decrease in net assets	(1,759,743)	(2,589,939)
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>107,596,750</u>	<u>110,186,689</u>
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$105,837,007</u>	<u>\$107,596,750</u>

Campuscurrents

Students, Alumni Come Together at Brunch



FIRST LADY LINDSAY ROBERTS

Women 18 years of age and older control about half of the investment wealth in the United States. How does a university like ORU prepare its female students for that kind of responsibility?

Alumni director George Paul (69) was thinking about that issue as his office was considering some new events to offer at Homecoming 2002. It made him decide to offer an event just for women on the subject of handling wealth.

“We designed our event for alumnae,” Paul said, “but then we decided it made more sense to open it up to some of our current students as well.” This idea was heartily endorsed by ORU’s first lady, Lindsay Roberts, who recommended a brunch rather than a seminar. Roberts hosted the event, held on the 60th floor of CityPlex Towers, and spoke briefly about the importance of being a “reacher” — someone who reaches out to humanity by using every gift and talent at her disposal.

Alumna Jacquie Cardone (69) suggested that Lu Dunbar, founder and president of Royal Treasure, be invited to speak at the brunch. Royal Treasure is a nonprofit organization that helps women of means learn how and where to invest their income so as to further the work of the kingdom of God. Dunbar’s speech topic, “A Woman’s Divine Privilege: Becoming A Resource of Treasure, Time, and Talent for the Kingdom,” was a natural fit for her ORU audience.



JACQUIE CARDONE

The Alumni Association sees this event as one of many ways to “serve the students and acquaint them with the Association before they graduate,” Paul says. Plans are in the works for another women’s event at Homecoming 2003. ■

News in a Flash

Female faculty and staff members now share the same dress code as female students. From the Monday after Thanksgiving until March

1, all ORU women may wear business casual clothing. The men, alas, are still “tied” down. ■

Chapel has moved from its Wednesday/Friday schedule to Mondays and Wednesdays this spring. Says John Thompson, Spiritual Life administrator, “We think that having chapel on Monday is a great way to begin the students’ week.” ■



To help all students learn . . .

By Jessica Hill

There has been quite a bit of news coming out of the fifth floor of the Graduate Center these days. The School of Education has been making headlines with its formal accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and its recognition for being first in the state in pass rates for Oklahoma's required teacher candidate assessments.

Dr. David Hand, dean of the School of Education, and Dr. Kim Boyd, associate dean, received notification in November that both the Undergraduate and the Graduate Schools of Education had been granted NCATE accreditation.

The NCATE Unit Board met in October in Washington, D.C., to determine the accreditation status of 64 institutions that hosted site visits in the spring of 2001. NCATE officials then contacted ORU to announce that the board had granted accreditation status for a five-year period — the maximum allowable.

“A transformed Christian educator involves not only being transformed spiritually, but also being transformed as a professional leader in the profession of education,” said Dr. Hand.

“The School of Education is dedicated to preparing candidates to work as teachers or other professional school personnel who know and demonstrate the content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn.

“To help us meet the goal of preparing transformed educators,” he continued, “the ORU School of Education chose to accept the challenge of achieving national accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. NCATE-



DR. DAVID HAND LED THE CELEBRATION OF HIS SCHOOL'S NCATE ACCREDITATION.

accredited schools must meet rigorous standards set by the profession and members of the public. The U.S. Department of Education recognizes NCATE as the only professional accrediting body for schools, departments, and colleges of education.”

The School of Education was also recently informed that in the 1999-2000 Title II Oklahoma State Report Card on the Quality of Teacher Preparation, ORU ranked first in the state in the pass rate for the three required competency-based teacher assessments. Of ORU's teacher candidates taking the exams, 98 percent passed them. ORU was joined in the top quartile by the University of

Oklahoma (97 percent), Oklahoma City University (95 percent), The University of Tulsa (95 percent), and Oklahoma Baptist University, Oklahoma Christian University, and Oklahoma State University, all tied at 94 percent.

Oklahoma has one of the most rigorous teacher preparation and testing programs in the U.S. with the three required exams: general education, subject area, and professional education. Many states only require one teacher examination, and some have no provision for testing. Results of Oklahoma's pass rate percentiles confirm Education Week's "Quality Counts" survey that ranks Oklahoma third in the nation for improving teacher quality. ■

Campuscurrents



Your favorite student newspaper, *The Oracle*, is also available online. Access it from the ORU site (www.oru.edu) or from the Alumni site (alumniweb.oru.edu). ■

The good news is, midterm grades are now available online. The bad news is, midterm grades are now available online. ■



Remember: You can update your address and career info by using the online Alumni Directory. (Go to alumniweb.oru.edu and click on Directory.) ■



Making Way for the Future

Swoosh! Like a basketball falling through a hoop, ORU's original gymnasium — the Health Resources Center/Classroom Center, home of the esteemed Titan basketball team — eventually came falling down on Feb. 8. The initial burst of explosives couldn't bring this stubborn icon to its knees, but within about 50 minutes, ARK Wrecking Company's track hoe managed to complete the job of deflating the dome. Next up: the new Student Center, a state-of-the-art structure that will raise the level of student services at ORU and provide comfortable, spacious, tech-enhanced meeting places for alumni, faculty, staff, and community members. ■

To the Uttermost Bounds

By Elissa K. Harvill

Melissa Bartlotti is going places. Having grown up in the international community of Pakistan, she's seen more in her twenty years than the average college junior, and she knows what's out there.

Bartlotti came to ORU on the recommendation of close friends. After considering other options, she decided ORU was just what she wanted: “a mid-sized university that emphasizes academia and spirituality.” After attending a conservative Christian boarding school, Bartlotti was pleased to find at ORU “an attitude of grace and open-mindedness. I’m refreshed by the diversity, especially in the spiritual sense,” she says. “There’s a lot of acceptance; ORU is a place where differences aren’t an issue of contention.”

Currently, Bartlotti’s focus of study is Organizational/Interpersonal Communications, which includes drama, TV, mass media, persuasion, debate, and social psychology. She sees this major as a launching pad for future graduate work that will prepare her for work overseas in areas such as reconciliation and cross-cultural communication.

“Living in Pakistan has given me a perspective outside of the American worldview.” Bartlotti speaks fondly of her childhood and her parents who are mission-



aries, but her memories of growing up give her a certain gravity. “Near the border of Afghanistan there was an atmosphere of lawlessness, intrigue, and adventure. Kidnappings, stray bombings, and the sound of Kalashnikov rifle fire were common enough for me to place my bed away from a window!” Such memories are in stark contrast to others’ carefree high school days.

Bartlotti describes herself as an observer of cultures, including her own. “I’m very

grateful to ORU for giving me an atmosphere for learning about American culture in a very secure, unimposing environment.

“(ORU) has really tried to adapt to the idea of a global community, especially by attracting international students and offering TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) programs that include Cross-Cultural Communication, Minority Group Relations, and Sociolinguistics — this is evidence of a global mindset and shows Christians being aware and reaching out.”

About her future, Bartlotti says that right now she’s more interested in living a lifestyle of faith than in what she’s going to do with her life. “Life is more than a narrow career focus. I’ll be at the right place at the right time if I’m trusting God. Life is long — if we’re passionate about God and understand the need that’s there globally, and willing to go and able to hear God’s voice — if we’re open enough for God to change our hearts and trust Him, He’ll take care of everything else.” ■



Duke Earns Hall of Fame Honors

ORU's revered tennis coach, Bernis Duke, the man who used picture postcards to recruit some of the best college teams ever assembled, is joining other luminaries in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Hall of Fame.

Isn't it ironic that a man who didn't get involved in the game of tennis until after he graduated from college, is now being inducted into the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Men's Collegiate Hall of Fame?

Ironic, but not surprising, since that man is Bernis Duke.

Coach Duke, who found his way to ORU in 1965 and has never found a



COACH DUKE WITH ORAL ROBERTS AND THE TENNIS TEAM IN THE FALL OF 1967.

good reason to leave, will be honored during the national tennis tournament at Texas A&M on May 22. He was nominated by one of his former players, Marshal Wright (83;89), and by Terry Unruh (77;80), NCAA athletic faculty representative at ORU; both teach in the School

of Business at ORU. Many of the players he coached are expected to attend the ceremony.

"There's never been a team that didn't spend money like I didn't spend money," Duke said of his legendary frugality. With no real budget for recruiting back in the '60s, he relied on colorful picture postcards of ORU buildings to make his case with tennis players around the world. His reasoning? "I didn't have to describe the school, I



didn't have to write much, and the players could hand them on to someone else. And, they were pretty."

The cards he mailed to Cuba and China came back, but he was overwhelmingly successful in Australia, South Africa, Scandinavia, and Eastern Europe. Oh, and there were a few pretty good American players, too.

One of the best-known Coach Duke stories is of the three Czech players — Ivan Mikysa, Jirka Medonos, and Cyril Suk — who were able to leave their country as a result of the "Prague Spring" of 1968, but ordered to return after the Russian invasion. "I told them to stop packing and let me write a letter," Duke said. He knew a postcard wouldn't do. In those days, ORU routinely took photos of international students raising their countries' flags on the Avenue of Flags. Duke obtained a print of Medonos raising the Czech flag and wrote to Czech Immigration, "We're a little Czech outpost in the middle of America. Couldn't these players stay?"

A letter came back, looking most official with its sealing wax and stamps. "Comrade Duke," it said, "we are puzzled but nevertheless pleased that you are an outpost. The Czech subjects' stay has been extended by six months."

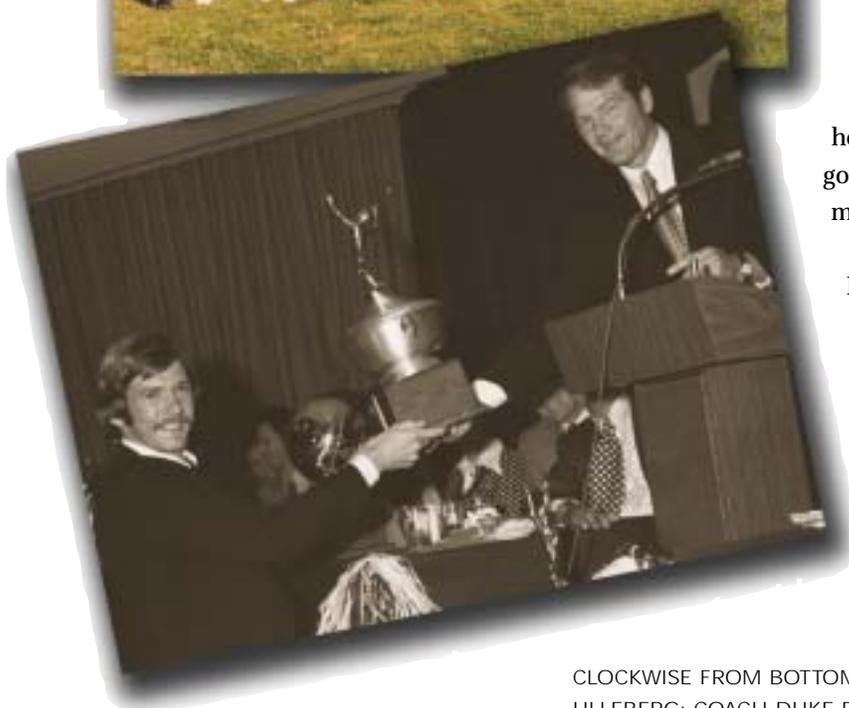


ORAL ROBERTS TENNIS TEAM, 1979.

This Arkansas native, as humble as his roots, has been a force to be reckoned with in other arenas as well. While claiming that "it's against my nature to box," he was, nonetheless, a heavyweight boxing champion in college. During that same time period, he and his Arkansas College basketball teammates won two straight state titles. As a high school coach, he took his basketball and tennis teams to state championships.

His first year at ORU, Duke, who was an assistant men's basketball coach, "mentioned to President Oral Roberts that if we could find a few good tennis players, ORU could gain national recognition." Told to give it a try,

"There's never been a team that didn't spend money like I didn't spend money."



he put together a team that routinely beat tennis tradition-rich schools . . . and that was undefeated in its first season.

In the first 28 years, Duke's teams never had a losing season and were sometimes ranked in the top ten. With a miniscule travel budget, the team drove almost everywhere. When someone gave the University a gold stretch limo, the tennis team was happy to use it.

Duke added the women's team to his coaching duties in 1987. He retired in 1994 but stayed on to help train the new coach. In 1999, he retired "for good," but only from coaching. He still teaches badminton (part-time) at ORU.

When longtime friend and fellow tennis coach David Kent (of Texas A&M) called to tell Duke about his Hall of Fame induction, Duke was not at home. The message Kent left on the answering machine, as Duke said, "made him sound even happier than I was about the news." Kent said, "I am so elated. It's the greatest thing ever, athletics-wise, that will ever happen to you. It's so well deserved. I'm so excited. I am fired up. What an honor. What a great coach!"

Our sentiments exactly. ■

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: COACH DUKE PRESENTS MVP AWARD TO ERIK ULLEBERG; COACH DUKE PICTURED WITH 1985 TENNIS TEAM; 1975 TEAM; COACH DUKE AT HOMECOMING 2002.

Manning Named Einstein Fellow

By Natasha Washington (94)

Heightening Congress' awareness in developing and addressing educational needs has been a rewarding experience for **Kevin Manning** (89).

Manning, who has taught an astronomy component of ORU's Math and Science Academy every summer for several years, was one of 12 elementary and secondary school mathematics and science teachers chosen from a pool of national applicants to serve in the national public policy arena in Washington, D.C., as an Einstein Fellow. The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Act, signed into law in 1994, allows teachers to provide insight in establishing and operating educational programs. Fellowships increase understanding, communication, and cooperation between legislative and executive branches, and the science, mathematics, and technology education community.

Manning has worked closely with members of the Committee on Education and the Workforce on various issues connected with the H.R. 1, the "No Child Left Behind Act," recently signed into law by President George W. Bush.

"This piece of legislation represents his hope and desire for improving the opportunities for achievement for each and every young American," Manning said. "It testifies of a leader who has the courage and cares enough to raise the standards, while holding these ideals in high regard, so that every child in America can have a chance to pursue his or her dreams."



KEVIN MANNING IN NEW YORK CITY FOUR DAYS BEFORE SEPT. 11.

Since the legislative process involves acts of Congress, and Congress looks to experts for advice and input for a particular field, it makes total sense that educators should be consulted for what works and what doesn't in the classroom, Manning said.

Manning's experience as an Einstein Fellow has been both eventful and memorable, particularly before and after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"On the way to and from the Brookhaven National Laboratory, we could see the World Trade Center Towers on Manhattan Island. This was only four days before the attacks of Sept. 11. On

that morning, I was on the streets in Washington, D.C., going to an appointment with a congressman, when I heard a loud explosion. Moments later, I could see the black smoke rising from the direction of the Pentagon. Not long afterwards, the Ford House Office Building, where I worked, was closed for three weeks because some anthrax was found in the mailroom. Since these horrific events, I've tried to take one day at a time and have been more keenly aware of all the tremendous blessings God has bestowed on me."

In addition to his involvement as an Einstein Fellow, Manning was a Wright Fellow at Tufts University in Boston from 1999 to 2000. He was also president of the Astronomy Club of Tulsa, Inc., for two years, served as a Tulsa Police Reserve (TPR) for more than 10 years, and was an adjunct professor at Tulsa Community College. Manning feels that much of his success as a teacher was due to the investment and personal interest taken by his ORU advisor, now professor emeritus Dr. Edward Nelson. (You may reach Manning by phone at 202-225-6558 or e-mail at Kevin.Manning@mail.house.gov.) ■

'72, '82, and '92 Graduates! Do you know what happened to your long-lost roommate — the one who shared those all-nighters? Or the wingmates who made intramurals such a fun part of your life at ORU? ■ If this was your big year to celebrate those special memories and you couldn't make it to Homecoming to celebrate at the reunion with your classmates, have no fear: we have the next best thing to being there. ■ You can purchase a class BIO BOOK for the all-time low price of just \$5, which includes shipping and handling. ■ Each book is filled with updates and photos from your fellow grads and features "favorite ORU memories" that reveal all! ■ To order your personal copy, call Alumni Relations at 918/495-6610 today.

Lifelonglinks

Class Notes

1970s



Arden Autry (70; faculty 1978-94) wrote the words and music for a new CD, "I Am Yours: Songs of Worship and Communion," with Beth Bryant as the soloist. Now minister of adult education at First United Methodist Church, Tulsa, Arden began writing songs while supervising communion services in Kennedy Chapel at ORU. Arden and his wife, June (Vasby-A), live in Tulsa.

1980s



Robert King (81-M.Div.) continues in full-time missionary work in Mexico with his wife, Susan. They have their own ministry, Abundant Life in Jesus, Inc. Four family members are ORU students: Robert (working on his D.Min.), Daniel, 22, a senior New Testament major, Melody, 21, a sophomore missions

major, and Stephen, 18, a freshman New Testament major. Susan homeschools Esther, 15, and David, 12. "We consider it absolutely miraculous that God is fully providing for all of us to attend ORU," Michael wrote. "Most of the provision has been grants and scholarships. No debt — Praise God!"

Jim Stovall (81) and his Narrative Television Network were featured in a front-page story in the Dec. 13, 2001, Wall Street Journal. The story described how one of NTN's "narrators" describes, for the benefit of blind or sight-impaired viewers, what's happening in a movie or TV program.

Mark Compaan (83) married Tracy West on June 29, 2001, in Overland Park, Kan. They are both teachers in schools in northwest Kansas.

Davin Alan (84) was listed among the "Top 100 Producers" of 2001 by AV Video and Multimedia Producer magazine. Davin is supervisor of audio visual services at Hormel Foods Corporation. He and his group handle everything from annual reports to streaming video.

Toni Swain (85) **Fowler** and husband David had their eighth child, Judah Gabriel, in August 2001. Siblings are Joshua, Naloni, Samuel, Daniel, Caleb, Christian, and Isaac. Toni is still homeschooling them



all, while Dave is working hard to launch a new career/ministry. They'd love to reconnect with old friends.

Kristine Anderson Amador (87) and husband Victor have one daughter, Michelle, who is 7.

John (88) and Rode **Benson** have a new daughter, Hannah Kristine Benson Hidalgo, born Oct. 12. Big sister Sarah was 2 1/2 at the time.



Brad (88) and **Sarah Munday** (93) **Touchet** moved to Collinsville, Okla., so Brad could work at Owasso's Warren Medical Clinic. Their first son, Alex, will be four in June. Their second son, Benjamin Luc, was born on Oct. 4, 2001. Citadel/Fortress alumni are welcome to reconnect with the Touchets at:

1990s

Tammie Sumerel (92) says she loves teaching math, computers, and business classes to high school students. She is in her sixth year of teaching in her home state of Michigan. Friends, please write.

Annmarie Cooley (92; 2001-M.A.Ed.) **Wright** was named one of the Jenks School District's site teachers of the year last December. She teaches history at Jenks High School. She is married to ORU business professor **Marshal** (83;89-MBA).

Traci Newberry (93) has been working alongside her parents, pastors David and Cheryl, in Lusaka, Zambia, since August 1999. Their church, Miracle Life Family Church, moved into its own building in June. The HIV/AIDS crisis in southern Africa has created many orphans; the Newberrys' church is working with some of them.

Bridgett Sanders (98) **Clark** and her new husband, Shanee, live in British Columbia, and Bridgett says she loves it. They were married in August.

Heather McIntyre (98) moved to Athens in January 2001, where she helps at the DOMATA Bible School. It's a one-year training program to prepare nationals for full-time min-

istry work. She assists the overseers of the school, teaches some classes, and does lots of administrative stuff, including attendance, running tape labels, and monthly reports. She also helps homeschool the overseers' children, teaching them art and helping with other subjects.

Associates

Barry (A) and **Adrianne Jensen** and son Ben left the U.S. for Ukraine just prior to the Sept. 11 attacks. They report that they received the best possible visas they could have gotten, giving them the right to preach the gospel anywhere in Ukraine. They are one-year, multi-entry visas, so the Jensens can come and go from Ukraine as often as needed during the year. At the end of the year, they can apply for a one-year extension or reapply for a three-year visa of the same type.

Rev. **Paul Sungro Lee (A)** and his wife, Eunice, say that the work they are doing in Kenya "has blossomed to over 300 local churches in five East African countries, including Uganda, Tanzania, Congo, and Zambia." There are also radio mission programs with nearly a million regular listeners.

In Memoriam



ORU has had more than one Humanities professor in its 36-plus years, but none is as well known for his role in building the program as **Dr. Harold Paul**.

Generations of students will never forget his commanding voice, his slap on the back, or his words of encouragement. Dr. Paul finished his earthly course-

work on Nov. 10, 2001. He was 91.

One of ORU's founding faculty members, Dr. Paul served as chairman of the history department. The Vancouver, B.C., native was named Faculty Member of the Year in 1970 and professor emeritus in 1980, and received the Distinguished Service Award from ORU in 1992. He was also a Pentecostal Holiness minister, and oral historian of the Oral Roberts Ministries.

Dr. Paul and his late wife, Edna, are survived by three sons — George, Dan, and Bill — and their families.

Elsie Fisher, who served ORU for 22 years in the library and as campus hostess in the Prayer Tower, died on Nov. 29, 2001, at



the age of 83.

Elsie and her husband, George, first met Oral and Evelyn Roberts in 1942. After serving as missionaries in South Africa for 8 years, the Fishers came to work for the Oral Roberts Ministries in 1954. George died in 1964, and Elsie retired from ORU in 1986. Elsie is survived by four children — Patricia, Gwen, Barbara, and George — and many grandchildren. ■

P L A Y G O L F

Enjoy a golf weekend at the "modern Alpine gateway" of Treetops, one of America's best courses. Located in Gaylord, Mich., Treetops offers 81 holes of championship golf and is billed as "one of Michigan's finest four-season resorts." ■ This is also a chance to network with some old and new friends as you challenge your golf game in an oasis of cool temperatures and lush greens. ■ The dates are July 26-28. Tim (89) and Sarah (89) Freeman will host a free alumni reception at their home in Gaylord on the evening of the 26th. The 27th is a day of golf. Those who can stay an extra night are welcome to golf again on Sunday. ■ Costs are \$85/day (golf only) or \$150/person/night (golf and accommodations at Treetops). If you'd like to stay at an area hotel, contact Alumni Relations for a list of possibilities. If you'd like to bring your family, they could visit a nearby recreation area, such as Macinaw Island, while you golf.

To sign up, or for more information, get in touch with Kevin Bish in Alumni Relations (918/495-7436 or kbish@oru.edu) as soon as possible. ■ Check out the resort at www.treetops.com.



Do you have news to share with your fellow alumni? If so, please send it to us! (And photos, too!)

E-mail to: alumni@oru.edu

Or send to: ORU Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 702333, Tulsa, OK 74170

Or fax to: 918/495-6650

Plumb Serves the Homeless

By Natasha Washington (94)



During the last 30 years, **Ralph Plumb** has traveled to 90 countries, ministering to the poor and homeless, as well as serving as president and CEO of International Aid, a Christian relief agency based in Spring Lake, Mich.

And now, Plumb adds another opportunity to his roster. In July 2001, he was appointed to serve as president and chief executive officer of the Union Rescue Mission in downtown Los Angeles. Established in 1891, Union Rescue is the largest rescue mission in the United States and the oldest in Los Angeles. In addition to providing meals and shelter to the homeless, the mission offers free medical and dental care, legal aid, and addiction programs.

“From a Christian leadership perspective, my primary goal in leading this mission involves being a bridge between the resource community and those we serve,” Plumb said.

“This implies the raising of resources, the raising of awareness of need, and raising our voice of advocacy for those who have no voice.”

Plumb says the profile of the homeless person has changed dramatically.

“A homeless person is now less likely to be a single male substance abuser as it is a mother with a few children fleeing domestic violence or economic misfortune,” he said. “Our emergency services to women and children have increased by over 1,000 percent in the last 5 years. Every night we provide a safe bed and a hot meal to over 150 children and 350 women, in addition to over 500 men. And these are not statistics. They are dear people whom God loves very much.”

Plumb’s passion for the homeless began as he joined other college students on a church missions trip to Turkey in the summer of 1971. He also

credits a 1975 ORU missions trip to India, led by Mathews Chacko (70), with helping him find God’s direction for his life.

“My passion is to strengthen the global mission of the church by linking tangible ministries of mercy and compassion with Christian witness. I relish breaking down walls of isolation,” he said.

Plumb obtained his bachelor of arts degree in communications from ORU in 1975 and a master of divinity degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif. He will complete his doctoral dissertation through the seminary this year. He was a Naval Reserve chaplain for several years.

Plumb and his wife, Ann (Ainsworth-A), have been married 26 years and have three daughters: Chelsea, 20, and Misty, 18. Their oldest daughter, Bristol, died of a terminal illness at age 10 in 1990. ■

Alumnus of the Year 2003

Every year since 1999, the Alumni Association has honored alumni who, by virtue of their service to God, the community, and the University, have distinguished themselves and brought honor to ORU. The time has come to finalize the list of nominees for the 2003 awards. To nominate someone, go to alumniweb.oru.edu and click on “Nominate AOY.” You can submit your nomination online, print the form and mail it in (ORU Alumni Foundation, P.O. Box 702333, Tulsa, OK 74170), or call Alumni Relations at 918/495-6610 and request a copy of the form. Deadline for 2003 nominations is July 1, 2002!

Hitting a Home Run

Doug Ott (88) came up with an idea for a fathers' event in October of 2000. The idea became a reality on Oct. 6, 2001, with the first "Fathers in the Infield — It Starts at Home."

Inspired by the World Series and a book on fatherhood that Ott was reading at the time, "Fathers," held in Tallahassee, Fla., drew a crowd of about 250 dads and their families. The event featured musical performers, free food, children's games, contests, and inspirational messages.

"God provided me the idea to draw fathers and their families closer together and closer to Him," Ott said. "In doing this, I was able to get the whole community involved. More than 50 busi-



DOUG, LEVI, PSALMODY, AND DOUGIE OTT

nesses donated prizes and services to the event, and local pastors and leaders came out to share their support.

"When dads went back to their homes," he continued, "I wanted them to have captured the importance of fatherhood and faith in their hearts, and to have heard the message of salvation. Nine dads committed their lives to God that day, and many raised their hands, pledging to spend one hour each week separately with each of their children and with their wives."



Ott was pleasantly surprised to receive a message from the Florida governor's office. "(Gov.) Jeb Bush, despite the world events taking place, took the time to write me a note 2 days after the event," Ott said. It read: "*Doug — My staff recently shared with me your efforts to organize "Fathers in the Infield" this past weekend. As a state employee, your positive outlook and can-do attitude exemplify the spirit of the mentoring initiative.*" — Jeb Bush.

Ott grew up in a single-parent home. When he was 16, he met his dad for the first time. Doug and his wife, Psalmody, have two sons, Dougie and Levi. "When I look back someday, after my boys leave home," Ott said, "I want to know that I was there for them the whole way through, and for them to know as Christians, God can help guide them the rest of their lives."

Plans are underway for the second annual "Fathers" event. You can contact Doug (you might remember him as the principal cellist in the ORU Orchestra, 1986-88) at dougott@fathersintheinfield.com. The Web site for his event is www.fathersintheinfield.com. ■

Alumni Board Welcomes Eight

In last fall's Alumni Association Board of Directors election, eight new directors were chosen to serve three-year terms. Each director officially took office in February. The new segment directors are:

- L. Christina Sjostedt (71), St. Paul, Minn., Segment I (1968-72)
- Michael Gimotty (88), Kansas City, Kan., Segment V (1988-91)
- Josh Allen (99), Lubbock, Tex., Segment VII (1996-2001)
- Jeff Burritt (98), Tulsa, Okla., Segment VII (1996-2001)

Alumni approved a change to the association's constitution and bylaws in 2000 that replaced graduate school directors with "at-large" directors. The conversion to at-large posts is being made as each current graduate school director finishes his or her term. The first group of at-large directors consists of:

- Dr. Jacqueline Fincher (81), Thomson, Ga.
- Dr. Clay Powell (81:85), Maitland, Fla.
- Maj. Dean Prentice (88), Scott Air Force Base, Ill.
- Gene Steiner (71), Jenks, Okla.

ARE YOU BOARD MATERIAL?

If so, you should consider running for a seat on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. This fall, candidates will be needed to fill openings in Segments II (1973-77), IV (1983-87), VI (1992-95-two slots), and At-Large — a total of five new directors.

For more information on the role of the board and the responsibilities of board membership, go to alumniweb.oru.edu (under Board, click on General Information), contact Nominating Committee chairperson Paula Sterns at P_sterns@yahoo.com, or call Alumni Relations at 918/495-6610.

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Share your thoughts with us at alumni@oru.edu.

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Gonna fly now.

These three students and their engineering/physics department classmates are working on a project that will send them soaring.

Find out what it's all about on page 12.

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